



OPEN LETTER

Capitol Heights Presbyterian | 10:30 Catholic Community | Dignity Denver | White Forest Sangha



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 (CHPC)
<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 (WFS)
<https://www.wfszen.org>
info@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.

WFS Tuesday Meditation
7:00 - 8:15 p.m.

WFS Wednesday Meditation
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

WFS Saturday Meditation
9:15 - 11:20 a.m.

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.

To view the Open Letter online visit capheightspres.org or scan the QR code



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.

• **February 12, 9:30 AM:** All are welcome to join us in worship at 9:30 AM in the Sanctuary as we celebrate Religion and Science on this "Evolution Sunday." Following the service we will have a dialogue at 11:00 AM to discuss the work of Robin Wall Kimmerer and W.E.B. DuBois to think more about Religion and Science. Both events can also be attended on zoom using the link below.

◆ **Zoom Link for CHPC 9:30 AM Service**

▶ [Click here to Join Zoom Meeting with video](#)

▶ One tap mobile with a Smartphone: +13462487799,,82045841954# OR +16699009128,,82045841954#

▶ Or Call: (+1) 253 215 8782; enter MEETING ID when prompted: 820 4584 1954 #; PASSCODE 1 2 3 4

◆ **11AM Dialogue Resources:**

▶ Robin Wall Kimmerer *NYT Magazine Interview*

▶ Debra Rienstra's *Refugia Newsletter #34*

▶ Article by Chad Williams, Professor of History and African and African American Studies, Brandeis University: [W.E.B. Du Bois, Black History Month and the Importance of African American Studies](#)

▶ Amanda Tyler's article in [Faith Leadership](#)

• **Community donations** are being received online, by mail, or in person. 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 grocery stores - please contact Charlie Fiser if interested. The King Soopers program is tied to their loyalty card program. Go to customer service and ask how to tie your loyalty card number to benefit Capitol Heights Presbyterian Church. Call Charlie Fiser with any questions (303-875-5129).

News from Presbytery and Other Partner Organizations:

• **Saturday, February 25 11AM - 1PM An Invitation to participate in Guns to Gardens from Denver Presbytery:** On Saturday, February 25 a drive-thru Guns to Gardens event will be hosted at Columbine United Church (6375 S. Platte Canyon Rd., Littleton). You can participate by **VOLUNTEERING**, making a **DONATION** to support *Guns to Gardens*, or **DISMANTLING** (bring your unwanted and unloaded gun(s) in the trunk of your car to Columbine United Church anytime between 11-1 - no reservations needed! All gun owners who bring a gun for dismantling will be given a \$50+ gift card while supplies last.) PRAYERS are also invited to cover our volunteers and gun donors on February 25th. *This event is in honor of 13 year old Jayden Hoyle, a youth of Peoples Presbyterian Church who was killed in a drive by shooting on April 8, 2022.*



• **Colorado Ceasefire** has recently shared a report about recent legislative bills addressing gun reform laws. To view their update as well as opportunities to volunteer [click HERE](#).

• **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)** is providing emergency relief and short term recovery to the areas impacted by the recent earthquake in Turkey and Syria. PDA is collaborating with long-standing partners in Syria, in addition to ACT Alliance members in Syria and Turkey, all of whom are already on the ground. PDA will remain active throughout the entire recovery process, accompanying our partners in the area as they determine long-term program needs and providing financial support for building and resilience. Financial support for relief efforts can be designated to **DR999999-ST earthquake**. Gifts can be made **online by clicking here**, by phone at (800) 872-3283, or by check made payable to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) with "**DR999999-ST Earthquake**" written on the memo line and mailed to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.); P.O. Box 643700; Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700.



A Selection of Poems for the day, by Mary Oliver

Messenger

My work is loving the world.
Here the sunflowers, there the hummingbird-
Equal seekers of sweetness.
Here the quickening yeast; there the blue plums.
Here the clam deep in the speckled sand.

Are my boots old? Is my coat torn?
Am I no longer young, and still not half-perfect? Let me
Keep my mind on what matters,
Which is my work,

Which is mostly standing still and learning to be astonished.
The phoebe, the delphinium.
The sheep in the pasture, and the pasture.

Which is mostly rejoicing, since all the ingredients are here,

Which is gratitude, to be given a mind and a heart
And these body-clothes,
A mouth with which to give shouts of joy
To the moth and the wren, to the sleepy dug-up clam,
Telling them all, over and over, how it is
That we live forever.

The Gift

Be still, my soul, and steadfast.
Earth and heaven both are still watching though time is draining from the clock and your walk, that was confident and quick,
has become slow.

So, be slow if you must, but let the heart still play its true part.
Love still as once you loved, deeply and without patience. Let God and the world
know you are grateful.
That the gift has been given.



- Denver Presbytery's Friday ENews is available to read [HERE](#). *Denver Presbytery Enewsletter is a weekly publication of news, events, tools and resources relevant to Presbyterians in the Denver Metro area. Many events are sponsored or initiated by churches, mission partners, committees, workgroups of Council - others come from partner organizations*

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.

- **To View the 10:30 Catholic Community** February Calendar [click HERE](#).
- **In Honor of Black History Month**, Network Advocates for Catholic Social Justice has published a Black History Month Calendar. You can view the calendar [HERE](#).
- **Community Contributions:** Contributions have been made by the Community to the following: (a) \$200 to El Porviner (for its work in Nicaragua on water and sanitation projects) and \$200 to Miguel Pro Mission (a ministry led by Father Peter Urban that provides a variety of social services in Juarez).
- **COVID Safety Protocol:** *Council requests that members who test positive for COVID and attended mass (or another 10:30 community function) at a time when they may have been infectious to pass that information along to the Chair so that other members can be informed and supported.*

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 will be celebrating Mass** every Sunday at 5 PM during Lent, starting on the first Sunday after Ash Wednesday, February 22nd.

Community News

- **Thursday, February 16, 5:00-6:30 PM (MST) Refugia Faith: An Evening with Debra Rienstra:** Creation Justice Ministries and the BTS Center invite you to an online evening conversation with Debra Rienstra, as she discusses her book *Refugia Faith* — how it came to be, and how it can be used in communities of faith and beyond. [Register HERE](#). (\$10 event registration • \$30 event registration including a copy of *Refugia Faith*.)
- **February 21, 5:00 PM MT: The Interfaith Immigration Coalition** invites you to a virtual screening of the new film *Seeking Asylum*. The screening will be followed by a panel discussion with leading asylum experts and the film's creators. Reservations are required, so [RSVP today!](#)
- **February 28, 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM:** Together CO and the Colorado Jewish Climate Action invites you to join people of faith from across the state to lift up our voices and values for climate justice. The gathering will take place at St Paul Lutheran Church (1600 Grant St.) before heading to the Capitol. To take part, please [register HERE](#).

Together CO is also highlighting the UCC and UU Congregations Alive 5 workshop on February 23-25 February. This event is about the churches response to climate change. You can register [HERE](#).

- **Catch up with news from the Colorado Council of Churches** by reading their February Newsletter [HERE](#).
- **Creation Justice Ministries** has released their 2023 Lenten Resource - click [HERE](#) to view the guide. This guide is designed to help you and your community take time during the Lenten season to learn, reflect, repent, ask God for forgiveness, and take concrete steps to change course in order to better care for creation. We have also included the Lenten Resource on the final pages of the Open Letter.



Community Events

Sunday

CHPC Sunday Schedule

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

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

10:30 CC Sunday Schedule

11:00 am Mass (Sanctuary)

Dignity Denver Sunday Schedule

5:00 pm Dignity Denver Mass *Every Sunday through Advent*

Sunday AA

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

Tuesday

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

7:00 pm - "*Beginner's Mind Zazen*," meditation with White Forest Sangha

7:00 - 8:30 pm Comedy Is Therapy with Dr. Alison Sheesley for people struggling with social or generalized anxiety. (Nursery)

Wednesday

5:00 pm CHPC Music Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

White Forest Sangha Meditation
(Basement Meditation Room)

6:00 - 6:15 logon/seating in the zendo

6:15 - 6:55 zazen

6:55 - 7:15 chanting service

7:15 - 7:25 prepare for discussion

7:25 - 8:00 Dharma discussion

8:00 p.m. Bodhisattva vows and closing gathering

6:30 - 8:00 pm Comedy Is Therapy with Dr. Alison Sheesley for people struggling with social or generalized anxiety. (Nursery)

7:00 pm Ye Wanton Singers (Sanctuary)

Thursday

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

Saturday

White Forest Sangha Morning Meditation (Basement Meditation Room)

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 / info@whiteforestsangha.org)

10:00 am SLAA (Room 104)

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

Leaders of the Capitol Heights Faith Communities

Ecumenical Leadership at 1100 Fillmore

Shared Operations Leadership:

CHPC Session • 10:30 Catholic Council • Dignity Denver Board

Charlie Fiser - Treasurer; Debbie Yeager - Building Administrator

Historic Building Team

Debbie Yeager

Sonya Yeager-Meeks

Dan Jacobs

Andrea Malcomb & Historic Denver

Ecumenical Worship Committee

Bibiana Hager

CHPC

Jeanne Jeffas

CHPC

Mary Sullivan

10:30 CC

Sylvia Sullivan

10:30 CC

Garden Team

Mary Lou Fenili

Liz Pinckard

Debbie Yeager

Sonya Yeager-Meeks

Linden Snow of *Remedy Permaculture Design*



Capitol Hill United Ministries - Women's Homelessness Initiative

Diana Flahive, *Executive Director*; 303-832-4188 | 303-257-8588 (cell) | flahive@flahive.us

Leadership Team Members

Bonita Bock (Augustana Lutheran); Cass Cronan (Earthlinks); Charlie Fiser (CHPC);

Brian Henderson (1st Baptist); Chris Gilmore (6th Ave. UCC) Mark Meeks (CHPC)

Capitol Heights Presbyterian Church

Session Elders:

Sonya Yeager-Meeks

(Class of 2023 - 1st Term)

Position Open

(Class of 2023 - 1st Term)

Mary Hupp

(Class of 2024 - 1st Term)

Rodney Shuff

(Class of 2024 - 2nd Term)

Charlie Fiser

(Class of 2025 - 1st Term)

Bonnie Jensen

(Class of 2025 - 1st Term)

Rev. Mark Meeks

Spiritual Leader

Rev. Bill Sanders

Moderator

Jeanne Jeffas

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

10:30 Catholic Community Council

Bill Dixon

Chair

303-910-2842

Jim Butz

Co-Chair

303-913-3290

Gene Lang

Treasurer

303-399-5692

Kristen Insana

Secretary

440-223-0101

Meg Johnson

Liturgy Liaison

303-399-5692

Estela Bogaert-Martinez

Adult Religious Education

303-618-6617

Co-Liaison

(Currently Open)

Adult Religious Education

Contact Estela, Bill

Co-Liaison

or Jim

Mary Sullivan

Social Action Liaison

703-371-9105

Connie Curtis

Member-At-Large

303-296-6315

Patricia Peterson

Member At-large

303-475-6675

Dignity Denver Board

Brad Cameron

President

Brad Cameron

Co-Treasurer

Mike Misgen

Member at Large