

# **Rinn Newsletter 5/1-5/7**

## **A Note from the Office**

I suspect you're getting tired of this note. The program we are currently using is working well and does 90% of what we need, but I'm still working on that last 10%. I still don't know if this will be the final form of the newsletter. Thank you for your patience as I figure it out.

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## **From The Minister's Mac**

### **May Day**

Today is May Day. I saw it in my calendar and got to remembering the May Days of the past. When I was in elementary school, on May 1<sup>st</sup> we celebrated May Day with games and awards and always a Maypole. We decorated the Maypole by dancing around it, each dancer holding a strand of colorful fabric (or plastic) that was attached to the top of the Maypole. We skipped around and around the Maypole, weaving our strands of fabric over and under, again and again, until the Maypole was completely woven from top to bottom with bright, festive color. Our parents would be there to watch us do the Maypole Dance and then laugh and applaud. Then we would eat cake and drink punch and consider it a great day.

And no one ever told us why we did it.

Well, the answer seemed plain enough: it was fun! But why a Maypole? Why have it on May 1<sup>st</sup>? Why not paint the Maypole instead of covering it with fabric? Who were we honoring? How did this tradition get started? Prior to May Day, we would practice the dancing and weaving and singing, but we were never told the why of it and, quite frankly, I don't remember anyone asking. Now I know that the Maypole came from an ancient pagan tradition of dancing around trees to celebrate fertility, nature, and the beginning of spring. Christians coopted that ritual, trading the tree for a pole, and used the intertwined ribbons to signify a post-Easter rebirth of God's creation. And I suppose elementary schools used the May Day celebration to teach a "cultural" dance and didn't explain its roots because, well, how do you explain a pagan fertility dance to young children?

How many other celebrations do we continue without knowing why? Are there traditions we carry on at church that someone started for a reason and continue to this day, even though the reason no longer exists? It reminds me of the joke about the woman who always cut the turkey in half before baking it, because that's what it said on the recipe card, handed down from her grandmother. When the woman finally asked the significance of cutting the turkey in half, it turned out that back in the day, they had to cut the turkey in half because her grandmother's pan wasn't big enough for the whole bird. But now that the woman had a huge roasting pan, there was no need to reduce the size of the turkey.

As we continue to do ministry together, let's keep our eyes open for just such acts and events, and enter into conversation about why we do them, how to better celebrate them if we still want them, or if there might not be a better way to use our time and resources. Let's fill the merry month of May, and all the months following, with intentional mission and ministry that we understand, believe in, and whole-heartedly support.

See you in church,  
Lin

*"The law is only a shadow of the good things that are coming—not the realities themselves. For this reason it can never, by the same sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, make perfect those who draw near to worship." Hebrews 10:1*

## **Dogs Need Fostering**

A member of our community has reached out to us because she needs to go into a rehab program, and she needs someone to foster her dogs while she does. They are two English Springer Spaniel females, un-spayed, ages 2 and 2 1/2 . If you could potentially take one or both dogs for a few weeks, or know someone who could, please [email the church](#), and I will put you in touch with the owner.

## **Camp Buckhorn Registration is Open**

[Camp Buckhorn](#), the Methodist summer camp west of Fort Collins, is open for registration. If you have children, grandchildren, or other kids who are

close to you who are entering the 3<sup>rd</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup> grades, it's a great experience and a lot of fun! The UMW offers scholarships to send the kids. Most kids from Rinn are going to the second session (June 22-27), but kids can pick whichever session is most convenient for them and their families.

Talk to Sharon Goldade for more information.

## **“Making a Way”: A Conference for Widows**

Cherry Hills Community Church is hosting a 2-day conference at Cherry Hills Community Church June 27-28 for widows who may find comfort and meaning in spending time with others who have also experienced the loss of a husband.

Registration is \$125 before May 15, \$135 after.

If you might be interested visit <https://www.chcc.org/ccb/event/19820/>

## **Collecting for the Backpack Ministry**

Justin is once again collecting items for his backpack ministry to the homeless. If you find good deals on shirts, socks, and hygiene items, please pick them up and leave them in the box in the sanctuary.

## **Altar Flower Sign Up**

Help keep Rinn looking beautiful! If you would like to bring flowers for the altar to honor a loved one or a special occasion or just to make the sanctuary a little bit nicer one Sunday, please sign-up on the sheet at the welcome table.

## **Refreshments After Worship**

- May 4<sup>th</sup>: ???
- May 11<sup>th</sup>: Denise Stewart and Sue Oliver
- May 17<sup>th</sup>: Terry and Karen

Those cookies, cupcakes and other snacks don't appear in the Fellowship Hall by themselves! Please consider signing up for a date. The sign-up board will be in the narthex either at the welcome table or the podium. If you have any questions, or need to change your date, please feel free to call or text Mary Margaret at 573-368-1390 or call the church office at 303-776-1578 (Church Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9am-noon)

If you sign up to help, here are some guidelines:

- Provide around 4 dozen cookies in total (these can be baked at home or store bought)
- Provide a "non-sugar" option (fruit, cheese, crackers, etc...)
- Arrange on trays found in the kitchen
- Napkins, small plates, cups, coffee carafes, lemonade pitchers, creamer, sugar, stir stick can all be found in the kitchen
- Coffee and Lemonade will already be made for you
- Please take all items to the kitchen and clean up afterward
- You will get a reminder in your email from Mary Margaret about 3 days in advance of your sign-up date.
- A sign-up sheet will be at the podium in the Narthex each Sunday.

If you have any questions, or need to change your date, please feel free to call or text Mary Margaret at 573-368-1390 or call the church office at 303-776-1578 (Church Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9am-noon)

## **~ Rinn Worship Service ~**

### **In Person and Livestreamed on Facebook**

**May 4, 2025**

**Scripture**

**Revelation 1:7-13, 16b, 5:11-14**

**Message**

**“The Sound of Angels”**

Livestreamed on Facebook:

To access our Facebook page, click [HERE](#).

To follow along with the service, the Order of Worship is [HERE](#).

## **“Brunch Bunch” Bible Study**

### **Wednesdays**

Breakfast at Maggie’s at 8:45 a.m.

Study at Bev Ramsey’s house at 10:30 a.m.

Join us weekly for breakfast and a discussion of our faith.

## **Sooper’s Card for Rinn**

Did you know that you can tie your King Sooper's loyalty card to Rinn UMC, and the church will get a contribution every time you use it?

Please consider signing up! Every little bit helps!

## **Adult Bible Study**

### **Sundays at 8:00 am**

We are currently studying Adam Hamilton’s *Making Sense of the Bible*. Please join us for engaging conversations each Sunday. All are welcome!

## **Via Mobility for Life**

Providing rides for residents:

Seniors 60+, disabled, and income qualified.

Dacono, Frederick & Firestone

303-444-3043

## **Rinn Cowboy Christian Fellowship**

**Wednesday Nights at 7:00pm**  
**5/7/2025**  
**Sing-along with Betsy Foushee**

## **In Our Prayers**

### **COMFORT**

- All those struggling with depression.
- All those who grieve, especially those experiencing their first Easter without a loved one.
- Justin and his colleagues, who are starting a prison ministry.
- Eric and Justin's Uncle Jerry and family, as Jerry approaches the end of life.
- Jonathan, who has just moved to the area and needs to get financially stable.
- Michael's Uncle Lloyd, who has entered hospice, may he pass peacefully.

### **HEALING**

- Debby Perry, who is home after her stem-cell transplant.
- Diana's daughter, who was recently diagnosed with cancer.
- Mike Shaw, as he continues to recover from pneumonia.
- Mark McCleary for a diagnosis and healing.
- Mike's friend Casey, who suffered burns in a house fire, and for the whole family who lost their home and their dogs.
- Scott and Bethany's son-in-law Josh, dealing with health issues, and comfort for his family.
- Mike and Karen's friends Greg and Gail, who are both dealing with cancer
- Vi is doing much better, but still needs our prayers.
- Janice is also doing much better, but still needs prayers.
- Sue had a double lung transplant some years ago and has other health issues.
- Donato, for continued healing and that his insurance allows him to get help.
- Garry after his stroke, as well as strength and healing for Patty
- Jed after his surgery.
- Mary Margaret's nephew and his family as they navigate.

- Mike, who just got out of the hospital.

### **THANKSGIVING**

- Tractor Supply for their support for Justin's ministry for the unhoused, and all those who donate to the backpacks and help give them out.
- Annie (and others) being able to join us every Sunday online.
- Everyone's prayers for Melody, and that she is doing better.
- That Donna Richter is doing better, and thanks for the prayers.
- Jennifer, and all missionaries out spreading the Word of God.
- The wonderful music at church.
- Pastor Robin's four wonderful years at this church, from him and all he helped
- For Vi and all others who were able to join us on Easter Sunday.
- Those who find Jesus, even on their death beds.

If anyone needs to be taken off or added to this list please fill out the form on the back of this sheet, or [email the church office](#).

## **May Birthdays**

3 Jim Nelson  
6 Terry Johnson  
8 Bill Longstraith  
20 Renee Kemnetz  
20 Dagny Novak  
21 Ruth Fuss

## **Happy Anniversary To...**

3 Michael & Deb Rowley(1986)  
26 Brian & Rev. Lin Cheek (1991)

## **This Week at Rinn**

**For more upcoming events, see our online calendar [HERE](#).**

### **Friday 5/2**

7:00pm New Hope AA in the Fellowship Hall

**Sunday 5/4**

8:00am Adult Bible Study  
8:15am Men's Koffee Klub  
9:30am Worship Service

**Tuesday 5/6**

1:00pm Knitter's Group

**Wednesday 5/7**

8:45am Breakfast Fellowship at Maggie's  
10:30am Wednesday Brunch Bunch Bible Study at Bev Ramsey home  
7:00pm Cowboy Fellowship

## **Rinn United Methodist Church Leadership**

The Administrative Council meets on the third Thursday of every month. Everyone is welcome to attend. Our leaders who keep your church running smoothly are listed below:

Chair of Church Council: Shelly Anderson  
Lay Leader: Bonnie Clark  
United Methodist Women: Sharon Goldade  
Treasurer: Sue Mercer  
Finance Secretary: Steve Sterkel  
Nominations: Rev. Lin Cheek  
Worship Committee: Betsy Foushee