

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT FIRST CHURCH

The Vision of First Church is to be an inclusive, deeply relational community inviting all people to experience God's presence today.

ALL ARE WELCOME HERE—WE STRIVE FOR IT.

In the spirit of Jesus Christ, First United Methodist Church of Fort Collins commits to offering a community in which persons of diverse age, color, culture, sexual orientation and gender identity, economic status, and physical or mental ability are all welcomed and affirmed. To all who have known pain of exclusion or discrimination from church or in society, we seek forgiveness and offer a place of respite and welcome.

IF YOU ARE NEW TO OUR CHURCH and would like more information, please ask one of our greeters or ushers or visit the **Welcome Center**. They can direct you to classrooms, nursery, restrooms, food, and fellowship, as well as introduce you to our staff. We would be honored to get to know you better and learn about your life and spiritual needs. Our community may not know you yet, but we already love you and hope you will make this your spiritual home. Thank you for joining us today, and God bless you!

WEEKLY FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES—9:45 A.M.

Please sign your children in at the Children's Ministries check-in desk, south entrance, before the 9:30 a.m. worship service begins. Children join their parents/guardians for worship in the Sanctuary until the conclusion of Children's Time. Then, parents of preschoolers escort their children to Room 121, and children grades K-5 meet outside the Sanctuary. The teachers will escort elementary children to their classrooms. Parents, please pick your children up from their designated location following the service.



SUNDAY MORNING YOUTH GROUP: If you are a teen, we have something for YOU! Youth (grades 6-12) are welcome to participate in our Sunday Morning Youth Group that happens at 9:30 a.m. every Sunday. Join our Youth Director and leaders in the Youth basement for a time of fellowship and spiritual growth that are fun and relevant to students!

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT GROUPS—Please join us.

- 8:30 a.m.** Second Stagers—Conference Room
- 9:30 a.m.** Serendipity Class—Village Commons; Upper Room Class—Upper Room (Room 235)
- 10:55 a.m.** Open Hearts Class—Village Commons

ORDER OF WORSHIP

*Please rise in body or spirit.

Prelude *It Is Well with My Soul* arr. Stacey N. Brown
FUMC Instrumental Ensemble

Welcome Rev. Bradley Laurvick
Rev. Cynthia Paquette

*Music for Reflection *Take My Life, and Let It Be Consecrated* arr. Stacey N. Brown
FUMC Instrumental Ensemble

*Call to Worship 9:30 Bill Emslie
11:00 Sandy Merriweather

*Hymn of Praise *Open My Eyes, That I May See* UMH #454

Chorus (9:30) *Up from the Grave He Arose* UMH #322
Children's Message Barb Grauberger
Chorus (9:30) *Up from the Grave He Arose* UMH #322

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Anthem *Good Shepherd* by Gwyneth Walker
Sanctuary Choir

Scripture 1 Samuel 1:6-8,12-16

Sermon Women in the Bible: Rev. Bradley Laurvick
In It Together

Offering Our Gifts to God

Giving to God through First Church:

1. Give online at FirstChurchFC.org.
2. Check or cash. All loose one dollar bills go to those in need.
3. Offering your time, talents, gifts, service and witness.

Offertory *Romance* by Clara Schumann
Dr. Joel Bacon, organist

*Doxology *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH #94

*Sending Prayer

*Hymn of Dedication *We Cannot Measure How You Heal* W&S #3139

*Benediction

Postlude *Fugue in B-Flat* by Clara Schumann

ANNOUNCEMENTS

All Church Retreat-Buckhorn Camp

Registration is open now! Join us at Buckhorn Camp (only 45 minutes away) **July 26-28**, for a church wide mountain weekend experience. If you missed last year, you won't want to miss this year! Fees include choices in lodging, food and activities. You can even bring your camper or pitch a tent! Sign up/Pay with QR code. It is going to be a fantastic weekend.



DISCIPLESHIP BOOK STUDY

Grace Can Lead Us Home: A Christian Call to End Homelessness
Author: Kevin Nye
Wednesdays, May 8 – 29, 2024 from Noon – 1 pm, 7 – 8 pm
At Village Commons

On any given night, more than half a million Americans and Canadians find themselves sleeping on the streets, in shelters, cars, and other places not meant for human habitation. Even where compassion and empathy exist, the complexities around homelessness can make us feel stuck, overwhelmed, or numb to the existence of unhoused people in our cities and neighborhoods. Minister and advocate Kevin Nye introduces readers to the Christ he's met in tents, shelters, and drop-in centers.

Sign up using QR code:

Purchase book (**\$13 each**) on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall

Childcare will be provided but must be reserved by calling the church office by May 1.

Questions? Contact Rev. Cynthia (c.paquette@fcfumc.net)



RICHARD HAGEN COMMUNITY LECTURE

Building Friendships Through Stories
Dr. Dick Foth, Author of *Known: Finding Deeper Friendships in a Shallow World*
May 1 - 7:00 pm Lecture, 6:30 pm Dessert + Book Signing
The ability to sit in comfortable silence with someone is an example of feeling fully at home with another. There isn't a need to entertain or be entertained, just spending the time together is enough. It is a kind of quiet knowing. How can we get to that place with loved ones, coworkers, neighbors?

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT GROUPS—Second Stagers

Second Stagers - Please join us at 8:30 am in the Conference Room. This group was established for middle aged people and those who are now empty nesters to engage in lively spiritual discussions to help all grow in living their Christian life to the fullest.

FUMC Travel Club Meeting

Do you enjoy travel? Or just enjoy talking about it? Join us! Our next meeting is Monday, April 29, at 7pm in The Village Commons (2nd floor). Members will share about their recent travels, and we will plan our Cheyenne Day Trip! New members are always welcome!

Congregational Engagement Opportunities

Scan the QR code or go to <http://tinyurl.com/CongregationalEngagement> for a full list of opportunities.



TODAY AT FIRST CHURCH

USHERS:

9:30 Pam Raab, Jerry Wiese, Rich Raab, Chris Weber
11:00 Eric Wilkinson, Sandra Stille

WORSHIP CARE TEAM MEMBER: Susan Massa

ALTAR FLOWERS: Today's altar flowers are given by Janice Whitaker in celebration of Vernetta Waugh's 100th birthday on May 1.

Exploring First Church - Today at Noon

We are excited to see so many new faces and meet so many new people on Sundays. We are here to help new people get plugged in. Would you like to learn more about Methodism in general and First Church in particular? Are you considering membership in this vibrant community of faith? If so, Rev. Brad and Rev. Cynthia invite you to attend the Exploring First Church session at **noon today in the Parlor**. We will have a light lunch followed by a session on Methodism and the many ministries to be involved in at First Church. There will also be a virtual tour of the church.

Graduation Sunday

On **May 5th**, we are celebrating all of our graduates! Anyone graduating from High School, College, or other degree programs can **send a grad photo along with the name of the student/school** to be featured in the May 5th bulletin. We will also honor our High School graduates in the evening with a semi-casual celebration! **Email grad info to youth@fcfumc.net by 4/29.**

Faith Family Network - 2 WEEK HOSTING IS COMING!

It's almost time again to welcome unhoused families at our church! This time, our guests will be here from May 26 - June 9 (2 weeks)! Sign-ups begin today! As we temporarily bring them into our community, we need help! Some shifts include dinner preparation, laundry, evening hosts, child care Tuesday evenings, and overnight hosts. All evening shifts include dinner! Food donations also needed. We have **DOUBLE** the shifts and need **DOUBLE** the food! So look for the white board at the Missions Table in Fellowship Hall between services, or scan this QR code to sign up. Thank you for your hospitality!



VBS Registration is now open! Don't Miss the Fun!

June 3rd-7th, 2024, 9 am - 12 pm

Cost: 1 child-\$50, 2nd child-\$65, 3rd child-\$75 (children must be from same family to get multiple children discount). Full time volunteers - children attend for **FREE!** Open to Pre-K (must be 4 years old by 9/15/24) to students completing 5th grade.

Sign up to register & volunteer here:



Pay Here:



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Volunteer at our Partner School

A lunchtime run club needs adults to tally laps/reward kids on Thursdays/Fridays 11:45-1. Kindergarten technology needs an assistant to help kids listen/follow easy directions with robotic toys Wednesdays 12:30-1:40. The Book Fair needs volunteers to help kids select \$7 worth of books on 4/29 and 4/30 morning/afternoon shifts. **Teacher Appreciation Brunch May 7 11-12:30 (food needed, scan QR code).**



FUMC Gardeners are the BEST!

Last Saturday, 12 people cleaned out the Parlor Garden and removed several rose bushes on the north side! Our gardeners will save the church thousands of dollars on landscaping. Delacruz is doing a great job, taking care of mowing, irrigation, and pruning. We will pull weeds and care for 15 garden plots. We need a few more people to care for our 6 remaining plots. Visit the Mission Corner to sign up! Sincere thanks to all who participated!

Buckhorn Camp Open House

Please join us for The Buckhorn camp open house 5/4 10:00-2:00. Experience the magic of stunningly mountain vistas, historic cabins and great fellowship. Indulge in homemade treats made in our kitchen. Scan QR code to learn more about this mountain gem located a short drive from FoCo.



Buckhorn Camp Volunteer Day

Please join us on Saturday May 11th from 9:00 to 4:00 while we open and clean cabins. You'll enjoy a day well spent and make a great difference helping other volunteers prepare cabins in this breathtaking mountain environment just a short drive west of FoCo, located at 381 Old Camp road, Bellvue CO. Lunch provided! For more information please scan QR code.



Our Church Staff



Connect With Our Pastors

Rev. Brad Laurvick
Lead Pastor
brad@fcfumc.net

Rev. Cynthia Paquette
Pastor of Congregational Engagement
c.paquette@fcfumc.net

First United Methodist Church

1005 Stover Street • Fort Collins, CO 80524 • (970) 482-2436

FIRST United Methodist CHURCH

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April 28, 2024

You are most welcome at First Church.

We are a fully inclusive, deeply relational community inviting all people to experience God's presence today.

Sunday Worship Services are at 9:30 and 11:00.

There are many opportunities for spiritual growth and connection for all ages.

Thank you for joining us today!