



The Carillon

April 2017

Volume 23

Issue 4

Holy Week and Easter at First Church

Palm Sunday Services: April 9 *

8:00 am—Chapel • 9:30 & 11:00 am—Sanctuary

Walk the Labyrinth:

April 12: 12:00 - 8:30 pm • April 13: 9:00 am - 8:30 pm

April 14: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm—Fellowship Hall

Maundy Thursday Service: April 13 *

7:00 pm – Living Last Supper with Communion— Sanctuary

Good Friday Tenebrae Service: April 14 *

7:00 pm – *The Seven Last Words of Christ*—Sanctuary

by Theodore' Dubois • presented by the Sanctuary Choir & Orchestra

Easter Egg Hunt: April 15

11:00 am - 12:00 pm—Fellowship Hall

Easter Sunday Worship Services: April 16

6:00 am – Sunrise Service—Sanctuary

8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 am * - Sanctuary

*Nursery available • (Church office Monday, April 17th)



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Passing the Baton

by Pastor Charles, Lead Pastor



Forty-three years after I received a Local Pastor's License to Preach, I have decided to accept a new position. As you heard in the Sunday Services (March 5th), my new boss resides in Brooklyn, New York, stands a full 3 feet tall, and is 61 years younger than me. I reviewed the job description which consists of one primary task: "Other duties as assigned". My decision requires me to move in order to accept this new job.

This series of personal decisions prompts new questions and inventive preparations. Pastors and churches speak of "passing the baton" when clergy transitions take place. Honestly, churches and pastors typically do not pass the baton well because we are often standing still for the hand-off. In a relay race, the two teammates between whom the stick changes hands are on the move. They are active, and they are working to gain momentum rather than coming to a complete stop. Churches and pastors rarely drop the baton; they are too busy standing still instead of gaining stride.

An article in the February 1st issue of *The Christian Century* magazine identified numerous clergy transitions in which neither the congregation nor the pastors were stopping for the move in clergy leadership. The magazine's segment illustrated a retiring pastor who mentored a younger pastor. At one point, both were working part time in the parish. In a short time, the exiting pastor became fully retired. The main point of the article offered the notion that "one size fits all" does not always appear to be appropriate when clergy leadership change is the subject.

Transitional Intentional Interim Ministry provides a new model for pastoral succession: teamwork. Currently, my job means I will "put my shoulder to the wheel" to continue building momentum. Meanwhile, my successor gains speed by learning the particulars of our congregation and our procedures in preparation for the hand-off.

In our congregation's current clergy transition, much of the training and conditioning work for the relay already stands in place. Our new pastor (see the introductory article in this issue of the *Carillon*) completed the Transitional Intentional Interim Ministry Specialist (TIIMS) training. Her appointment will be as a regular, itinerant pastor, and she is a certified TIIMS pastor. She arrives well-versed in pastoral experience, and knows the intricacies of the process in which we, at First United Methodist Church, have been engaged.

- The significance of our local church history and our legacy of congregational life,
- The role of congregational ministries in forming our specific church identity,
- The advantage of strengthening and renewing our lay ministries and discovering new lay leadership,
- The importance of staff organization and developing our clergy team,
- The responsibility of church administration according to The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church: 2016,
- The benefit of our United Methodist connectional system including General, Jurisdictional, District, and (local) Church conferences, and
- The value of visioning and planning for ministries and congregational life.

My outlook for First United Methodist Church is enthusiastic as our congregation prepares for a pastoral New Era in welcoming Rev. Melanie Rosa. We will not be passing the baton at a standstill. Our church will be gaining momentum.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Charles

Resurrection

By Pastor Vivian, Executive Pastor



As I write I am aware that a new pastor, Rev. Dr. Melanie Rosa, has been appointed. The New Era longed for last fall is now in sight. In June Pastor Charles and I will celebrate the many successes this church has enjoyed during our tenure and move into new eras of our own. July will bring a new beginning for us all.

Or will it? The story of Jesus' resurrection, which we will celebrate on April 16th, is not one of unalloyed joy. While his followers rejoiced, others saw nothing unusual, and still others insisted that nothing had changed. The story of Christianity is the story of those who are changed by God clashing with those who refuse to be changed at all.

This same plot will unfold here in the years to come, and each of you has a part to play. While I am sure you will welcome Pastor Melanie with kindness and enthusiasm, eventually you will disagree with a decision she makes or be disappointed in a word or action. It is at that point, when the bloom is off the rose, that the depth of your faith will be revealed.

Christians are called to obey a simple set of commandments:

- ◆ Love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength (Mark 12: 30-31)
- ◆ Love one another as Christ has loved you (John 13:34)
- ◆ Love our neighbors as ourselves (Luke 10:27)
- ◆ Take the Gospel into the world, baptizing in Christ's name, teaching others to obey these commandments (Matthew 28: 16-20)

As we move into the season of resurrection, each of us is challenged by the resurrection message to love more deeply and more fully than ever before. Any project we undertake - from building storage, to Faith Family Hospitality, to classes, to worship – every activity or project we do is less important than keeping the commandments to love God and others,

and spread the Gospel.

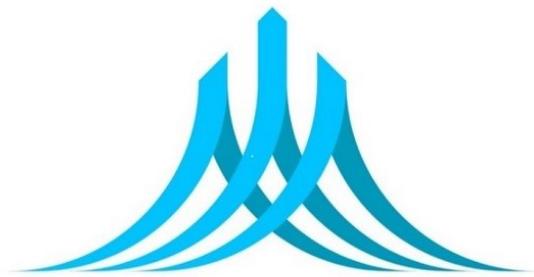
Although this church is made up of many people with a wide range of interests, we have one thing in common: we are followers of Christ Jesus. And so we share a commitment to one goal: to love as fully and joyfully and deeply as we can.

In the days of resurrection to come, I challenge you to find new ways to love, to dedicate yourself to reaching out to those with whom you disagree and find a way to appreciate them and love them. That will indeed be the dawn of a New Era.

I pray that in the years to come, when I hear of First United Methodist Church of Fort Collins it will be said of you, "It's amazing how much they love one another!"

Your servant in Christ,

Pastor Vivian



Into a New Era
First United Methodist Church

Welcoming, Hospitality, and Membership Ministries
How to Receive and Extend God's Welcome?
A Whole Church Team Effort
by Pastor Cynthia, Administrative Pastor



Whether or not you are new to First United Methodist Church (FUMC), I welcome you and know that God welcomes you always not just to FUMC but God welcomes you back into God's open and most loving arms.

I invite you to think of where in the past has God opened up your life? How has God welcomed you? What is your story of God's welcome:

- Into new life, reconciliation
- Mercy, grace, forgiveness
- Letting go, dying, transitions
- Healing, renewing, restoring



How is God calling you to welcome others to receive God's welcome?

As you journey through and reflect on the past, present, and ponder on the future, I invite you to a study on God's welcome. It is a five session study using the book "God's Welcome: Hospitality for a Gospel-Hungry World" by Amy Oden. There are four class day and time options, choose one:

- Option 1: Mondays at 2:00 - 3:30 PM on April 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15
- Option 2: Tuesdays at 4:00 - 5:30 PM on April 18, 25, May 2, 9, 16
- Option 3: Wednesdays 10:30 AM – noon on April 19, 26, May 3, 10, 17
- Option 4: Thursdays 6:30 – 8 PM on April 20, 27, May 4, 11, 18

Whether or not you have experienced God's welcome in the past, are now experiencing God's welcome or believe God is welcoming you and God is inviting you to welcome others with God's welcome, you are invited to the study. Church administrative committee and ministry leaders are strongly encouraged to do this study.

Please sign up on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall at the Adult Faith Formation table or on the sign-up sheets outside Pastor Cynthia's office or call the church office to sign up.

Welcome and see you at class!

Quiet Disciples
by Martha Conant, Lay Leader

Our church is blessed with so many Quiet Disciples -- people who can be counted on to help when there is a need, people who actively live their faith.

Our church's nominee, Bill Whitaker, was recognized at the Peaks Sub-District Annual Meeting on March 11. Bill knows our 51-year-old building from the roof to the sewer lines and is the go-to person for all its maintenance challenges. Bill could say "No" but never does -- he just helps figure out how to address the next problem without expectation of recognition. Thank you, Bill!



Bill Whitaker

Senior Ministry April Calendar

Thursdays, 6 & 20 – *Okay Chorale*, open singing group from 3 to 4 in the Village Commons
– newcomers of all ages welcome – especially those with memory issues!

Friday, 7 – Double Nickel Senior Lunch – 12:00 noon to 1:30 in Fellowship Hall, \$4
Esther Parsons will lead us in *Welcome Spring!* We will sing some spring favorites and learn more about them, plus enjoy hearing Esther at the piano

Note: This month we meet on 1st Friday rather than 2nd due to Holy Week

Monday, 17 – Movie from 1 to 3, *Love & Friendship*, Cinema Room – free; all ages welcome!

Thursday, 20 – Seniors volunteer at Larimer Food Bank, 9:00 to 11:00

Thursdays, 20 - 3rd Thursday Lunch at 11:30 at Blue Agave, 201 South College
in the Museum of Art building

For more information or to sign up for any of these activities, or the senior ministry email list, contact Linn Zink, Senior Council member, [lczink@gmail](mailto:lczink@gmail.com) or 970-689-3047.

Okay Chorale Singers led by Esther Parsons and Alan Beatty enjoy singing and laughter together twice each month:



STAGE TO STORAGE (S2S) PROJECT

Sanctioned by the Board of Trustees and Approved by the Church Council
by Dean Block, Board of Trustees/Vice Chair

In February, as many of you know, the Church Council approved the removal of the stage and its conversion to storage (State to Storage project). A wall (South Wall) will be erected in front of where the stage was located. This wall will close off the opening and create additional storage space behind it and beautify the South Wall (end) of Fellowship Hall (FH). Many items currently residing in the Fellowship Hall will be moved to the new storage area.

This renovation will be achieved with various sources of existing church funds already available and approved for the project.

The North Wall (NW) above the folding doors of Fellowship Hall has also been planned for renovation. This renovation should logically be completed at the same time as the South Wall. This will insure that the design and materials used will be consistent with the South Wall. Unfortunately, limited church funds precluded us from completing this renovation without raising additional funds. The Church Council has authorized raising additional private funds to complete the North Wall at the same time as the South Wall. Eleven Thousand dollars will be required to complete the North Wall.

I encourage you to consider helping with the North Wall renovation effort by making a financial donation. We have already received commitments toward this project. Your commitment NOW will allow us to move forward with the contractor in a timely manner. Funds raised beyond those needed for the North Wall will be used at the discretion of the BOT for other FH initiatives.

The process to follow in making you donation:

1. Deciding if you are supportive and wanting to donate to the project.
2. IF YES, make the donation through your normal avenue of giving to the church.
3. Simply designate on the donation instrument payable to: FCFUMC, memo: Fellowship Hall Renovation for NW.
4. The Financial Secretary will deposit your donation to the proper project account.

The Board of Trustees thanks you for your continued support of our church.



PARDON OUR DUST!

by Joan Carter, Board of Trustees Chair



The Fellowship Hall will be a busy place this month! The stage area will be undergoing a BIG transformation after many years of former theatrical performances. But that ended nearly 25 years ago, so the space was due for a makeover. The time is NOW! What you will see on Sunday mornings (starting after Easter) is—not much—mostly a taped-off area, to minimize the dust of new construction. Tables and chairs will get moved around, off to the edges of the room. Coffee and donuts will still be served. But be alert to new serving locations! The **BIG REVEAL** will be sometime in May!

Our church's preschool and Mothers Day Out programs, the Boy Scouts, Ft. Collins Interfaith Council, Theologian-in-Residence (a community program), and our own membership will **all** benefit from the new look and improved storage space!

This project was made possible by a generous bequest by Ken Makinen, a long-time member who attended the Chapel service every single Sunday for many years.

COMMUNITY AND WORLD OUTREACH

FFH - Our Mission at Home

by Theresa Holbrook

As we celebrate five years of serving families at Faith Family Hospitality, we stop to recognize the collective efforts of our supporters during this time. With your support, 103 families with 369 individuals experiencing homelessness have gained access to safe shelter, both day and night, as well as wraparound

case management services to assist them as they pursue sustainable self-sufficiency and permanent housing.

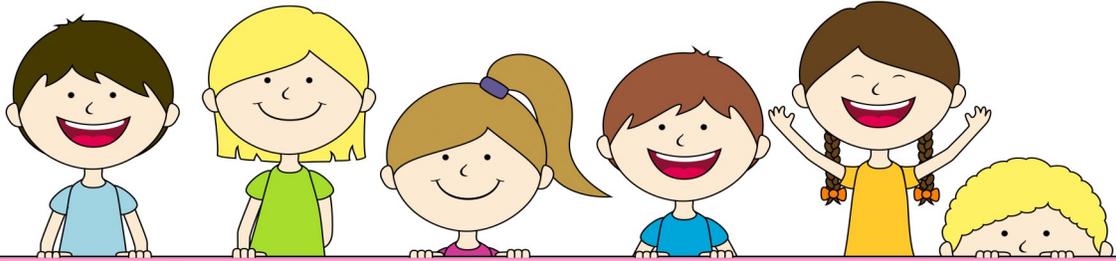
Today FFH has 31 active faith communities with over 1200 volunteers active each year. These wonderful volunteers have given over 80,000 hours of service

since 2012. In the near future, the Sherwood House will be open to provide up to six month transitional housing for families in need of longer term support.

Our next hosing week at FCFUMC will be April 30th – May 7th. You can sign up in the Mission Corner in Fellowship Hall.



faith family hospitality
... supporting families from homelessness to self-sufficiency



Children's Ministry Corner

by Lynette Szanthy, Director of Children and Family Ministries



Annual Easter Egg Hunt at First Church

Saturday, April 15th, 11:00 – 12:00, rain or shine. To participate in the egg hunt, we ask that families donate 1 dozen filled plastic eggs to the church by Thursday, April 13th. Filled eggs can be dropped off in a large bin in the media center/ Sunday School check-in desk. We need volunteers to hide eggs, act as greeters, and usher kids through the event. Please join us for this favorite tradition! Anyone interested in helping out with the event is welcome to contact Jayme Harper at jaymeandcory@gmail.com.



June 12-16, 9:00 – 12:00. Vacation Bible School!

At **VBS Hero Central**, our kids will enjoy an interactive, energizing, Bible-based good time as they discover their strength in God. They will become Heroes and explore how to serve God and God's mission for their lives. It'll be a week to remember! Registration will open in early April.

We are also looking for some amazing individuals to show our kids what Super Heroes really look like--VOLUNTEER TEACHERS! Please contact Lynette Szanthy (childrensdirector@fcfumc.net) if you are interested in teaching and being part of the best week of the summer! Registration will open in early April.

Children's Ministries Opportunities

If you have a heart for children and would like to spend more time with our wonderful FUMC kids, please prayerfully consider plugging in to this ministry by contacting Lynette (childrensdirector@fcfumc.net). A few opportunities include:

- VBS volunteer (leader or co-leader, station leader, shepherd, registration assistant, decorating or snack committee).
- Preschool and 4th grade Sunday school teacher – be a part of a rotation and lead the workshop once a month.

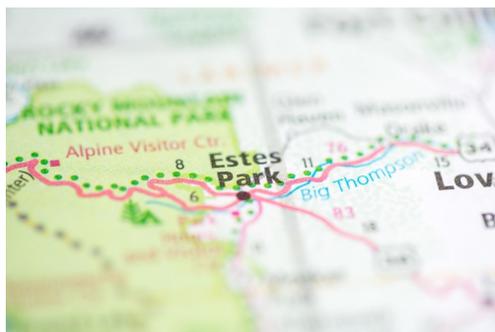
United Methodist Women

by JoAn Hopkins

We are in need of contributions for the **Days For Girls** project. There is a red box in the Mission Corner that says Days for girls. We are still in need of the following items:

- Ziploc gallon sized freezer bags. (must be Ziploc brand)
- Hotel sized bar soap
- Wash cloths
- Girls panties size 10 to 12

It is not Easter yet, but get your bonnets out for the **Victorian Spring Tea** on April 8th. If your only chapeau is your gardening hat, add a decoration and come join the UMW in this activity. Part of the fun is seeing the creations. There is no age limit and everyone is welcome.



The **Spiritual Spring Retreat** in Estes Park April 21-23 is always a good time. It's a great opportunity to see our friends from other UMW's, sing some great songs, and hearing a great speaker. There is a young women's portion so all will have programs of interest to their particular age group. Registration forms are on the UMW bulletin board in the South Hall. One day registrations are available.

Make Your Creative Thinking and Talents Part of MCAT

by Mike Kohler

As our community grows and changes, First United Methodist Church of Fort Collins has a tremendous opportunity to attract new members to join us in worship.

But our task isn't easy and it requires teamwork. If you have the skills and the passion for helping FCFUMC tell its story, MCAT can use your help.

MCAT – the Marketing & Communications Advisory Team – strives to raise our outreach effectiveness. We need creative thinkers, preferably with a background in marketing, to be part of MCAT.

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

- ◆ Video production and editing
- ◆ Social media
- ◆ Creative design software

MCAT holds a crisp, concise monthly meeting and completes its work through digital communication between meetings. If you are interested in being part of MCAT, please send a note describing your background to Mike Kohler at mikekohler@plangrowprofit.com.



MUSIC AT FIRST CHURCH

by David Adkins, Director of Music Ministries
Print and Digital Communications

The Seven Last Words of Christ

A Service of Tenebrae

by Theodore Dubois

presented by the Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra

7:00 PM
Friday, April 14, 2017

*Please join us for this moving remembrance
of the Crucifixion.*

CHILDREN'S CHOIR SPRING MUSICAL



A Technicolor Promise

A musical about Noah's Ark with solos, speaking parts, sets and costumes!

Wednesday, April 26 – 6:30 PM

Anthony Weber and Brenna Martin, Directors

Happy
Easter

Address Service Requested



We remember with sympathy the families of ...



January 29 - **Meribeth Silmak**
February 15 - **Don Kelly**
February 20 - **Dee Gilbert**

NOTIFICATION OF NEW LEAD PASTOR APPOINTMENT TO FUMC

Bishop Karen Oliveto intends to appoint Dr. Melanie Ann Rosa as Lead Pastor of First UMC, Ft. Collins, effective July 1, 2017.

Melanie comes to us after 7 years as the District Superintendent of the Mile-High Pikes Peak District, and prior to that she served churches large and small, urban and rural in various places throughout the Rocky Mountain Conference.

Melanie has a history of effectiveness in the local church, and is very excited about returning to preaching, teaching, and leading the people of God. She describes her preaching style as engaging both the head and heart with an invitation to action and transformation. "My theology emphasizes the grace filled and persuasive love of God which guides my leadership, preaching, and teaching."

She holds Master of Divinity and Doctoral degrees from the Iliff School of Theology, and has done mission work in Haiti, Romania, Mexico and Guatemala. She has a passion for sharing the life-giving Gospel of Jesus Christ and serving and building relationships with marginalized communities.

Melanie is excited and humbled to be appointed to serve the people of God in this promising congregation and community. She has been married to Fred Rosa for 31 years and they are the parents of Mark (29) and Katherine (26).

