



April 26th, 2024

Welcome to the Together Newsletter

Gearing up for Annual Celebration 2024

Hello all!

This is another friendly reminder that Annual Celebration is coming up fast! We're gathering **June 6th - 8th** at **La Foret Conference & Retreat Center** in Colorado Springs. Please register on [Eventbrite](#). Also, you can access relevant documents like the 2024 Resolution Form, the Nomination Form, and the Grand Agenda on the RMC website via the link below:



Links + Information about Annual Celebration

We're currently putting together a recommended packing list for those staying at La Foret. Until then, please note that bedding and towels are not included with the registration cost. There is a \$10 add-on to have bedding and towels included, or you can bring your own from home. We'll be sharing the full packing list with you in May!

Please also note that **Enkei Resolutions** is hosting a **Boundaries Training Session on June 6th at La Foret**. If you'll be traveling to Annual Celebration

and you'd like to complete this training too, you now have the option to do it during your stay. Visit the [Boundaries Training Eventbrite page](#) to learn more and register.

We are still looking for photo submissions to help us celebrate you, the churches of the RMC, at Annual Celebration. Seriously, please share a few photos that help **tell the story of your congregation** and how it is meeting the needs of your neighbors and neighborhoods: What aspects of your church are you most proud of? What achievements would you like to honor? And, how has your congregation changed over the years to answer the call of your community? Please send your submissions to allison@rmcucc.org (and please also share a few words that give context to your photos). Thank you!

Finally, we've got a new article on the RMC blog! A few year ago, the RMC's Creation Justice League initiated an extensive survey of 16 churches across the conference to learn more about how RMC churches are trying to participate in Creation Justice and what resources they still need. Visit the RMC website and [read the post](#) to learn more about how your fellow congregations are working toward sustainability and environmental justice.

For additional news from around the conference, we invite you to follow the RMC on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

To share your good news, prayer requests, volunteer opportunities, and upcoming events with the rest of the conference, **please send your submissions to allison@rmcucc.org**. And, if there are other types of content or updates that you'd like to see more of in this newsletter, please reach out to Allison about those ideas too! I'd love to hear from you so that I can make this newsletter as helpful as possible.

Best,
Allison

News from Around the Conference

Announcements + Upcoming Events

Let's Celebrate!

Community Congregational Church of Manitou Springs is celebrating the official installation and covenanting of Pastor Heather McDuffee. Join the celebration in person on April 28th!



COMMUNITY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF MANITOU SPRINGS ANNOUNCES

THE SERVICE OF COVENANT FOR OUR NEW SETTLED PASTOR

REV. HEATHER MCDUFFEE



We are excited to invite you to join us in officially installing and covenanting with Pastor Heather McDuffee as our authorized and settled minister. A reception of chocolate and champagne punch to follow.

**APRIL 28, 2024. 2PM.
THE HISTORIC SANCTUARY
103 PAWNEE AVE. MANITOU SPRINGS, CO**



Big News and Big Events at La Foret

La Foret is excited to welcome Celtic teacher John Phillip Newell and his colleague Cami Twilling this May! Together they will share teachings to help reawaken

awareness of the sacred in all things through the recovery of Celtic wisdom for today and to help translate this awareness into compassionate action.

This is a three-day teaching and spiritual practice event. Tickets include options to stay off-site or on-site. Scholarships are available and no one will be turned away due to cost! Check out laforet.org/events for more.

La Foret is also excited to announce the rebranding of its programs division: The Refuge! The Refuge is a brave space for hopeful people to imagine, co-create, and experience the world as it could be, together in transformational community. Visit [their page](#) to learn more!

Seeking Hybrid Helpers for Annual Celebration!

To make the hybrid virtual component of Annual Celebration a success, we're looking for Hybrid Helpers to assist with tech support. [Learn more](#) about this volunteer need, and please reach out to [Rev. Peter Sawtell](#) if you're interested.



2024 Dates for Boundary and Racial Justice Training

Enkei Resolutions has several sessions of [boundary training](#) and [racial justice training](#) throughout the year. Please click the links to learn more and register!

Summer Class at Iliff School of Theology

Rev. Dr. Nancy Niero will be teaching a three-week class at Iliff School of Theology this summer called "Dismantling White Silence in Church."

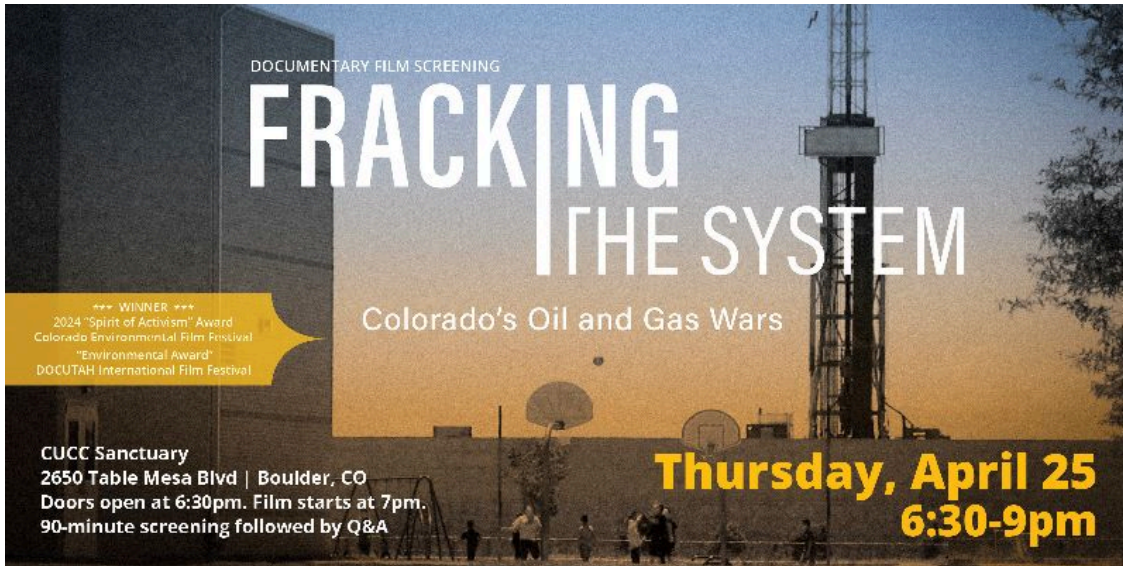
This asynchronous, online class will be August 12-September 2.

Students will engage in Dr. Niero's doctoral scholarship on racial justice, supplemented by works of contemporary scholars of color.

Students will read and analyze Dr. James Cone's 2004 essay, "Theology's Great Sin: Silence in the Face of White Supremacy," and the course will culminate in the construction of an anti-racism theology

that students can bring back to their own faith communities.

Please reach out to [Nancy](#) with any questions.



Multiple UCC congregations, including Community United Church of Christ in Boulder and Plymouth Congregational in Fort Collins, have held screenings of "Fracking the System: Colorado's Oil and Gas Wars." To learn more about the film and set up a screening at your church, please visit [the film's website](#).

Spiritual Support Group for Mental Health & Wellness

First Congregational Boulder hosts a virtual support group via Zoom twice a month. This is a confidential, non-denominational group that provides a safe environment in which to share experiences and gain support for those touched by mental illness, both those with lived experience and those who support them. The group welcomes people from all faith traditions or none and everyone's understanding of faith/spirituality. Interested in participating? [Contact Anne Weiher](#) to learn more.



Check out the ONA Podcast!

Looking for a new podcast for your listening rotation? Check out "The Intersection," a podcast from the UCC's ONA Coalition. Check it out on [Spotify](#), [Apple Podcasts](#), or Google Podcasts.

Plus, keep an eye on the ONA website for even [more webinars and events](#).

Got a New Moderator?

Please be sure to share the contact information for your Moderators and Assistant Moderators with [Laura Gurney](#) so that they can be included in all future Moderator communications. Thanks!

The Rocky Mountain Conference office has a new mailing address!

**303 S. Broadway
Ste 200-330
Denver, CO 80209**

Comments? Questions?

Email Allison!

Follow the RMC on social media!

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