



# Loving God. Serving others. Changing lives.

July 28, 2022

God's Beloved—

It's surely a sign of summer that this letter is coming to you at the end of the month instead of the beginning. Summer tends to scatter us, and at Heart of the Rockies Christian Church, it does that too...in service to others! The last quarter of ministry has been rich in opportunities to embody the **Serving others** part of our mission.

We celebrated our staff who went above and beyond in their **service to our congregation** during our most recent pastoral transition. Without the gifts and generosity of people like **Rachel Nelson** (Youth Ministry Director), **Erin Tyler** (Pastoral Assistant), and **Ehret Nottingham** (Pastoral Intern), our capacity for ministry would've seen a decrease as our fabulous **Associate Minister Search Team** did their vital work in presenting **Wendy Davidson** as our final candidate. Instead, we not only prepared ourselves to welcome a wonderful new pastor; we were able to continue saying YES to the things God was calling us to do and be during that time.

We hosted our **Outreach Fair** in June to connect folks with our mission partners and to celebrate the ways we're changing lives through hands-on relationships like those with the Jan family, an **Afghan family** we've been resettling over the past several months, and through a commitment to justice—getting to the root of why so many in our community are in need, like our partnership with **ISAAC** (Interfaith Solidarity & Accompaniment Coalition).

At the invitation of our friends and faith partners at **New Eyes Village**, our **Men's Prayer Breakfast** and **Women at the Well** prepared a bang-up breakfast for Juneteenth, which was a prelude to our first-ever collaborative worship service in celebration of a sacred day in the lives of Black folks in the US.

Our Fort Collins **Habitat for Humanity** builders have been out in full force, kicking off several opportunities to not only put hammer to nail but also to provide lunch for a full crew of builders on our work days.

Our **Knitwits** (two Tuesdays a month at 10 a.m.) have embarked on their first efforts at combining their creativity to make **prayer blankets** for those in our congregation who are in need of a tangible reminder of the prayers and love that surround them.

Our **1st-12th grade campers and camp staff** spent their weeks at La Foret experiencing re-connection with creation, God, and each other—while modeling care for all three. Our **CYF (high school) Mission Trip** youth and adults spent a week with Blue Theology learning how current science in marine biology informs a theology of creation care. Our **Chi Rho Mission Trippers** leave for Laramie this Sunday to serve others there, as well.

Our **Harvest of the Heart Community Garden** continues to produce a bounty (132 pounds and counting!) that is sent out to our local non-profit restaurant, FoCo Cafe, the Food Bank for Larimer County, and the Jan family.

Faith in action doesn't happen in a vacuum. It's **enabled, empowered, and encouraged** by YOUR generosity. Each dollar we receive backs these opportunities to show up in the places Jesus would—where there is pain, a need for healing and hope, a chance at restoring community, an opportunity to make lives more whole (including our own!). **Thanks for your investment—this quarter and always.** We couldn't be the church we are called to be without you.

Grace and gratitude,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Melissa".

Melissa St. Clair, Pastor

A large, handwritten message in a red, cursive script that says "thank you!".