

Wildlands Restoration Volunteers Project July 2023



# What does God require of you? To do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8

These words from the prophet Micah sit at the heart of our congregation's commitment, as we pray and work for the good of all people, the wider community, and the earth. We endeavor, with humility, to listen and learn as we seek to draw near to the world's suffering and to offer ourselves to others in love. With kindness and compassion, we support a wide variety of mission partners both locally and globally through financial grants, special offerings, and hands-on service. We seek to do justice through community organizing, voter engagement, and legislative advocacy, growing edges for us in our efforts to dive ever more deeply into the needs of the world and the Spirit's calling. Six Covenants and Five Social Justice Ministries guide our work for Racial Justice, Creation Justice and Climate Action, Gun Violence Prevention, Mental Health, and LGBTQ+ support and advocacy.

Rev. Christina Braudaway-Bauman Senior Minister 303-442-1787 x101 www.firstcong.net

#### BOARD OF MISSION AND CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTION

## The Board of Mission and Christian Social Action serves as a crucial connector among our congregation, the wider United Church of Christ (UCC) and the broader community.

Our key responsibility is to diligently and thoughtfully direct financial resources to organizations that are effectively addressing vital needs. This effort is closely aligned with our congregation's fundamental values, which encompass social justice, mental health awareness, inclusivity, environmental stewardship, and the advocacy of lesbian, gay, bisexual, trangender and queer (LGBTQ+) rights.

We also aim to bolster the efforts of our ministries and community partners by promoting volunteer opportunities that align with our goals and by clearly communicating the impact of our congregation's time and financial contributions. This integrated approach is designed to foster active involvement and informed understanding among our members. By doing so, we not only strengthen our shared values but also build meaningful relationships within our community thereby deepening our connections as we collaborate to make a significant difference in the world.

#### MISSION AND OUTREACH at FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH BOULDER

On behalf of the congregation and with approval from church council, the Board of Mission and Christian Social Action distributed:

\$36,293 to 18 mission partner grant applicants

\$11,000 to Pastor's purse to support response to immediate needs of individuals who approach the church for help and Afghan refugees

\$5000 to the LGBTQ+ ministry for their support of Out Boulder County

\$5000 to the Racial Justice Ministry to support projects they were working on with community partners including the NAACP

Other outreach included:

- Crop Walk for Hunger (\$712) Coordinated by Joanne O'Keefe
- Fourth Sunday Soup Kitchen Coordinated by Soo Rhee and Elizabeth Gold and many dedicated volunteers from the congregation and wider community.
- Habitat for Humanity- received funds (\$1280) from our grocery card program
- Neighborhood Food Drive organized by Don Reed and Men's breakfast collected 2768 lbs of food in 2023. Highly successful quarterly food drive benefiting Emergency Family Assistance Association (EFAA) and Boulder County Aids Project (BCAP)
- Christmas in August fundraiser (\$3,169) for Rise Against Suicide sponsored by LGBTQ+ and Mental Health Ministries
- Supported several Afghan refugee families get established through collaborative efforts
- BMCSA managed special offerings which, through the generosity of our congregation, contributed to UCC funds that include:

Neighbors in Need (\$1725), One Great Hour of Sharing (\$3674), Strengthen the Church (\$1000) The Christmas Fund (Veterans of the Cross--\$1,250)

Special offerings were taken to respond to the fire in Maui (\$4832) 2023 Christmas Offering (\$8871) collected and split between RIP Medical Debt and Feet Forward

- Distributed \$10,087 to the Family Learning Center from special offering funds raised for continuing recovery from the Marshall fire.
- In 2023, the board maintained paid memberships with the following organizations: NAACP (\$500)

Together Colorado (\$500)

Interfaith Alliance (\$250)

Colorado Faith Communities United (\$100)

Colorado Immigrants Right Coalition (\$250)

• A special gift of \$2045 was given to the NAACP-organized event to honor Black High School graduates

- Backpack fundraiser for Family Learning Center. FCC collected monies and school supplies with a special intergenerational gathering to fill 80 backpacks and deliver them to FLC
- 4 different volunteer days with community partner Wildlands Restoration Volunteers were offered to members and friends of FCC
- A vegan dinner and educational event was held with a presentation by the Boulder Food Rescue
- The Alternative Gift Market (AGM) was held four Sundays during the Advent season, giving congregation members an opportunity to purchase gifts in honor of others by contributing to causes supported by Alternative Gifts International (AGI). The 22 projects this year included books for children in Ethiopia, relief for Ukrainian refugees in Hungary, scholarships for students in Haiti, and leg braces in the Congo

Final gifts to AGI totaled \$8,274 Included in the AGM was the selling of Fair Trade/Equal Exchange coffee, tea and chocolate totaling \$381.25

- Jill von Trebra wrote a grant to the AGM for \$500 for Boulder County Aids Project (BCAP)
- Raised an additional \$660 from the fund for the truck for the Burbanks
- Continued to develop cross-ministry interactions through quarterly meetings with BMCSA and the Social Justice Ministries, leading to things like a policy for how to get church support for advocacy work and a collaborative Get out the Vote effort in November
- First social justice summer interns helped develop plans for service projects engaging with community partners and Get out the Vote efforts

## FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH BOULDER (FCCB) SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRIES

#### **Climate Action Team**

Addresses climate change through education, political action, worship and coordination with other churches. Contact: Caitlin Smith, csmitty12@gmail.com

#### **Gun Violence Prevention**

Seeks multiple ways to lessen the impact of gun violence in the community through public awareness and education for our congregation and local community on issues of gun violence. Contact: Carol Young, ccyoung2010@gmail.com

#### **Mental Health**

Puts into practice the principles enumerated in First Congregational Church Boulder 2014 WISE Covenant by being more welcoming, inclusive, supportive and engaged with all of God's people especially those touched by mental illness and their families. Contact: Anne Weiher, anne.weiher@gmail.com

#### LGBTQ+ And Allies

Welcomes and affirms through fellowship and advocacy LGBTQ+ persons as well as encourages and expects LGBTQ+ to share their talents and gifts in the life, liturgy and leadership of our congregation and the world. Contact: Linda Kowatch, linda@firstcong.net

#### **Racial Justice**

Partners with organizations, such as NAACP, doing anti-racist work by planning educational opportunities and experiential activities for self-exploration, growth and service. Contact: Matt Hess, Hess.matt.j@gmail.com Contact: Jessica Austin, jessgaustin@yahoo.com

#### MISSION SUPPORT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH BOULDER (FCC) COMMUNITY PARTNERS & SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Local

Association for Community Living in Boulder & Broomfield Counties Boulder County Aids Project (BCAP) Boulder Food Rescue (BFR) **Bridge House** Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition (CIRC) Emergency Family Assistance Association, Inc. (EFAA) Faith4All (Faith For All) The Family Learning Center (FLC) Growing Gardens of Boulder County Intercambio De Comunidades Meals On Wheels Rise Against Suicide St. Benedict Health & Healing Ministry TGTHR (Attention Homes) Wildlands Restoration Volunteers (WRV) Windhorse Guild, Inc. (Mindful Works) YMCA Boulder County

International

Alternative Gift International (AGI) Kenya Education Fund (KEF) Noor-El Salam (Lebanon)

#### **UCC Special Offerings**

One Great Hour Of Sharing (OGHS) Neighbors In Need (NIN) Strengthen The Church (STC) The Christmas Fund Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM)

#### FCC COMMUNITY PARTNERS



#### ASSOCIATION FOR COMMUNITY LIVING IN BOULDER AND BROOMFIELD COUNTIES

The ACL is a disability and human rights advocacy organization and is the affiliated chapter of The Arc of the United States serving Boulder & Broomfield Counties. We promote and protect the rights of people with intellectual developmental disabilities (IDD) to be included as a natural and integral part of community life. Our advocacy helps the person learn about systems & services, speak up for themselves, and feel safe to make informed decisions. We then ensure the systems and our communities are listening and responding by pushing back on the systems and offering our communities consultation, training, and support.

#### **GET INVOLVED:**

1. Volunteer as a running/walking coach for Beyond Limits.

Beyond Limits is a BolderBoulder 10K Race training program for Boulder County residents with intellectual developmental disabilities. Beyond Limits is an ACL-sponsored and community-led group. The group meets Mondays from mid-March until the big race on Memorial Day! Walkers, joggers, wheelchair users, and runners are welcome! All experience levels are welcome! As a volunteer "coach," you will be paired with an athlete with an intellectual developmental disability (IDD) to train for the BolderBoulder 10K. You will work with the same person throughout the training weeks. This helps you get to know each other and helps establish good pacing, training, and motivational skills. The

group trains together as a team each week on trails in Boulder, so there's a lot of fun together out there on the trail! If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Caitlin Looney, ACL Strategy and Communications Director at <u>clooney@aclboulder.org</u>.

- 2. Learn more: ACL Calendar Beyond Limits
- 3. Join an ACL Board of Directors Committee. The ACL is always looking for people to volunteer for Board Committees that match their expertise. Volunteers do not need to be elected to the Board of Directors to volunteer for a Board Committee. Examples of some of our current committees are 1) Finance Committee, 2) Housing Committee, and 3) Fundraising Committee. If you have an area of interest and expertise and you would like to express interest in joining an ACL committee, please contact Ailsa Wonnacott, ACL Executive Director, at awonnacott@aclboulder.org.

Learn more: aclboulder.org/our-board

4. Volunteer for Gentle Nutcracker

Each year following Thanksgiving, the Longmont Symphony Orchestra and the Boulder Ballet present a sensory-friendly abridged version of Tchaikovsky's beloved Nutcracker Ballet for people with disabilities/sensory needs and their families. The Gentle Nutcracker is an ACL-sponsored and community-led group that was started several years ago as a collaboration between the ACL, Brainsong, Boulder Ballet, and the Longmont Symphony Orchestra.

The Gentle Nutcracker's adaptations include things like: 1) House lights will remain at 35%, 2) A "No Shushing" environment, 3) Designated quiet area, and 4) Movement and noises are welcome. The ACL staff train volunteers for this performance and many ACL families attend. It truly is a magical experience and volunteers are needed every year for this performance. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Julie Hartman, ACL Community Projects Coordinator, at jhartman@aclboulder.org Learn more: boulderballet.org/the-gentle-nutcracker

5. Donate!

Ask your friends and family to donate to support advocacy for people with IDD in our community. You can help by donating gently used items to ARC Thrift Stores or you can make a donation directly to the ACL here: aclboulder.org/give

Facebook: /ACL.Boulder YouTube: @acladvocacy

Contact: Caitlin Looney, info@aclboulder.org Website:.aclboulder.org Phone: (303) 527-0888



#### BOULDER COUNTY AIDS PROJECT (BCAP)

Boulder County AIDS Project (BCAP) is an HIV Services nonprofit organization serving Boulder, Broomfield, Gilpin, and Clear Creek counties in Colorado. BCAP's mission is to provide support, advocacy, and education to those in our community who are living with or affected by HIV and to serve as an outreach and information center to prevent the further transmission of HIV.

#### GET INVOLVED:

 Looking for a regular volunteer position? BCAP is seeking 1-2 strong volunteers with weekday morning hours and reliable transportation to deliver groceries 2 times a month from BCAP's food pantry to low-income people living with HIV in Boulder County. If interested, email Mary Freund at BCAP, mary@bcap.org or call her at 303-444-6121 ext. 114. 2. Organize an "*Essential Supplies Drive*" for people experiencing homelessness who access BCAP Prevention Services weekday afternoons at BCAP. BCAP is seeking new beanies/winter hats, gloves, socks, and unopened travel sized toiletries (i.e. deodorant and body wash). Email Mariah Frank, BCAP Prevention Director mariah@bcap.org or call her at 303-444-6121 ext. 119, with questions and/or to arrange a time to drop collected items off at BCAP (open M-FR, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.)

Contact: Mary Freund, mary@bcap.org Mariah Frank, mariah@bcap.org Website: bcap.org/



#### **BOULDER FOOD RESCUE (BFR)**

Redistributes healthy food that would otherwise be wasted to low-income communities by addressing immediate food access needs and promoting participatory and inclusive programs.

#### GET INVOLVED:

Food Redistribution Courier Volunteer Shifts

- 1. Our primary volunteer opportunity is direct service involving sorting and redistributing rescued food. As a courier volunteer, you will go to a grocery store donor, sort out perishable food they have set aside for us, compost what is non-edible, and bike or drive the quality food to the designated recipient site. We have over ten shifts per day, including weekends. A shift typically takes 1-2 hours. There are detailed, specific instructions for each shift in our software which you will be given access to after completing onboarding. You will use one of our bikes and trailers if you choose to bike, and we provide optional bike training if you would like. You can take a weekly shift, or sign up to be on our contact list to fill in for shifts at the last minute as they come up! Interested? Please fill out this form.
- 2. Tires Team (3T) If you're knowledgeable and passionate about basic bike maintenance and interested in volunteering, our Tools and Tires Team (3T) may be the opportunity for you! 3T members help us keep our bikes at our donor sites in good working condition for courier volunteers to safely use. You can sign up for a regular weekly check-in for the bikes at any donor site. If interested, please email johnny@boulderfoodrescue.org
- 3. Maintenance Team

Our maintenance team is composed of avid cyclists who are extremely skilled and knowledgeable about bikes. They train our 3T members, ensure repairs are done properly, and check on our bikes around town regularly. If you think the Maintenance Team could be a good fit for you, inquire further by emailing johnny@boulderfoodrescue.org

• Photographer

BFR is in need of high-quality photos of all of our operations and events. If you are a photographer interested in helping us capture the visual story of the work that BFR does throughout the community please email emily@boulderfoodrescue.org

• Community Engagement Team:

Help us tell the story of BFR through community outreach efforts. We are looking for more members of our Community Engagement Team to support us with educational events, tabling, and speaking engagements. To get involved, email sean@boulderfoodrescue.org

Contact: Lindsey Loberg, info@boulderfoodrescue.org Website: boulderfoodrescue.org



#### **BRIDGE HOUSE**

Bridge House is on a mission to end homelessness - one person at a time. We offer adults experiencing homelessness a continuum of programming, called the Bridge of Opportunity, spanning from low barrier basic needs services to robust programs with access to paid work, housing and support services. The goal of all Bridge House's core programs is to meet adults experiencing homelessness where they are and offer them opportunities to transform their lives. We offer each client customized opportunities to help them transition as quickly as possible out of homelessness.

#### **GET INVOLVED:**

- 1. Volunteer individually or as a group, contact Scott Medina at contact below.
- 2. Host or serve dinners at our Community Table dinner program.
- 3. Link to DONATE: https://boulderbridgehouse.org/donate/

Please enjoy this inspiring video about our mission.

Contact: Scott Medina, Scott@BoulderBridgeHouse.org Website: boulderbridgehouse.org/ Phone: 720-235-6050



#### COLORADO IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COALITION (CIRC)

Founded in 2002, CIRC is a statewide membership-based organization that advocates for all immigrants in Colorado and the United States, regardless of legal status. Our 60+ member organizations lead our coalition and seek to uplift the voices of directly impacted immigrants to create change by and for our community. CIRC seeks to build community power through

organizing and leadership development within immigrant communities, winning fair and humane public policies, providing legal services and educational workshops, and implementing nonpartisan civic engagement programs.

#### GET INVOLVED:

- Volunteer at our Legal Services workshops (including providing interpretation services, helping with check-in/check-out, or filling out DACA or naturalization applications). Please Copy/Paste this form into your browser to sign up or inquire: https://forms.gle/eCx3BQ2Z25SP5zV99
- 2. Help make posters and signs for any upcoming events or rallies and participate in these events or rallies as they arise.
- 3. Sign up for CIRC's updates to stay in the know about other one-time volunteer opportunities coloradoimmigrant.com Get Involved tab Sign up for Updates

Contact: Keilly Leon, keilly@coloradoimmigrant.org Website: coloradoimmigrant.org Phone: 303-922-3300



#### **EMERGENCY FAMILY ASSISTANCE ASSOCIATION, INC. (EFFA)**

The Emergency Family Assistance Association (EFAA) has been serving our Boulder community for over 100 years by providing food, financial assistance, housing, and intensive resource navigation to community members experiencing economic hardship.

#### GET INVOLVED:

- 1. Volunteering
- 2. Financial contributions
- 3. Food drives

First Congregation is already one of our strongest food donation partners.

Contact: Sue McCullough, sue@efaa.org Photo: Chris Nichols For donations: donations@efaa.org For food drives: Walter O'Toole, walter@efaa.org Website: efaa.org/



**FAITH4ALL (FAITH FOR ALL)** It is the mission of Faith4All to assist communities of faith in their transformation into bodies that invite, embrace, include and empower people who live with disabilities. With the help of Faith4All, the contributions of time, talent and treasure of those living with disabilities is not missed or forgotten; rather these skills can be encouraged and validated, just as with any other member of the faith community. With the assistance of Faith4All, communities of faith can learn to more effectively welcome all.

#### GET INVOLVED:

- 1. Presently, we're looking for someone to serve as a board member on our governing board. This is quite a flexible time and effort commitment. Probably, the most effective effort that could be made by a board member is to have a coffee meeting with Kevin once a month, or so, and he would fill you in on his efforts and any difficulties he's encountered!
- If you have any organizational skills and would be willing to share guidance concerning running an organization, our Executive Director could certainly use an occasional session of consultation! It would be nice to develop a list of people we could consult regarding publication, organization, grant submission, and other executive skills required of a not-for-profit leader.

Contact: Kevin Pettit, kevin@Faith4All.org Website: Faith4All.org Phone: 303-882-1871 Postal Mailing Address: Faith4All, c/o First Congregational Church of Boulder, 1128 Pine St., Boulder, CO, 80302



#### THE FAMILY LEARNING CENTER (FLC)

Family Learning Center is a non-governmental non-profit grassroots organization that empowers children and families to change the world. We offer impactful educational opportunities in early childhood education, STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Math) learning, and health and wellness education.

#### GET INVOLVED:

- 1. Help our preschool teachers in the classroom
- 2. Tutor a school age child in reading, writing, or math in our School Age Program
- 3. Join our Board of Directors

Contact: L'Shawn Howard, Assistant Director, shawnh@flcboulder.org Website: flcboulder.org/ Phone: 303-4428979



#### **GROWING GARDENS OF BOULDER COUNTY, INC.**

Growing Gardens works to ensure that every family in Boulder County can access fresh healthy food while caring for the environment, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to nourish their bodies, their community and their planet. Growing Gardens donates fresh, organic, local food while also providing education and resources to empower community members to grow their own family's food.

#### GET INVOLVED:

- Join us, and spread the word about our Community Plant Sale! Weekends in April and May, at our Boulder Hawthorn Farm, we sell Organically Grown and Bee-Safe (neonicotinoid-free) heirloom tomatoes, veggie, and herb starts, grown locally in our greenhouses, as well as perennial and annual flowers, trees, and shrubs. All funds support Growing Gardens' programs. growinggardens.org/communityevents/ for more information.
- Become a Volunteer on our Farms! We have both drop-in and long-term volunteer opportunities for individuals, and we also create special volunteer days for groups. Volunteers help with planting, weeding, harvesting, goat care, and more! growinggardens.org/volunteer/
- 3. Learn and Connect through our Community Classes. We offer a range of programs from Gardening 101 to cheese-making and honeybee care. growinggardens.org/classes/.

Contact: Erika Carlson, info@growinggardens.org Website: growinggardens.org Phone: 303-443-9952



#### INTERCAMBIO DE COMUNIDADES

Intercambio's volunteer-taught adult English classes support immigrants to gain the communication skills, confidence to communicate across language barriers, and personal connections to transform their lives. One cross-cultural connection at a time, our relationship-based learning method has supported 10,000 immigrants in Boulder County to earn more money, support their children in school, communicate with healthcare professionals, and develop a feeling of belonging and inclusion in the community.

#### **GET INVOLVED:**

- Attend our quarterly Community Conversations help our students practice their English with a supportive conversation partner, and connect with the local immigrant community. Events are online and in-person four times per year. intercambio.org/events/event-category/community-conversations/
- 2. Teach English in our local program, or online. We provide all training and materials, you just have to be patient, encouraging, and consistent. Requires a commitment of about 5 hours a week for at least 3 months. Can be done online or in person, in a group setting or you can be paired one on one with an English language learner. intercambio.org/volunteer.

3. Donate to support this work - every dollar counts! Intercambio.org/donate

Contact: Irene Donhowe, Irene@intercambio.org Website: intercambio.org



#### MEALS ON WHEELS OF BOULDER, INC.

Meals on Wheels of Boulder has been delivering meals to our Boulder neighbors since 1969. We are a local non-profit that makes life a little easier for people who want to live independently but have trouble preparing their own meals.

#### GET INVOLVED:

 We have many volunteer opportunities! Whether you can give two hours or ten hours a week, we need you! Join our team, volunteer today, and help keep the wheels turning! Note: You must be at least 18 years old to volunteer in the kitchen or market and 21 or over to be a delivery driver.

Contact: Karen Kay Thompson, karen@mowboulder.org or kelly@mowboulder.org/volunteer/ Website: mowboulder.org/ Phone: 720-780-3383



#### **RISE AGAINST SUICIDE**

Rise Against Suicide helps youth at risk of suicide by removing the financial and social barriers to treatment, enabling them to find hope and healing.

#### GET INVOLVED:

1. Our annual Emerge 5K will be on Sunday, May 5th, 2024 at the Boulder Reservoir if folks would like to attend, volunteer, participate.

Contact: Michelle Aquino, michelle@riseagainstsuicide.org Website: riseagainstsuicide.org Phone: 720-850-3905

# **Stock the Bins**



We need more than just hats!

#### ST. BENEDICT HEALTH AND HEALING MINISTRY

St. Benedict Health and Healing Ministry is a non-profit organization that has been providing free clinics for the uninsured and our neighbors experiencing housing instability since 2003. Our mission is to improve the physical, mental, and spiritual health of those people in our community who have needs but who lack access to health care resources. We seek out the most vulnerable populations in our community–those most impacted by discrimination, structural racism, inequity, and systemic bias, the people that our healthcare system does not do enough to reach out and serve with dignity and equality.

#### GET INVOLVED:

- 1. We are always welcoming volunteers both clinical and non-clinical.
- 2. We also appreciate donations of personal hygiene items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, conditioner, lotion, wet wipes, etc.

Contact: Shelly Dierking, shelly@stbenedicthealthandhealing.org Website: stbenedicthealthandhealing.org/



#### **TGTHR (ATTENTION HOMES)**

TGTHR envisions a world in which all young people are valued, empowered, and safe. We support Colorado youth aged 12 to 24 who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness by providing overnight shelter, daytime drop-in support, street outreach, and supportive housing. Our work is rooted in the relationships we build with youth and other members of the community.

As we walk alongside young people during a critical time in their lives, we strive to uplift their voices and celebrate their resilience and diverse strengths. TGTHR services emphasize positive youth development; strengths-based case management; trauma-informed care; harm reduction; and behavioral health.

#### GET INVOLVED:

- 1. Groups and individuals can volunteer tgthr.org/get-involved/
- 2. Contribute Wish List items tgthr.org/wishlist/ or donate directly
- 3. Participate in our annual Sleep Out to raise community awareness of youth homelessness
- 4. Donate food or meals for youth; join a street outreach shift; or provide administrative support

TGTHR (formerly Attention Homes) 1440 Pine Street, Ste B Boulder, CO 80302 Contact: Tamara Fox, contactus@tgthr.org Website: tgthrk.org Phone: 303-447-1206



#### WILDLANDS RESTORATION VOLUNTEERS (WRV)

**Wildlands Restoration Volunteers (WRV)** is a Colorado nonprofit 501(c)(3) that organizes thousands of volunteers each year to complete more than 150 conservation projects throughout Colorado. Volunteer events range in length from a few hours to multi-day campouts and are located in beautiful natural areas from the plains to the alpine. By volunteering with WRV, you'll meet great people while helping to heal the land and strengthen our communities. Sign up for a volunteer project today!

#### GET INVOLVED:

 Volunteer! Come help restore beautiful sites all across Colorado - we have opportunities for all ages, abilities and interests. No experience necessary, and we welcome families and groups. Experienced and friendly volunteer leaders work alongside you to learn new skills in a safe environment, have a great time outdoors and make new friends. We add new volunteer opportunities throughout the year, so check back regularly or create an account to receive the WRV Project Digest

- 2. Train as a Volunteer Leader! Trained volunteer leaders make everything we do at WRV possible. You can lead a crew, cook, manage tools, help with project management, or help us with your first aid or photography skills. Bring your skills with you or learn with us. WRV offers leadership and technical training every spring, as well as mentoring by experienced leaders. NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY. The desire to be a leader is the only requirement.
- 3. Support WRV! Your generosity allows us to heal the land and build community. We are deeply grateful to all supporters you are vital to WRV's success!

Contact: Jess Turner, info@wlrv.org Website: wlrv.org Phone: 303-543-1411



WINDHORSE GUILD, INC. (MINDFUL WORKS)

Mindful Works is a social enterprise that provides unique job training, employment, and vital psychosocial rehabilitation for those living with serious mental illness. We produce high quality, handmade soft goods such as poufs, ottomans, meditation cushions, yoga products, totes and seasonal products (see mindful-works.org). Our apprentices (clients) learn much more than how to produce these products. They learn both how to work in community and the social skills necessary for working in the wider job market. Additionally, our apprentices report that one of the most salient parts of the program is the acceptance and support they receive from staff, volunteers, and other colleagues.

#### GET INVOLVED:

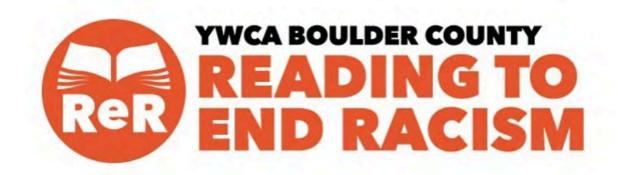
Congregants can help in many ways from:

- 1. Sewing products
- 2. One-to-one working with apprentices in the shop
- 3. Serving on the Board of Directors for Mindful Works
- 4. Providing personal financial support

MOST importantly congregants can continue to buy our products, either at artisan fairs or online.

As we expand into baked goods, there will be more opportunities to purchase products as well as work directly with Mindful Works.

Contact: Susan Williams, susan@mindful-works.org or hello@mindful-works.org Website: mindful-works.org/ Phone: 720-466-0532





#### YWCA BOULDER COUNTY

YWCA Boulder County is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all. YWCA provides a variety of vital services such as high-quality and affordable child care, and racial justice and equity programs including youth empowerment, youth and adult anti-racism education, and advocacy. First Congregational Church supports our Reading to End Racism (RER) program for elementary school children, their teachers and parents to increase awareness and understanding of racism in our community and to encourage everyone to be allies in the fight against racism.

#### **GET INVOLVED:**

- 1. Be a volunteer classroom reader for Reading to End Racism, 5-6 hours per volunteer and includes training (3.5 hours). Volunteer as an individual or as a group.
- 2. Look into additional YWCA volunteer opportunities on our website: Get Involved YWCA Boulder County.

Contact: Shiquita Yarbrough, syarbrough@ywcaboulder.org Website: ywcaboulder.org/ways-to-get-involved/#volunteer

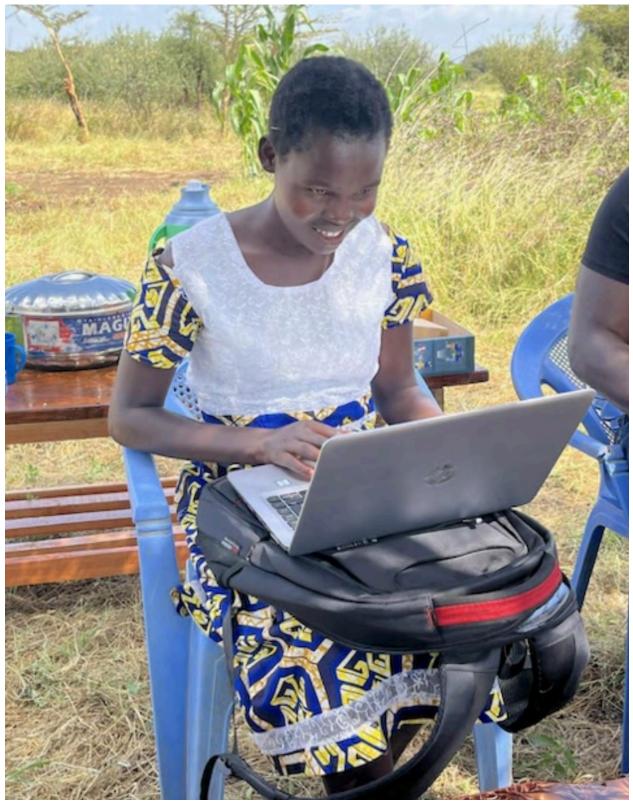
#### FCC INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS EQUAL EXCHANGE/FAIR TRADE COFFEE, TEA, CHOCOLATE

#### ALTERNATIVE GIFT INTERNATIONAL (AGI)

Aims to inspire support for humanitarian and environmental causes by offering donors the option to designate charitable gifts through carefully-selected agencies in the name of their relatives, friends and associates.

Contact: Maria Jacobia, maria@alternativegifts.org Website: alternativegifts.org/

### **KENYA EDUCATION FUND (KEF)**



Offers scholarships to financially challenged Kenya students thereby ensuring their education from high school through to the first year of college, irrespective of their gender, ethnicity, race, religion, or physical abilities.

Contact: Jim Knopf, knopfjm@gmail.com Website: kenyaeducationfund.org/

#### NOOR EL-SALAM



Educates refugee children in Lebanon and provides humanitarian relief to communities suffering from lack of electricity, food, and water.

Contact: Susan Bryant, susan@susankbryant.com Website: noorelsalam.org/

#### UCC SPECIAL OFFERINGS

#### **One Great Hour of Sharing**

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) special mission offering of the United Church of Christ aids in disaster, refugee/immigration, and development ministries throughout the world. Website: one-great-hour-of-sharing/oghs\_resources/

#### **Neighbors in Need**

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion in the United States.

Website: neighbors-in-need-special-mission-offering/

#### Strengthen the Church

The Strengthen the Church (STC) Offering reflects the shared commitment of people across the United Church of Christ to cooperatively build up the UCC. The funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations.

Website: our-church's-wider-mission/strengthen-the-church/

#### **The Christmas Fund**

The Christmas Fund has been caring for active and retired clergy and lay employees of the United Church of Christ for over 100 years, providing emergency grants, supplementation of small annuities and health premiums, and Christmas "Thank You" gift checks each December to our lower-income retirees.

Website: our-church's-wider-mission/christmas-fund/

#### **Our Church's Wider Mission**

Covenant calls us to support one another in all settings of the United Church of Christ. Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM), the giving of the local church to the wider settings, is the life blood of that Covenant. As that life flows, congregations are empowered and individual lives are changed.

Website: https://www.ucc.org/giving/ways-to-give/our-churchs-wider-mission/

#### **BOARD OF MISSION AND CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTION**

Rev. Chris Braudaway-Bauman - Senior Minister Kathy Gilbert Lauren Goldsmith Allison Hamm Martha Henze Karen Hoover Rev. Linda Kowatch - Associate Minister Laura Riihimaki - Chair Allison Tatterson - Treasurer Jill von Trebra



Wildlands Restoration Volunteers April 2023



Wildlands Restoration Volunteers April 2023



Wildlands Restoration Volunteers April 2023



Wildlands Restoration Volunteers April 2023



Wildlands Restoration Volunteers April 2023



Wildlands Restoration Volunteers April 2023



Family Learning Center Backpack Drive July 2023



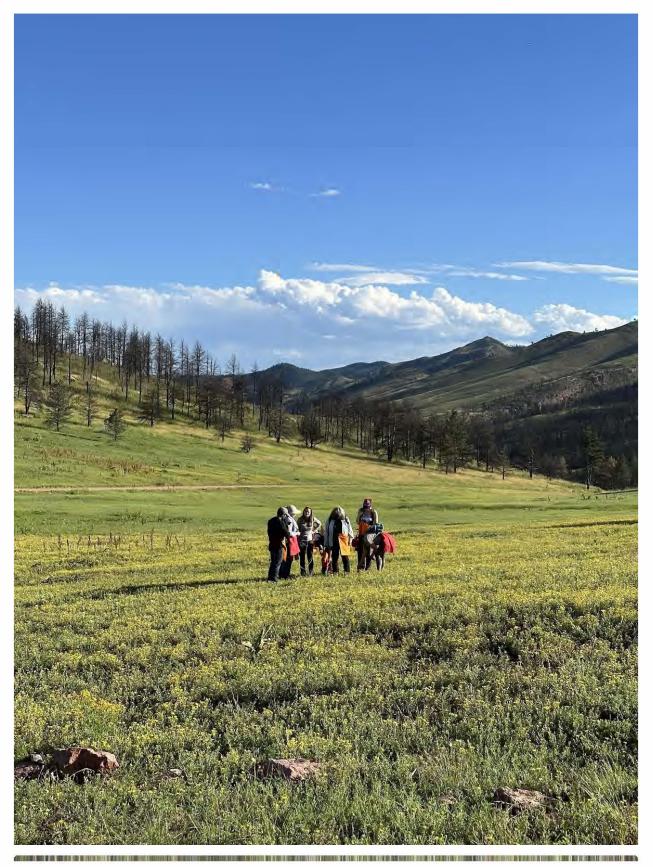
Wildlands Restoration Volunteers April 2023



Wildlands Restoration Volunteers April 2023



Wildlands Restoration Volunteers July 2023



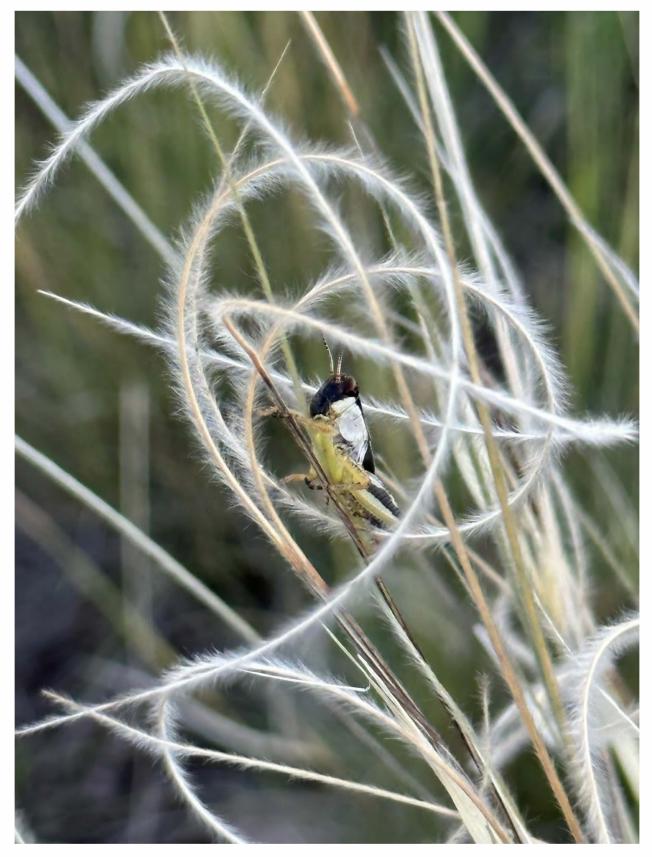
Wildlands Restoration Volunteers July 2023



Wildlands Restoration Volunteers July 2023



Wildlands Restoration Volunteers July 2023



Wildlands Restoration Volunteers July 2023



Wildlands Restoration Volunteers July 2023



Wildlands Restoration Volunteers July 2023



Wildlands Restoration Volunteers August 2023



Wildlands Restoration Volunteers August 2023



Family Learning Center Backpack Drive July 2023



Family Learning Center Backpack Drive July 2023



Family Learning Center Backpack Drive July 2023



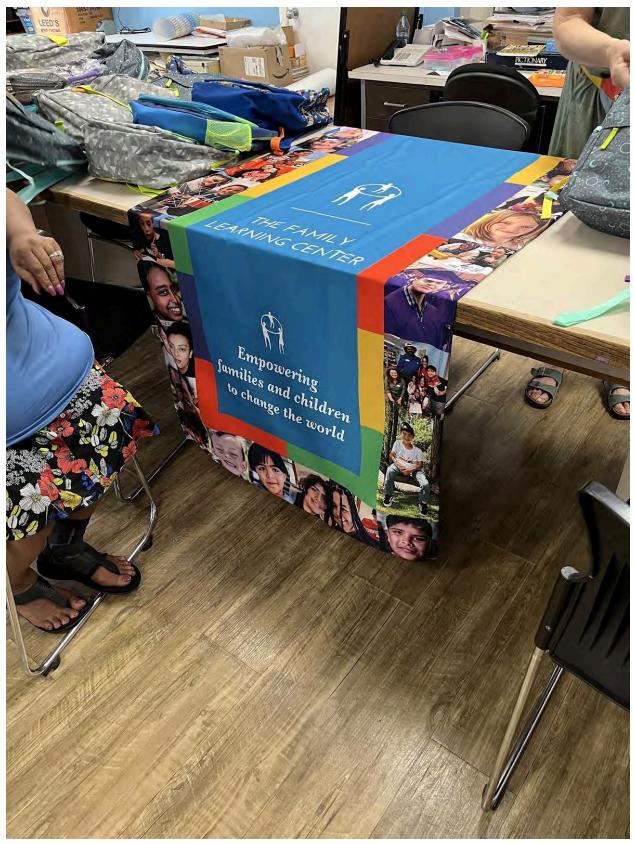
Family Learning Center Backpack Drive July 2023



Family Learning Center Backpack Drive July 2023



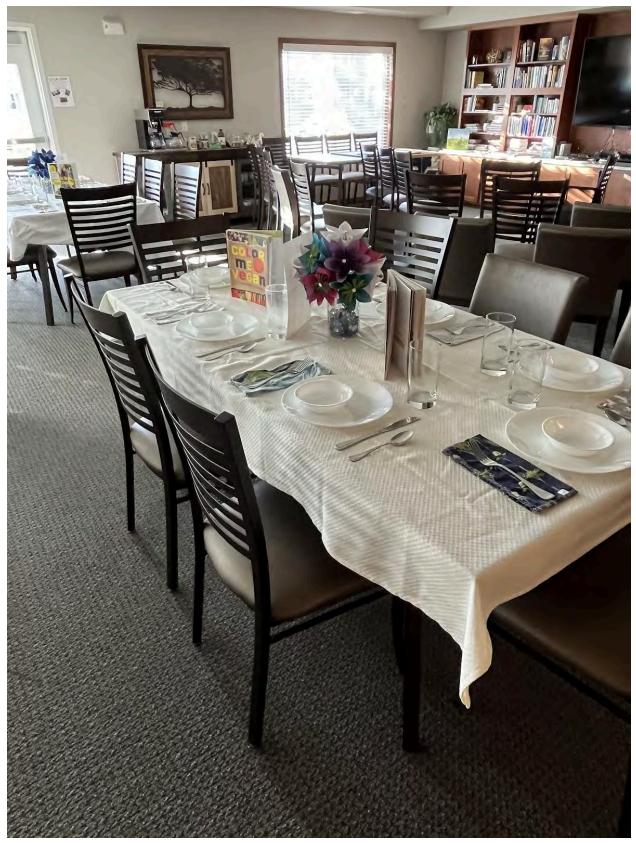
Family Learning Center Backpacks August 2023



Family Learning Center Backpacks August 2023



Family Learning Center Backpacks August 2023



Boulder Food Rescue Vegan Dinner October 2023



Boulder Food Rescue Vegan Dinner October 2023



Boulder Food Rescue Vegan Dinner October 2023



Crop Walk October 2023



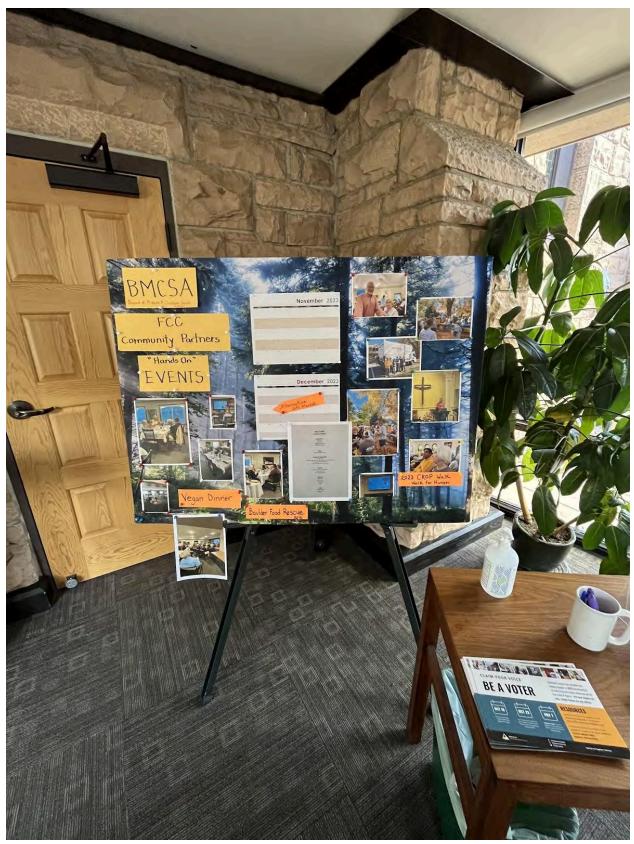
Crop Walk October 2023



Crop Walk October 2023



FCC Alternative Gift Market November/December 2023



FCC Board of Mission & Christian Social Action Bulletin Board



FCC Alternative Gift Market November/December 2023

## FCC Alternative Gift Market November/December 2023





Wildlands Restoration Volunteers Awards Dinner November 2023



FCC Alternative Gift Market November/December 2023



FCC Alternative Gift Market November/December 2023



Family Learning Center Adopt-A-Family for Christmas December 2023



Family Learning Center Adopt-A-Family for Christmas December 2023



Family Learning Center Adopt-A-Family for Christmas December 2023



FCC Alternative Gift Market November/December 2023



FCC Alternative Gift Market November/December 2023