



## Message from Melanie

**O**n Sunday, May 13 (Mother's Day) we will confirm into membership 17 students who have been learning about their faith for many months now. Confirmation is a serious step in the journey of faith, and these students have been exploring what it means to be a United Methodist Christian in this time and place. I was delighted to meet with them on a recent Sunday morning to talk about the history of Christianity and Methodism, and to get to know them better. I asked what they needed from our church and how we could most effectively serve them in the days to come. I told them by joining the church they officially commit to a family of faith that will care for them, nurture them, and model for them the highest ideals of the Christian life. I also told them that our church needs their passion, ideas, values, and vision.

I believe that our youth are not the church of the future, they are the church of today. They have so much to offer us. I pray that we are the sort of church that will accept them without reservation and love them without hesitation. I pray we can help them develop into authentic, confident, whole human beings who never give up on God. That through our lives and behavior, they will be inspired to grow into deeply committed Christians. Because, if the Christian faith is going to move into the next generation with integrity, it will depend upon how we model the faith now. How are we different from any service club or country club? Are we spiritual consumers who want our expectations fulfilled, or are we faithful disciples hungry to learn, grow, serve and share?

Our youth are watching us, listening to us, and learning from us. May we always be worthy of their trust, hope, and faith.

*Dr. Melanie Rosa*

Lead Pastor

# Our Newest Members

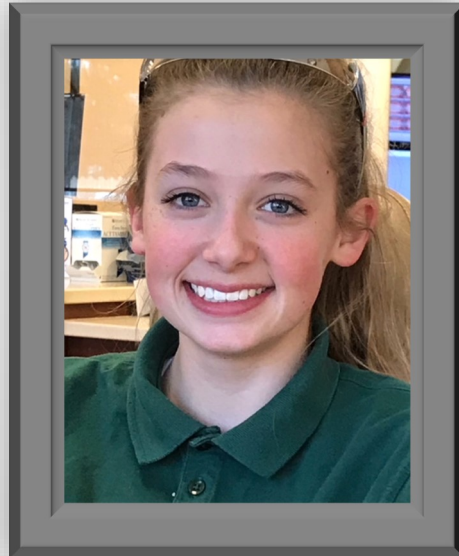
These students will be confirmed on May 13 as members of First Church. Welcome!



Elizabeth Abigail Vacante



Wren Aeryn Murzyn



Thayer Orr



Colter Daniel Marcy



Lucas Bean



Calvin Robinson



Evan James Kiser



Bryce Murzyn



Kathryn Skonning



Megan Bean



Ethan James Payne





Stella Michelle Straubing



Cayden Wych



Julia Gentile (left)



Anne Wesley Priebe



Andrew Paul Weber



Sarah Keller



Please save the date and join us for  
**Vacation Bible School • June 11–15 • 9 a.m. to noon**

**Online registration begins April 3**

Cost: Register by May 20th - 1 child \$50, 2 children \$65, 3 children \$75

After May 20th prices increase to \$75, \$90, \$105

**(Children must be related to get multiple child discount)**

**Full time volunteers - Children attend free**

**Register online at:**

**<http://2018.cokesburyvbs.com/fumcfortcollins>**



Experience the ride of a lifetime with God. We will be getting rafting ready with our theme verse for the week, "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you." Isaiah 43:2. Each day the children will be experiencing something new in the Rolling River. We will find adventure, acceptance, joy, rest, and peace. Our mornings will be filled with music, crafts, mission, recreation, science and snacks. Don't miss signing your child up for this fun event. As always, volunteers are welcome! Contact Barb Grauberger for more information at [childrensdirector@fcfumc.net](mailto:childrensdirector@fcfumc.net).

# **Welcome Barbara (Barb) Grauberger!**

## **Our New Director of Children and Family Ministries**



### **Welcome Barb!**

After serving six months as the Interim Director and after a long and extensive search conducted by the Staff Parish Relations Committee, Barb Grauberger has been named the new Director of Children and Family Ministries starting April 24. Barb feels called to serve in this capacity, and she took the time to investigate and confirm the call. Barb is probably not a stranger to many of you as Barb has been our long time Nursery Coordinator and she is the Assistant Director of Mother's Day Out. Barb has been a part of the Children's Ministry for many years now, serving as Sunday school teacher, a Vacation Bible School (VBS) team member, and the VBS director for five years. Barb is married to Brian Grauberger and together they have four children, Sam, Jack, Maggie, and Kate. Barb and Brian are also long time members of First Church.

## **Thank You and Welcome**

First Church expresses a huge "Thank you" to our Financial Secretary, Sarah Rathbun for serving in the position for the last year. Sarah has resigned from her position to spend more time with her three young children. Catherine Pawlikowski, our Membership Secretary and Volunteer Coordinator will also serve as the Interim Financial Secretary until the Staff Parish Relations Committee finds a new person to fill the position.



**Music at First Church** in conjunction with **Colorado State University**  
present

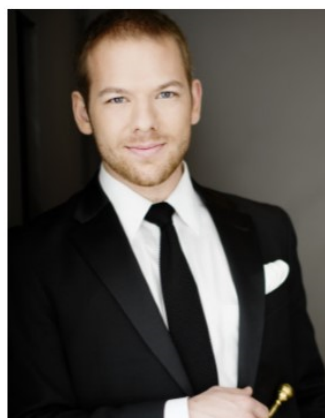
## **Joel Bacon, organ & Caleb Hudson, trumpet**

**Wednesday, June 6, 2018 • 7:30 p.m.**

**First United Methodist Church**

1005 Stover Street • Fort Collins, CO 80524 • [www.fcfumc.net](http://www.fcfumc.net)

FREE - Donations will be accepted to help underwrite the expense of the concert.



Caleb Hudson is the newest member of the Canadian Brass, having graduated from the Juilliard School with both a Bachelor and Master of Music degree. Acclaimed by the New York Times as "brilliantly stylish," Caleb made his solo debut with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center,

performing Bach's *Brandenburg Concerto No. 2*.

Caleb has performed as a soloist around the world, most recently with the Israel Philharmonic in Tel Aviv. Possessing a wide range of musical styles, his experience ranges from soloing in Carnegie Hall to appearing with rock band Vampire Weekend on Jimmy Kimmel Live. Other recent solo engagements include the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, Yellow Barn Festival, University of Georgia Wind Ensemble, University of Scranton, and a solo recital at the University of Georgia that was broadcast nationally on NPR's *Performance Today*.

Caleb won first place at the National Trumpet Competition multiple times, and performed with pianist Vladimir Feltsman at the Aspen Music Festival, as well as the New York City Ballet, New World Symphony, Jupiter Symphony Chamber Players, and New York Trumpet Ensemble. An avid baroque musician, Caleb also performs with notable early music ensembles including Philharmonia Baroque, American Bach Soloists, The American Classical Orchestra, Concert Royal, and the Trinity Baroque Orchestra. He is an alumnus of Interlochen Arts Academy and Ensemble ACJW, a fellowship program of Carnegie Hall that promotes arts advocacy, community outreach, and music education.

As part of an exclusive agreement between the Conn-Selmer Corporation and Canadian Brass, Caleb performs on 24-karat gold-plated Bach trumpets.

A native of N.J., Dr. Joel Bacon holds degrees in mathematics and organ performance from Baylor University in Waco, Texas, where he was a student of Joyce Jones, and an artist diploma in organ from the Konservatorium der Stadt Wien (Vienna, Austria), where he studied with Michael Gailit. With a

dissertation on the use of organ in selected orchestral works, he earned his PhD in historical musicology through a joint degree program of Vienna's University of Music and Performing Arts and the University of Vienna.

Joel Bacon has a growing reputation as a performer, teacher and scholar in North America and Europe. He has been heard in recital in Germany, Austria, France, Switzerland, Canada, and the US, and live performances have been broadcast on Austrian Radio (1) and Public Radio International. He has taught at the prestigious Oundle International Festival (Cambridge, UK), at several Pipe Organ Encounters of the American Guild of Organists, and at other courses in the US and Canada. With the principal violist of the Munich Philharmonic, Albrecht Rohde, he has recorded a CD of music for viola and organ.

Joel Bacon currently holds the Stewart and Sheron Golden Chair in Organ and Liturgical Studies, the first endowed chair in the College of Liberal Arts. Before coming to CSU, he was assistant organist of St. Thomas Lutheran Church, Munich-Grunwald, and served as frequent guest organist at the former Hapsburg imperial church, St. Augustine, Vienna.





**May 2**

**6:00 p.m.**

**A free-will  
offering will be  
taken to support  
Father Ubald's  
mission of peace.**

Father Ubald has been a Roman Catholic priest for 25 years in the Cyangugu Diocese of southeastern Rwanda. During the 1994 genocide, Father Ubald lost over 80 members of his family and over 45,000 of his parishioners were exterminated. He escaped through the Congo on foot in the middle of the night. When he left Rwanda, he made a promise to his Bishop that he would return to bring healing to his people. He spent 3 months in Belgium during the genocide at which time he said that he cried every day. After a trip to Lourdes where he heard Jesus tell him, "Ubald, carry your cross," he felt a release from the burden of his sorrows and knew he was called to preach healing, forgiveness, and reconciliation. He and the murderer of his family reconciled and Father Ubald paid for the education of the man's children. Over 300 such reconciliations have been achieved at his Center for the Secret of Peace in Rwanda.

The Government of Rwanda seeks him out for advice on forgiveness and reconciliation as the country continues to rebuild after the devastation of the genocide. He continues to preach healing, forgiveness and reconciliation in Rwanda, the Congo, and Burundi. He has also traveled all over Europe, the Holy Land, and other parts of Africa. He made his first trip to the United States in 2009, at the request of Immaculee' Ilibagiza, author of "Left To Tell," another genocide survivor, who currently resides in the U.S.



# Peace with Justice Sunday: May 27, 2018

By Diana Burkholder

Each year United Methodists celebrate peacemaking efforts by observing Peace with Justice Sunday. The offering received on this Special Sunday supports ministries that teach and advocate for principles of peace and justice around the world. As disciples of Christ, we are called to love our enemies, seek justice, and serve as reconcilers of conflict.

We know the presence of political and social turmoil can be caused by a number of issues including economic disparity, environmental degradation, gender and racial inequality, xenophobia, illness and disease. If we want peace, we must be committed to disrupting conditions and systems that perpetuate injustice as well as working for just, equitable and durable solutions to the root causes of conflict.

Peace with Justice ministries/activities can be large or small and are extremely varied, including work with refugee resettlement, border town/immigration issues, intolerance and aggression, racism and xenophobia, classism, ageism, and gender discrimination. These ministries may be carried out by local churches, districts, annual and central conferences, interfaith and ecumenical bodies, secular organizations and World Council of Churches.

Grant requests for such ministries are made through the annual conferences. Our Rocky Mountain Conference Peace with Justice Coordinators are Laurie Day and Pat Johnson.\*

We can make a difference two ways: 1. give to the Special Offering and 2. write a grant request and build a new ministry. Thank you for your support!

\* See contact information at Church & Society table in Fellowship Hall.

## Pine Ridge Reservation Mission Trip: August 4-10, 2018

Annual pow-wow, cultural events and presentations, opportunities to work within the community Pine Ridge and interaction with children and families. For more information contact Theresa Holbrook at (970) 219-5960 or visit the Mission Corner on a Sunday morning.

## Keep on Collecting for Community & World Mission

We are currently collecting Box Tops for Education, Morning Fresh milk bottle caps, Tyson Project A+ labels, travel-sized toiletries, dead batteries (to recycle). You may turn in these items at any time. Collection baskets are located in Mission Corner in Fellowship Hall. Watch for more information on how these simple items are helping in our community and beyond.



## From the Membership Desk

Thank you all for welcoming me into my new position as Membership Secretary and Volunteer Coordinator. If ever you have changes to your contact information, please do let me know. You can send me an email, leave a voicemail, or drop a note in the office. Thanks for your help in keeping our church records up to date!

As part of my role, I will be assisting in the coordination of volunteers for different ministries and missions. If your team is in need of volunteers, please let me know. I will be creating a volunteer board within the church to advertise opportunities. While it is not within my capacity to recruit volunteers personally, I am happy to assist with coordination and outreach efforts.

Please feel free to contact me with your membership and/or volunteer needs.

Catherine Pawlikowski  
Membership Secretary and Volunteer  
Coordinator [membership@fcfumc.net](mailto:membership@fcfumc.net)  
(970) 482-2436 ext. 11

**Grocery Cards** may be purchased in Fellowship Hall every Sunday. Cards are available for King Soopers, Safeway, and Sprouts in denominations of \$25, \$50, and \$100. A percentage of each card purchased benefits United Methodist Women in their worldwide mission work as well as First Church.



United  
Methodist  
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

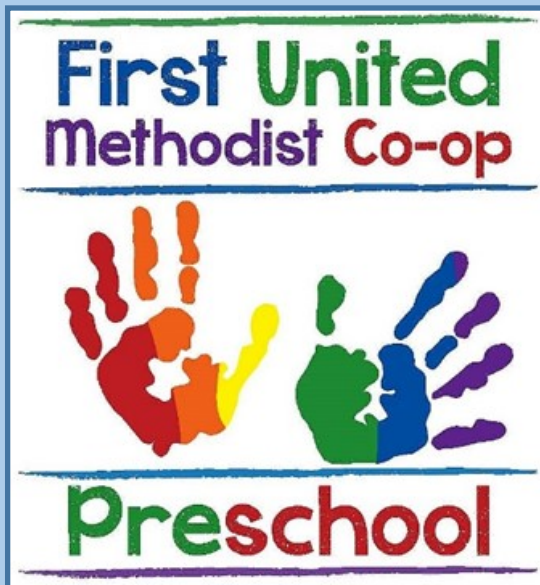
by Beverly Winsett, UMW Communications Coordinator

The United Methodist Women unit meeting will be by May 10 at 11:30 a.m. in the Parlor, and the program will be "The Sacred Space of Nurturing" with speaker Melissa Schaefer. She is the program coordinator for Poudre School District's Teen Parent Program, a district-wide program located at PSD Global Academy. Students take online classes and have access to classes offered at PSD Global Academy. The curriculum combines classes on pregnancy education, labor and delivery, child development, and positive skills for parenting. Students are supported in becoming self-sufficient after secondary school and are assisted with finding resources within the community.

Lunch will be served followed by the program. All women are invited to attend to enjoy good food, good fellowship, and an interesting program.

Did you know that you can listen to sermons online the week after they are preached? Just go to our website ([fcfumc.net](http://fcfumc.net)) click Media, and then click Sermons.





## Preschool Teacher Retirement

by Laura Lechtenberg, Preschool Director



Jill Bedard, preschool teacher at FUMC Co-op Preschool has announced her retirement after 17 years of teaching at FUMC. Jill joined the preschool staff in the fall of 2001 as our first Creative Movement teacher. The curriculum Jill developed for the large motor class is a favorite of our preschoolers. In 2013, ready for a new challenge, Jill moved into the classroom to teach the four day per week Pre-K class. Many church members have not had the opportunity to meet Jill as she is here weekdays, but you have all felt the impact of her service to FUMC. She is an amazing early childhood teacher and has touched the lives of hundreds of children and their families. We celebrate Jill and all the love and dedication she has shared with FUMC over the years and wish her the very best in her future endeavors.



Preschool is also saying goodbye to Pre-K teacher Heidi Madden. Heidi joined the preschool in 2014. She has taught Creative Movement, 3-year-olds and Pre-K. Heidi and her family are moving to Western Colorado.

Address Service Requested



We extend our sympathy to the family of ...

March — Roger Schoumacher

### Ways to Give at First Church

- Did you know that you can have your contributions to First Church automatically deducted from your bank account? This provides convenience for you and consistency for the church. Please contact [financialsecretary@fcfumc.net](mailto:financialsecretary@fcfumc.net) or visit [fcfumc.net](http://fcfumc.net) and click "Give Online" for more information.
- Did you know that you can give to First Church easily and securely online? Please visit [fcfumc.net](http://fcfumc.net) and click "Give Online" to get started.
- Did you know that you can text to give at (970) 355-3021? Simply text a message with \$ and the amount you would like to contribute. Then follow the instructions texted to you to complete the transaction.
- Did you know that every single dollar bill placed in the offering plate during Sunday worship goes directly to needs within our community?

*Thank you for your generosity — it helps First Church to fulfill our mission.*