

Synagogue without Walls. The Second is from Valarie Kaur, who was our keynote speaker at the Annual Meeting in 2021 and was at La Foret a few weeks ago for a revolutionary love retreat.

<https://www.tikkun.org/statement-of-solidarity-with-israel-palestine/>
<https://www.facebook.com/valarie.kaur.page/>

I will close with this offering from Maren Tirabassi:

Psalm for this coming Sunday, Psalm 23

God is the shepherd of Israel and Palestine,
a people who want peace and fear war.

God is a child desperate for water,
and a family terrified for precious hostages.

God is in all souls. God waits on every path.

This week the valley of the shadow of death
is crowded with God's children,
and they have no comfort
but our prayers,
the prayers of the world,

for a table where enemies may sit down
to speak healing words,
receive an anointing of truce,
and shatter the cup of death
before more is poured out
on those who are innocent.

Goodness and mercy will follow us,
even in these days of fear and grieving,
until we build a house of reconciliation
and dwell in it together.

Rev. Erin Gilmore
Associate Conference Minister
Rocky Mountain Conference, UCC

From The RMC Finance Committee

At our RMC Annual Celebration in June, the budget for our current fiscal year was unanimously remanded back to the Finance Committee and Board of Directors to be reworked. The new proposed budget will be voted on at a special meeting of the Conference on Tues., Nov. 28, 2023 at 6:30.

The Finance Committee has been hard at work on the revised budget. Among other things, we have reformatted the budget to separate out operating income/expenses from Board Designated and Donor Restricted activities. Additionally, we have separated out expenses incurred in 2022-2023 fiscal year, but not paid until the current year. We have verified and/or updated each of the line items on the budget, and factored in Board approved staffing adjustments. These changes have helped us to clearly identify the actual costs needed to run the Conference on an annual basis. The Finance Committee also made the decision to move the Tributary Fund grants out of the operating budget beginning this fiscal year, and has asked the Board to identify funding from other resources for the Tributary Fund grants.

The Board of Directors is in the process of approving the final details of the budget, and the proposed budget will be published 30 days before the Nov 28th meeting, as is required in the bylaws.

The Finance Committee will host two sessions on Monday, November 6th (12:00 pm and 6:30pm) to answer any questions you may have on the proposed budget (both via zoom - link to be provided). We anticipate that the sessions should last about an hour, but we will stay as long as necessary if there are questions. You should also feel free to reach out to the Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, or any member of the Finance Committee if you have questions and/or are unable to attend the Nov. 6th Q&A sessions.

The Finance Committee is deeply grateful to Brianna Gillmore, our RMC Financial Associate, who is taking on increased responsibility as we seek to be accountable to the Conference as stewards of our Conference resources.

The RMC Finance Committee:

Rev. Kari Collins, Treasurer, pastorkaricollins@gmail.com
Teresa Campbell, Assistant Treasurer, campbelltl@aol.com
Rev. Brent Gundlah, pastor@holladayucc.org
Rev. Curt Preston, curt@lakewooducc.com
Linda Trantow, ltrantow@q.com
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Rich Williams, rchaswms@yahoo.com
Rev. Dr. Doug Wooten (ex officio), cm@rmcucc.org

Annual Meeting 2023 for the UCC's 20-30s Clergy Network!

Dear friends,



We are VERY excited to invite you to an annual meeting of the 20-30s Clergy Network of the UCC! Our network has been a vital source of connection and support for clergy in the 20s and 30s for over 10 years. It's been a while since we've had an official gathering, and we can't wait to be together!

Please join us on Zoom on Tuesday, October 24th from 3:30pm - 5pm EST (12:30pm Pacific)! We'll pray together, listen to how we can best support each other, and hear a message specifically for us from our new General Minister and President, Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson.

If you haven't yet, please fill out this [FORM](#) so we can hear some of your feedback about what kind of support the network can provide you. Also, be sure to join our Facebook group [here](#) so you can stay connected!

Please reach out to any one of us if you have any questions and we look forward to seeing you on the 24th!

With peace,

Your 20-30s Clergy Network National Planning Team

Kelsey Beebe, Colie Bettivia, Shane Montoya, Matthew Redrich, and Cydney Van Dyke

UCC Webinar—From Greenwashing to Environmental Justice at UN Climate Conference



The President of the upcoming UN Climate Conference is the CEO of the one of the world's largest oil producers and is currently working to aggressively expand his company's production. In this webinar, panelists will not only provide a critical assessment of the greenwashing and corporate capture of this conference, but they will also cast an alternative vision and pathway forward. The world deserves and desperately needs a UN process dedicated to the advancement of all peoples, a core principle of the UN Charter. Even if you cannot make the webinar at its scheduled time on November 8th at 1 pm ET, still sign-up, and we will send you a link to a recording of it. Register now [HERE!](#)

Christ Congregational in Pueblo

Christ Congregational in Pueblo is giving away the pictured objects. If you are interested in obtaining them, please contact Sharon Gilbert, co-moderator, sharon879@comcast.com. Please arrange for pickup or delivery.



Somatic Healing for Your Grief

Let's heal, remember, and honor together

❄️ Winter Solstice Gathering ❄️ Date: December 21, 2023 🕒 Time: 7:00 PM – 9:00PM

Worldwide Movement of L.I.G.H.T

Sponsored by the Worship and Wellbeing Center at First Plymouth Congregational Church

On the winter solstice, join us in a global movement of LIGHT - Love in Grief, Held Together.

YOU ARE NOT ALONE: Our mission is to remind everyone facing grief that they are not alone.

WHO IT IS FOR: We welcome all individuals, whether you're a Yogi, Meditator, Person of Prayer, Nature Enthusiast, or simply someone who cares. Together, we will send our collective LIGHT.

ILLUMINATE OUR WORLD: Imagine our world lighting up with the power of healing, visible throughout the Universe. Together, we can make a profound impact.

SPREAD THE WORD: Please share this message with your social media networks and encourage each contact to pass it along.

#MovementOfLIGHT #LoveInGrief #HealingTogether #WinterSolsticeLight



Grief touches us all, a universal human experience. No one is exempt from the profound ache that follows the loss of someone dear to our hearts. Join us for a transformative **Somatic Healing for Our Grief workshop led by Amy Pickett-Williams, LCSW (Licensed Clinical Social Worker) and 200 RYT (Registered Yoga Teacher), alongside Heidi Thomas, a gifted musician.**

🌐 **Explore the Grief Journey:** Discover how grief resides within our bodies and gain tools to navigate this emotional voyage.

💚 **Embrace Community:** Engage in meaningful conversations, gentle movement, breathwork, therapeutic art rituals, and the harmonious power of music.

🕯️ **Candlelight Remembrance:** As the Winter Solstice envelops us, we'll come together in-person at the First Plymouth Congregational Church. For remote participants, we'll be streaming the event live.

🌱 **Materials Provided:** Candles and art supplies will be available for in-person attendees. If you're joining remotely, visit our website to download a worksheet, and gather crayons, colored pencils, markers, and a candle.

🌍 **All Are Welcome:** This event is open uniting people of all spiritual backgrounds.

❄️ **THIS EVENT IS FREE ANY DONATIONS RECEIVED WILL GO TO NONPROFIT AGENCIES** ❄️

To attend in person in Denver Metro: Dec. 21st 7:00-9:00pm
First Plymouth Congregational Church 3501 South Colorado Blvd. 80113

To attend virtually: [\(2\) First Plymouth Congregational Church UCC Denver - YouTube](#)

For more details: info@firstplymouthchurch.org <https://firstplymouthchurch.org/>

Previous versions of the Together Newsletter can be found [here](#).