

# The Journey Shared

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION OF THE ECUMENICAL CATHOLIC COMMUNION

## Vision & Mission

**OUR PROCESS: SINCE OUR FIRST MEETING IN JANUARY, AS NEWLY APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVES ON THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL COUNCIL (RMRC) WE HAVE SPENT A LOT OF TIME TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE ARE CALLED TO DO IN SERVICE OF THE LOCAL CHURCH.**

The foundational documents which we inherited from previous Councils seemed out of touch with our current understanding of our mission and purpose, so we basically started from scratch. After soliciting feedback from our respective communities, we brainstormed about a number of key questions. What we came up with at our last meeting follows (the insights are, of course, not listed in hierarchical order). What we discovered, first and foremost, was that the process itself enabled us to get to know one another better (something that is at the heart of our developing vision and mission).

### WHO ARE WE?

- representatives of our communities gathered to form relationships with all of the Rocky Mountain Region
- a group of animators, creators, and leaders
- spiritual path-seekers
- discerners
- collaborators
- channels of communication
- children of God

### WHAT DO WE DO?

- Listen and respond to the spirit's leading and action in the communities of our region
- Facilitate collaboration
- Encourage growth in faith and love (through on-going formation)
- Seek unit in the midst of our diversity
- Facilitate ongoing dialogue and discernment regarding the call of a regional bishop and, at the proper time, initiate/facilitate the process of calling a bishop
- Inform and empower our common life and mission

- Facilitate relationships with prayer, worship, retreats, outreach, summits, and education
- Sustain on-going communication
- Collaborate on efforts to increase the visibility of the ECC
- Basic administration (including regional finances, operations, etc.)

### FOR WHOM?

- All ECC members (of the RMRC)
- The individual parts of the whole

### WHO BENEFITS?

- We benefit, but only as a side effect of a focus beyond ourselves
- Others – desiring a less institutional experience of being church
- Members of our communities, national ECC strengthened by our region
- We do

### HOW DO THEY BENEFIT?

- Excitement
- Enthusiasm
- Relationships
- Sense of belonging to the whole

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## WHAT WE DO THAT WORKS WELL?

- Regional sharing of news
- Shared projects, retreats, prayer
- Fellowship, payer
- Shared liturgies
- Outreach projects

## WHAT MAKES IT WORK?

- A willingness to get out of the routine
- Commitment
- A purpose/goal outside of ourselves
- A desire to know each other – create a communion of communities

## HOW DO WE DO IT?

- Honestly sharing our hearts, our insights/wisdom, and our journeys
- Engage in dialogue with our individual communities (and others); a two-way dialogue consolidating information and news
- With a light, flexible structure that can guide committed relationships toward the gospel horizon.
- Listen! Share.

## WHAT ARE OUR LONG-TERM OBJECTIVES?

- Unity
- Spiritual growth
- Unity in mutual support, respect and a practical gospel life.

## OUR VISION

Gleaning from the most often stressed words of our brainstorming, we then set about crafting a Vision Statement. (Outline of what the organization wants to be. The vision statement is a long-term view that concentrates on the future. The statement should express the organization's optimal goal and reason for existence. For example, a charity working with the poor might have a vision that simply states, "A world without poverty.") Because everyone has their favorite words to express their intent, we are still in the process of narrowing down all of the valuable insights of the group. Our attempts at word-smithing followed the below progression:

- To share the gift of the ECC with each other and Colorado.
- Spiritual presence.
- A lively united ECC presence in the Rocky Mountain Region.
- Unifying body of the Rocky Mountain Region while valuing diversity.
- A unifying organ of the RMR that values diversity.
- A unifying organ of the diverse local church that animates unity amidst diversity.
- To be an organ of our local church that animates unity amidst diversity.
- As animators of the Spirit who cultivate the unity and diversity of the local church.
- Be facilitators of the Spirit who help to animate the unity and diversity of the local church.
- A group of representatives, guided by the Spirit, who work to unify the communities of the Rocky Mountain Region of the Ecumenical Catholic Communion.

## OUR MISSION

Next we tried to tackle our Mission Statement. (The fundamental purpose of an organization describing why it exists and what it does to achieve its Vision. Should articulate the essence of the organization's beliefs and values and define its place in the world. The mission statement is an overview of the group's plans to realize the vision by identifying the service areas. Define: target audience, values, and goals.) What did we come up with?

- To cultivate and facilitate communication, relationships, and life together, so as to fulfill the preamble of ECC's Constitution:

*A "communion of communities," we are men and women, baptized in Christ. We are laity and ordained. We join together at the messianic call of the Spirit to form the household of faith; to preach the Gospel of liberation and justice for the poor, the outcast, the sick, the disabled, the old, the*



young, and the imprisoned; to offer a refuge in Christ for those who suffer prejudice because of race, color, culture, philosophy, gender, sexual orientation or educational deprivation; to conform our lives to the life and teachings of the Lord Jesus Christ through prayer and study, service, and the celebration of the liturgy and the sacraments.

We profess our faith in Christ in the living Catholic Tradition handed to us from the Apostles through many generations. And we stand open to a dialogue with those of other religious identities and faith traditions. We hereby affirm this constitution as an instrument of governance and guidance for our ecclesial body and its member communities.

The Regional Council has established an on-line forum for its members, through which we hope to continue our discernment. Input from the local church continues to be invaluable.

—Co-editor, Fr. Michael J. Nicosia

## We're Growing!\*

A REGULAR COLUMN HONORING OUR MEMBERS WHO HAVE RECENTLY CELEBRATED OR ARE ANTICIPATING MILESTONES.

At Church of the Beloved, five children were welcomed into the community with the **Sacrament of Baptism**. Riley was baptized in April and Jacob, Michael, Kyler, and Cayden were baptized in May.

Also at COB, twelve children have been busy preparing for **First Holy Communion**. The class, led by Cabrini Lovato, has been meeting on Saturdays since April 13th to prepare for the Blessed Sacrament. They will finish their preparations just before Mother's Day and celebrate their First Holy Communion at Mass on June 8, 2013.

**Love is in the air** surrounding Pax Christi ECC Church (or maybe it's something in the water!) Members Alicia Molina and Christopher Hackett will be married on May 25th, and Associate Pastor Fr. Michael Nicosia and Marc Strong will be celebrating their holy union on June 22nd.

The Church of the Holy Family will be blessed with the ministry of a **new deacon**, David Dunn, on June 23rd.

Our region is also growing, as we welcome the **Incardination** of Fr. Jim DeMuth, and celebrate Mary of Magdala Community's reception into the ECC on June 23rd.



## Anniversaries\*

May 19 – Fr. Len Schreiner  
ordained 1978

June 8 – Fr. Paul Burson  
ordained 1985

June 13 – Fr. Len Schreiner and  
Nancy Trottner  
married 21 years (1992)

June 23 – Sally and Charlie Allen  
married 40 years (1973)

July 29 – Mother Kae Madden  
ordained 2006

August 3 – The Church of the Beloved  
celebrates their Feast Day  
and 9th Anniversary

September – ECC's 10th anniversary,  
a month of celebration!

## ECC—Rocky Mountain Region



### CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Fr. Scott Jenkins, Pastor

Mass: 10:00 am Sundays

16738 E. Iliff Avenue

Aurora CO 80013

Lisa Nemmers, Administrator

(303) 369-9000

[lisa@hollyfamilyco.org](mailto:lisa@hollyfamilyco.org)

[www.churchofhollyfamily.org](http://www.churchofhollyfamily.org)



### CHURCH OF THE BELOVED

Mother Kae Madden, Pastor

Mass: 5:00 pm Saturdays

10500 Grant Drive

Northglenn CO 80233

Mother Kae 303-426-5464;

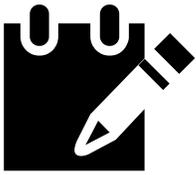
[MotherKae@churchofthebeloved-ecc.org](mailto:MotherKae@churchofthebeloved-ecc.org)

Fr. Paul 720-254-2083

Fr. Len 303-776-1460

[www.churchofthebeloved-ecc.org](http://www.churchofthebeloved-ecc.org)

\* Please submit up-coming milestones and anniversaries to our editors.



## Save the Date Celebrations

**May 10-11** – Father Len will lead our candidates for priesthood and diaconate in a Christ Retreat at the Loretto Spirituality Center.

**June 16** – Denver PrideFest, see p. 6.

**June 20-23** – Bishop Peter will be in Denver and available for personal appointments with laity or clergy. Call Len Schreiner to make an appointment: 720-684-7353.

**June 23** – David Dunn's Diaconate Ordination at Church of the Holy Family in Aurora at 10am Mass.

**June 23** – The Incardination of Father Jim DeMuth at 5pm Mass, held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Elizabeth St, Ft. Collins.

**June 23** – Mary of Magdala Community joins the ECC! Picnic celebration follows the 5pm Mass. This is a great time to attend to support the new ECC community and get acquainted with the members in Ft. Collins.

**August 11** – Holy Family's annual summer picnic begins with a MASS IN THE PARK at 10am. ECC Chancellor, George von Stamwitz, will be the homilist.

An on-line regional calendar is in the works. Submit events to the Webmaster link at the bottom of the RMRC website: [www.rmrc-ecc.com](http://www.rmrc-ecc.com)

## Spiritual Retreat Opportunity

"COMPASSIONATE SOUL"

SACRED SPACE RETREAT, JUNE 15-16

This retreat is ideal for repeat-retreaters with us, but prior attendance at one of our retreats is not required. During this retreat, we will explore the three faces of Compassion, the soul's yearning for us to be living in richness with ourselves, our God, and with the Creation. We will be using video short films to help us engage a model of Compassionate Living and Relationship-Building. We will also be providing means for expression through art, journaling, conversing, and through contemplative ritual. Interactive Communion worship will conclude our time together. Saturday, from 10am to Sunday, early afternoon.

Total cost including lodging in a spacious dorm with comfortable beds, showers, all linens, 3 meals, and all programming: \$160. Private rooms are available upon request (additional cost).

The Mountain Park Environmental Center (Beulah, CO) is an easy and pretty 2.5 hour drive from Denver, and carpooling is available. It has an outdoor labyrinth, a fire pit, plenty of walking and hiking trails, rocking chairs, home-cooked delicious food, and fresh mountain air. It is the perfect setting for a long-awaited personal Sabbath Moment.

Hope you decide to join us! Contact Rev. Kathleen, 303-946-6175; [kgorman37@comcast.net](mailto:kgorman37@comcast.net)



### PAX CHRISTI ECC CHURCH

Fr. Stan Manickam, Pastor  
Mass: 4:30 pm Saturdays  
6th Avenue United Church of Christ  
3250 Sixth Avenue  
Denver CO 80206

Fr. Stan 720-323-2099;

[Stan.Manickam@comcast.net](mailto:Stan.Manickam@comcast.net)

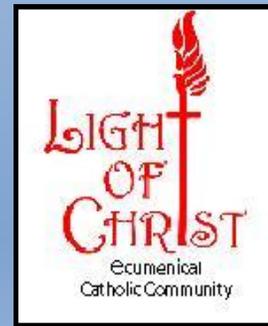
Fr. Michael Nicosia, Associate Pastor  
720-218-1081;

[nicosia410@yahoo.com](mailto:nicosia410@yahoo.com)

Sue Kaessner, Administrator

[suekaessner@me.com](mailto:suekaessner@me.com)

[www.paxchristi-ecc.org](http://www.paxchristi-ecc.org)



### LIGHT OF CHRIST ECUMENICAL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Fr. Don Rickard, Pastor

Fr. Teri Harroun, Pastor

Masses: 5:00 pm Saturdays,  
11:30 am Sundays

and 9:00 am Wednesdays

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

1000 W. 15th Avenue

Longmont CO 80501

303-772-3785;

[churchoffice@lightofchristecc.org](mailto:churchoffice@lightofchristecc.org)

[www.lightofchristecc.org](http://www.lightofchristecc.org)

# Community Service and Fundraisers



## RICE AND BEANS — QUARTERLY REGIONAL ECC OUTREACH PROJECT

Join us at the Church of the Beloved on **Saturday, July 11, from 1-3pm** for an intergenerational service project to help those in need. Church of the Beloved will purchase bulk rice and beans that we'll all re-package into one-pound portions. Each church is invited to take 1/4 of the repackaged food back to an agency in their community.

Please identify a contact person for each community and let us know who that person is by contacting Mollie at 303-797-6178 or [mhagen210@gmail.com](mailto:mhagen210@gmail.com) by June 19. We will then need each community to commit to five to ten people for this service project. Please RSVP to Mollie with your count by Wednesday, July 3 so we'll have plenty of snacks.

Last year, in just over an hour, we repackaged 85 pounds of beans and 300 pounds of rice that were delivered to food banks in our local areas. This is a hands-on project with plenty of fellowship with our ECC sisters and brothers. We hope to see you there!



### FAMILY DINNER AT JOSHUA STATION

On July 25th Holy Family is again coordinating this joint outreach. Contact the church office (303-369-9000; [lisa@holysfamilyco.org](mailto:lisa@holysfamilyco.org)) a few weeks before to confirm the date.

Joshua Station (part of Mile High Ministries located at 2330 W. Mulberry Place, Denver, CO 80204) is a transformational housing program designed to help families move from unstable housing situations to

permanent housing and self-sufficiency. Families will participate in a life-building program through phases that help individuals develop and reach their goals. They offer affordable housing in a safe environment and support that is provided by working with a Family Advocate weekly.

The community dinner begins promptly at 6:00pm. Usually we are finished eating by 6:45pm and then our residents attend a much-needed training class. During this time we ask 8-10 adults from your group to provide baby-sitting and another two to cleanup. Your evening of service should be finished by 8:30pm.

Some other important things you'll need to know can be found at <http://www.milehighmin.org/volunteer/community-meal>



### CONCERT PLANNED FOR THIS SUMMER

A special fundraising get together is being planned for this summer (date to be announced) in Pax Christi's new worship space at 6th Avenue UCC in Denver. Not only will the talents of our fabulous music ministers be featured, but we hope to line up some special guest artists! Stay tuned.



### 3RD ANNUAL HOLY FAMILY GOLF CLASSIC

**August 9th**, 7:30 am shotgun start at Aurora Hills Golf Course, 50 S. Peoria St, Aurora. Cost is \$90 per person, which includes golf fees, cart, range balls, pro-shop prizes, and lunch. The Golf Tournament is hosted by Gary Nemmers. All participants are asked to email or call him or Lisa to register: [gnemmers@yahoo.com](mailto:gnemmers@yahoo.com), 303-927-7832 or [lisa@holysfamilyco.org](mailto:lisa@holysfamilyco.org), 303-369-9000



### WARMING WAYS FOR WINTER

October 24 fundraiser at Temple Emanuel. You need to know that this



### MARY OF MAGDALA COMMUNITY

Mass: 5:00 pm Sundays  
St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
1208 W. Elizabeth Street  
Fort Collins CO 80521

[marymagdalafc@gmail.com](mailto:marymagdalafc@gmail.com)

<http://marymagdalafc.org>



### Also check out our friends of the COMMUNITY IN BOULDER

Mass: 1:30 pm  
every third Sunday  
Community United Church of Christ  
2650 Table Mesa Drive  
Boulder CO 80305

Mother Sheila Dierks  
303-449-4302

[books@wovenword.com](mailto:books@wovenword.com)

For more information about the ECUMENICAL CATHOLIC COMMUNION, visit

<http://ecumenical-catholic-communion.org>

event would not happen without the superior service by Holy Family community. It is hard, satisfying work they do for this major annual fundraiser for Family Promise.



## National News



### NEW ECC COMMUNITY

The Office of the Presiding Bishop announced the reception of Epiphany in Chicago, IL. Check them out at [www.epiphanyecc.org](http://www.epiphanyecc.org) or at [www.facebook.com/epiphany.ecc](https://www.facebook.com/epiphany.ecc)



### NEW BISHOP

Bishop Armando announced that the ECC will soon add another Bishop to the Diocese of California. Bishop Peter and Rev. Janine Stock are now preparing the paperwork. This addition will include five churches in the Los Angeles area. The churches have buildings, good sense of community, and sound theological training.

### NEW PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

You may have heard that the Office of Presiding Bishop recently announced the formation of a new Public Relations committee. Rev. Tom Altepeter, Pastor of St. Clare Community in Spokane WA, has been appointed chair of this committee. The committee will report directly to Bishop Peter. Thus far, the following individuals have agreed to serve: Mr. Lionel Repasky (FL), Ms. Mariesa Stokes (WA), Rev. Sue Ringler (AZ), Rev. Don Rickard (CO), Rev. Jessica Rowley (MI), Rev. Frank Quintana (OK), Rev. Robert Townsend (VA), and Rev. Rosa Buffone (MA). They have room for an additional person or

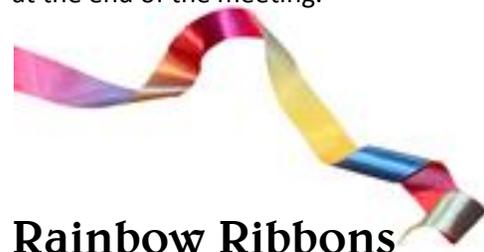
two; the ideal candidate would be a lay person with some background in marketing or advertising, from a regional area that is not yet represented. If you are interested in serving on this committee, or know someone who is, please contact Fr. Tom at [RevTom@StClareECC.com](mailto:RevTom@StClareECC.com).

## Rocky Mountain Regional Council

**NEXT MEETING, MAY 23RD AT 6:30 PM**

Our next meeting will be hosted by Church of the Holy Family. Use the back door. RMRC meetings are open to all (unless advance notice to the contrary is published). Each visitor will be given three minutes to state their reason for visiting the Regional Council and to voice their specific concern(s);

said input may impact the agenda (or be addressed at a future meeting). Visitors are not allowed to interrupt the flow of the meeting with comment or debate, but are encouraged to comment on the Council's discussions at the end of the meeting.



## Rainbow Ribbons Fly Again!

**THIS YEAR'S PRIDE PARADE, SUNDAY JUNE 16, IS FAST APPROACHING.**

In the recent wake of Colorado's recognition of Civil Unions, it's a great year to show our pride and support of the lives and loves of our LGBT sisters and brothers! (Fr. Michael from Pax Christi and his partner Marc are celebrating... Bishop Peter will be taking part in the blessing of their union on the Saturday he's in town!)

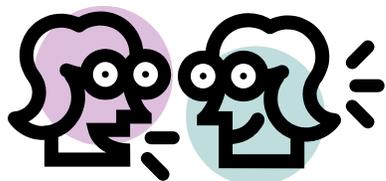
Fr. Frank and his partner Ted have moved to Oklahoma, and Mother Kathleen will be away Pride Weekend, so we'll have to pull together to make up for their invaluable contributions to this effort over the past few years. Fr. Michael will be waving his ribbon pole to lead our participation. Those who are planning to join us are asked to contact him at [nicosia410@yahoo.com](mailto:nicosia410@yahoo.com). He'll be attending a mandatory pre-march meeting to verify our line-up location and any details that may be different this year.

We'll gather at 6th Ave UCC (where Pax Christi worships, corner of 6th and Adams) beforehand for coffee and donuts from 7:30-8:30am. From there we can carpool to Cheesman Park. Keep Fr. Michael's number (720-218-1081) in your phone if you need to find us in the line-up. The parade starts at 9:30am, exiting the park at Franklin, then down Colfax to

the festival site at Broadway. If 9:30's too early for you, as with last year you can wait for us in front of the Roman Cathedral (10ish?) and jump in line---swelling our numbers would be a great witness!

If you have any signs and banners from last year, bring them. If you need more, consider throwing a sign-making party in your community...a great way for members who can't march to lend their support. Fr. Michael is working on an info sheet about ECC with contact info for our communities, and will run it by our respective Councils for input; after it's finalized, the hope is that each community will print 100 copies to pass out to spectators.

Blessings on our preparations and witness to God's inclusive love!



## Listening to & hearing one another —Communication & Connection as Church

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL ECC EVENT  
HOSTED BY LIGHT OF CHRIST ECC

SATURDAY, JULY 20TH, 9:00 -11:30 AM

In a number of ways Bishop Peter has expressed his perspective of the Synodal Model of Church and the relationships between laity, clergy, and bishops. Come gather together as sisters and brothers in Christ within our Rocky Mountain Region to explore with one another the implications of the Spirit speaking in and through each and every one of us. Your voice matters ...let us hear the Spirit speaking through you!

Our time together at Light of Christ (1000 W. 15th Ave, Longmont, CO 80501) on July 20th will begin at 9:00am and will conclude by 11:30am. Healthy snacks (including gluten-free) and drinks will be provided. The majority of our time will be in conversation with one another as it is prompted by summary materials and questions. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call Fr. Don or the Light of Christ office at 303-772-3785.

Mark your calendar now and join in the conversation!

## Letters and Photos of the Region

**THIS SPACE IN FUTURE ISSUES IS YOURS!**

If you'd like to give witness to how you came to the ECC, share a concern or thanksgiving about a particular facet of our common life, or suggest ways we can grow as a region, submit a letter to our editors. We edit and/or trim letters as little as possible, but we reserve the right to do so as necessary.

Have a photo of a significant event in the life of our community? Send a little write-up along with it. Note that our newsletter is published on the RMRC website, so be aware that images that you submit will be out there for the world to see.

**Next deadline for submissions:**  
September 1st.



*Pentecost altar frontal by Fr. Michael J. Nicosia—It's travelled with him since he made it for Rochester NY's 2002 Episcopal Diocesan Convention.*