



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

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

Ken and Joy Campbell

Generosity Matters

To read the full story, go to heartatheart.blog.

...I think maybe Amish Friendship Bread ultimately did more damage to my friendships than anything else, and eventually I had to give it up. Each cycle, the extracted new starter-bag of goop got ladled down the sink, and for a while, I limped the process along just making the one new starter bag for myself as the current concoction went on to make the addictive final product, and mostly ate it myself, in my classroom or alone in my house, like a miser.

But that's not how it was meant to be. It wasn't half as decadent, not remotely rewarding to just make it for myself. It didn't even taste good anymore, really. (Plus, within a few months, nothing in my closet fit besides). It was meant to be shared.

The Amish had the right idea, even if the bread was more fuss and abundance than anyone wanted. It was the passing on that was good. What if it had been mere kindness instead of bread-starters one had to pass on to four people every ten days?

If the thing you were passing on was more treat than burden, if it were spare change, loving words, the deep-into-one's-eyes gaze that says, "I see you..."

If we gave those out every day...and the people to whom we gave them gave them again...that would catch on.

Let's try it...

thank you!

Written by Christine Engelen

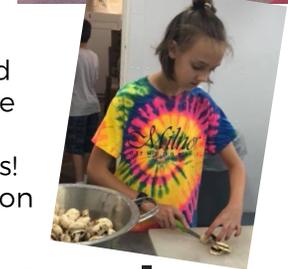
- Eight high schoolers and three adult leaders spent a week with the Oakland Peace Center (CA), partnering with organizations committed to just peace in their city.
- Over 20 folks participated in Habitat for Humanity's Faith Build for Rebecca and Munawar's family.
- We "paid it forward" by raising over \$2,500 for Habitat's Faith Build--a way to return a share of the congregation's generosity that allowed us to pay our "house" (of worship!) off early.
- Our Children's Ministry hosted its first-ever "Midsummer Night's Bash"--an intergenerational opportunity to play, hear stories from scripture, and share in a service project (sack lunches for our Habitat crew!) together.
- We co-hosted 4 families experiencing homelessness in partnership with Faith Family Hospitality & Plymouth UCC.

July



August

- Five middle schoolers and two adult leaders spent 4 days in Laramie, WY, sharing God's love through local agencies that serve others.
- Our youth led us in worship on Agape Sunday, sharing the ways they saw God at work in the world and in their lives while in Oakland and Laramie.
- Over 40 people of all ages headed to Glendo State Park (WY) for our 4th (and 1/2) annual S'mores at Heart, organized by Bill & Laura Stout. Whether you floated the river or relaxed on the shore, there was plenty of time to share in food, fellowship, & worship together.
- We celebrated the installation of Daniel Lyvers!
- We hosted youth leaders from across the region for their fall ECOY retreat.



September

- We concluded worship on Labor Day weekend by blessing our Harvest of the Heart Community Garden. Together, we harvested 160 pounds of produce that morning, for a total of 1,493 pounds for the year so far.
- We hosted the Fort Collins Interfaith Council for their September meeting.
- In partnership with the Central Rocky Mountain Region, we commissioned Donna Greene as a minister in our congregation for the 2018-2019 academic year.
- We celebrated the start of our 6-month Sunday morning experiment, along with our fall kick-off for youth: Night of Colors.
- Club 456 & Alpha + Omega resumed their ministries with our children and youth.
- We partnered with Radwan Kalaaji to share in a homemade Syrian dinner, while learning more about the conflict and devastation there. All proceeds benefited Radwan's connections in his home country.

