



OPEN LETTER

Capitol Heights Presbyterian | 10:30 Catholic Community | Dignity Denver



CAPITOL HEIGHTS FAITH COMMUNITIES

1100 Fillmore Street
Denver, Colorado 80206
303-333-9366

Church Administrator: Debbie Yeager
Admin Email: capheightsoffice@gmail.com

Capitol Heights Presbyterian
<https://capheightspres.org>
chpcnews@gmail.com
Facebook [@capitolheightspreschurch](https://www.facebook.com/capitolheightspreschurch)
Youtube

10:30 Catholic Community
www.1030catholic.org
Facebook

Dignity Denver
www.dignitydenver.org
Facebook
Dignity: 720-515-GLBT

White Forest Sangha
<http://www.whiteforestsangha.org>
mushin@whiteforestsangha.org
Steve: 303-324-0365

Sunday Worship Services
Presbyterian 9:30 a.m.
10:30 Catholic 11:00 a.m.
Dignity Denver 5:00 p.m.

Sunday Children's Ministries
September - May: All children, Sunday School/
CRE 11-12:00 Basement, west side of the
Social Hall

Nursery, Main Floor
9-12:00 Ages infant - 8 yrs

Saturday Meditation
9:15 - 11:20

Send all announcements for the OPEN LETTER to
the Church Administrator
(capheightsoffice@gmail.com) by 12 PM
Thursday

To schedule a meeting or event, please call the
church at 303-333-9366 or send an email to
capheightsoffice@gmail.com.

Capitol Heights Presbyterian Church

We are part of an old tradition, made new with each person who comes to us. We witness to a greatness that transcends what we now say, know, or do, but is graciously made present in acts of kindness, hope and peace. We are called to be a community of such hope for the sake of the God of all, and we delight in all who choose to join us.

October 31, 9:30 a.m. Hybrid Service and 11:00 AM Dialogue: This Sunday, Reformation Sunday, will hold for us a primary opportunity to celebrate the life of our dear friend, Minnie Baldwin. We will hold time in the service for personal reflections on our experience of Minnie and joyful remembrance of her life. We still do not know when a Memorial Service will be held, but this service will give an opportunity for sharing that will not be part of the Memorial Service when it occurs, according to Minnie's wishes. So please come Sunday with thoughts of your celebration of Minnie, and if you know of anyone who might welcome such an opportunity, please let them know about it.

The Reformation Sunday emphasis is very much part of our ongoing commitment to being *reformed and ever reforming*. I am attaching this link to a dialogue with John Dear and James Lawson on nonviolence. As indicated in their discussion nonviolence remains a matter about which our Christian community needs more reformation, especially now in a culture that seems to be increasing violent characteristics. [Here's the link to their discussion](#). Our Dialogue at 11 will continue the *envisioning work* we've engaged as we plan for the future of our faith practice and witness. Sunday's discussion will include a look at our anticipated budget for next year.

Join all Sunday events In Person or on Zoom by phone OR video

- [Click here to Join Zoom Meeting with video](#)
- **One tap mobile with a Smartphone: +13462487799,,81039595853# OR +16699009128,,81039595853#**
- **Or Call: (+1) 253 215 8782; enter MEETING ID when prompted: 810 3959 5853 #**

If coming in person please WEAR a mask to follow the most current CDC Guidance & RESPECT the Social Distancing comfort levels of others.

Further Sunday followup: Katherine Hayhoe was recently interviewed at On Being with Krista Tippett. You can listen or read the transcript of the interview "[Our future is still in our hands](#)" [HERE](#).

Journey with Migrants Latest Advocacy Report

Human Rights Watch has posted reports of abuses by US Border Officials, [which you can see HERE](#). The report includes key information along with guidance for addressing our government officials with our concerns.

This article from Time reports on the mental health challenges for immigrants, especially those whose status here is uncertain. It reports on the trauma of being an immigrant with all the uncertainty that must be borne and the various trials many have had to endure; [here is the link](#).

The Center for Victims of Torture has a brief report from October 18 "Denouncing the Reinstatement of the Remain in Mexico Policy", [which you can view here](#).

This week's Sojourners Monthly Conversation on Immigration included encouragement to continue to lobby Congress for action on a Path to Citizenship which has met an obstacle by not being considered proper to include in the Reconciliation Bill, this determined by the Senate's Parliamentarian, but it is hoped Congress may yet find a way for taking this critical step to alter our all too limited immigration policies. The email with this information [is here](#). Their next zoom meeting is November 22 at 5:00 PM Mountain Time.

Mijente with others is hosting a webinar on November 9, 5:00 to 6:00 MT, to address the "Deadly Digital Wall", this regarding the varied forms of surveillance technology to be employed at our border. More information is found at their website, mijente.net.

The Interfaith Immigration Coalition is denouncing anti-black racism in our US immigration policies and actions. Their email report of October 22 provides details. The email also gives information for a "Together We Welcome Virtual Conference" for November 7 to 11, 4:00 to 7:00 MT. [Here's a link to the whole email](#).

The last email update from the Latin America Working Group was sent October 22 and is full of information. Concerns continue to be raised about Title 42 expulsions that were started in the previous Administration and have been continued. One can sign up for their messages at lawg.org. This latest email addresses causes for immigration as well as our policies and how they are being implemented, critical information to understand better the challenge.

Ongoing News & Events

You can keep up with what's going on at our Denver Presbytery by reading the Friday ENews that Beth puts together for us [HERE](#).

Community donations are being received online or by mail: To mail a donation send your contribution to Capitol Heights Presbyterian Church, 1100 Fillmore St., Denver, CO 80206. To donate online visit capheightspres.org/donations.

Grocery cards that support CHPC are available for Safeway and King Soopers grocery stores. As you put money on your card and use it to buy your groceries, a portion of your weekly grocery purchases will support CHPC. Call Charlie Fiser (303-770-6362) if you are interested in participating.



Children's Ministry

For younger children & families: Check out some stories and prayers that we have made available [online HERE](#).

Check out some of the tips from the National Wildlife Federation below to learn about good ways to be fall "citizens of the earth!"

Garden for Wildlife - News from NWF

Bats Need You

Bats are an iconic symbol of the Halloween season, but in reality, these flying mammals are anything but scary. They provide critical insect control and some are even pollinators. Sadly, they are rapidly declining from habitat loss and disease. [Check out how bats are helpful to us and how you can help them.](#)

Leave the Leaves

You shouldn't feel obligated to get rid of every last fallen leaf in your yard this fall. Leave the leaves — they offer a lot of benefits for wildlife and your garden. [Find out the reasons you should put down your rake.](#)

(Not So) Scary Backyard Wildlife

Are you scared of bees and wasps? What about bats? How about snakes? Naturalist David Mizejewski talks about these and other so-called "scary" wild animals that really aren't so scary once you get to know them. He'll explain their natural behaviors, why they're important and how to avoid any problems with them. [Check out this myth-busting talk: David is certain he can change your mind about these much-maligned animals that deserve our respect.](#)

Wise Advice

Owls are incredible and elusive creatures. They usually need a little coaxing to come around, but once they do it is worth the effort. [Learn how to attract owls to your yard or neighborhood.](#)

CHPC Historic Building Matching Funds Challenge

CHPC has submitted a Grant Application to the Colorado State Historical Fund (SHF)!

The proposed grant would restore the entire West Facade of our historic church building. To help this grant be successful, we humbly ask your support of our efforts by [donating to our Historic Building Fund](#). Your donations will help us raise the matching funds required to receive a grant from SHF.



10:30 Catholic Community

We are a Christ-centered, Spirit-directed Catholic worshipping community. In response to the teachings of Vatican II, we come together, searching for ways to reflect the person and work of Jesus Christ in our time, to our world.

Sunday Services: 11:00 AM Sunday Mass will be held in the church Sanctuary. Please wear a mask if planning to attend in person. Anyone who is unable to attend in person but who would like to do so via Zoom can find [the invitation to do so here](#).

Council Report: The Council approved fourth quarter Community contributions of \$250 to Teller Backpack Friends (a group that provides meals for students from low income families attending Teller Elementary School, which is about a half mile east of the Church, to take home for the weekend and long school breaks) and \$500 to St. Francis Center (to help refurbish the new Warren Residences).

SACK LUNCHES VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Denver Catholic Worker Soup Kitchen (DCWSK) is looking for the services of volunteers to prepare and deliver 125 sack lunches to New Genesis Shelter and 100 sacks to Haven of Hope, one day a month, specifically the 3rd Friday of each month. DCWSK with the help of volunteers delivers up to 1200 lunch sacks to the homeless and the needy daily. Sack lunches include a sandwich (cheese and meat or PBJ) small bag of chips, a fruit, and a chewable granola bar. A maximum of 10 volunteers each preparing 25 sacks will be required to complete DCWSK's needs. All material costs will be reimbursed by DCWSK. Any questions, please contact sack lunches Coordinator Sue McKenna at 303-881-1749, email Mckennasc@gmail.com or Pat Iyer at [303-934-2586](tel:303-934-2586), email Bpiyer28@yahoo.com.)

Community donations are still being received and can be mailed to the following address: c/o Gene Lang, 10:30 Catholic Community; 1100 Fillmore Street; Denver, CO 80206.

Treasurer's Report: Donations to the Community in September totaled \$2,561.50.

Dignity Denver

Dignity Denver envisions and works for a time when gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender Catholics are affirmed and experience dignity through the integration of their spirituality with their sexuality and as beloved persons of God.

Dignity Denver holds Mass in the sanctuary every other week, which is also broadcast on Zoom to Dignity members. These Masses have been at the usual time of 5:00 p.m. Check with Dignity Denver for exact dates, attendance requirements, and Zoom link.

#BatAwarenessWeek

Continue the past weeks' celebration of bats by learning more about them from this National Geographic Article [Why bats are the real superheroes of the animal world](#). You can also listen to the newest episode of *Overheard* podcast, [A skeptic's guide to loving bats](#), featuring Nat Geo Explorer and passionate bat defender, Rodrigo Medellín.

Another Article brought forward this week by *Yes!* magazine can be seen here, [Eek! Bat Populations Are Shrinking. Here Are A Few Ways to Help](#). Quoted from the article: "Truth be told, bats are essential to humans; without them, we probably wouldn't have such things like avocados, chocolate, and tequila. Of the more than 1,390 species of bats throughout the world, *Bat Conservation International* considers many of them "keystone species," because of their vital roles as seed dispersers and pollinators in our ecosystem."

Bat Week is an international, annual celebration designed to raise awareness about the need for bat conservation. Bats are amazing creatures that are vital to the health of our natural world and economy. Although we may not always see them, bats are hard at work all around the world each night - eating tons of insects, pollinating flowers, and spreading seeds that grow new plants and trees. You can learn more about bats and different activities to support them at <https://batweek.org>.

In 2018, Bat Week International introduced the Celebrating Bats Cookbook that contained recipes inspired by bat-dependent foods. Now their Bat Week partners from South America, Central America and North America have added to that recipe collection: visit <https://batweek.org/cookbook/> and click on the savory dishes or the sweet treats and drinks to learn how each contains ingredients that are bat pollinated, bat-protected or find out how bats disperse the seeds of the plants used each recipe.

Community News

Saturday, November 13: John Dear is inviting us to share in his conversation with "Ghandi's Grandson and Biographer, Rajmohan Gandhi" which will take place on November 13; it is entitled "Ghandi's Lessons for Today". One can register for it at www.beatitudescenter.org.

Conflict Resolution Month is once again upon us and as usual we are encouraging everyone across the state to listen, talk, and work it out. This year we invite you to lean into discomfort, listen empathically, build relationships and create understanding. Whether you choose to participate in a facilitated conversation, read a book, watch a TED Talk, commit to a daily/weekly/monthly challenge or attend a workshop, there is something for everyone and numerous benefits to participating. **Don't forget to check the calendar for information on upcoming events!**

Other October Conflict Resolution Activities: The 2021 Book Selection is *CONFLICT RESOLUTION FOR HOLY BEINGS* by **Joy Harjo**. The selected film for 2021 is *Best of Enemies*. Look for exciting new programming around this film this fall! Contact Eileen Hyatt (milehyatt@gmail.com) to help coordinate an event or to chat about screening this film in your community!

Happening Around the Building...

Be sure to take a look at the refurbished kiosk with new paint and shiny brass letters! Thank you Mary H!

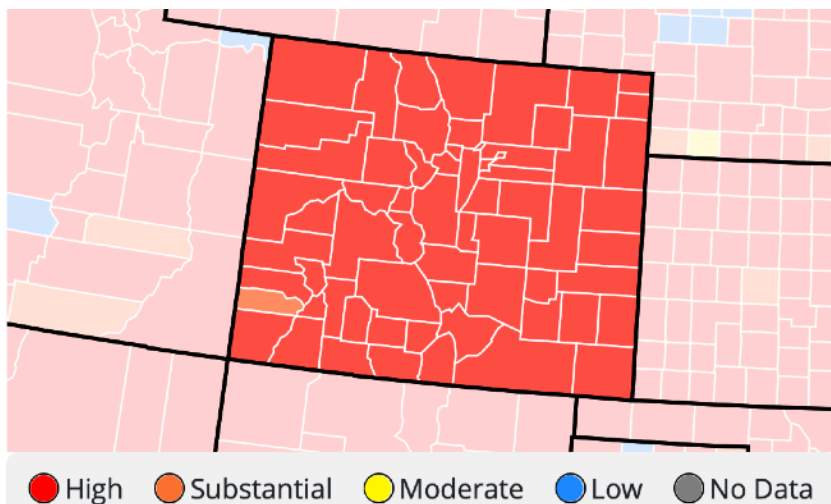
We are grateful to Lindsey Snow of Remedy Permaculture Design who spent some time in our garden this week prepping it for winter.



COVID-19 NEWS

CDC Guidance for FULLY VACCINATED Individuals:

- To maximize protection from the Delta variant and prevent possibly spreading it to others, wear a mask indoors in public if you are in an area of **substantial or high transmission**. (DENVER is currently in an area of high transmission and therefore we ask anyone attending a public event at the church to wear a mask. Click on the map below to see current level of community transmission updated daily at 6PM MDT.)



Vaccine Resources

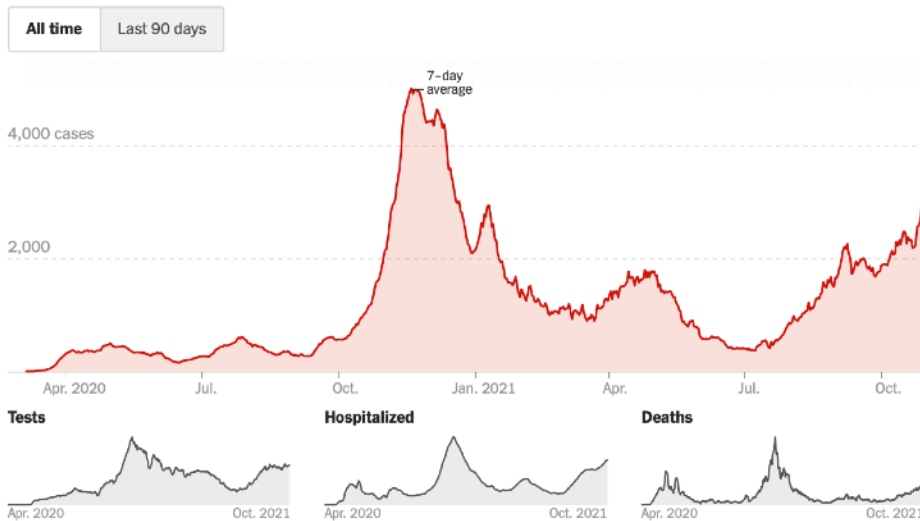
All Coloradans 12 and older are eligible to receive the Pfizer vaccine, and all Coloradans 18 and older are eligible to receive the Moderna or Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) vaccine.

- Colorado COVID Vaccine Information:** To find all this information in one location, please visit COCovidVaccine.org or call our vaccine hotline at **1-877-COVAX CO (1-877-268-2926)**.
- Rides to Vaccines:** Don't let transportation challenges stop you (or your family and friends) from getting vaccinated. Mile High United Way's Ride United program is providing access to free rides (up to 25 miles each way) to vaccination sites across Colorado. Dial **2-1-1** or visit 211colorado.org to learn more. *Colorado COVID Vaccine information is also available en español.*

Tracking Coronavirus in Colorado: Latest Map and Case Count

Updated Oct. 30, 2021

New reported cases



	DAILY AVG. ON OCT. 29	14-DAY CHANGE	TOTAL REPORTED
Cases	2,940	+23%	744,657
Tests	28,689	+6%	—
Hospitalized	1,285	+17%	—
Deaths	24	+25%	8,370

▼ About this data:

Sources: State and local health agencies (cases, deaths); U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (tests, hospitalizations). Tests, hospitalizations and deaths show seven-day averages. Hospitalization data may not yet be available for yesterday. Figures shown are the most recent data available.

Vaccinations

	AT LEAST ONE DOSE	FULLY VACCINATED
All ages	68%	61%
12 and up	79%	72%
65 and up	94%	86%

[See more details >](#)

► About this data

Mask mandates and guidance

The New York Times is tracking mask policies at the state level, including current federal guidance by county and where leaders are rejecting such guidance or mandates. [Read more here >](#)

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends masking indoors in every county regardless of individuals' vaccination status.
- State officials recommend following CDC's county-level guidance.
- School mask policies are up to local discretion.

Community Events

Sunday

CHPC Sunday Schedule

9:30 am Hybrid Service (Sanctuary/[Zoom](#))

11:00 am Dialogue (Basement Lounge/ [Zoom](#))

10:30 CC Sunday Schedule

11:00 am Mass (Sanctuary/Zoom)

Dignity Denver Sunday Schedule

5:00 pm Dignity Denver Mass (*check Dignity Denver Community calendar for bi-weekly mass schedule*)

Sunday AA

9:00 am Basement Lounge or South Garden
Benches as weather allows.

Tuesday

5:45 pm NA - "Don't Know Diddly" (Social Hall)

Wednesday

7:00 - 8:30 pm Comedy Therapy with Dr. Alison Sheesley for people struggling with social or generalized anxiety. [More information HERE](#)

7:00 pm Journey with Migrants Education Pod

Thursday

6:00 pm Women's AA (Room 104)

Saturday

White Forest Sangha Morning Meditation

9:15 - 9:30 arrive and take seat in zendo

9:30 - 10:10 zazen

10:10 - 10:20 kinhin

10:20 - 11:00 zazen

11:00 - 11:20 service

11:20 informal tea

For more information contact Steve Mushin Crisman (303-324-0365 / mushin@whiteforestsangha.org)

10:30 am SLAA (Room 104)

10:30 am NA - "Primary Purpose" (Social Hall)

ONGOING EVENTS:

Every Second Thursday of the Month

9:00 - 11:00 AM Together CO Climate Justice Committee Meeting (held on Zoom)

Every Fourth Thursday of the Month

7:00 PM Journey with Migrants Mission Partnership meeting (held on zoom)



Leaders of the Capitol Heights Faith Communities

Capitol Heights Presbyterian Church

Session Elders:

Faren Foster	(Class of 2021 - 1st Term)
Rodney Shuff	(Class of 2021 - 1st Term)
Jeanne Jeffas	(Class of 2022 - 2nd Term)
Erik Sabina	(Class of 2022 - 2nd Term)
Charles Norton	(Class of 2023 - 1st Term)
Sonya Yeager-Meeks	(Class of 2023 - 1st Term)

Rev. Mark Meeks	Spiritual Leader
Louise Westfall	Moderator
Bonnie Jensen	Clerk of Session
Charlie Fiser	Treasurer
Jean Demmler	Commissioner to the Presbytery of Denver

Bibiana Hager	Deacon
Sonya Yeager-Meeks	Co-Director of Music
Debra Yeager	Co-Director of Music
Debra Yeager	Children's Ministry

Pastoral Life Committee:

Fran Adams
Cary Mead
Lillian Shuff
Mark Meeks

Garden Team:

Mary Lou Fenili
Liz
Bibiana Hager
Debbie Yeager
Sonya Yeager-Meeks
Jax & Lindsey of *Remedy Permaculture Design*

Outdoor Kiosk Manager:

Mary Hupp

10:30 Catholic Community Council

Kelz Kelzenberg	Chair	480-297-5003
Bill Dixon	Co-chair	303-388-4973
Gene Lang	Treasurer	303-399-5692
Kristen Insana	Secretary	440-223-0101
Meg Johnson	Liturgy Liaison	303-399-5692
Jeanne McLaughlin-Powers	Religious Education Liaison	303-355-8603
Mary Sullivan	Social Action Liaison	703-371-9105
Estela Bogaert-Martinez	Member At-large	303-618-6617
Patricia Peterson	Member At-large	303-475-6675

Dignity Denver Board

Brad Cameron	President
Greg Erhart	Secretary
Brad Cameron	Co-Treasurer
Rick Proctor	Co-Treasurer
Mike Misgen	Member at Large