

FIRST
United Methodist
CHURCH
1005 Stover Street
Fort Collins, CO 80524



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The **Carillon**
March 2020 Volume 26 Issue 3
David Adkins, Editor

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

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

Youth and Family Ministry

PARENTS NEEDED FOR YOUTH GROUP MEALS & BAKE SALES

If you are willing and able, please let Josh Malave know a date you could provide dinner for our ravenous teenagers, or host the bake sale that happens on the first Sunday of every month. Reimbursement is available for any expenses.



We Express Our Sympathy to the Families of ...

Samia Thierstein - Feb 1, 2020

Glen Hauser – Feb 9, 2020

We Celebrate the Baptism of ...

Taylor NikaMae Medved – Feb. 2, 2020

Message from Melanie

What are you giving up for Lent? While it is a well-meaning inquiry, I must confess that do not find this question especially helpful as the Lenten Season begins. Giving up something for Lent feels like a hollow ritual from a long-forgotten era. Bishop Mel Wheatley has helped me to consider a question for Lent that I find much more provocative. Bishop Wheatley wrote:

“One of the heresies of a distorted Protestantism is the belief that one can be devout without being disciplined. The removal of external requirements is translated into the elimination of internal controls. The fact that one is not required to confess one’s sins is distorted into the fallacy that there is no need to confess at all. The lack of any rules is cheapened into a bland indifference about all things spiritual. The fact that one is not required to give up anything for Lent is interpreted to mean that one need not take on anything for Lent, either. It all adds up to a flabby faith and a counterfeit Christianity.”

Attempting to be all things to all people, the church in recent times has too often offered cheap grace and superficial spirituality. In our desire to attract more members we are tempted to minimized the demands of the Christian life, marketing discipleship as something effortless and comfortable.

Lent is a time to go deeper, moving beyond superficial Christianity into more meaningful faith development. It is a time to reflect upon what following Jesus really requires and how his suffering is a universal metaphor for the suffering of everyone. It is a time to confess the ways we have failed--God, ourselves, and others. It is a time to consider sins of omission and commission--those things we have done and those things we have left undone.

As we journey through the season of Lent together this year, I would invite you to go deeper by taking something on. You might want to take on the discipline of fasting, contemplative prayer or tithing. It may be the discipline of simplicity, study, or obedience. It may be service, sacrifice, sharing your gifts with others.

You are also welcome to give something up, just make sure it is something that is indeed a sacrifice and reminds you to reflect upon God’s love as revealed in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Whatever you choose to take on or let go of, I hope that Lent will be a time for us to deepen our shared faith as we grow into the likeness of Jesus Christ.

Melanie

Dr. Melanie Rosa, Lead Pastor

Sermon Series for Lent “Soul Keeping”

- March 1—“Soul Keeping: Control”
Psalm 32:1-5; Matthew 4:1-11
- March 8—“Soul Keeping: Envy”
Psalm 23; Matthew 20:1-16
- March 15—“Soul Keeping: Apathy”
Psalm 95:1-9; Matthew 25: 31-46
- March 22---“Soul Keeping: Sorrow”
Isaiah 53:1-5; Mark 10:32-34
- March 29—“Soul Keeping: Anger”
Psalm 130; John 2:13-22
- April 5—Palm/Passion Sunday
“Soul Keeping: Despair”
Luke 19:29-42; Matthew 26: 36-50
- April 12—Easter Sunday
“Soul Keeping: Transformation”
Acts 10: 34-43; John 20:1-18



UMCOR Sunday (formerly One Great Hour of Sharing) Sunday, March 22, 2020

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) Special Offering March 22nd helps children, families, communities, and countries impacted by disasters, war, or conflict which disrupts life in the United States and around the world. This Special Offering covers all administrative costs so that 100% given to a specific UMCOR project will go toward that project.

Over its **80 years**, UMCOR has assisted in more than 80 countries. Recently, 425,046 people were helped in more than 30 countries and \$31,529,971 in grants were distributed. UMCOR provides health kits and cleaning buckets, water, shelter, warm clothes, building materials and supplies, funding, training, expertise, and volunteers. Please help UMCOR continue offering disaster relief aid in Jesus’ name by giving generously. Together, **we** can make a difference!



Music at First Church

Requiem for the Living by Candlelight written by Dan Forrest

**Friday, April 10, 2020
7:00 p.m.**

**A multimedia worship service
presented by
The Sanctuary Choir with
Chamber Orchestra and Organ**

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First United Methodist Church Fort Collins
Seeing a Clear Future

20/20
VISION

As the 2020 Vision Campaign draws to a close we would like to thank everyone who generously invested in our promising future by turning in a pledge card. The results for 2020 were fantastic. We set a pledge goal of \$879,428 and to date have received \$862,793 or 98% of our goal which is an 11% increase over 2019. Again thank you for your support and your confidence in our promising future. If you have not yet submitted a pledge card, please do so as soon as possible so that we can expand our reach and serve even more people in the year ahead.

The 2020 Grant Program of the Foundation for the First United Methodist Church of Fort Collins will begin on March 1st. Grant money is available for church committees and groups to be used for programs, equipment and services that are typically not funded through the church operating budget. The Foundation was begun in 1986 and has distributed approximately \$386,000 in grant money since that time.

Grant Application Timeline

March 1-31: Grant applications may be found online on the church website or picked up in the church office. Applications will also be placed in committee mailboxes.

March 31: Deadline: Completed grant applications must be returned to the church office with the necessary signatures and placed in the Foundation mailbox.

April 22: Review: The Foundation Board will review each application and determine this year's recipients.

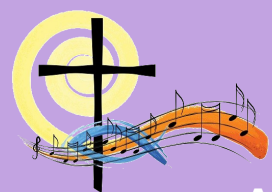
After May 1: Notification: Grant applicants will be notified as to the status of their application.

The Foundation Board will review each application to determine if the request should be fully funded, partially funded or not funded. In general, the total amount requested for all grants far exceeds the funds available.

Each grant application requires signature approval and the signatures must be obtained prior to submission to the Foundation. Unsigned applications will not be considered for funding.

If you would like additional information about the Foundation Grant Program please contact Judy Sayre Grim at JudySayreGrim@gmail.com.

If you would like to make a tax-deductible contribution to help the Foundation grow in capability please contact Rick Norton at RickNorton14@msn.com



Save the Date ...

April 10 - Good Friday - 7:00 PM

Requiem for the Living by Candlelight
Presented by the Sanctuary Choir with members of the
Fort Collins Symphony Orchestra
A Multimedia Presentation

April 26 - Music Sunday - 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Music from all Choirs and Music Ensembles
Special Offering for Sanctuary Choir Tour to Salzburg, Austria

**JOYCE E. McCONNELL, PRESIDENT OF COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY,
WILL DELIVER THE 2020 RICHARD HAGEN LECTURE AT
7 P.M. APRIL 14 IN THE SANCTUARY.
HER TOPIC IS "WE MUST RISE TOGETHER TO RISE."**

CSU is celebrating its sesquicentennial only months after First Church turned 150 years old, making them two of the enduring institutions of Fort Collins.

McConnell is the first woman president in the university's history. She has worked as a lawyer, professor, dean and provost before becoming president.

In September, she announced an initiative to address issues of race (and racism), bias, and equity at CSU.

"Every single member of our community deserves to know that they are welcomed and valued for every aspect of their identity, race, gender, religion, ethnicity, immigrant status, socioeconomic status, disability, age or veteran status," McConnell said at her November inauguration. "They deserve a place where there is no question, theirs or anyone else's, whether they belong because they do."



Named provost of West Virginia University in 2014, she fostered the expansion of WVU's Energy Institute, ADVANCE Center and Center for Excellence in STEM Education. To elevate connections among disciplines critical to analytical thinking, problem-solving and understanding the human condition, she established a Humanities Center.

The Hagen Lecture is funded by an endowment of the Adult Faith Formation Committee. It honors the late Richard Hagen, a member of First Church and exemplar of lifelong learning. There is no admission charge for the lecture but donations to the endowment fund are encouraged. Checks designated for the Hagen Lecture Fund also may be sent to the FCFUMC Foundation.

A STUDY OF INTERRUPTING SILENCE: GOD'S COMMAND TO SPEAK OUT WILL BE OFFERED AT NOON AND 7 P.M. ON MARCH 4, 11, 25 AND APRIL 1. THE SHORT BOOK IS BASED ON WALTER BREUGGEMANN'S EXEGESES OF EIGHT BIBLICAL PASSAGES.

Examining how maintaining silence allows the powerful to keep control, Brueggemann motivates readers to consider situations in their lives where they need to either interrupt silence or be part of the problem, convincing us that God is active and wanting us to act for justice. Books are available for \$11 by contacting David Reid at davidreid24@gmail.com.

KICKOFF SUNDAY FOR BECKY AND EMBER'S HABITAT HOUSE A GREAT SUCCESS!

On February 2 First Church celebrated the beginning of a fund drive to build a Habitat home for Becky and her daughter, Ember. Becky and Ember were introduced at the morning services and greeted in Fellowship Hall. Several volunteers cut and served cake for everyone. They also helped sell a great variety of bakery goods donated by the congregation. A total of \$5,025.80 was raised toward Becky and Ember's home. The goal for this mission opportunity is \$50,000. Please make donations to First Church by check (write "Habitat for Humanity" on memo line), cash with note "Habitat for Humanity", by text (1-888-364-4483, text message: FirstChurch, fund "Habitat for Humanity") or on the church website (fcfmc.net, click "Give Online" tab, fund "Habitat for Humanity"). Stay tuned for build days and other fundraisers in the near future. The wall-raising and first build day is scheduled for Saturday morning, March 28.



From left: Rich Fisher, Jim Collinson, Lori, Ember & Becky Ailor, Cindi Ross-Bell



Robin Hause, one of several volunteers, sorting bakery goods for sale.

THE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN WILL HAVE THEIR MARCH UNIT MEETING ON THURSDAY, MARCH 12 IN THE PARLOR. LUNCH WILL BE SERVED AT 11:20 A.M.

March is Women's History Month and 2020 is the 100th anniversary of the 19th amendment to the U.S. Constitution. The program will deal with women's suffrage, specifically its history in Colorado. "If we are the change we want to see", having the right to vote and exercising that right are integral parts of that goal. For more information, please contact Ellen Bode at elbode8@gmail.com



FIRST CHURCH IS STARTING A FLOWER DESIGN TEAM TO ARRANGE THE FLOWERS EACH WEEK FOR WORSHIP.

THIS CLASS IS FULL. Another Class will be offered next fall. Please watch for details. Those participating will serve on rotating teams. A design class will be held at First Church. Please contact David Adkins at choirdir@fcfmc.net if you are interested. You may take the class at any time. The class will be held on February 29, from 9:30 – 11:30 at Palm.



MARCH 2020 FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE'S NOTES

Happy March!! Spring is just around the corner, and the days are getting longer, which is exciting. The most exciting thing so far this year is that our Faith Community Nursing program applied for and won the Mountain Sky UMC Mission Team's Abundant Health grant! We are receiving \$900.00 to go towards growing our Faith Community Nursing ministry. This money will be used for supplies such as blood pressure cuffs and stethoscopes so that we can start doing regular blood pressure screenings, as well as provide scholarship money to send other RN's to the Foundations of Faith Community Nursing class. Stay tuned for more info. next month!

Health News you can use for March:

The Corona virus from China has been in the news a LOT lately. What we see and hear about it can truly sound pretty frightening. I just want to reassure everyone that we are still very safe from this virus. In fact, more of us are actually at more risk of severe illness from catching the flu than we are from this Corona virus. Simple things you can ALWAYS DO to protect yourself from colds, the flu, and any other type of virus are things that us nurse types will always tell you time and time again:

- Wash your hands or use hand sanitizer frequently!
- If you are sick, please stay home and don't go to work, school, or visiting others.
- If you have to cough or sneeze, do so into your elbow/sleeve instead of your hands.
- Avoid touching your face—that is how we get virus germs inside our bodies—through the nose and mouth.
- Get your flu shot every year!

Coming up in April: Some specifics on what Faith Community Nursing is and what it is not.

Until then, take care of yourselves!

Donna Newkirk, RN, MSN, FNP-BC



CHURCH AND SOCIETY ROUNDTABLE ON CONTEMPORARY RACISM #3, MARCH 29, NOON IN THE PARLOR. LIGHT LUNCH.

Ponder our hidden, involuntary reactions to the unknown. Seek the light of truth in recognizing oppression. What are the next steps to follow up after identifying the pillars to help in challenging racism? How can we make a positive impact on overt, institutional and latent Racism in Fort Collins and the world? Can we raise our consciousness and "Be an Ally" for others?



SAVE THE DATE ...

April 4
Easter Egg Hunt at FUMC
11:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

June 8—12
VBS
9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

