

# News from Rico

The Rico Community Church  
(PCUSA)

P.O. Box 208, Rico, Colorado 81332

Phone (970) 967-2463

November - December, 2004

## Announcing

The Rico Community Church began as "The People's Church" in 1891 and has served our community for over a century. In recent years it has been open only for summer services and winter special events. On Nov 7, 2004, we reopened as an "every Sunday" church, welcoming our new pastor, Carol Burgeson. That day we had special music by the Rico Women's Choral Group (their first public performance), soloist Lauryce Preston Hecker, and pianist Steve Snelling.

### From the pastor's desk . . .

I came on board as pastor November 1<sup>st</sup>, and already find this community a very welcoming one. We have held three services so far this month. The first, on Nov 7<sup>th</sup>, was attended by 32 worshippers, many from out of town, the second by 23. Last Sunday we had 14" of snow, but 15 brave souls braved the elements as communion was served.

Officially, I am the "Mission Pastor from the Western Colorado Presbytery," but to the congregation I am "Pastor Carol." My home church, First Presbyterian, Durango, will host the Ordination of Word and Sacrament service for me at 4:00 PM December 5<sup>th</sup>. All are invited.

John, my husband, retired from IBM, is hard at work installing email service and has created a web site for our church. Our email address is [ricochurch@juno.com](mailto:ricochurch@juno.com) and our web site is [www.ricochurch.org](http://www.ricochurch.org). If you can't visit us in person during the winter months, please do so electronically.

Plans for the future include our move into the manse (the Henn house) in early January, beginning a regular "happening" for the youth of the community, serving the Search and Rescue team and the firefighters as chaplain, and holding a Bible Study at the church.

Peace, grace and Christmas joy to you all.

  
Pastor Carol Burgeson



### For Young Believers ...

A big "thank you" to those who have helped during the November services. It is great to have so many young people who participated this month.

Thank you for participating each Sunday in putting action to the song "We are the church," and playing the role of Jesus' disciples in distributing the loaves and fishes.

And a special thanks to those who have been acolytes, Kaitlin Nunley and Mac Vergari. And to Lee Vergari for stepping in as usher on November 21<sup>st</sup> when Ken Hazen was away.

Activities for youth and young children are "in the works" for January.

### December 2004 schedule:

Sun, Dec 5 <sup>th</sup>	10:30AM	Regular Worship Service
	4:00 PM	Pastor Carol's ordination, First Presbyterian Church, Durango (12 <sup>th</sup> Street at 3 <sup>rd</sup> Avenue). All are invited. Reception to follow.
Sun, Dec 12 <sup>th</sup>	10:30AM	Regular Worship Service
Tues, Dec 14 <sup>th</sup>		Rico Elementary School Christmas Program, under the guidance of Mr. Andy. This will include all the Rico youth in a community sing-along.
Sun, Dec 19 <sup>th</sup>	10:30AM	Regular Worship Service
	2:00 PM	Christmas Candlelight
Friday, Dec 24 <sup>th</sup>	5:00 PM	Christmas Eve Service
Sun, Dec 26 <sup>th</sup>	10:30 AM	Regular Worship Service

### Christmas Candlelight & Communion service

On Sunday, Dec 19<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 PM, the church will hold its annual Christmas candlelight and communion service. The United Church of the San Juans of Ridgway will be participating in the service and the Rico Women's Choral Group will sing. Marlene Hazen's annual Potato Soup supper will follow.