

### Serve with Love

In addition to our tithes, there are many ways to support our church with gifts of time and talents:

- DEACON
- ELDER
- SERVE FELLOWSHIP
- GREETER
- USHER
- ACOLYTE
- SING IN CHOIR
- PRAISE BAND
- AUDIO/VISUAL
- TOY WASHERS
- COLUMBARIUM UPKEEP
- SEND CARDS TO MEMBERS
- VISIT SHUT-IN MEMBERS
- TAKE MEALS TO THOSE IN NEED
- SERVE AS LITURGIST
- MEMORIAL/FUNERAL SERVICES
- TEACH KIDS SUNDAY SCHOOL
- CEH MISSION EFFORTS
- SERVE ON COMMITTEE
- BUILDING AND GROUNDS
- FINANCE
- MISSIONS
- PERSONNEL
- STEWARDSHIP
- WORSHIP

Your pledge card has a place to indicate that you are interested in helping with the smooth functioning of our wonderful church. Please check that box, and we will contact you with more information.



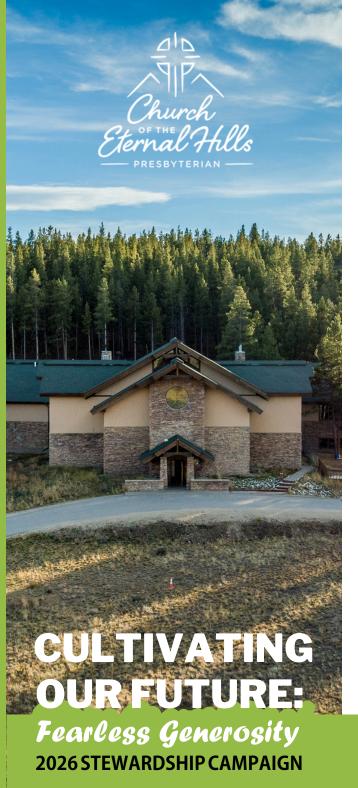


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# A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Church of the Eternal Hills Family,

Have you noticed something wonderful is happening here? Our pews are filling, youth are showing up with energy, music from our choir and praise band is inspiring, and worship is alive with love and Spirit.

As we look ahead, we need your help to plan boldly for next year's ministry. Your pledge—your fearless giving—makes it all possible.

I know "pledge" can sound intimidating, but giving isn't about fear—it's about freedom. It's trusting that what we offer will be used with grace and purpose. So let's keep the momentum going. Pledge boldly. Give fearlessly. And let's continue building a church that reflects God's abundant love.

With gratitude, Pastor Paula Church of the Eternal Hills

### **Commitment Sundays in October**

allow us to adjust our proposed budget. I pray you feel called to support our church, and for those who can, please consider increasing your pledge.

In Christ,

Pastor Paula psteinbacher@eternalhills.org

## Moments for Stewardship

#### **BUILDING AND GROUNDS**

from Stephen Eddy

Over the past three years, CEH has replaced its roof, stained/painted our building, constructed a new A/V booth, and paved the entrance driveway to The Center, ensuring handicap accessibility and parking. The main parking lot has been patched, the parking lot lights have been converted to LED to save on electricity cost, and to address wildfire mitigation, trees have been trimmed/taken down and grasses cut back. We have addressed a radon issue in the lower level and constructed a passageway for children through our storge area to protect our preschool students.

A planned playground improvement will be completed Fall 2025. We now contract with a cleaning service to maintain consistent cleaning, so we are not affected by absences.

We are hopeful that CEH will receive federal/ State grant funds in the near future to upgrade safety/security of our building. We made an application for these funds in 2024 and were recently notified in September 2025 that we remain in the running for these funds through Homeland Security.

Our long-term capital/maintenance reserves are depleted. Looking to the future, the costs of routine maintenance, utilities, snow plowing and cleaning services continue to increase. Our sanctuary projectors are outdated and will need replacement in 2026.

CEH needs to set aside \$40,000+/per year in reserves in order to meet these and anticipated long-term needs. Let's not wait for an emergency. I am sure that we can support the care of our beautiful building which the Lord has entrusted to us.



# PERSONNEL AND POLICY from Meryl Eddy

Our Committee oversees hiring, job responsibilities, administrative policies, and payroll recommendations.

The Pastor and staff are the glue of CEH, and their salaries and benefits make up the largest part of our budget and includes: Pastors, Church Administrator Music Director, Praise BandLeader, Tech Support. and Preschool Teachers (supported by PAC.



We were pleased to add medical health insurance and retirement benefits for staff, in addition to our Pastor, to make us more competitive when hiring and promote long-term employment.

We strive to remain competitive in salaries and respectful of the cost of living in Grand County. **Your financial support is crucial.** 

### **PRESCHOOL**

from Bill Baer

In 2026, Eternal Hills Christian Preschool will celebrate 23 years of serving families and children in Grand County. It is the Church of Eternal Hills' largest mission and vital to the health and welfare of our community.

In 2025, we began offering medical coverage for teachers, with preschool operations covering 80% of the cost and employees covering 20%. This benefit has been well received and has helped us attract and retain quality teachers in a healthy work environment. Through grant writing, we secured \$26,100 in 2025 to support operations and benefits, and grants will remain a key funding strategy moving forward.

For 2026, we are budgeting a 3% salary increase to ensure a livable wage and keep pace with the cost of living. In addition to grant funding, fundraising and donations will be essential to maintaining affordability for families.

Childcare in Grand County:

The system is at capacity, with fewer than 40% of children enrolled in childcare, limiting workforce participation.

The average annual cost of childcare is \$13,536 per child—16% of median household income, more than double the national recommendation of 7%.

### Looking Ahead:

The church has unused space for potential preschool expansion. We are actively pursuing

grants and other capital funding for facility growth and participating in a countywide strategic planning initiative focused on stabilizing the early childhood workforce, improving housing, and addressing the childcare shortage. Meeting these needs is critical to the long-term vitality of our community.



### **COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

When you consider your pledge for 2025, keep in mind these services we offer the community:

**Counseling Support:** Office space and 240 hours/year of free counseling for those in need

Shining Stars Adventure Camp Missions of the Month: Support for various worthwhile causes.

**NSCD Horse Therapy**: Provides therapeutic exp

**Panther Pantry:** Healthy food options for high school and middle school students

**Shared Mission Donations:** Support of 13 local missions in the Denver area **Nonprofit Space:** CEH offers space for training and meetings, e.g., Advocates' Intervention training.

**Sober Events:** Space for alcohol-free gatherings, such as Bunko night.

Youth Breakfast
• Meetings: Pastor Paula meets with high school youth weekly to discuss life issues.