



# The *Carillon*

April 2018   Volume 24   Issue 4

## Message from Melanie

I have been fortunate to visit Israel twice and see the sites where scholars say Jesus walked, preached, healed, died, and rose from the dead. One place that haunted me was “Gordon’s Calvary” also known as the Garden Tomb. A short distance from the Damascus Gate, just outside of Jerusalem’s city walls, there is a garden containing a tomb. It is believed by some to be the actual tomb where the body of Jesus lay, although nobody knows for sure. The day we visited, we were able to go inside of that tomb. It was pitch black and very cold and damp. Just outside of the tomb itself was a small room where mourners could sit and weep. Our group spent far too much time sitting inside of that tomb. I felt trapped, claustrophobic and acutely aware of one small opening that connected us to freedom and the outside world.

When we finally left that tomb, the world outside was different. The sounds were clearer, the smells fresher, and the sights more beautiful. I had not noticed this until I spent time inside a tomb. I was so relieved to feel the sun on my face, the wind in my hair. More than ever, I had a new appreciation of the power of walking out of a tomb.

My experience inside of that tomb has stayed with me to this day. It reminds me of the miraculous power of God’s grace. It reminds me that no matter what tomb threatens to entrap us, there is a way out. No mistake, heartache, addiction, or tragedy can completely overwhelm us, as long as we believe in the hope and new life God continually offers us. The resurrection means that light and love can penetrate even the darkest of places, including the darkness of despair, diminishment, and death.

Easter ushers in the liturgical season of Eastertide, which continues through Mother’s Day. It is a season of new life, hope, and joy. Whether this season finds you stuck inside a dark tomb, or blessed with freedom and possibility, know that your church is here for you in good times and bad. We will continue to bring the promise of God’s light and life into the darkness of this world. May God’s richest blessings be with each and every one of you, this Eastertide and beyond.

*Dr. Melanie Rosa*

Lead Pastor

# Morning Has Broken

## *A Symphony of Hymns*

*composed and arranged by*

*Diane Bish*

*Presented by the Sanctuary Choir*

*Sunday, April 15, 2018*

*9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.*

The Sanctuary Choir will present Morning Has Broken, A Symphony of Hymns at the 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Sunday morning services two weeks after Easter, April 15. This extended work written by organist Diane Bish, is a medley of hymns that begins with the story of creation and ends with the second coming of Christ. This dramatic work features choral arrangements with an organ accompaniment for a virtuoso organist that will use every sound and color available on our Marcussen organ.

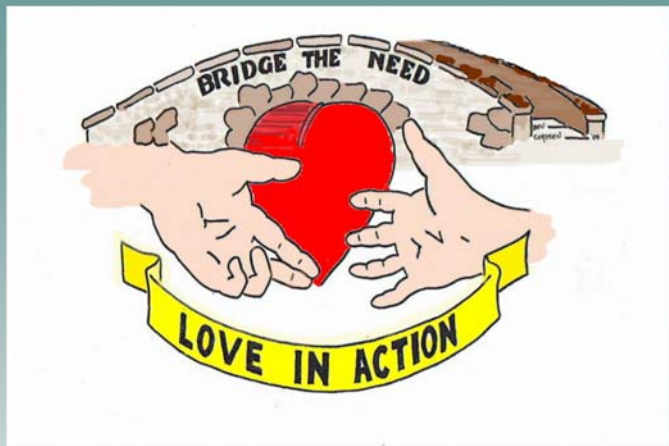
The hymns woven into this major work include arrangements of "Morning Has Broken", "Praise to the Lord the Almighty", "This Is My Father's World", "In Thee is Gladness", "Fairest Lord Jesus", "How Firm A Foundation", "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross", "Christ the Lord is Risen Today", and finally "When the Saints Go Marching In". The entire work will likely be music which you have heard before and which is familiar to you, but will be presented in a new and dramatic format including narration.

I hope that you will mark your calendars and plan to invite a guest to join you on April 15 as we present this exciting major work. This is an excellent opportunity to bring a guest with you to First Church.

We look forward to sharing this exciting music with you and hope it will be a source of inspiration to you.

David A. Adkins

Director of Music Ministries



## Love in Action Volunteers Needed

by Jayme Harper, Love in Action coordinator

One of my favorite quotes about Christian discipleship comes from Teresa of Avila. She said, “Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which he looks compassion on this world. Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good. Yours are the hands

through which he blesses all the world. Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes, you are his body. Christ has no body now on earth but yours.”

Sometimes, we need an invitation to discipleship. I would like to invite you to volunteer as a Love In Action volunteer, one of the many ways that we can act as the Body of Christ for one another. Love In Action (LIA) is one of our Congregational Care ministries. Volunteers of LIA are notified about needs in our church family via email. Typical needs are rides to medical appointments, tending to light cleaning or gardening, running errands for a homebound member, or offering a meal for someone who has recently returned from the hospital. Requests don’t come too often, maybe two or three times a month.

Becoming a Love In Action volunteer does not commit you in any long-term capacity--it merely says, “Yes, I am willing to be open to the *possibility* of helping someone in need.” If a request comes and you are in a position to help, the volunteer coordinator will connect you to the opportunity.

If you would like to join the volunteers of Love In Action, please send an email to [fumc.loveinaction@gmail.com](mailto:fumc.loveinaction@gmail.com) and ask to be added to our volunteer list. Thanks in advance for your generosity!

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## Three Cheers for the Youth and their Families

Kate Norton, Lay Leader

For the past six months, the First Church youth and their supportive families have been graciously preparing and serving coffee and donuts in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday’s after all three services. This is such a wonderful gift that allows the rest of us to relax with a warm drink and tasty treat while catching up with church friends and newcomers. Part of the proceeds from coffee service will support the youth mission trips planned for this year. Following the services, the youth also ensure the kitchen and service areas are clean and tidy for the next event. This makes for an active Sunday morning since the youth also attend Coffee Talk at the beginning of the 9:30 a.m. service, where they read and discuss the scriptures and sermon for the day. They then join the adults in the sanctuary to listen to the sermon. All this effort is carefully coordinated by Rebecca Dunagan, our talented Director of Youth Ministries. This volunteer effort by the youth and their families deserves a very big round of applause! Please join me in thanking all of these lovely people for their time and energy. Go First Church Youth!



## Welcome To Our New Members!

Andrea and Rob Adams have an eight-month-old son, Samuel Joseph Adams. Andrea works as a software engineer at HP. She was born and raised in Fort Collins. Rob works from home as a Applications Analyst and stay-at-home Dad. He was born in Anaheim, California. Andrea and Rob met when they were in fourth grade and were married at First Church eight years ago. They enjoy visiting local breweries.



Sarah and Sam Caston have two children, six year old Max and three year old Andrew. Sarah is a paralegal at a family law firm. She is originally from Wisconsin and enjoys sewing and quilting. Sam works from home as a structural engineer. He was born in Mississippi and plays congas in a local band called Manabi Salsa Band. Sarah and Sam met while living in Steamboat Springs.



Heidi Habbinga grew up in Michigan and has lived in Colorado for 18 years. Her family includes her husband, Erik, a 4 year old, Elliot, and a dog, Oakey. She is a licensed Architect but currently cares for Elliot full-time.



Welcome home Andrea, Rob, Sarah, Sam, and Heidi!

## SAVE THE DATE

Mission U is being hosted by our church July 13–14, 2018. It offers studies for men and women in our church and other churches in our Rocky Mountain Conference. Mission U is co-sponsored by Rocky Mountain United Methodist Women and Board of Global Ministries.

Co-deans are: Reverend Jim Gulley and Nancy Gulley/Compassion Ministries.

The studies this year include Embracing Wholeness: Living as Covenant Community, Part 2; What About Our Money? A Faith Response; and Missionary Conferences in the United States in the United Methodist Church.

## First Church Revue a huge success!

About 200 people turned out for our first annual First Church Revue on March 4. Many thanks to Martha Conant and the Welcoming, Hospitality, and Discipleship Team; Heidi Priebe and her kitchen crew; Mike Kohler and his good natured actors; and Josh Colonnies for a wonderful fun-filled evening celebrating all that God is doing in and through our church. We shared a delicious meal and lots of laughter with our church family. This festive occasion might become an annual event!



## Music Department Concert

by Karen Stoody

Mark your calendars for Sunday, April 29 at 7:00 p.m. Easter is early this year, and April has five Sundays, so it is possible for all of the groups in the music department of First Church to have time to prepare a special concert to share with the church family. We are excited to be planning this unique evening.

Participating groups are the Sanctuary Choir, Carillon Handbell Choir, Alleluia Handbell Ensemble, God's Kids Chime Choir, Joyful Noise Children's Choir, Cherubs Children's Choir, and Stover Street Stompers. The Choral Scholars will be singing solos and sharing a special ensemble with Dr. John Seesholtz, a professor who is leaving for a position at CU Boulder. Carla Hager on violin, Keilani McConnell on flute, Kate Davis on clarinet, and Karen Stoody with a new organ offering will complete the program. The handbells will even accompany the choir.

We are blessed to have so many participants in the music program and we will be taking an offering to support the expenses of this growing ministry. If you love or even just like music, this will be an evening to remember!

# 2018 First Church Quiet Disciple Award

by Kate Norton, Lay Leader

In recognition of exemplary service to our local congregation, Charlotte Allum has been granted the 2018 First Church Quiet Disciple Award. Charlotte has been a devoted member of First Church since 1980 when she and her family moved back to Fort Collins. She had met her husband, John, at the CSU Wesley Foundation and also attended First Church at that time. Charlotte volunteered in the church media center/library, taught at the church preschool for ten years, and then served as the Membership Coordinator for about six years. She continued supporting the new Membership Coordinator for years as a volunteer and currently serves on the Nominations and Lay Leadership Development Committee.

Charlotte loves this church with her whole heart and soul. She believes that God puts us where we are supposed to be and, if we listen, God will get us there. God has led her to look for the things she can do to help others. She currently co-leads the Visitation Team under the umbrella of Congregational Care. She spends hours visiting people who are homebound or in care facilities and can no longer get to church. She calls people to ask how they are doing and makes sure they know they are not alone. These seemingly simple gestures prove to be a lifeline for those she visits.

While in the church, Charlotte is always looking for those people who may need a friend or guidance because she believes a loving church is always serving its people and making everyone feel welcome. Charlotte is a true gift to the First Church community.



## Cindi Ross-Bell named Lay Servant of the Year for Peaks and Plains District



Cindi was recognized at District Conference on March 3. She is an active and visible member of our church, serving as liturgist, production manager, teaching classes, serving communion, and organizing all of our Liturgists. She is active in the community by volunteering at Putnam Elementary to support teachers and staff. Cindi also gave a message at the Johnstown UMC this past year, led a non-denominational Women's Spiritual Retreat weekend, compiled an Advent devotional booklet; helped build a Chancel set for the Easter Sunrise Service, and helps with our technology in worship. Thank you, Cindi for all you do to build up this body of Christ and the larger connection. We are proud of you.



## First Church Youth

# HATERS

4 | 8, 15,  
22

6-8 pm

We all have a tendency to judge and hate on others, but we often make those calls without all the facts. In other words, we can't see the big picture. If we could, it'd probably be a lot easier to move from hating to understanding. Maybe that's why the Bible makes it clear that when it comes to judgment, that call is God's to make.

## HABITAT STONE SOUP BUILD – APRIL 14

First Church will participate in the Thrivent Stone Soup Build on Saturday, April 14 at 8 a.m. The location is at the Harmony Cottages on the SE corner of W Harmony and Taft Hill roads. Information and signup sheets are available at the Mission Corner on Sunday mornings. We are the first group to build, so we will probably be framing walls or constructing the floor. We are allotted only 10 build positions, so please get on the list soon. If you have questions, please contact Jim Collinson (970) 377-9687 or Keith Metcalf (970) 282-9744.

A ground blessing was held on February 20. In spite of fresh snow and subzero temperatures, 40 representatives from the 11 sponsoring churches and Thrivent Financial showed up bright and early for the event. Munawar, Rebecca, and children shown here are the recipients of this year's build.



# Seniorwise

by Joe Winsett, Senior Council

## April Double Nickel Lunch Highlights Youth Ministry at First Church

**Rebecca Dunagan**, our First Church Director of Youth Ministries, will be our program speaker for Double Nickel Lunch on Friday, April 13 at noon in Fellowship Hall. Come and have good fellowship time with other seniors while learning more about our church youth program, Rebecca Dunagan, and the story that led her to our church. Rebecca is one of our newer church staff members.

Special thanks to Diane Smith and her outstanding team of volunteers is due each month for preparing a great lunch for this event. *It's always the best \$4 lunch in town! All are invited and no reservations are required!*

**Planning Ahead:** Double Nickel in June will be **Friday, June 1** and in July we will meet on **Friday, July 20** due to schedule concerns with the church calendar - mark your calendars now for these date changes! Other months we will be meeting on our regular 2nd Friday of the month.

## Here are the Double Nickel Lunch Programs for some of the months ahead:

**May-** *Guatamala Pura Vida Mission Trip* presented by Beverly Winsett

**June** – *First Church Kenya Mission* presented by Rick and Kate Norton

**July** - *A Patriotic Celebration: The Stover Street Stompers*

**August** – *Fort Collins Age Friendly Communities* presented by Martha Conant and Mike Kohler

## April Senior Ministry Calendar:

**Third Thursday Lunch Group** is set for April 19 at 11:30 am at **Cabana Eats & Drinks**, 2310 E Harmony Rd. To reserve your place at the table or to get on the group email list for this event, contact [judyseyregrim@gmail.com](mailto:judyseyregrim@gmail.com), or just come—All are welcome.

**Okay Chorale**, 1st and 3rd Thursdays each month in 2018 – This open singing group meets from 3 to 4 p.m. in the Village Commons. Newcomers of all ages welcome, especially those with memory issues.

**Grief Support Group** is meeting weekly each Tuesday at 5 p.m. in the Conference Room. Contact JoAn Hopkins, [jodhop@hotmail.com](mailto:jodhop@hotmail.com), for details .



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## First Church Habitat Build in Vietnam

Interested in building a Habitat for Humanity home in Vietnam later this year? Join Rev. Cynthia, Rich Fisher, Jim Collinson, and trip leader Erika Nossokoff (from our local Habitat affiliate) from November 1-11, 2018. Cost is about \$1,900 per person plus airfare and visa for this trip of a lifetime: a “Big Build” with hundreds of volunteers from around the world! More information is available at the Mission Corner. Please contact Erika if you’re interested: [ENossokoff@FortCollinsHabitat.org](mailto:ENossokoff@FortCollinsHabitat.org) or (970) 488-2606 and plan to attend an informational meeting at her home on April 25 at 7 p.m.



# ROLLING RIVER RAMPAGE

Save the date!

## Vacation Bible School

June 11-15, 9 a.m.–12 p.m.

Registration in Fellowship  
Hall: Sundays, April 8, 15, and 22  
or go to [fcfumc.net](http://fcfumc.net).

Register early for reduced  
pricing. After May 13 prices go  
up.

- \$50 per child
- \$65 for two related children
- \$75 for three related children



United  
Methodist  
Women  
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

by Beverly Winsett, UMW Communications Coordinator

On April 12 at 11:30 a.m. in the Parlor, United Methodist Women will continue following our theme for the year: “Sacred Spaces: Encounters with God and Neighbor.” JoAn Hopkins will be presenting a program entitled “Sacred Spaces of Grief and Hope.” JoAn has been conducting a grief group at our church for a long time to help people after the loss of a loved one. She also retired from a career of working in mental health and has served on disaster relief teams through the Red Cross. She has lots of experience in helping people get through sad and lonely times.

We have all experienced grief. Maybe we know someone who is going through a hard time. Come learn more about the journey from grief to hope. All women are invited to join us at our unit meeting. Lunch will be served (\$4) followed by the program.

Please visit our website at [www.fcfumc.net](http://www.fcfumc.net) to sign up to receive all our publications online, as well as our weekly E-News. (Click Media/Communications to sign up.) You may also click the link called “In Our Prayers” to receive updates on recent deaths.

# Faith Family Hospitality

by Elaine Andersen

It's time to sign up for Faith Family Hospitality! Our next FFH week is April 15 through 22 and you can sign up in Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings at the Mission Table.

What Is FFH? We are glad you asked. More than 30 Fort Collins congregations of various faiths and denominations work together to shelter and feed four families (up to 22 people) per night. Families have safe shelter in classrooms at the participating church. Every night, children play with toys and meet host families and make new friends. Families share dinner cooked by volunteers from the congregation. In the morning, breakfast is available as the families leave for their days at work and school and the Day Center. Each week the families move to a new church.

In addition to shelter and meals, the families have access to the Day Center which provides showers and laundry facilities as well as a warm and safe place for the youngest children to play and take naps. The Day Center provides case management and connections to community resources. Case workers assist the families to identify needs and to set goals. The first priority is to find sustainable housing for the family.

Excitement is building for the creation of additional transitional housing. FFH is in the process of receiving approval from the City of Fort Collins to open Sherwood House, which will provide 8 additional housing units for families working toward self-sufficiency.

How can you help?

At our church:

- You could spend an hour at our church on Sunday morning, April 15, setting up cots and making the rooms ready for the families.
- You could be a host to greet the families and play with the children one evening.
- You could join old and new friends to cook a meal and eat dinner with the families and volunteers.
- You and a friend could sleep over one night at the church and set out a simple breakfast in the morning.
- You could take a load (or 6) of laundry home to wash and return.
- You could help with a linens drive to provide families sheets and towels for their new home.

In our community:

- You could serve on the FFH board of directors.
- You could volunteer at the Day Center.
- You could serve on a FFH committee such as Welcoming and Training, Donations, Equipment.

More information is available at the Mission Table in Fellowship Hall, or from Elaine Andersen ([elaine.andersen@colostate.edu](mailto:elaine.andersen@colostate.edu)) or Bonny Thomas (970) 232-9879.





# Easter Flower Dedications

Thank you to all who donated colorful flowers to adorn our Sanctuary for Easter Sunday.

*Andrea Adams*

*Curtis Bridges in memory of Kathy Bridges, Robert and Jean Bridges, and Red*

*Doreen and Mark Dudley in memory of Jim Dudley*

*Margaret and George Janson in honor of family and friends*

*Gordon and Karen Knuckey in memory of our families*

*Floyd Maxwell in memory of Ethel Maxwell*

*Louise Meiman in memory of loved ones*

*Wayne and Shirley Myers in memory of Melanie Sue and Dylan Fuller*

*Elva Alden Petring in honor of our families: Petring and Alden*

*Joan Richard in honor of my children and their spring birthdays*

*Fred and Melanie Rosa in honor of our church family*

*Dave, Lynette, and Kristen Rubenthaler in memory of Doris Rust*

*Ted and Linda Schlagenhauf in memory of our loved ones*

*Janet Shupe in memory of my mother, Marjorie Klickna*

*Diane Smith in memory of Carol L'Orange*

*Diane Smith in memory of Grant & Betsy Smith*

*Bonny Thomas in memory of Jerry Thomas*

*Bonny Thomas in memory of my parents and their loving hearts*

*Annette Trlica in honor of Jeffrey and Bryant; Katy, Tanner, and Hunter*

*Karen Waldron in memory of Garald L. Waldron*





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**We extend our sympathy to the families of ...**

January 3 — Bryan Rice

February 11 — Mel Engeman

**We celebrate the baptisms of...**

February 18 — Andrew Charles Caston and Sarah Selin Caston

## **EXPLORING FIRST CHURCH GATHERINGS**

If you would like to learn more about Methodism and the United Methodist Church in general and First Church in particular, you are invited to attend the Exploring First Church gatherings held on Sundays, April 15 and 22 in the Parlor at noon. A light lunch will be served. If you are considering membership at First Church, you are strongly encouraged to attend the gatherings. We will be receiving new members at all three worship services on April 29.

To RSVP please call the church office (970) 482-2436 or e-mail [membership@fcfumc.net](mailto:membership@fcfumc.net).