

TABLETALK is a publication of The Rocky Mountain Conference Office of Communications
Information and Concerns of RMC Leadership, for RMC Leadership

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Conference News and Resources

Your Invitation to a Christmas Open House

*The Executive Leadership Team, the Rocky Mountain Conference staff and the Episcopal Office invite you to our Christmas Open House here at the Rocky Mountain Conference Office at 6110 Greenwood Plaza Blvd., Greenwood Village, Colorado. The event is Monday, December 17th, 1-4 p.m. Join us for fellowship and fun!
Grace and Peace, Warner H. Brown, Jr.*

In addition, as you know, in previous years, we have not only done an open house, we have also supported a mission project. This year we will be supporting the Towaoc Mission with our gifts of love and care. In May of this year, the church on the 2000-resident Ute Mountain Ute reservation had a fire. The church had to be gutted and they were only able to save the exterior walls. With all of that, they still have items that they need for the church and its people. At the conference office items and donations are being collected in the front lobby to let them know of our care for them. Here are some of the items that are needed. Join us in our Christmas giving and care.

Nonperishable food items, Children's bibles (not pictorial), Bible-based coloring or activity books, 10 Subscriptions to the POCKET magazine, new Teddy bears. Donations should be sent to: Rocky Mountain Conference with the subject line to read: Towaoc Mission. Santa will also be present at our open house, so be sure to bring friends and family to our celebration. We will be doing pictures!

Rocky Mountain Conference Cabinet Releases Effectiveness Plan Report

In the 2006-2007 appointment year, an Effectiveness Strategy for Congregations and Clergy was put into use. This strategy will be in effect at least through the 2008-2012 quadrennium. The Rocky Mountain Cabinet identifies the following uses for the information gathered through the evaluations contained within the Strategy:

- Internal Conversation (the congregational evaluation is intended to stimulate conversation within the congregation about how it might more fully live into the call to be the Body of Christ for the transformation of the world)
- Pastors self reflection (pastors are expected to be self reflective about not only their own evaluation, but also that of the congregation)
- Congregational conversation for planning
- DS conversations with congregations and pastors
- Identify how the District/Conference might resource churches by looking at the patterns of strengths and weaknesses identified
- Review by the Executive Leadership Team of the Conference in order to engage programmatic resources
- Identify which churches might resource other churches.

Of the 263 United Methodist Churches in the Conference, 177 completed the congregational evaluation. Some of the patterns observed:

- Categories consistently rated highest were Worship and Nurture/Education.
- Categories consistently rated lowest were Evangelism and Service.
- Most congregations feel pretty good about their worship (highest rating in the worship category was

“When the congregation gathers for worship, there is a sense of God’s presence”), but don’t make much effort to improve attendance (lowest ratings were “Efforts have been made to increase worship attendance this year,” and “The congregation has worship experiences that connect with residents in the surrounding community.”)

- Even congregations who rated themselves low in most of the areas of Service still see themselves as “sensitive and compassionate to the needs of others.”
- Categories consistently rated lowest in Stewardship were “Theological understandings of generosity are taught in a variety of places other than worship” and “Financial stewardship is talked about throughout the year and is understood as a part of a spiritual journey.”
- Most congregations need resources for identifying and training new leaders. The cabinet is currently working with a team of lay persons to refine the evaluation tools based on the feedback received during the first round of usage.

RMC Clergy Trial Decision Upheld

Over the last two years the Rocky Mountain Conference has faced the unpleasant task of dealing with a clergy person that has violated our sacred trust. As previously reported, in a church trial, Dr. Wesley Kendall was removed from membership in the Rocky Mountain Conference. The Trial Court found Dr. Kendall guilty on 5 charges of sexual harassment, 4 charges of sexual misconduct and 2 charges of disobedience to the order and discipline of the Church. The decision of the Trial Court to remove his credentials was unanimous.

Dr. Kendall appealed the Trial Court verdict and penalty to the Committee On Appeals for the Western Jurisdiction. This appeal was heard on October 25, 2007. The Committee upheld the decision of the Trial Court. The committee held that the weight of the evidence sustained the charges on which he was found guilty, and that no errors of law were committed which would have undermined the integrity of the Trial Court’s verdict and penalty.

I ask that you hold in your prayers all of the persons that have been injured by the irresponsible actions of Dr. Kendall. I thank all of the persons that have said no to this kind of behavior being tolerated by the Rocky Mountain Conference. I commend the survivors that have come forward for their courage and for all the clergy and lay members of the conference for their unambiguous stand for ethical conduct. I particularly want to thank the Reverend Carolyn Waters who has served as counsel for the Church and Chancellor and Assistant Counsel for the Church, Rich Marsh who so ably assisted.

– Grace and Peace, Warner H. Brown, Jr., Resident Bishop

Tithe Transitions E-Newsletter continues

Pastors, church treasurers, finance chairs, and others involved in the budgetary process of churches have been receiving the Tithe Transitions (T2), e-newsletter for several weeks now. RMC Interim Treasurer Paul Dirdak hopes the information being discussed is helpful in this time of transition. If you are not receiving T2 and think you should be, contact the Conference office. You can read all previous issues on the Conference web site, under “Church Resources” (rmcumc.org/CR/). Space precludes us from including them here.

Camping Personnel Changes Announced

As the 2007 camping season ended it became apparent that the Conference camping debt support was significantly underfunded. A sum of \$75,000 was allocated to help support a combined yearly debt at both Buckhorn and Templed Hills camp of \$212,000. It was hoped that the camps would generate the difference, but they were only able to contribute a small amount. Also the 2008 RMC budget includes a \$90,000 reduction in the Conference Mission and Ministry staff and office line item and again \$75,000 is the amount allocated for camp debt support. This amount replaces the 2005 and 2006 camping apportionment. Allocating enough money to support camping while not curtailing funds available to support the groups funded by the Mission and Ministry budget has become a challenge. Therefore, in order to honor the budget allocation for camp support and because of the decrease in funding for Mission and Ministry staff, the camp director’s positions at Templed Hills and Buckhorn have been discontinued and consolidated into one position: Conference Camp Manager. The new consolidated position’s responsibilities will include oversight

and management of both Templed Hills Camp and Retreat Facility and Buckhorn Camp. Gregg Kernes has been named to fill this position. He will continue to live at Buckhorn while spending a few days a week down at Templed Hills. Nick Matson will become the site director at Templed Hills and Kernes will become the site director at Buckhorn.

We thank Tim Rieckhoff-Faris for his service and our prayers are with him in his time of appointment transition. Loren Boyce, the Associate Director of Mission and Ministry, will continue his work to develop an overall recreational ministry plan for the Conference seeking to integrate recreation, retreats and camping into the ministries for the various age groups represented in our local churches. The Camp and Retreat facilities of our Conference and the ministries carried out there are important partners in carrying out the Conference mission and ministry. But our support of them must be balanced with sound fiscal management along with trustworthy, equitable and transparent distribution of conference funds. Please join with me in welcoming Gregg to this new position. As pastors and local church members, join with me in thanking the many volunteers and camp staff members who dedicate their time and money to provide the camp facilities we use. I appreciate your continued support and prayers in this matter.

-Skip Strickland, Director of Mission and Ministry

Social Justice Center Opens

The Church and Society Network Advocating for Peace with Justice celebrated the opening of the new Social Justice Resource Center at Warren UMC (14th & Gilpin) in Denver on Sunday afternoon, Oct. 21. Linda Gertenbach, Peace With Justice Facilitator, writes, "We have been working for several months to set up the center in cooperation with Warren UMC. We envision it to be a place (1) where local church leaders in social justice/social concerns/outreach ministries can find samples of helpful resources including videos, posters, books, curricula, newsletters of social justice programs; (2) a place where regular informative workshops are held around social justice issues with speakers and resource people; (3) a place where networking can take place with other non-profits and groups engaged in social justice ministries; and (4) where advocacy ministries can be developed since Warren is in close proximity to the Colorado State Capitol."

Art Zeismann from Church World Service updated the Millennium Development Goals for Darfur and led a simulation activity around "haves and have nots." Tours of the new Social Justice Center were offered including a look at what resources are available for local churches to utilize around these issues.

Guidelines for Use of Chancellor Published

The Conference Chancellor is the general legal counsel for the Conference. In a newly-approved and published document, Rich Marsh explains what a Chancellor is, what a Chancellor does, and how a local church may access his services. In his cover letter to the document, Rich encouraged treasurers to share this information with pastor(s), Board of Trustees, Administrative Council and other leaders in your church. Other than sharing this information, no action is expected of you or your church.

Some highlights of the letter: The chancellor is an attorney who functions as general counsel to the Bishop, the Cabinet, and various Conference boards, agencies and committees. (See, 2004 Book of Discipline 603.8) The chancellor represents the Conference and the Episcopal Office of the Conference. Unless specifically requested to do so, the chancellor does not "automatically" represent any of the local churches in our Conference. One purpose for the "Guidelines" is to clarify how a local church may seek representation by the chancellor. The chancellor advises the Bishop, the Conference and local churches on a wide range of issues. Most questions concern (1) the Book of Discipline; (2) property of all kinds; (3) financing; (4) personnel/employment; and (5) claims and litigation. The Conference Treasurer and district superintendents are trained to answer many of the routine administrative and disciplinary questions that arise in the life of a local church. Their input should be sought first. They also have a good sense for when to seek the chancellor's input. There may also be occasions which call for immediate consultation with an attorney. The Guidelines anticipate all of these situations. The Conference pays for the first two hours of local church consultation with the chancellor. When a matter is likely to exceed this guideline, the local church either needs to retain the chancellor for continued representation, or seek legal counsel of its own choosing. In

either case, the local church is responsible for the cost of continued services. The chancellor will generally charge the same rate to local churches as is charged to the Conference. That rate is currently \$125/hour.

The Guidelines have received approval from the Bishop and Cabinet, the Council on Finance and Administration, and the Conference Board of Trustees. The document may be accessed in multiple formats at: <http://rmcumc.org/CR/chancellor.htm>

American Indians To Gather

The 64th Annual Convention of the National Congress of American Indians in Denver will be held from November 11-16 with the theme: "64 Years: From Emerging Voice to Unifying Force." The National Congress of American Indians was founded by American Indian leaders from across the United States here in Denver in 1944. For more information and to offer your help, contact Susanne Aikman, Conference Native American Indian Committee at ZSAikman@webtv.net.

Youth Ministry Institute Module 1 Postponed until November 10

The Youth Ministry Institute Module I training--originally scheduled for October--will be held in Casper, WY, on Saturday, Nov. 10: Looking for training opportunities for your youth worker? Looking for answers to the question of Why am I doing youth ministry? Join us November 10 at Casper FUMC for Module 1 of the Youth Ministry Institute (YMI). We will discover gifts and graces for youth ministry and discuss the calling to youth ministry as well as programming in youth ministry. Cost of this day long training opportunity is \$25.00 to cover materials, book, and lunch. For more information or to register for this event please contact Marcia Shafer, mjshafer@rangeweb.net, Nancy Cox, Events@rmcumc.com, or Loren Boyce, loren@rmcumc.com.

YMI Module 2 - "Quad Thinking" Offered

After attending YMI Module 1 in Casper, get ready for Module 2! Many youth workers around the conference have taken the opportunity to attend the Youth Ministry Institute training events over the past year. In YMI Module 1, we discussed calling, spiritual gifts, programming rationale, small groups and others. Now, YMI Module 2 is fresh off the presses and will be offered as an additional training option. Module 1 is not required in order to take Module 2. Module 2 focuses on uniquely United Methodist youth ministry. "Quad Thinking" is based on a summary of Wesley's Quadrilateral and our use of these sources (Scripture, Tradition, Experience, and Reason) in the decision-making process. This Module will help show how to use these sources as the basis of programming, relationship building, and discipleship. All modules include safe sanctuary modeling. Cost of the module is \$25 to cover the all day training, the cost of materials, and LUNCH! To register for these events or for more information please contact Nancy Cox, events@rmcumc.com or Loren Boyce, loren@rmcumc.com.

Module 2 sites have been set (but more are still being negotiated) and are as follows:

November 17: St. Andrew UMC, Highlands Ranch, CO; Gillette FUMC, Gillette, WY; Longs Peak UMC, Longmont, CO; Redlands UMC, Grand Junction, CO; and Laramie FUMC, Laramie, WY.

December 1: Mountain Vista UMC, West Jordan, Utah.

January 12, 2008: St. Paul's UMC, Colorado Springs, CO; Limon FUMC, Limon, CO; Springfield FUMC, Springfield, CO; and Loveland FUMC, Loveland, CO.

We look forward to seeing you at one of these sites soon.

– Peace, Loren A. Boyce, Associate Director of Mission and Ministry

Holy Land Trip Planned for February 2008

Bishop Warner and Minnie Brown invite you to travel with them for 10 days of Biblical discovery to the Holy Land. The tour leaves February 12, 2008 and cost from Denver for the basic tour is \$2198. With taxes and other fees the estimate for the trip comes to around \$2600. There are special benefits for clergy who would like to travel as Tour Hosts. A highlight of this trip will be the extension to Bethlehem and the West Bank to be in solidarity with the Palestinians. Brochures and registration information are at the conference office.

Bishop Brown commented that, "I want to personally invite you to join me on a very special tour of the Holy Lands in February 2008. This will not be a commercial tour. Those who have gone before with this organization had a true faith experience. I would consider it a privilege to have you with Minnie and me. This

is an opportunity for the laity and clergy. A special feature is the Bethlehem visit where we will be in touch with our Palestinian brothers and sisters. There will be many opportunities for personal conversations. We are still working on the details but some of the highlights will be a visit to a refugee camp, talking with some of the groups that are advocating for a just and peaceful solution to the Palestinian question, visit with some of the United Methodist missionaries and visit some special mission projects.

"Some have a concern about safety. Educational Opportunities Tours have made safety a high priority. Several groups from our two conferences have been to the Holy Land recently and say there have been no incidents. There is no reason for concern in visiting the areas and places that are included in the itinerary. It is important to register in the next couple months in order for the travel company to arrange the airplane flights. Brochures are available from the District Superintendents. Kathy and Burl Kreps, Directors of Travel Ministry for Educational Opportunities, are anxious to share more information as well as details about registration and benefits for clergy and other church leaders. Contact them by calling 719-637-0258 or send an e-mail: kbkreps@msn.com." – Grace and Peace, Warner H. Brown, Jr., Resident Bishop

Two Italy Trips Announced

Have you ever wanted to go to Italy? Here is your chance. Next July a group of 40 people will be touring Italy with the learning theme of St. Francis of Assisi. The cost up to the end of October for this trip will be \$3214 per person through EF Tours. We will be going to Assisi, Florence and Rome with an excursion to both the Appian Way and Catacombs and Pompey. If you are interested please email me for more information at homeumc@juno.com. Hope you will be able to join the tour. -Grace and peace, Emily Neely (P.S. If you can't actually join us I still suggest the great book called "Chasing Francis" as you may enjoy the read.)

The second trip leaves September 9, 2008 and promises 10 exciting and educational days. Barbara Johns-Schleicher is coordinating this trip for anyone who wants to come (pastors, church members) with Educational Opportunities Tour. The tour includes Rome, Vatican City, Assisi, Florence, Venice, Siena, San Gimignano, with Amalfi Coast extension available. This journey includes roundtrip airfare, deluxe motorcoaches, guided sightseeing, first class hotels, breakfast and dinner daily, entrance fees and lots of fun and times for shopping! Plan and save now for this trip for next year at \$2798 with discounts if you send deposit in early! Additional \$348 group rate for flight from Denver to New York. For more information (including color brochure), contact Barbara at joy2baj@hotmail.com and mark it "Italy".

IRS IRA Gift Plan Ends Dec. 31

Marilyn Bierbach, Executive Director of the Rocky Mountain United Methodist Foundation, writes to remind folks that unless Congress renews the law, the IRA Gift Plan ends December 31, 2007. If you are a senior or know of one who is at least 70 1/2, has an IRA and doesn't need all the proceeds they are currently receiving, you will want to know of this provision that they may roll over up to \$100,000 per year to their local church (or any other 501(c)(3) charity) tax free. Contact Marilyn at the RMUMF, 303-778-6370 or umfinc@qwest.net. Read more on our web site: <http://rmcumc.org/CR/Finance/index.htm#tax>. For more information on the benefits of making an IRA charitable rollover gift, please contact our office. We look forward to helping you achieve your goals. Contact us at the Rocky Mountain United Methodist Foundation at 303-778-6370 or umfinc@qwest.net.

Missions News

UM Volunteers in Mission Needed In Louisiana

Betsy Keyack, co-coordinator for UM Volunteers in Mission, says, "I just went on a mission trip to DuLac (Sept.8-15). We worked with a family living near the DuLac Community Center and learned a lot about the Houma Native Americans. There is an urgent need for more volunteers. The contact is JP McGuire, at arovinguy@yahoo.com or contact the Louisiana Volunteer Center 877-345-5193 and ask to be sent to DuLac." The situation there is "interesting," JP says. "The Louisiana Conference recently received an LFRC grant that has specifically infused \$250,000 into Dulac for the rebuilding of homes. That in itself is great news! We so desperately need the money. This is government funds, though, and so there are stipulations: I can spend no more than \$15,000 on a single home (I can live with that), and the money can only be used

for materials - no labor. I have to be able to buy all the materials before December 31 (ouch! - but do-able), and, all projects must be completed by February 15, 2008. O.k. - there's the problem." So they need VOLUNTEERS! JP says, "We're in a slack period. Please get the word out that Louisiana needs your volunteers ASAP. So come on down with multiple teams and I'll be here to show everyone a great time. Although all skill levels are needed, I have a particular need for skilled electricians, plumbers and drywall hangers/finishers. (Miracle workers accepted as well.)" Don't forget to let Betsy Keyack or Ann Fort know of your interest. bkeyack@att.net or annfort8269@comcast.net.

California Fires Aid Responses

Skip Strickland, Director of Mission and Ministry, wrote, "Many persons have been expressing their concern about the fires in California. Nancy Butterfield was there this weekend and said it is bad." The following announcements I have received help guide our respond to the situation.

"We have received inquiries about sending teams to California to help with the fire recovery. UMCOR asks people to please wait until the California-Pacific Conference requests assistance. Right now any volunteers would become part of the problem rather than the solution. Please know we will keep you informed and until then, please keep them in your prayers. If you wish to donate to UMCOR you can do so through your local church. Thank you for caring" – Ann and Betsy (UMVIM Co-Coordinator)

"United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) continues to offer support to those affected by the wildfires in Southern California. UMCOR personnel, including the Rev. Tom Hazelwood, head of UMCOR's domestic disaster response, are working with California-Pacific Annual Conference in these initial days of disaster response.

"It will be some weeks before the situation is such that volunteers will be an effective help. At that time UMCOR will notify the Jurisdictional Volunteer In Mission Coordinators (UMVIM). Please do NOT go to the disaster region without an invitation from UMVIM coordinators. At this time you will become part of the problem rather than part of the solution.

"How You Can Help Now. Cash gifts are the most useful for the recovery effort during these early hours. Checks can be made to your local church. Write "UMCOR Advance #901670, Domestic Disaster Response," on the memo line of your check. One hundred percent of every donation to any appeal, including appeals for California wildfires, goes to support the designated program." – Bill Mullette-Bauer

The UMCOR Advance contributions are sent to the conference office and from there they go to the UMCOR. Both of these announcements help guide the kind of responses that can be made at this moment to this tragic situation. When there is more information we will share it. Thanks for your caring. – Skip Strickland

UM Volunteers In Mission Report Letter

It has been a busy year in the mission field for the Rocky Mountain Conference. We are all called to serve and this is what you've done by sending forth 85 teams so far this year. Thank you for caring. If you or your team leader has not completed a mission trip form, we would appreciate your doing so. This information is needed for our annual report to the General Board of Global Ministries. A report form is available on the web, at one of these locations: <http://www.rmcmvim.org> under Resources. Regarding the trips, most mission trips are tax deductible. Please advise your team leaders that the information is available in the Leadership Manual, Page 42 and a Donor's Form is on Page 143. If you have questions, please contact Betsy at 303-346-7057 or Ann at 303-220-0840. Please let us know your plans for mission trips next year. Thank you for all you do in the service of our Lord.

Bridge of Love Checks Sent

Bridge of Love checks have been mailed to the East and West Angola Conferences through the Board of Global Ministries. The children of these areas will be blessed by our offerings. The Board of Lay Ministry thanks you for your support as we raised \$15,000 this year making our total \$50,000 for the Bridge of Love. We know that you will continue to respond to the many needs in East and West Angola under the leadership of the Conference Board of Global Ministries.

The Conference Community

Prayer Concerns and Caring For the Conference Community

Prayer concerns are offered for the clergy and lay members and leadership of the Annual Conference and their immediate families as a way to nurture the community of the Annual Conference. Prayer concerns are listed on the Prayer Concerns pages on the Conference web site: RMCUMC.org/Community. More information about each of these named may be found on those pages. Please keep in your prayers:

- **Kristie Firme**, pastor at Julesburg/Ovid, part of the NE CO Parish, who was seriously injured in a "horse wreck," writes this update: "I am doing very well for having been through a wreck. The care at the Medical Center in Loveland is second to none. I will be moving to Northern Colorado Rehabilitation Hospital, 4401 Union Street, Johnstown, CO 80534 located about a half mile from the Loveland hospital. E-mail is the best way to reach me at pastorkristie@hotmail.com. I ask for your prayers to continue on my behalf and also for the NE Colorado Cooperative Parish Staff as they work to cover in my absence. I feel your prayers as does my family, friends and church communities. God's self comes shining through in our deepest need."
- **Cathy Storm**, retired diaconal minister, whose mother Gertrude Storm has died at 101. Cathy says she was "sharp as a tack" til the end and was ready to go. Expressions of care may be sent to her at cstormwake@fiberpipe.net or 1306 S. Thurmond St., Sheridan, WY 82801.
- **Betty Brown**, pastor at La Veta, CO, who broke her ankle on September 11. She is healing well. Expressions of care may be sent to her at bettybe49@hotmail.com.
- **Chris Richardson**, RMC clergy on incapacity leave, whose sister died on Sept. 28 in Ohio. Expressions of care can be sent to Chris at 5102 Porthos Court, Pueblo, CO 81005 or wrich11@msn.com.
- **Martha Oman**, surviving spouse of Larry Oman, RMC clergy and former pastor of Steamboat Springs. Larry died under hospice care at his daughter's home in Seattle on October 4, after a long journey with cancer. Services were October 22 at Steamboat Springs UMC. Condolences may be sent to: lamaoman@comcast.net or Martha Oman, 16816 1st Ave NW, Shoreline, WA 98177-3638 (new).
- **Rae Batch**, Lay Speaking Council and Annual Conference Equalization Member, whose wife Louise had a stroke September 24. She is improving, with evidence of impaired mobility on her right side, speech difficulty, and some impairment to her ability to comprehend. Therapy continues. Rae expresses thanks to all who have e-mailed, called, and sent cards of prayerful hope for recovery. Expressions of care may be sent to them at rmlbatch@aol.com or 1700 Glenwood Dr., Fort Collins, CO 80526.
- **Bob Hunter**, retired RMC clergy, who is recovering at home from a fall and surgery to repair a broken right femur affecting his right hip prosthesis. His wife, Anne, says, "Bob is home and doing quite well. There's pain that has to be managed, and exercises, and lots of awkwardness in managing simple daily tasks. But he's tough and determined, and I'm sure he'll come through well. It just takes time." Expressions of care to 7940 W. 24th Place, Lakewood, CO 80215 or rehunter12@comcast.net.
- **Sachi Boyer**, former receptionist and insurance contact for retirees, whose sister Tomi Amano has died. Tomi was a very active lay person at Wesley UMC in Pueblo for many years. She had been battling Alzheimers for the last 10 years and suffered a stroke. Expressions of care may be sent to Sachi at 9486 Pelon Dr., Northglenn, CO 80260 or sachi3@comcast.net.
- **Nancy Butterfield**, Conference staff, whose future son-in-law Michael is in Iraq. She just heard he is OK but he is in a situation where he can't communicate with his family. Nancy requests prayers for our loved ones in Iraq and all those affected by this war.
- Those who knew **Else Aarvold** of Skien, Norway, who died September 9. She was the surviving spouse of Ole Aarvold who served churches in the Yellowstone Conference as well as Burlington and Julesburg-Ovid in the RMC. He retired in 1974 and died in 1997. Give thanks for her life and service.

Thanksgivings

- **Tommy Gleaton**, of the Ethics Education Task Force, gives thanks after major heart bypass surgery in early October. He went home on October 10. This surgery requires a long recovery process and your continued prayers and support are welcome. Don Gleaton, Tommy's son, expresses sincere thanks for all your prayers and the cards that you have sent. Send encouragement to tgle105463@aol.com or PO Box 6283, Denver, CO 80206. Meanwhile, Tommy sent this message: "Dear Friends, I have been home



**Rocky
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of The United Methodist Church
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one week now. Very restricted on my activities. I have excellent home care nursing. Thanks to all of you for your prayers that surrounded Bonnie, Don and me. This sustaining power was what carried us through this difficult time. Thanks for all the many cards, letters, bears, and flowers. I regret I will not be able to answer each of the e-mails I received (over 500). I am still reading. Thank each of you for your reaching out and touching in so many ways. We share a Great God who is ever present in our needs. On eagles' wings, Tommy, Bonnie & Don."

Appointments

Updated appointment list on web: rmcumc.org/CHI/Journal/Appointments.htm, updated monthly July-May.

- Joyce Snapp is appointed as interim pastor to the Pierce UMC effective January 1, 2008, following a renewal leave. MaryEtta Moore, current pastor at Pierce UMC will retire effective January 1, 2008.
- Larry Paulson will begin an appointment as interim pastor for the Monte Vista and Bowen congregations on November 15.

TableTalk Publication and Subscription Information

TableTalk is a selection or edited summary of some of the most important e-mailed information sent to the Rocky Mountain Conference e-lists since the last issue. If you wish to receive all information sent by e-mail to the Conference, please send us your e-mail address and say what kinds of information you wish to receive. If official Conference News is the only information you wish to receive, you can sign up yourself at rmcumc.org/subscribe. Help your Conference budget by receiving this publication via e-mail!

TableTalk is edited by Ben Roe, information administrator, and Stuart Davis, communications intern. The next TableTalk will be published via e-mail near the end of November and sent a few days later by US Postal Service bulk mail. It will contain items sent prior to the date of publication. To subscribe to TableTalk, send an e-mail (or a postcard) with your name, church, and e-mail address to ben@rmcumc.com or the address above. Archives of 2007 News posts are here: rmcumc.org/News/Communications/news.htm.