

**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

### **UMW Retreat: Life as Prayer Registration Deadline is March 17**

"Forming Our Spirits: Life as Prayer" is the theme for this year's Rocky Mountain Conference United Methodist Women Spiritual Life Retreat. This year's retreat will be led by Sharon McCormick and Brenda Lear, both RMC pastors. The retreat is April 25-27 at the Y Camp at Estes Park. All women and teen girls are invited to attend this inspirational event. Registration forms are due March 17 and have been mailed to vice presidents of local UMW units. They are also available on the UMW website at [www.rmcumw.org](http://www.rmcumw.org).

### **Social Justice Resource Center To Welcome Sawtell in March**

Peter Sawtell from Eco-Justice Ministries will be featured at the RMCUMC Social Justice Resource Center's Speaker Series. He will speak on Sunday, March 30 from 3:30 to 5:30. The event is free and open to the public. Besides the networking possibilities, talk and discussion, the Center's resources and packets of information will be available that can help in local congregation's ministries of social justice.

### **2008 Annual Conference Session is Quickly Approaching!**

The theme for this year's Annual Conference is, "The Church for the Rest of Us," and we will welcome a very special guest this year: Diana Butler Bass is the author of the best-selling *Christianity for the Rest of Us*. She will present to the entire Annual Conference Session on Thursday morning and evening, June 19 and on Friday morning, June 20.

In a time when much church news is difficult and challenging, Bass launched a three year study of 50 churches across the country and what she discovered is good news! She states that, "There is a new kind of mainline congregation developing in the United States that's moderate to liberal theologically, that is taking Christian practices seriously, and these churches are experiencing an unnoticed vitality." Most often, she says, "They are constructing an alternative to the norm. They're not the most famous congregations in the country. Most of them are mid-sized, they don't have really famous pastors, they're not megachurches...and they reflect on Christian tradition in very significant ways." In *Christianity for the Rest of Us*, Bass discusses "Ten Signposts of Renewal": hospitality, discernment, healing, contemplation, testimony, diversity, justice, worship, reflection, and beauty. No congregation exemplifies all of these, but many churches excel in one or more of the signposts. She presents a hope-filled, but realistic assessment about the future of mainline churches. Our quest as laity and clergy working together will be to learn about the signposts and then to consider how they might apply to the congregations and the Conference.

Dr. Bass holds a Ph.D. in religious studies from Duke University, has authored six books on American religious practice and taught at colleges and seminaries. From 2002 to 2006, she was the project director of a national Lilly Endowment funded study of mainline Protestant vitality and this book was the result of that study. Best of all, she is a committed lay-person and an active church member who lives with her husband, Richard, and their young daughter in Alexandria, VA, and she speaks in terms and about concerns that all of us can identify with and understand.

Here are some suggestions for activities for congregations and individuals to consider in advance of Annual Conference in June.

- **Study** - Copies of her book, *Christianity for the Rest of Us* are available in paperback at the Hampden Avenue Cokesbury at a 40 percent discount: only \$8.37. Books can be ordered at 303-761-5070 or at

877-222-1439. Consider doing a book-study as a staff and/or congregation. Questions for study are available at her web-site, such as: What are the strongest signposts in our congregation(s) today? Which ones would be the most challenging for our church or our denomination to implement and why? How can we resource these signposts in our church and in our Conference?

- **Publicize** - We can publicize her web-site at [www.dianabutlerbass.com](http://www.dianabutlerbass.com). We can make copies of her book available to members of our congregation, leadership groups within the congregation and Annual Conference members soon and explain that the author will be leading us in a study at Conference.
- **Pray** - We can pray about what might come from a positive, promising view of the role of the church in our lives and in our world.

Please begin preparing for Annual Conference Session and its theme of "The Church for the Rest of Us" right now so that we are ready to be enriched and encouraged as we gather in June. Grace and peace,  
- *The Education Committee of the Rocky Mountain Conference Board of Discipleship*

### **March 10 is Deadline for Three Important Annual Conference Session items**

- Petitions must be received by March 10, and they must be received electronically, as an e-mail attachment, or on a CD or floppy. Form and Instructions are available in 3 formats: RTF, DOC, and WPD, here: <http://rmcumc.org/COI/ac/ac2008/index.htm#petitions>
- Forms for Rocky Mountain Conference nominations to the Western Jurisdictional Conference Episcopacy elections must also be received by March 10. They must be submitted via hard copy (paper), mailed or sent by overnight delivery to Alane Currier Griggs, Conference Secretary. Electronic submission, including by fax, is NOT allowed. The form is available in RTF and PDF formats at the same page: <http://rmcumc.org/COI/ac/ac2008/>.
- Completed applications for Conference Lay Leader must be postmarked by March 10. Here is part of the announcement: "By conference rule the election of the Conference Lay Leader will take place at the Laity Session of the Rocky Mountain Annual Conference the same year as General Conference. The application form is published on the Conference Web site (<http://rmcumc.org/COI/ac/ac2008/>) and the Board of Lay Ministry web site (<http://rmcbolm.org/>). You can also request by mail to the Board of Lay Ministry, 6110 Greenwood Plaza Blvd, Greenwood Village, CO 80111-4803 or email to [hillej@plains.net](mailto:hillej@plains.net) or phone 970-358-4389." The rest of the announcement is here, along with the application form: <http://rmcumc.org/COI/ac/ac2008/>.

### **Other Annual Conference Session-related items...**

- *Board of Stewards Seeks Annual Conference Session Offering Recipient Requests* - The Board of Stewards selects the recipients of the offerings at Annual Conference. Any board, committee, or agency may submit a request in writing (letter, e-mail or fax) to the Co-Chair of the Board of Stewards by March 10. Such a request must include the name of the requesting group and how the offering will be used. Send requests to: Nancy Boswell, 301 East Drake Road, Fort Collins, CO 80525, email: [nboswell@q.com](mailto:nboswell@q.com) or fax: 970-207-4030.
- *Display Policy and Application Form* - The Application for Annual Conference Display space deadline is April 20. Applications will be reviewed using criteria stated in the Conference Display Area policy (found on our Conference web site) and considering space limits we will either approve or return applications. Approved tables will be invoiced with payment due by June 1. Please note there are a limited number of display spaces available. Gary Dyer - Display Coordinator and Nancy Butterfield, ACS Coordinator.
- *Blood Pressure Screening Volunteers Needed* - Blood pressure checks will be provided at Annual Conference on Thursday and Friday from 6:30 a.m. to noon. If you can do blood pressure checks and would like to volunteer for all or part of this time please contact Donna Hite to let her know. 303-325-7050, 800-536-3736 x150 or [donna@rmcumc.com](mailto:donna@rmcumc.com).

### **Application For Equitable Compensation for the Second Half of 2008 Due March 20**

Because some congregations are, at times, unable to fully financially support their appointed leadership, the Commission on Equitable Compensation is able to assist with short-term, limited financial support. Each application is for six months. If you plan to apply for Equitable Compensation support for the second half of 2008, do so immediately. Applications are due by March 20. Contact Donna Hite at 1-800-536-3736 or 303-733-3736, for an application.

### **Conference Treasurer Releases First Tithe Report**

The first report of the new Church Tithe report is now on the Conference Web site, under Church Resources, Church Tithe/Finances (or CF&A). The document contains comparisons of level of participation of local churches in January 2007 and January 2008. Participation has increased substantially over last year. The bottom line results for the first month are as follows: January tithe (10% plus 1% second mile) totals \$311,159.61, a 12.1% increase in revenue over January 2007's apportionments. As of February 20, 79 percent of Conference churches had reported. Conference Treasurer Wayne Bettendorf has provided a summary and other analysis at this web page: <http://rmcumc.org/CR/Finance/January08tithe.htm>.

### **Camping Booklets Are In Your Churches**

The 2008 Conference Camping Booklets have arrived in Conference churches and we look forward to what promises to be an exciting and spirit-filled year at our Rocky Mountain camps. Please make sure that the booklets get into the hands of all potential campers in your congregation. Also please post the poster we have included with the booklets this year. If you have any questions or need additional booklets please contact Gregg Kernes, RM Conference Camping Manager, 970-484-2508.

### **Conference Trustees to Petition for Sale of Templed Hills Camp & Retreat Center**

To harmonize our mission with responsible stewardship of our assets and liabilities, the Conference Board of Trustees will bring forward petitions at the 2008 Annual Conference Session that seek authorization to sell Templed Hills Camp & Retreat Center and the surplus acreage connected to Buckhorn Camp. (Buckhorn Camp itself is not affected.) Proceeds will pay debt associated with both camps in order to free up Conference cash flow for all Conference ministries (which will continue to include camp and retreat ministry). Committee on Finance & Administration, the Board of Stewards and the Executive Leadership Team support the Trustees' actions. The rationale will be more fully set forth in the petitions. For more information, contact Stephanie Munoz, Chairperson of the Board of Trustees, email: [pastorstephanie@qwestoffice.net](mailto:pastorstephanie@qwestoffice.net). You may also attend one of the following District/Sub-District meetings where Munoz will be in attendance to provide an overview of the proposed actions: Peaks Sub-District at Loveland Trinity UMC (4/12); Sunshine District in Pueblo (4/19); and possibly Plains Sub-District in Limon (4/19).

### **Hal Knudsen Historic Preservation Award Nominees Sought**

Nominees are being sought for the annual Harold C. Knudsen Historic Preservation Award sponsored by the RMC Historical Society/Conference Commission on Archives and History. The purpose of the Award is to acknowledge the contribution of an individual or group and to emphasize the need for the preservation of oral, written and artifact history of the Rocky Mountain Conference of the United Methodist Church or its predecessors. The Award is to perpetuate the memory and legacy of The Rev. Harold C. Knudsen in his tireless efforts and emphasis upon the connectional history of the Conference throughout his life. A stipend and certificate may be awarded annually. Contact Dick Vickery at [ravickeryjr@cs.com](mailto:ravickeryjr@cs.com), 303/670-8958 or 29965 Monroe Drive, Evergreen, CO 80439. The deadline is May 1.

### **J. Alton Templin Development Fund Award Nominees Sought**

Nominees are being sought for the annual J. Alton Templin Development Fund Award sponsored by the RMC Historical Society/Conference Commission on Archives and History. The purpose of the Award is to promote the publication of documents or projects related to the local history of Conference Churches by financially supporting such local efforts prior to their completion. Applicants should prepare a statement including the nature of the project, its estimated cost, the ultimate objective of the project and its contribution to the preservation of the heritage of the local church. A stipend and certificate may be awarded annually. Contact Dick Vickery at [ravickeryjr@cs.com](mailto:ravickeryjr@cs.com), 303/670-8958 or 29965 Monroe Drive, Evergreen, CO 80439-7118. The deadline is May 1.

### **Lay Equalization Rules Available**

The Lay Equalization Rules were inadvertently left out of the 2007 Conference *Journal*. They are now available on the RMCUMC.org web site, at (<http://rmcumc.org/COI/ac/ac2008/equalizationrules.htm>). Please make a note of the process as you choose equalization members of the Conference Session.

### **Effectiveness Plan Documents Available**

Clergy evaluations (self-evaluation and the S/PPRC evaluation) are due to each district office by May 1. The clergy evaluation tools are on the RMC web site at Church Resources -> Effectiveness Strategy (<http://rmcumc.org/CR/effectiveness.htm>). Congregational evaluations are to be completed every three years. Those congregations that did not complete theirs in 2007 must complete one in 2008. That tool is available on the RMC web site at the same page (<http://rmcumc.org/CR/effectiveness.htm>). Note these forms are made so that they can be saved to one's hard drive, completed, and then e-mailed back to the proper personnel. They can also be printed out, completed by hand and mailed. If you have any questions about this process, contact either your district office or Ben Roe at the Conference Office.

### **Board of Stewards Shares Purpose Statement**

Have you wondered what the Board of Stewards does and how this group relates to the rest of the conference? The Board of Stewards has wondered the same thing. For the past year and half the stewards have been striving to learn the process of Board Governance where we oversee the programmatic areas of the Rocky Mountain Conference and bring together, at the Connectional Table, the administrative and Episcopal areas of the Conference. Discovering our purpose, using the Board Governance model, has resulted in the following Board of Stewards Purpose Statement:

"The Board of Stewards acts on behalf of the members of the Rocky Mountain Conference and the communities we serve, to accomplish the programmatic results of the Conference as a whole and avoids intolerable circumstances which violate the Book of Discipline and or the rules established by the Rocky Mountain Annual Conference."

### **Statistics Reporting Hints**

Bruce Maxwell, Conference Statistician, has collected some "Frequently Asked Questions" as churches have been entering their data into the new "EAGLE" statistical reporting package on the Web. Find instructions and the FAQ at this web address: <http://rmcumc.org/CR/stats/>. If you still have not completed your reporting, you must call Bruce to be allowed into the site:303-776-3523.

### **Local Pastor Licensing School Of The Rockies Coming This Summer**

The Rocky Mountain and Yellowstone Conferences of the United Methodist Church announce Local Pastor Licensing School will be offered July 28-August 8 at Englewood UMC. Licensing school is primarily for Certified Candidates who are seeking to become eligible for appointment as Local Pastors in the United Methodist Church. Applications will also be accepted from individuals have acquired at least "Exploring Candidacy" status. Graduates are not guaranteed appointments, nor are they required to seek appointment. Application information and form is on the web at <http://rmcumc.org/COI/BOM/lplicensing.htm>. Applications must be mailed to the registrar by April 15 and registration forms must be received by May 1.

### **Advanced Lay Speaking Course Announced**

An advanced lay speaking course titled "Grow Spiritually Through Daily Discipline: A Study of Devotional Life in the Wesleyan Tradition" is being offered in the Sunshine District May 2-3, from 5:30 p.m. Friday to 3:30 p.m. Saturday. The class will be held at the LaJunta UMC. Fee for the course is \$40 and registration deadline is April 11. Please e-mail [sunshinedistrict@qwest.net](mailto:sunshinedistrict@qwest.net) for further information.

### **Bart Ehrman Lecture Series Offered at St. Andrew UMC**

In conjunction with Montview Presbyterian Church, St. Andrew UMC is pleased to host Dr. Bart Ehrman, New Testament Professor and best-selling author as part of this event that will be held Thursday-Saturday, March 6-8. Ehrman's expertise is in the area of early Christian history, the historical Jesus, and the Gnostic Gospels. The first session, "The Many Faces of Jesus: Variety in the New Testament Gospels," is at 7 p.m. Ehrman will be speaking at Montview Presbyterian Church on Friday at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday at 9:30 a.m.. Tickets are available at 303-794-2683 Ext. 260 or at the door. St. Andrew UMC is at 3350 White Bay Drive in Highlands Ranch and Montview Presbyterian Church is at 1980 Dahlia Street in Denver. For more information regarding Friday and Saturday at Montview Presbyterian Church, call 303-355-1651 or see their website [www.montview.org](http://www.montview.org)

## **Couples Connection Event Coming Up**

The next biannual Couples Connection event will be held Saturday, March 29 from 5-8 p.m. at Ellis Ranch in Loveland. It is sponsored by Estes Park, Longs Peak and Loveland First UMCs. Bill McCartney-former head football coach for CU Boulder and founder of both Promise Keepers and Road to Jerusalem-is the guest speaker. Cost is \$55 per couple and that includes a BBQ buffet, door prizes and a DJ. For more information, contact Suzanne and Rod Bramen at 970-226-1841.

## **General Church News**

### **News from the General Board of Pensions: Ernst & Young Financial Planning Services Free in 2008**

This year, Ernst & Young Financial Planning Services is being offered to eligible participants at no cost. Another change to this service is that participants now have unlimited phone time. Ernst & Young Financial Planning Services is available to: active participants, surviving spouses, and terminated and retired participants with an account balance of at least \$10,000. Eligible participants can take advantage of this free service by calling Ernst & Young directly at 1-800-360-2539 Monday through Friday between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. Note that this program is also available to any lay persons who are in the UMPIP plan. More information: <http://www.gbophb.org/>

## **Missions News**

### **Neighbors Don't Let Neighbors Go Hungry: Food Shortage Crisis at Denver Urban Ministries**

Without immediate action on the part of Denver area companies and citizens, thousands of struggling local families are going to feel the pangs of hunger. Denver Urban Ministries, a multi-service agency located in the heart of Denver, asks the community to donate food to the agency as soon as possible, as families are being turned away. Requests for food have increased 31 percent from the same period last year. The agency needs a supply of more than 25,000 pounds of food each month to meet the current need.

"We're seeing an increase in food requests at the same time we're seeing a decrease in food donations," said William Lews, Program Director. "The need isn't being met by government commodities or Food Stamps, and it's challenging our ability to respond. At DenUM, our sense of community, our sense of who we are as Americans, tells us to give food to people who are hungry." Donations of food can be brought to DenUM at 1717 East Colfax Ave between 9 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. M/T/Th/F or 9 to noon on Wed. For more information, please call 303-350-5067. More: <http://tinyurl.com/2hrvt>

### **Denver Urban Ministries (DenUM) Holds Food Race**

Denver Urban Ministries invites you to participate in the First Annual Community Food Race. The congregation that collects the greatest number of complete food bags per capita (according to average worship attendance) between March 1 and April 30 will be the winner! The winning group will receive a free urban education experience and an ice cream social put on by the DenUM staff! Questions? Contact Katie Kinne, Community Relations Coordinator, at 303/355-4896, ext 307, or email [katie@denum.org](mailto:katie@denum.org).

## **VIM Notes**

*Reminder - UMVIM team leader training, First UMC, Fort Collins, CO, Saturday, March 8, 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. Please sign up with Betsy Keyack, [bkeyack@att.net](mailto:bkeyack@att.net). A training session is also proposed for April in Boulder, CO.*

Dear Friends in Mission,

Here is some UM Volunteers in Mission News for your Sunday bulletin:

- Some churches have expressed interest in sending teams to help other churches with their Vacation Bible Schools. If you would like a group to help you with your VBS this summer (that's a neat thing!), please contact Ann Fort, [annfort8269@comcast.net](mailto:annfort8269@comcast.net) and we'll get the word out.
- You are invited to join a mission trip to Cunen, GUATEMALA, August 2-10. Volunteers are needed for construction (no skills required) as well as doctors, nurses and music people. Contact Liz Foster, Heritage UMC, Denver, [liz.foster@umheritage.com](mailto:liz.foster@umheritage.com)
- GUATEMALA - Mary Micikas, United Methodist Individual Volunteer, has some wonderful opportunities in Guatemala. Construction teams are needed in San Juan La Laguna, Guatemala. Also, youth and

young adults are invited to come and work with the youth around Lake Atitlan as part of a cultural exchange. Mary can be reached at [mary.micikas@gmail.com](mailto:mary.micikas@gmail.com) The UMVIM coordinator for Guatemala is Carla Gonzales, [coordinator@guatemalavim.org](mailto:coordinator@guatemalavim.org). Carla and Mary can make your in-country arrangements.

- There are two teams from Louisiana going to Alaska that are inviting additional volunteers: Kenai, Alaska - June 14-21, June 21-28. The teams will paint New Covenant UMC, both interior and exterior. Room for four to five more volunteers. Call Allen Tuten, 318-255-5328, [allentuten@aol.com](mailto:allentuten@aol.com)  
*Betsy Keyack (bkeyack@att.net) and Ann Fort (annfort8269@comcast.net)*  
Co-coordinators, UM Volunteers in Mission, Rocky Mountain Conference

### **Service Opportunity for Young People**

*Attention youth and young adults:* Serve in Honduras this summer! Sierra Service Project (SSP) will send three teams of young people to Honduras this summer for two weeks of cultural immersion, learning and service with the poor. The registration deadline is March 15 and space is limited to 12 per session. Each session is led by an experienced adult leader and supervised by two SSP staffers in Honduras. High school juniors and seniors as well as college-aged young adults may participate. This is SSP's fifth year of sending teams to Honduras and is in cooperation with the United Methodist Church in Honduras and UMVIM. For complete information, call the SSP office at 916-488-6441 and visit [www.sierraserviceproject.org](http://www.sierraserviceproject.org).

### **Report from "Nothing But Nets" Program**

Many churches, individuals and groups are supporting "Nothing But Nets" -the program to combat malaria in Africa. The United Methodist Church has joined with NBA, *Sports Illustrated* and The United Nations Foundation to support this effort. In 2007, \$6,000 was raised by 14 RMC churches through the Africa Partnership and the Angola Fund. Other churches have used the Advance Special Number to contribute to this cause. Remember there are two ways to contribute: Checks may be made out to "Rocky Mountain Conference" and in the memo line put "Angola-Nets." This money will be marked for purchasing nets to be distributed by the East and West Angola Conferences. When contributions are sent using the Advance Special number the money goes first to the General Board of Global Ministries and then to the United Nations Foundation for general distribution. A recent report about distribution of Nets in Mali is available at: <http://www.nothingbutnets.net/node/743>.

## **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](http://RMCUMC.org/Community). More information about each of these named may be found on those pages. Please keep in your prayers:

- The family of **Mary Smith**, who died February 17. She was the surviving spouse of Kenneth M. Smith, RMC clergy who died in 1992. He had served the churches of John Collins, Epworth, Colorado Springs - Wesley, Colorado Springs - East, Loveland and Sterling - Christ. Services were February 23 at Estes Park UMC. She is survived by her son Ron Smith of 1335 Big Valley Dr., Colorado Springs, CO 80919 and daughters Donna Sherbenou of Parker and Ramona Carmichael of Lakewood. Condolences may be sent to Ron Smith at the above address.
- **Ruth H. Grauberger**, 97, the surviving spouse of O.L. Grauberger, deceased RMC clergy, who died February 6. She was living in Loveland with her daughter, Beth. She is also survived by two sons: the retired RMC clergy Bruce L. Grauberger, Loveland, and Larry Grauberger, lay member of the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry. Services were February 11 at Evanston UMC. Her husband had served the Kelly, Loveland, Simla, Denver Evanston, Berthoud, Boulder Bethel and Pueblo Bruner Park Evangelical United Brethren Churches before his last appointment as visitation pastor at Park Hill UMC in Denver. He preceded her in death in 1968. Expressions of care may be sent to Larry Grauberger, 7221 S. Highland Dr., Littleton, CO 80120, [Larryjjsi@msn.com](mailto:Larryjjsi@msn.com) and Bruce Grauberger, 2365 Lawson Dr., Loveland, CO 80538 or email at [joyceandbruce5@earthlink.net](mailto:joyceandbruce5@earthlink.net).

- **Elsie Vickery**, 94, the mother of retired RMC clergy **Dick Vickery**, died February 3 in Hatboro, PA. Services were held February 20 in Pennsylvania. Please keep Dick and his family in your prayers. Expressions of care may be sent to Dick at [ravickeryjr@cs.com](mailto:ravickeryjr@cs.com).
- **Steve Truitt**, former husband of **Betty Brown**, RMC clergy serving LaVeta UMC, is near the end of his long journey with brain cancer. Betty and their sons, Nate and Keith, are with Steve. Please surround them all with prayer. Expressions of care may be directed to Betty at [bettybe49@hotmail.com](mailto:bettybe49@hotmail.com).
- After a time in a rehab center, retired elder **Bob Hunter** is now back home and receiving physical therapy as he continues his recovery from hip replacement surgery in January. Expressions of care may be sent to him at [REHunter12@comcast.net](mailto:REHunter12@comcast.net) and/or his niece Rosalie or his sister Wilma Ashbaugh, at [rkashbaugh@comcast.net](mailto:rkashbaugh@comcast.net).

### **Thanksgivings**

- Prayers of gratitude and support will be welcomed for **Annie Rigo**, associate pastor at First UMC, Grand Junction, who was married to Eric Arnoldy on February 23 in Grand Junction. Annie and Eric originally met at their home church of Hope UMC in Greenwood Village, CO. They reunited on a trip to Kenya in 2006. Annie writes, "There will be a name change! Annie Rigo will become Annie Arnoldy. Thanks for all the support along the way!" Expressions of care may be sent to the happy couple at [revannie@fumcgj.org](mailto:revannie@fumcgj.org).
- **Kathy Haley**, who recently defended her doctoral thesis at Saint Paul School of Theology in Kansas City has been awarded her D.Min. with an emphasis on "Ministry in the Wesleyan Tradition." Congratulations, Rev. Dr. Kathy Haley!

### **Retired Elder DeLancey Dies**

**Bob DeLancey**, retired RMC clergy, died February 22. Services were held February 28 at Phillips UMC, Lakewood. Expressions of care may be sent to his spouse Elizabeth at 8001 W. 71<sup>st</sup> Ave., Apt. 11A, Arvada, CO 80004. Bob was ordained elder in the Colorado Conference in 1950 and served Hugy-Boyero, Salt Lake City Centenary, Rawlins, Denver Cameron, Ogden First, Denver Highlands, LaJunta, Castle Rock, Denver Phillips and Denver Warren. Please keep the family in your prayers.

### **Longtime UMW Leader Dies**

**Louise Femmer**, member of Bethel United Methodist Church in Pueblo for over 70 years, died January 21. She was very active in her local church, on the district level and nationally through the Women's Division. A Memorial Service was held at Bethel UMC. Expressions of care may be sent to Bethel UMC and will be given to the family. Please keep them, Bethel, and the UMW in your prayers.

### **Appointments**

- **Chuck Cooper**, District Superintendent of the Wyoming Northeast Colorado District, will retire this June. Chuck has been a member of the RMC since entering into Conference Membership as a Probationary Deacon in 1971. He has served as the superintendent since 2004. Appreciations of ministry can be sent to ([Chuck@rmcumc.com](mailto:Chuck@rmcumc.com), 307-632-6738, or 1603 Capitol Ave., suite 507, Cheyenne, WY 82001).
- Please welcome as a new Superintendent appointed to the Wyoming / Northeast Colorado District effective July 1: Debra 'Deb' Olenyik. She will complete her current appointment at Estes Park UMC where she has been serving since 2004.
- **Lynnette Butler**, currently appointed to United Church, Idaho Springs, will be appointed pastor of Cameron UMC, Denver, effective July 1. As previously announced, Bill Kirton will retire effective July 1.
- **Jeanne Redshaw** will be appointed to Monte Vista and Bowen UMCs in the San Luis Valley of Colorado on July 1, 2008. Jeanne currently serves Fowler and Manzanola UMCs.
- **Bill Selby**, a member of the Rocky Mountain Conference since 1983, serving churches in both Colorado and Wyoming, retired January 1. Appreciations to 9035 S. Bear Mountain Drive, Highlands Ranch, CO 80126, 303-791-6155 or [Integrity4u@comcast.net](mailto:Integrity4u@comcast.net).



**Rocky  
Mountain  
Conference**

of The United Methodist Church  
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Retirements effective July 1:

- **Ken Kendrick**, Edgewater (CO) UMC. Ken can be contacted at [kenkendrick@comcast.net](mailto:kenkendrick@comcast.net) or 303-618-9967 for appreciations.
- **Chris Richardson**, who is currently on incapacity leave. Appreciations to [wrich11@msn.com](mailto:wrich11@msn.com).
- **Arlan (AJ) Johnsen**, a local pastor currently serving the Vineland UMC. Appreciations to [pastoraj@comcast.net](mailto:pastoraj@comcast.net).
- **Charlene Smythe**, who is serving the Bethel UMC, Pueblo as a local pastor. Appreciations to [gncsmythe@msn.com](mailto:gncsmythe@msn.com).

### **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](http://rmcumc.org/subscribe). Help your Conference budget by receiving this publication via e-mail!

TableTalk is edited by Stuart Davis, communications intern and Ben Roe, information administrator. The next TableTalk will be published via e-mail near the end of March 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](mailto:ben@rmcumc.com) or the address above. Archives of the 2007 RMCUMC News posts are here: [rmcumc.org/News/Communications/news.htm](http://rmcumc.org/News/Communications/news.htm).