



**Loving God.
Serving others.
Changing lives.**

**This quarter, we welcomed FOUR
new members to Heart of the Rockies!**

**Leslie Adler
Jacob, Caitlin, and Jackson Miskelly**

Generosity Matters

There is a small lake in our neighborhood that is annually stocked with fish. Stocking day has become a small community event where people bring boats and 5 gallon buckets. The fish are released from the hatchery truck into the buckets and then dispersed by boats around the lake.

Several years ago a mom brought her three-year-old son. He arrived with his little yellow sand pail. My husband put some water in the pail, then added a single minnow. The little boy was mesmerized!

When mom told him it was time to put the fish in the water, he balked. She explained that it needed a bigger home in which to swim and wanted to be with the other fish. Finally he relented. As he gently released the minnow at water's edge he wistfully said, "Good-bye, my friend." Then he turned, and with just the tiniest bit of pride said, "I let him go."

None of us can be the only fish, the biggest fish, or the smallest fish here. Each of us depends on God and this community, and God and this community depend on us. But, like the little boy, we sometimes want to hold on - to what? Our time? Building relationships? Sharing our resources?

We each have our own unique abilities to contribute. It's sometimes good to say "good-bye, my friend" to that which we hold back.

Written by Sue Krueger

thank you!

- We welcomed over 275 people to worship and brunch as we shared the good news of Easter Sunday--"Christ is risen!"
- Our Seasonal Action Leadership Team's "stained glass" windows created with help from our kids provided a stunning backdrop for the season.
- We kicked off our 25th Anniversary year-long celebration with a blessing from Amanda Henderson's family. Amanda said yes to her call to ministry while attending here in the early 2000s. She's now the Executive Director of the Interfaith Alliance of Colorado. After worship, the Poncelows hosted a church trivia gameshow.
- We love chocolate and coffee and small farmers! Our congregation was in the top 5% of all faith communities that sold Equal Exchange products in 2017. Thanks, John and Nancy Shaw!
- Six youth and their parents explored sexuality and spirituality through the Just Say Know curriculum, taught by Rachel Nelson, Beth Harding, and Jeff and Janet Wright.

April



May

- Nine folks from our congregation joined Jeff and Janet Wright on their Footsteps of Jesus alternative tour to Israel and Palestine, seeing holy sites & learning more about the conflict.
- We partnered with Plymouth Congregational UCC to host four local families experiencing homelessness, including a family with 7 kids, who found permanent housing in the weeks after we hosted them.
- We celebrated 9 high school, college, and masters graduate on Graduate Sunday, sending them into their future with a blessing hand-written notes, and a journal.
- Several folks from our congregation traveled to Bardstown, KY, for our new pastor, Daniel Lyvers', ordination.



June

- We celebrated the incredible generosity of our congregation over the years as we paid off our building loan--early!--and burned our mortgage. Those present included some of the original signers of the mortgage, as well as members of the advisory team that formed Heart of the Rockies. Our preacher, Cassie Poncelow, was in high school when we moved into our building.
- Over 20 children and youth spent a week at church camp at La Foret, being transformed by the power of life in community, love of God and invested adults, and time re-connecting with creation. Thanks to the 5 adults from our congregation who served as camp staff.
- We welcomed our new pastor, Daniel, in worship. His installation is coming soon!
- Stacy Poncelow, Heather Fjare, Ruth Meyers, and Melissa St. Clair attended classes at Brite Divinity School in Fort Worth through a Lilly Endowment pilot project on church music & worship.

