



The Carillon

April 2019

Volume 25

Issue 4

David Adkins, Editor

Discover God's Love

Inspire Hope • Grow in Faith • Serve With Joy

*First Church: An inclusive, deeply relational community
inviting all people to experience God's presence today.*

LENT and EASTER at FIRST CHURCH 2019

PALM SUNDAY APRIL 14

Services at 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 AM
Special Modern Worship Music Program at 5:00 p.m.

MAUNDY THURSDAY April 18

Schubert *Mass in G* presented by the choirs of FUMC
Fort Collins and Windsor
-Sacrament of Holy Communion-

GOOD FRIDAY April 19

Seven Last Words of Christ by
Michael Troatta presented by the Sanctuary Choir
-A Service of Tenebrae-

EASTER EGG HUNT Saturday, April 20 10:00 a.m.

EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL 21

Worship at 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.
5:00 PM Modern Service followed by
Easter Dinner



Celebrate Easter at First Church all day on Sunday, April 21!

Join us for one of our three
identical morning
***Easter Festival
Celebration Services***
8:00 a.m.
9:30 a.m.
11 a.m.

with Choir, Brass and Organ

On Easter Sunday afternoon
the celebration continues
with our
***Modern Easter Worship
Celebration***
5:00 p.m.
*with Joseph Noelliste and the
Modern Worship Band*

Followed by a special
Easter Dinner
6:00 p.m.



Committee of the Month: Nominations and Lay Leadership

The Nominations and Leadership Development committee oversees the whole system of identifying, developing, training and supporting lay leadership. The committee does not work in isolation, but collaborates with all Ministry Teams to identify new participants and leaders. Vital churches focus on increasing the number and effectiveness of laity in leadership, including the intentional integration of new people. We hope to increase the number of people who are deeply committed to our mission and ministry. We encourage mentoring, succession planning for Chairpersons, and customized training as needed. Members for 2019:

Dr. Melanie Rosa and Rev. Cynthia Paquette—Chairs, Helen Gray--Vice Chair, Bonny Thomas, Linda Hall, Dea Carroll, Dean Block, Kay Walters, Mary Lou Blevins, JoAn Hopkins, Pam Raab.

Children and Family Ministries

-Barb Grauberger, Director of Children and Family Ministries

ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT AT FIRST CHURCH SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, April 20th @ 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

Fellowship Hall. Rain or Shine.

Please bring a dozen filled eggs (per child) to the media center or the church office by Thursday April 18th.

Questions? Contact Barb Grauberger at childrensdirector@cfumc.net

Friends and neighbors are welcome.

This is a family-friendly, community wide event.

Easter EGG 2019 HUNT



SAVE THE DATE! Vacation Bible School. June 10th-14th 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Our biggest Children's Ministry event is coming soon.

Travel with us **To Mars and Beyond** and explore where God's power can take you!

Look for our registration table in Fellowship Hall beginning April 7th
or Online registration begins April 3rd

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

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

Double Nickel Luncheon April 12



Dr. Gerald Olsen, retired ophthalmologist of the Eye Center of Northern Colorado, will share some of his photos and travel insights to Africa.

- Fellowship Hall, 12 noon
- \$4 for the Best Lunch In Town.
- No Reservations Required.

Message from Melanie ...

“Things fall apart; the center cannot hold; mere anarchy is loosed upon the world. The blood-dimmed tide is loosed, and everywhere the ceremony of innocence is drowned. The best lack all conviction, while the worst are full of passionate intensity.” “The Second Coming” by William Butler Yeats



I did not envision a time such as this in our country or denomination. We are more divided, angry, and uncharitable than ever, living in an era of indecency and incivility. Things fall apart, the center has vanished.

I have been depressed since the church that gave me a spiritual life and sense of belonging abandoned some of the very values I hold most dear. When people decide to exclude any member of the family of God, they have excluded us all. For we are all diminished when anyone is diminished.

Nevertheless, I am not without hope or faith. Every day I see glimpses of goodness and grace, in God's intricate creation and in lovely people. Such as the nurse leaning over to hug a man being wheeled into surgery. When asked if she was related to the patient she replied: “Oh no, I just met him today. But he was so scared and I made myself a promise long ago that I would not let anyone stay scared on my shift.” We have legitimate reasons to be scared these days. But like that wise nurse, we know that love is the best antidote to fear.

Ours is a God who finds a way in the wilderness. Ours is a God who shines light in the darkness, counteracts hatred, and overcomes evil with love. And that is what we will celebrate on Easter. We need that promise of new life and second chances now more than ever. Please join us for all of our Holy Week services, as we follow Jesus to the cross and the empty tomb. His journey is symbolic of the journey of us all. Easter is not limited to Jesus; it happens to us. May that light, that life, realign us with a much higher purpose, a nobler vision, and zealous pursuit of what brings us closer to one another and to God.

Easter blessings, my friends.

Melanie

Dr. Melanie Rosa, Lead Pastor

Update on the United Methodist General Conference

- Dr. Melanie Rosa

A called United Methodist General Conference was held in February with the hope of finding a way forward for our denomination, a path that might soften or remove the exclusionary language about “the practice of homosexuality.” The Conference ended with an even stricter policy than the ones approved in the 1970s and 1980s. The response has been shock, sadness, and now mobilization to find another way forward. The UMC has thus suffered irreparable damage and schism seems inevitable.

Many have pledged acts of dissent and disobedience to the Discipline. Some are discussing disaffiliation with the UMC. Still others are beginning to imagine how a new Methodism could be organized for more effective evangelism, mission, and ministry in the twenty-first century.

It is very important to me that First Church has a role in the creation of something new. Bishop Karen asked me to join a Core Team tasked with developing a new path for the Mountain Sky Conference in light of these decisions. I am in regular contact with leaders in the Western Jurisdiction, as we work with other Conferences in the West to create an inclusive, loving and just church for all.

KINDRED - Our College Ministry



The first half of CSU's spring semester has gone wonderfully for our college ministry, Kindred. The group meets every Thursday at Wild Boar Cafe to discuss its book study, "Can I Ask That?: 8 Hard Questions About God and Faith." So far, the group has discussed questions from "can I be a Christian and believe in evolution?" to "does God discriminate against women?" In the coming weeks, the group will discuss what the Bible says about homosexuality and violence. In addition, Kindred hosts Coffee on the Plaza twice monthly on Wednesday mornings. Coffee on the Plaza is Kindred's 4-year-old outreach mission to serve CSU students coffee and hot chocolate on the university plaza to show the campus community an example of an inclusive Christian group. This summer, four Kindred students will be joining the youth group on their mission trip to Fairbanks, Alaska, where youth and college students will work on homesteaders' properties as well as at a camp. Kindred plans to continue meeting weekly, in addition to some upcoming social and service events. The group values the inquisitive conversation and the community in faith they have created this semester.

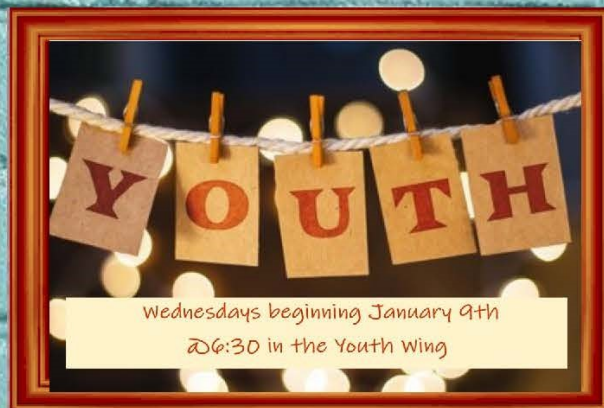
Welcoming and Hospitality YOU Can Make a Difference at First Church!

Sunday morning coffee and donuts are a long-standing tradition here at First Church - both visitors and long-time members enjoy this fellowship opportunity. For several months last year David Adkins took responsibility for our hospitality and did a fabulous job! But do we really want our awesome staff members making coffee? Currently, volunteer teams decorate tables in Fellowship Hall for Sunday morning, prepare coffee, set out donuts, clean up and wash tablecloths. More volunteers would mean everyone would serve less often.

Barb Grauberger and Rebecca Dunagan have been picking up the donuts every Sunday morning. Again – not a good use of our talented staff members. There's a need for volunteers to pick up donuts at 7:30 a.m. each Sunday, except the first Sunday each month, at King Soopers on South College just north of Drake. Store personnel will deliver the prepaid order to your car and other volunteers at church will help bring them into the kitchen.

Many hands make light work – make a difference by joining one of the hospitality teams today. Simply contact Rev. Cynthia, c.paquette@fcfumc.net or Martha Conant, marthaconant@gmail.com or 970-227-5659.

First Youth News

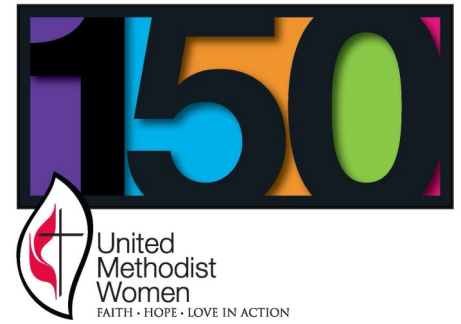


Check us out on Instagram
@firstyouthfc

United Methodist Women

**Please join us Saturday, April 13th for the
UMW Celebration Tea: 150 Years of Faith, Friends
and Fellowship**

It's a Celebration of Women 150 years in the making! You are invited to join the United Methodist Women for our biennial UMW Tea Saturday, April 13th. This year, in honor of UMW's 150th birthday, we are hosting a special tea to celebrate UMW and the faith, friends and fellowship that have made UMW the powerful and empowering organization it is today!



Please come and enjoy great fellowship, old and new friends, a spot of tea (or two), some scrumptious luncheon delights and an incredible presentation...

Guest Speaker: Barbara Fleming

We are thrilled to announce that national author, Fort Collins native and truly charming storyteller, Barbara Fleming, will share stories about the "Fascinating Women of Northern Colorado." An avid historian and published author, you'll delight in her humor and knowledge as she provides insightful tales about some of the fascinating women who have helped shape our region. (You may recognize her name. In addition to many books, she writes a weekly local history column for the Fort Collins Coloradoan newspaper.) It promises to be a fun and fascinating presentation!

Everyone is welcome! So, we invite you to dust off your party hats and come join us in Fellowship Hall on Saturday, April 13 from 11:00am – 1:00pm. The tea is sponsored by the United Methodist Women of FUMC. Tickets may be purchased on Sundays prior to the event in Fellowship Hall. Cost: Adults \$12, Children 10 years of age and younger \$6.

For additional information or tickets please contact Julie Wilson (970-226-5925, jswilson5309@gmail.com) or Rita Bee (970-215-7857, rbee@hotmail.com).

Wall Raising Ceremony for 2019 Habitat Faith Build

On a cold morning in February about 50 people attended the wall-raising ceremony for the 2019 Faith Builds.

A duplex town house is being built for two families with support from First Church and several other local churches. Natasha and daughter are our Stone Soup family. Iman and her two children are being supported by local churches also.

First Church will participate in the Stone Soup Build on April 6. Signup sheets are in the Mission Corner. Builders will be guided by a construction manager and are not required to have any special skills. We will also provide lunch for everyone on the build site.



Natasha and daughter

Iman and children

2019 Quiet Disciple Award - JoAn Hopkins

by Kate Norton, Lay Leader



In recognition of exemplary service to our local congregation, JoAn Hopkins has been granted the 2019 First Church Quiet Disciple Award. JoAn has three daughters and was a nurse who retired from Summit Stone (formerly Larimer Center for Mental Health) in 2015 after 35 years. In addition to helping people for her career, she has been an avid volunteer her entire adult life. She wrote a chapter in the book "The Battered Child" and served on the Committee for the White House Conference on Children. When she first moved to Fort Collins in 1976, she participated in the first disaster work following the Big Thompson Flood. She also served on the board to start the Center for Abused Women, started the Sexual Assault Victim Advocate Teams, joined to Red Cross Disaster Service, and much more. In 1987, she was awarded the Judge Conrad Ball Award for Contribution to criminal justice in Larimer County as well as the Soroptimist Club for Women Helping Women Award. At one point, Mike Wallace even interviewed her on 60 Minutes about her good deeds!

JoAn has been a member of First church since 1988 where she has been a very active volunteer supporting many social issues. She went on the first FCFUMC mission trip to Hong Kong as well as many other

mission trips, facilitated a Hispanic women's group, coordinated a church bazaar, coordinated the Easter breakfast for 5 years, served on the Interfaith Council, and is an active member of the United Methodist Women (Abigail Circle). She also started the FUMC Days for Girls Mission and the FUMC Grief Group. She has been a member of the Church Council, Staff Parish Relations and Community and was the Lay Member to the Annual Conference. As if that were not enough, she currently supports the Mujeres de Colores Organization and serves on the Community World Mission Committee.

In addition to her outreach through FCFUMC, she also participated in disaster response following the bombings in Azerbaijan, Russia (1990) and traveled to Guatemala on a medical mission trip. In 2008, she earned the well-deserved National Award by Eli Lilly for Primary Care focusing on depression. She graciously donated the \$3000.00 award to the church. Her gift paid for the parlor carpet.

JoAn is a true example of what it means to give...to the church, the community and the world. Her love, kindness and boundless energy have brought peace, joy, shelter, security and safety to a countless number of people. Our church is certainly blessed to have her as a member and a friend. Please join me in celebrating her and all that she has accomplished and given to the church and community.

Come Celebrate Laura Lechtenberg's Retirement after 22 Years of Service to the First United Methodist Church Preschool

Calling all past and current families and students to celebrate the 22 years of Laura Lechtenberg's service to First United Methodist Church Preschool.

Come help celebrate her retirement on Sunday, April 28th during and after the 9:30 service in Fellowship Hall continuing with an open house from 11AM -1PM in preschool classrooms.

First United
Methodist Co-op



Preschool

First Church Children's Choirs Spring Musical
"Hallelu! He Is Risen" - Sunday, April 28 at 9:30 and 11:00

FIRST CHURCH CHILDREN'S CHOIRS
MEET EACH SUNDAY MORNING

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT MUSICAL "HALLELU! HE IS RISEN!" ON APRIL 28



Save the Date ...
Music Ministry Fund Raising Concert—May 5, 7 p.m.
-David Adkins, Director of Music Ministries

The music ministry of First Church will present our annual fund raising concert on Sunday, May 5, at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Many of our choirs and musical groups will participate including the Sanctuary Choir, the Church Orchestra, The Stompers, The Handbell Choir, and our Children's Choirs among others.

There is no cost for attending the concert, but a an offering will be received which will go entirely to support the music ministry of First Church. We are fortunate to have an individual who has offered a \$5,000 challenge grant to those attending the concert this year. Every dollar that you donate will be doubled up to \$5,000 giving us the opportunity to raise \$10,000 by collecting only \$5,000.

We are very fortunate to have a line item in the general budget for our music ministry. Unfortunately, it covers only about 1/3 of the total expenses of operating the music ministry that this church has become accustomed to. Due to financial limitations several years ago, the music budget had to be cut by over half, and we are still functioning at that reduced amount.

Thankfully, many individuals give special gifts to the music ministry and we receive approximately \$2,000 from an endowment invested through the FUMC Foundation.

As always, we do ask that all gifts be made in addition and not in place of contributions to the operating budget. Our goal is to one day have an operating budget line item that covers all of our expenses and eliminates the need for us to ask for special donations outside of the operating budget.

Please mark your calendars and plan to join us on May 5 for some wonderful, inspiring music and help us reach our financial goal of \$10,000! Together we can do more!

Adult Faith Formation

2019 Hagen Lecture

Here are the details for the 2019 Hagen Lecture,

- * Get acquainted with Hagen Lecturer Willie Jennings, of Yale Divinity School, at this one-session class that will look at a recent essay by Dr. Jennings in *The Christian Century*. Choose either 10 a.m. or 7 p.m. April 1 with David Reid. There's a 9-page essay that should be read in advance. Contact David if you don't have a copy.
- * If you'd like Dr. Jennings to autograph your copy of his prize-winning book, *The Christian Imagination: Theology and the Origins of Race*, you can order a copy in advance for \$25 at the AFF table. Books will not be sold at the April 8 lecture.
- * Attend the lecture at 7 p.m. April 8 in Fellowship Hall. Dr. Jennings' lecture title is "Living a Revolutionary Love: How to be a Christian in a Racial World."

Dr. Jennings will explore in his lecture what it will take for Christians to take hold of the social and geographic revolution that life with God demands.

"We live in a country and increasingly a western world that has given into the racial antagonism that structures our lives," said Jennings. "Christians are yet to take hold of the revolutionary love that should mark how we form communities and how we imagine life together as those committed to the gospel."



FROM AGEING TO SAGEING IN THREE ACTS – A FIVE -PART SERIES

Using Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi's 1995 book, *From Ageing to Sageing: A Revolutionary Approach to Growing Older*, as a guide, Rev. Rich Thompson, a retired Presbyterian (PCUSA) pastor, will lead this five-session series. Classes are scheduled for 10 a.m. every Thursday in May in the Conference Room.

The introduction presents the current need and historical context for the subject, with an account of what led the rabbi to write the book and how it has since become part of a movement across the country.

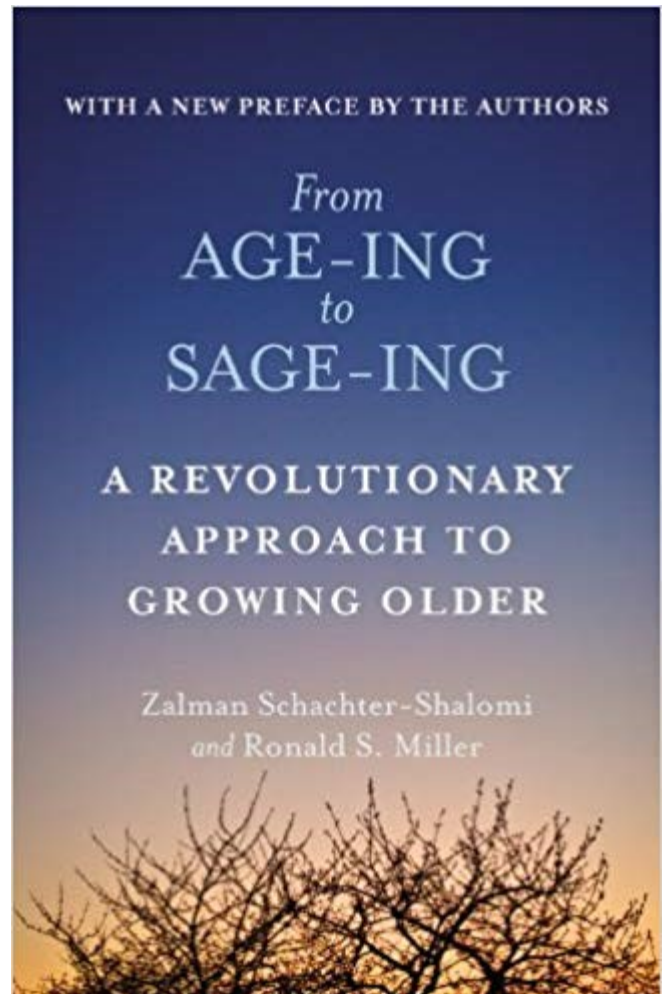
Act One: Deepening One's Spirituality – Toward Wisdom

Act Two: Preparing One's Life Review – Have you been saved? (electronically)

Act Three: (in two scenes) Confronting Life and Death Matters

The Conclusion: summarizing the value of more than just ageing - inevitably growing older - to undertaking the intentional sageing process, with reference to a variety of bibliographic resources.

Books are available for purchase at the Adult Faith Formation table on Sundays for \$9.



Calling all Registered Nurses!!

Exciting new ministry opportunity coming soon to First Church! We are getting ready to set up a health ministry called Faith Community Nursing (formerly known as Parish Nursing). Faith community nurses are licensed, registered nurses who practice holistic health for self, individuals and the community using nursing knowledge combined with spiritual care. The focus of their work is on the intentional care of the spirit, assisting the members of the faith community to maintain and/or regain wholeness in body, mind, and spirit.



We would really like to recruit Registered Nurses who might be interested in this important ministry to our congregation and community. For more information about this ministry, please contact me, Donna Newkirk, at D.NewkirkANP@gmail.com. I will also have some additional information available over the coming weeks. Look for me between services at church or visit the informational table in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings.

Stay tuned for more details!

Yours in Christ,

Donna M. Newkirk
RN, MSN, FNP-BC



Welcome to FUMC Prayer Shawl Ministry

Going on 13 years our needles have been clicking' and clackin' to create shawls to bring comfort to those needing a loving warmth for their hearts and bodies.

We gather the third Saturday of each month from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the Parlor and are excited to welcome new friends! Lovely yarns, hooks, needles and patterns are waiting to be chosen as we begin the "shawl journey". We especially treasure mentoring our young schoolgirls. Of course our spirited friendly group welcomes all ages and genders!



*Do I need to know how to Knit or Crochet? No, we have willing hands to help teach or refresh your skills.
*Are the shawls just for our Methodist Church Members? No, our shawls have gone from coast to coast and beyond. *I don't have time to knit or crochet. How can I help? Monetary donations are always appreciated.
*What kinds of Outreach do we do? Thanks for asking.....Please notice our Prayer Squares in the basket in the hall across from the Welcome Table. We also have recently made baby blankets for Pine Ridge; we supply Prayer Squares for PVH Chaplains; we are connected with the Timnath Presbyterian Church Prayer Shawl Ministry who join us at Christmas time. *How does someone request a shawl? Shawls have been blessed and always available and lovingly given by Rev. Cynthia or by stopping by the Church Office.

On Sunday, April 7 please stop by the Congregational Care Table in Fellowship Hall. Shawls will be available for your choosing.

We look forward to meeting you!

Just a small jar of pennies

- Charlotte Allum

Sometimes something small planted at just the right time will grow and grow. I well remember years ago when I was new on staff at FUMC and I was out visiting many, many of our church members. Many were our senior members. I wanted to get to know them better, some I didn't really know at all. It was joy.

One afternoon, when I was visiting one of our elder members, on their table sat a jar of pennies. We visited often, and before I left on that particular day, this member said, "Charlotte, why don't you take this jar of pennies back to church and do something with it." So I did, and I put it on Rev. Sam Day's desk and told him we needed to do something with it. It sat there, a few days. We pondered what we might do with it, and then he said, "You know, we need a van!" "Let's use this for a van!" At that point, in our church, we had no van.

We were carpooling with many cars to get youth to camps, and trips. We were trying to arrange rides for our senior folks to worship and events.

Well, that jar of pennies went into fellowship hall on Sunday morning, with signs about saving pennies for a van. People brought their pennies. Sometimes it was more than pennies. It was loose change in their pockets. The jar of pennies grew. Before we knew it, we needed a larger can for the pennies. We then got a 5 gallon bucket, and gradually more buckets. We had to bring the buckets to fellowship hall in a wagon. The buckets were too heavy to carry. The kids had a ball; even the little ones brought their pennies. When we could no longer use buckets, we got a very large drum container. When the pennies were poured into this large drum container, they looked pretty pitiful down in the bottom. So people gave more to make it look like a larger amount! Then some kind members in our church gave larger amounts of money to this venture so we could get a van a little quicker than expected. Spirit was good.

We got the van! We had room for everyone in one vehicle going to youth events, church events, and a ride for our seniors. The first Sunday we had the van, we celebrated by putting it in the parking lot, opening the doors, and letting everyone get in and out and explore. The seniors were given rides around the parking lot and neighborhood. What a day! Oh my, what can be done with just a little jar of pennies.....

by Charlotte Allum

Easter Flowers for Chancel

-Cindi Ross-Bell

You may order Spring Flowers to adorn our Sanctuary on Easter morning to honor or in memory of a loved one for \$15 each. Orders will be accepted through April 8th. We will have a colorful variety of locally grown Spring Flowers from Fort Collins Nursery. Flower dedications will be listed in the bulletin on Easter morning. Order forms are available at the East and South entrances, at the Welcome Center, and in the Church Office.





**FIRST UNITED
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of FORT COLLINS**

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Happy Easter • Happy Easter • Happy Easter • Happy Easter • Happy Easter • Happy Easter • Happy Easter

**WE REMEMBER WITH
SYMPATHY THE FAMILIES OF ...**

Jack Miller – Feb 5
Jack Martz – Feb 9
Carolyn Hoodmaker – Feb 18



Discover God's Love
Inspire Hope • Grow in Faith • Serve With Joy

First Church:
*An inclusive, deeply relational community inviting
all people to experience God's presence today.*