



# 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](mailto:capheightsoffice@gmail.com)

Capitol Heights Presbyterian (CHPC)  
[chpcnews@gmail.com](mailto:chpcnews@gmail.com)  
Facebook [@capitolheightspreschurch](https://www.facebook.com/capitolheightspreschurch)  
Youtube.com/[@capheights](https://www.youtube.com/@capheights)

10:30 Catholic Community  
[www.1030catholic.org](http://www.1030catholic.org)  
Facebook

Dignity Denver  
[www.dignitydenver.org](http://www.dignitydenver.org)  
Facebook  
Dignity: 720-515-GLBT

White Forest Sangha (WFS)  
<https://www.wfszen.org>  
[info@whiteforestsangha.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

- **Sunday, December 10 9:30 AM Service and 11:00 AM Congregational Meeting:** All are welcome to join us on this Second Sunday in Advent for a morning service at 9:30 AM. During our service we will have time to reflect upon the 75th anniversary of the passing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Also available around the building will be this years #Write4Rights cases from Amnesty International. At 11:00 AM CHPC will hold its annual congregational meeting. All voting members are encouraged to attend so we can put into place leadership for 2024 for our Session, Commissioner, Clerk, and Treasurer positions as well as discuss proposed budget.

- ◆ **Zoom Link for 9:30 AM Service & 11:00 AM Congregational Meeting**
  - ▶ [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

- **Peace Offering - Month of December:** Our peace offering will be received until December 31st. 75% of the offering will go to the PCUSA national peace efforts and 25% of the offering will stay local. Session has voted that this years local portion will be given to the **Teller Elementary Backpack Friends**.

*According to a survey completed in April 2021 by Hunger Free Colorado, 1 in 6 children are not receiving adequate nutrition. Backpack Friends and The Teller Pantry are a hyper local, community supported option for any family that is in need. We offer food and supplies at no cost to community members and strive to offer fresh, nutritious, and desirable food options for all families.*

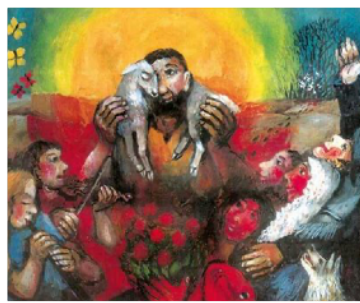
- **It's CHPC covenant time:** Once again, Session would ask all to communicate their 2024 financial pledges to Charlie. Any amount is welcome and valued, and this information is confidential, for Charlie's eyes only. It is very helpful for him to know \*the annual amount you anticipate contributing, \*whether you intend to make one yearly contribution or monthly or periodic payments, and \*when your payment, if yearly, will be made. Just send a short email to Charlie at [116doverroad@centurylink.net](mailto:116doverroad@centurylink.net). See you at the congregational meeting and thanks so very much!

- **CHPC Online Donation:** Would you like to donate to CHPC online or set up a recurring donation? You can do so via [PayPal at this LINK HERE](#).

- **Sunday, December 17, 7:00 PM:** All are invited to attend our annual Carols by Candlelight service which will take place at 7PM in the Sanctuary.

- **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).





## Reflections & Quotes for the Advent Season

### THOMAS MERTON (1915 - 1968)

“Into this world, this demented inn, in which there is absolutely no room for him at all, Christ has come uninvited. But because he cannot be at home in it, because he is out of place in it, and yet he must be in it, his place is with those others for whom there is no room. His place is with those who do not belong, who are rejected by power because they are regarded as weak, those who are discredited, who are denied the status of persons, tortured, exterminated. With those for whom there is no room, Christ is present in this world.”

### MEISTER ECKHART (c. 1260 - c. 1328)

Every single creature is full of God  
and is a book about God.

Every creature is a word of God.

If I spent enough time with the tiniest creature - even a caterpillar - I would never have to prepare a sermon. So full of God is every creature.

### FROM THE BOOK OF JOB 12:7-8

But ask the animals - they will teach you -  
and the birds in the air - they will tell you;  
or speak to the earth - it will teach you -  
and the fish in the sea will inform you.

### ABRAHAM JOSHUA HESCHEL (1907 - 1972)

The beginning of our happiness lies in the understanding that life without wonder is not worth living. What we lack is not a will to believe but a will to wonder.

### MARY OLIVER (1935 - 2019)

But nothing you ever understand will be sweeter,

or more binding,

than this deepest affinity between your eyes  
and the world.

## 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.

- **The American Friends Service Committee** has sent out an appeal for support for the 100's of folks arriving from the southern border every day. Support efforts include:
  - **Gift Cards for Newly arrived Immigrants - Sponsored by Colorado Hosting Asylum Network (CHAN)** - Patrick Buckley will collect the gift cards on behalf of our communities on Sunday morning's and deliver them to CHAN.
  - **Clothing Donation Drop off - find list of specific clothing request [HERE](#).**
  - The City and County of Denver is providing a weekly update on the support given to migrants who have arrived in Denver from Central and South America. You can find the weekly updates [HERE](#).
- **We will be having a jesse tree this advent season** for the benefit of CHAN. They are requesting \$25.00 Walmart gift card for the immigrants. The gift cards will be collected after each mass 12/10, 12/17 and Christmas eve so that CHAN won't have to wait for the cards. It would be great if you could bring a card each week! Checks will also be accepted. CHAN is a non-profit, 501C3.
- **Community Contribution:** The Community donated \$500 to the rental assistance fund of the Saint Vincent de Paul Society.
- **Any Catholic families seeking First Communion** for their children/grandchildren please contact Cristina Palma-Vega Dixon at [nanapv@msn.com](mailto:nanapv@msn.com)
- **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.*

## Community News

- **Sunday, December 10, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM:** Capitol Heights Faith Communities and friends are having a Christmas Market in the Social Hall on Sunday, December 10 from 10:00-2:00. We will have gifts from our Afghan Women community, EarthLinks and many others!
- **Church Parking Update:** Dear friends, when coming to the building by car on 1100 Fillmore street please be mindful where the driveways are when parking on the street. There are several locations where the sidewalk is interspersed with private driveways and it is important not to block these driveways. **Driveways along Fillmore street in particular** are getting blocked so please check twice before leaving your car. Thank you!
- **Tuesday, December 12, 10:30 AM Webinar:** Join Presbyterian World Mission, the Office of Public Witness, and the Ministry at the United Nations for the first in a series of webinars focused on the recent events unfolding in Israel, Gaza, and the West Bank. Through conversations with people in the region who work for, and long for, peace and justice in this part of the troubled world, we will seek to better understand the current crisis. [Click here for more information.](#) To register for the webinar, [click HERE](#).
- **Resources from Presbyterian Justice & Peace: Amplifying the voices of Black women during Advent** - The Rev. Brooke Scott of the Church on Main is among the contributing writers for Unbound's new Advent resource, *Another Starry Black Night*. She joined the project because of "a passion for amplifying the voices of Black women and addressing the urgency of justice in our communities, locally and globally." You can see the devotional and the contributing authors [HERE](#). A PDF download of the Advent devotional can be accessed at this [LINK](#).

## Community Events

### Sunday

#### CHPC Sunday Schedule

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

11:00 AM Congregational Meeting (Lounge / [Zoom](#))

**10:00 AM - 2:00 PM Holiday Market in the basement Social Hall**

#### 10:30 CC Sunday Schedule

11:00 AM Ecumenical Service (Sanctuary / [Zoom](#))

#### Dignity Denver Sunday Schedule

5:00 PM Dignity Denver Mass, Every 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sunday

#### 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 PM logon/seating in the zendo

6:15 - 6:55 PM zazen

6:55 - 7:15 PM chanting service

7:15 - 7:25 PM prepare for discussion

7:25 - 8:00 PM Dharma discussion

8:00 PM Bodhisattva vows and closing gathering

6:30-8:30 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 AM arrive and take seat in zendo

9:30 - 10:10 AM zazen

10:10 - 10:20 AM kinhin

10:20 - 11:00 AM zazen

11:00 - 11:20 AM service

11:20 AM informal tea

For more information contact Steve Mushin Crisman ([303-324-0365](tel:303-324-0365) / [info@whiteforestsangha.org](mailto: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

Mike Owen Preservation Services Manager & 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](mailto: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

Jim Butz

Chair

303-913-3290

Katie Theisen

Co-Chair

303-756-0507

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

Ellie Anderson

Adult Religious Education

303-638-5088

Co-Liaison

Mary Sullivan

Social Action Liaison

703-371-9105

Connie Curtis

Member-At-Large

303-296-6315

Kyle Gross

Member At-large

303-733-7199

### Dignity Denver Board

Brad Cameron

President

Brad Cameron

Co-Treasurer

Mike Misgen

Member at Large