

**ORDINATION** by Pastor Charles

During the week of June 6<sup>th</sup>, I traveled to Lakeside. Ohio for the 47th session of the West Ohio Annual Conference. I attended to accept an invitation to participate in the service of ordination. When it came time for the ancient ritual, "the laying on of hands", I stood behind the kneeling ordinand. With a group of five ordained elders. I placed a hand on the head and shoulders of the one about to be ordained and heard these familiar words: "Lord, pour upon (Virginia Elizabeth) the Holy Spirit for the office and work of an elder ... take authority as an elder in the Church to preach the Word of God, to administer the Holy Sacraments, to order the life of the church, and to serve all God's people."

United Methodists know the familiar ring of these words. For elders, the abbreviated ordination ritual is "Word, Sacrament, Order, and Service." For deacons, the shorter version is "ordained to a lifetime ministry of Word, Service, Compassion, and Justice."

At the Rocky Mountain Annual Conference, Cynthia Paquette became commissioned as a provisional elder. She will spend at least two years under the guidance of the Board of Ordained Ministry during which time she will be mentored theologically by presenting treatises on God, humanity, grace, Christology, and Trinitarian beliefs. She will be examined on the practice of ministry, including worship and the sacraments, administration of congregational life, and her call to a life devoted to peace and justice. All of these connect with "Word, Sacrament, Order, and Service." One by one, these four items point to:

**Word:** To preach the Good News and to teach the Holy Scriptures.

**Sacrament:** To administer the Sacraments—Baptism and Holy Communion.

**Order:** To organize the life of the church for ministry, to work for the local congregation to live in fellowship and in unity relating to the vision and mission of the church, and to call the church into healthy relationships with one another. **Service:** To fulfill Christ's call for peace, justice, and compassion.

In speaking of holy orders, there is one oft-neglected ordination. Every Christian is ordained through his or her baptism to a life of Service. Take note. All three-elders, deacons, and laity-are connected with "Service" as a continuous thread. This single word defines the ordination formula for the people in the pews. We United Methodists base this belief in how the New Testament church was shaped from its beginning, especially through the Apostle Paul in planting congregations around the periphery of the Mediterranean Sea. Examples of the call for every Christian to be in ministry and service as Jesus taught are below.

"For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as servants for Christ's sake." --II Corinthians 4:5

"Through love become servants to one another." --Galatians 5:3b "Serve the Lord with gladness" "Do not hesitate to be enthusiastic be on fire in the Spirit as you serve the Lord!" --Romans 12:11

(Jesus said) "Whoever serves me must follow me. Wherever I am, there my servant will also be. My Father will honor whoever serves me." --John 12:26

"With gratitude, let us serve in a way that is pleasing to God with respect and awe...." --Hebrews 12:28 God has a place for each of us to serve. My prayer is for you and me to continue discovering ways God is calling us to serve. By finding a place to serve, each of us can add another chapter in our individual stories telling how God is

at work in our lives. What is your story?

Grace & peace, Pastor Charles



### Join me in

congratulating our newly commissioned provisional elder, Pastor Cynthia Paquette.

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"Being a member of a

church does not come

without responsibility.

When I interviewed for the position of director of membership and engagement, Pastor

Charles asked me a question I struggled with: to replace the word "membership" with a synonym in the job title. Well, I thought for what seemed like an eternity and couldn't come up with a word that would have the same impact and meaning as the word membership. Having no intelligent answer for such a simple question, I was sure my chances of being hired had plummeted. Obviously, that wasn't the case. According to Merriam Webster, the definition of membership is: the state of belonging to or being a part of a

group or organization. Biblical membership is a scriptural expression of covenant connectedness to a church.

Being a member of a church does not come without responsibility. It's about belonging to a community, one that takes care of one another. It enables us to grow and become spiritually committed to each other and to Christ. Membership is not something we have; it's something we do. Many of us cringe when the word membership

is mentioned. However, we jump at the chance to spend a monthly fee to become a member of a health club. We even pay for the privilege to shop at

Sam's Club or Costco. So why is becoming a member of our church, which is free to join, so uncomfortable?

Next month we'll explore the healthy advantages of joining a church.



When the people of Israel had lived in exile for years and despaired of ever having a home of

their own, God sent them a prophet to remind them, "I know the plans I have in mind for you, declares the Lord; they are plans for peace, not disaster, to give you a future filled with hope" (Jer. 29:11). Surely the people of this church have heard God say this to them in the past year as circumstances unfolded before them.

The church struggled with managing finances; God sent bequests of as much as \$400,000. God intends for this church to thrive.

The choir knew deep unhappiness and strife; first God sent someone wonderful (Stacy) to carry them through the time of transition, then someone with the unique gifts and graces they need to live into an even better future (David). God intends for this church to thrive.

Our beloved Director of Children's

### FUTURE FILLED WITH HOPE by Pastor Vivian

Ministry, Christy, felt a deep call to return to the home of her youth. As we worried, God inspired someone with a deep and joyous love in her heart for helping children know the love of Jesus – Lynette. God intends for this church to thrive.

Our finances needed the attention of more than a bookkeeper at a time when we could not pay an accounting firm to sort things out. God

sent us Scott – a CPA with a heart to serve God by bringing his experience to our finance books. Now we are on the right track and are close to having things completely sorted out. God intends for this church to thrive.

The bell choir had languished for a year, and many feared they would never come together again. But God had other plans, and Karen Stoody was not only led to retire from her position at CSU, but to lead our bell choir as well. God intends for this church to thrive.

Scott Krehbiel was happy to work as our Director of Membership – until the Lambkins realized what a gift they had in his skills and dedication, and he left to pursue his dream of full time work in high school athletics. So, as we won-

Yes, we have experienced rough times. Yes, we live in a culture that thinks the church is irrelevant.

dered what to do, God got to work and sent us Darcy, who has reinvigorated our outreach programs and is working with the Welcoming

and Membership Committee to offer an amazing kickoff in August. God intends for this church to thrive.

Yes, we have experienced rough times. Yes, we live in a culture that thinks the church is irrelevant. But for those who fear for the future of this church, I once again quote Jeremiah: "I know the plans I have in mind for you, declares the Lord; they are plans for peace, not disaster, to give you a future filled with hope."

### FUMC HAS A WONDERFUL STORY TO TELL ... WILL YOU HELP US TELL IT? by Mike Kohler

Jesus, in reply to his disciples' question about why he tells stories, tells them "You've been given insight into God's kingdom.... Whenever someone has a ready heart for this, the insights and understandings flow freely. But if there is no readiness, any trace of receptivity soon disappears. That's why I tell stories: to create readiness, to nudge the people toward receptive insight." Matthew 13:10

As our community grows and changes, First United Methodist Church of Fort Collins has a tremendous opportunity to keep pace and to "nudge" existing members and newcomers toward receptive insight. **MCAT – the Marketing & Communications Advisory Team** – has formed with a purpose of raising the effectiveness of our evangelistic outreach. If you have or someone you know has background in the marketing profession, MCAT could use that talent.

We are seeking committee members with these skills, among others:

Social media Creative design software Advertising Marketing planning and management Dashboard design Research and analysis



**MCAT** is committed to crisp, concise meetings balanced by productive digital communication. If you are interested in being part of MCAT, please send a note describing your background to Mike Kohler at <u>execprcoach@gmail.com</u>.

# **EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FUND COMMITTEE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS**

The Emergency Assistance Fund Committee is looking for a volunteer who has gifts of compassion and discernment who would help with disbursements. If you are interested in volunteering for this committee, please leave your name and contact information at the reception desk in the church office.

# HABITAT FOR HUMANNITY STONE SOUP BUILD



Sign up for Habitat Stone Soup Build. Sign-up sheets for FUMC's participation in the 2016 Stone Soup Build are at a table in the Mission Corner (NW Fellowship Hall) on Sunday mornings. Build dates are Saturdays July 9th and August 13th.

We need builders and lunch preparers. Learn more about Habitat and this project. Please consider Joining our efforts.

## YARD CLEAN-UP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Meet on Thursday mornings around 8:00 am at the church tool shed for 1 to 2 hours of work. Questions? Contact Jerry Hager at 223-8363 or Richard Skaggs at 223-0081.



# SUMMER BOOKMOBILE



The summer Bookmobile has started and will run every Tuesday—11:00 to 11:45 am at our Hickory Village trailer park site.

Rides are available from the church garage at 9:50 am or meet up with us at 11:00 am. Afternoon stops at 4:30, 5:00 and 5:45 pm (carpool leaving the church at 4:10 pm).

Email fumcbookmobile@gmail.com or call Janet Krech, 225-0330 to let us know you are coming. Adults will need to register as a school district volunteer.

# WELCOME LYNETTE SZANTHO

by Karen Waldron



The Staff Parish Relations Committee is pleased to announce the addition of Lynette Szantho as **Director of Children and Family Ministries**. Lynette comes to First UMC with experience in Children's Ministries, most recently at Bethel Lutheran.

References gave enthusiastic praise

for her work with children and family ministry, creativity and vision. She is described as "stable, loving, caring, compassionate, Christian-hearted", with lots of love for the children she has worked with.

Join us in welcoming Lynette to our staff and church family.



### NEW DIRECTOR OF PRINT COMMUNICATIONS by Pastor Vivian

e are delighted to announce that David Adkins has been hired to be the new Director of Print Communications. David has an extensive background in marketing and print communications, including an MBA from the University of Denver with a concentration in Organization Leadership.

David is currently the Senior Vice President and Marketing Director for Home State Bank, where he has worked for the past fourteen years creating distinctive and effective marketing campaigns.

David looks forward to working with our new MCAT (Marketing & Communications Advisory Team) to create a brand identity for the church as well as producing publications and materials that are striking in presentation and rich in content. Welcome to your new job, David!

### REVEREND CYNTHIA PAQUETTE by Karen Waldron

On June 12, at the Rocky Mountain Annual Conference, Cynthia Paquette was commissioned as a Provisional Elder. First UMC had a nice representation present to stand with

her and congratulate her on behalf of the congregation. Cynthia has been serving on the church staff as Director of Congregational Rev. Paquette has been appointed as a part time Associate Pastor to Fort Collins First United Methodist Church, effective July 1.

The United Methodist Church has a

Our congregation is asked to be on this journey with Cynthia, as we help her to grow in her commitment to Christ and her service in His name.

process for bringing candidates into the ordained ministry which includes discernment, education, a period of serving

as a provisional elder, and then ordination as an Elder in Full Connection. Our congregation is asked to be on this journey with Cynthia, as we help her to grow in her commitment to Christ and her service in His name. We have been, and will continue to be, blessed by her presence with us. Congratulations, Cynthia!



Ordination of Rev. Cynthia Paquette June 12, 2016

Care. Many of you approached the Staff Parish Relations Committee over the past months to request that we ask that Cynthia be appointed to our church in order to continue the excellent work she is doing to support the people in our congregation. We are very pleased to announce that

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# **MUSIC AT FIRST CHURCH**

### SUMMER SINGERS NEEDED by David Adkins

Don't have time to make a long-term commitment to the Sanctuary Choir but enjoy choral singing? Please consider a short-term commitment to sing in the choir during the month of July. Simply join us at 8:45 am rehearsal prior to the 9:30 am service July 10th through July 31st, then sing with us in the sanctuary services (we leave after singing at 11:00 am). We have plenty of music and robes, so please join us. Questions? Please email David Adkins at ChoirDir@fcfumc.net.

### New Director of Music Ministries by Pastor Vivian

The church has long planned to have not just directors of various music groups in the church, but someone who will think strategically about our music programs with an eye for growing them and the ability to manage that growth.

The Staff Parish Relations Committee has realized we have that person in our Sanctuary Choir Director, David Adkins. David has already demonstrated his gifts in leading our Sanctuary Choir – they have inspired us from everything from Mozart's "Laudate Dominum" to an unexpectedly delightful arrangement of "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing." He has incorporated a brass guartet to celebrate our confirmands and Pentecost.

But even more, David has been working with the pastors and Karen Stoody to incorporate other musicians into worship services. He has invested time in creating ways for the music department to support our summer Kick Off event, has scheduled the first choir retreat in years, and has already

planned to have the Sanctuary Choir present John Rutter's "Magnificat" during Advent – with orchestra!

David is now working to reconstitute our Music Team – comprised of the leaders of all the music groups in the church – so that everyone is included in our worship services during the year in a way that works for them. He and Karen Stoody are working together to identify ways our church's music programs can grow (including hiring a new Children's Choir Director this summer).

It is for all these reasons that the Staff Parish Relations Committee has changed David's title from Sanctuary Choir Director to Director of Music Ministries. We are delighted to see our music programs growing again.

### ORGANIST/HANDBELL DIRECTOR/MUSIC COORDINATOR By Karen Stoody

I have been asked to share with you, the congregation of FCFUMC, a little more about what it is

that I do for my musician work here.

Everybody obviously knows that I am the organist, and have had that position for almost 13

Thank you for the many opportunities to share my gifts of music with you.

years. Just recently it was announced that I will be the handbell choir director, and that position officially begins in August. In a few months it will hopefully be plural--handbell choirs!

What many of you do not know is that since February of 2012 I have also had an additional hat, and it has been music coordinator. I prefer music coordinator, because I have been coordinating all the music for the 8:00 Chapel service, in addition to special music to supplement the choir for the later two

labelled either music administrator or

sanctuary services. I have attended all staff meetings, music team meetings, and worship planning meetings, and

have been the point person for all music information that goes into the weekly bulletin. I have been in charge of instrument maintenance, and that has gone well. I have been the CSU music student liaison for many years, and we are continuing to grow our connection there. Fairly recently I have also been the budget person, but that was not in my job description, and David Adkins will be very capably taking charge of the music budget from this day forward!

Thank you for the many opportunities to share my gifts of music with you. I anticipate many more years of being with you!





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Address Correction Requested



# **BIRTHS WITH JOY**

**JULIAN TATE CONRADI**, son of Lauren (Knight) and Mikkel Conradi & grandson of Yvoune Knight

**NEW MEMBERS WITH WELCOME** 

RICARDO ABUNDIS AND AMANDA LEE SCOFIELD

# **DEATHS WITH SYMPATHY**

Bob Ryan Jean Brunner Virginia Knudson

# **BAPTISM WITH JOY**

**BRADY LEE SCOFIELD,** son of Ricardo Abundis & Amanda Lee Scofield

# FAITH, FAMILY & FUN IN THE WEST 2016 KICKOFF PARTY Sunday, August 21st

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!** The 2016 kickoff party **FAITH, FAMILY & FUN IN THE WEST** is just around the concer! It will be a morning filled with activities for children, lively music, good food and drawings for great prizes. Invite your friends and neighbors to join us and watch for your RSVP card in the mail. Let's share the joy of Christ with our church, friends and community.

The WAM committee is looking for enthusiastic individuals who would like to assist in planning this all-church fall kickoff event. This will be a lot of fun with no long-term commitment. Please let Darcy Campbell know if you are interested in being part of this really fun-filled activity asap. Contact Darcy at membership1@fcfumc.net.