

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT FIRST CHURCH

The Vision of First Church is to be an inclusive, deeply relational community inviting all people to experience God’s presence today.

ALL ARE WELCOME HERE—WE STRIVE FOR IT. In the spirit of Jesus Christ, First United Methodist Church of Fort Collins commits to offering a community in which persons of diverse age, color, culture, sexual orientation and gender identity, economic status, and physical or mental ability are all welcomed and affirmed. To all who have known pain of exclusion or discrimination from church or in society, we seek forgiveness and offer a place of respite and welcome.

IF YOU ARE NEW TO OUR CHURCH and would like more information, please ask one of our greeters or ushers or visit the Welcome Center. They can direct you to classrooms, nursery, restrooms, food, and fellowship, as well as introduce you to our staff. We would be honored to get to know you better and learn about your life and spiritual needs. Our community may not know you yet, but we already love you and hope you will make this your spiritual home. Thank you for joining us today, and God bless you!

WEEKLY FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

CHILDREN’S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES—9:45 A.M.

Please sign your children in at the Children’s Ministries check-in desk, south entrance, before the 9:30 a.m. worship service begins. Children join their parents/guardians for worship in the Sanctuary until the conclusion of Children’s Time. Then, parents of preschoolers escort their children to Room 121, and children grades K-5 meet outside the Sanctuary. The teachers will escort elementary children to their classrooms.

Parents, please pick your children up from their designated location following the service.



SUNDAY MORNING YOUTH GROUP: If you are a teen, we have something for YOU! Youth (grades 6-12) are welcome to participate in our Sunday Morning Youth Group that happens at 9:30 a.m. every Sunday. Join our Youth Director and leaders in the Youth basement for a time of fellowship and spiritual growth that are fun and relevant to students!

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT GROUPS—Please join us.

- 9:30 a.m. Samaritan Class—Parlor; Serendipity Class—Village Commons; Upper Room Class—Upper Room (Room 235)
- 11:00 a.m. Open Hearts Class—Village Commons



ORDER OF WORSHIP

*Please rise as you are able.		
Gathering Music	Prelude, op. 170	Gustav Merkel
Welcome		Rev. Bradley Laurvick Rev. Cynthia Paquette
Prelude	Prelude on “Immortal, Invisible”	Harold Owen
Introit	Down In My Heart First Kids Choir	
*Call to Worship		9:30 Pam Raab 11:00 John Allum
Hymn of Praise	Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise	UMH #103
Chorus (9:30)	Where Children Belong	TFWS #2233
Children’s Message		Barb Grauberger
Chorus (9:30)	Where Children Belong	TFWS #2233
Pastoral Prayer and Lord’s Prayer		Rev. Cynthia Paquette
Anthem	Ain’t Got Time to Die Sanctuary Choir • Josh Colonnieves, soloist	Hall Johnson
Offering Our Gifts to God		Rev. Cynthia Paquette

Giving to God through First Church:

1. Give online at [fcumc.net](http://fcumc.net) or on the First UMC App .
2. Check or cash.
3. Offering your time, talents, gifts, service and witness.

Offertory	City Called Heaven First Church Singers • Kit Matzke, soloist	arr. Josephine Poelinitz
*Doxology	Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow	UMH #94
Scripture	Isaiah 43:1-7	9:30 Pam Raab 11:00 John Allum
Sermon	“Big Questions: In Search of Purpose...”	Rev. Bradley Laurvick
*Hymn of Dedication	A Wilderness Wandering People	W&S #3113
*Benediction		Rev. Bradley Laurvick
Postlude	Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer	J. Bert Carlson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSIONS



MISSION AT HOME

We will be hosting families experiencing homelessness for a week beginning Sept 25th. We have several different areas where you could serve: Overnight hosting from 6:00 (dinner) or 8:00 p.m. until 7:00 a.m.; Evening hosting from 5:30-7:30 p.m.; Cooking from 4:30-7:30 p.m.; Cleanup from 6:30-9:00 a.m. Sunday, Oct 2nd; or Laundry pickup on Oct 2nd.

It is fun and enriching to work with the families and share God's love. Contact Bonny Thomas (831) 402-7402 for more information or sign up in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZING

First Church will host a training session October 28-29 to prepare people for leadership in their public lives.

The training will emphasize the value of institutions as a counterbalance at a time when institutions are shrinking. The sessions also will help people improve their skills in relational meetings and house meetings – two primary tools of community organizing. Info: David Reid at (970) 581-2707 or davidreid24@gmail.com or online at [bit.ly/ccgNOCO](http://bit.ly/ccgNOCO) .

FIRST CHURCH CONNECTION CARD

(Please fill out and drop in offering plate OR Scan appropriate QR codes below)

DateService Time 9:3011:00Last NameFirst NameCity, State, Zip

Email

Phone

Please let me know about volunteer opportunities

Please add me to the “First Wire” weekly email list

Prayer Requests

Regular Attender



First Time Guest

I am a First Time Guest

Returning Guest

Regular Attender

Please contact me about membership





## TODAY AT FIRST CHURCH

**USHERS:** 9:30 a.m. Jerry Wiese, Sherri Wahlgren, Rich Raab  
11:00 a.m. Eric Wilkinson, Daphne Bear

**9:30 WORSHIP CARE TEAM MEMBER:** Lisa Fenton Free

**ALTAR FLOWERS:** Today's altar flowers are given in honor of Dorothy Abbey Eiman's 90th birthday, from her children.

### FAITH FORMATION



Join Mark Lee for a 7-week exploration of key touchstones of Christian faithing. Using a DVD series featuring short introductions by well-known writers and leaders such as Brian McLaren, Lauren Winner, Nadia Boltz-Weber and others, we will look at faith journeying, spirituality, Jesus, the Cross, salvation, the Bible and the Church. The course is designed for discussion, right-brained exploration of these topics and open-ended conclusions. Student journals and sign-ups will be available on the Formation table during fellowship hour. The class will run seven Wednesday evenings starting September 28, 7:00 - 8:30 pm, in the Village Commons.



### **WOMEN'S FALL RETREAT • OCTOBER 1, 2022 • 9:00 - 3:30**

All women are invited to a Fall Retreat at Tamasag Retreat Center (just outside of Laporte), to immerse yourself in the topic of belonging. Leslie Verner, author of *Invited: The Power of Hospitality in an Age of Loneliness* will facilitate a panel discussion. **Sign up today through Sept 29<sup>th</sup>.** There's time to mingle with others as well as time alone for personal reflection. **Dress casually!** Carpooling will be offered from Cache La Poudre Elementary School. \$20 includes morning refreshments and lunch.



### **NEW CHURCH PICTORIAL DIRECTORY**

*Sign Up to Get Your Picture Taken*

Dates for picture taking: **OCTOBER 25-29 • Venue: PARLOR**

Sign up for your picture to be taken for the new church pictorial directory. This is also the time to take your picture with your family for holiday greeting cards and gifts. The directory will not be complete without your picture!

Have a smartphone/ipad? Scan the QR code below to sign up.

Sign up online on your computer using this link:

<https://instant-scheduling.com/sch.php?kn=3534502&typld=64462&step=2>

(A live link to sign up will be in First Wire on Tuesday.)

No internet access? Stop by the Fellowship Hall between services to sign up. Time slots are limited for paper sign-ups.



## OUR CHURCH STAFF

### Pastors

**Rev. Bradley Laurvick**, *Lead Pastor*  
**Rev. Cynthia Paquette**, *Executive Pastor*

### Music Staff

**David Adkins**, *Director of Music Ministries & Communications*  
**Dr. Joel Bacon**, *Organist/Artist in Residence*  
**Brenna Martin**, *Children's Choir Coordinator*  
**Abigale Gilson**, *Children's Choir Director*  
**Karen Stoody**, *Organist Emeritus*

### Program Staff

**Barb Grauberger**, *Director of Children and Family Ministries*  
**Victoria Burkett**, *Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries*  
**Rev. Dr. Mark Lee**, *Director of Adult Faith, Discipleship, and Northern Colorado Faith Library*  
**David Reid**, *Community Builder*  
**Laurie Elliott**, *Childcare Coordinator*  
**Liza Judd-Salimbeni**, *Kids' Closet Coordinator*  
**Ali Gessler**, *Director of Pre-School*  
**Gail Farnum**, *Director of Parent's Day Out*

### Administrative and Facilities Staff

**Jim Doser**, *Worship Technology Lead*  
**Nathan Abrahamson**, *Worship Technology Assistant*  
**Shelley Nelson**, *Administrative & Communications Assistant*  
**Shauna Bjork**, *Accountant*  
**Julie Iven**, *Financial Secretary*  
**Gail Wells**, *Membership Secretary & Volunteer Coordinator*  
**Henry Reyna**, *Facilities Manager*  
**Max Reyes**, *Custodian*  
**Michael Shestak**, *Custodian, Sunday Hospitality Coordinator*

THE CREATION JUSTICE TASK FORCE OF THE MOUNTAIN SKY CONFERENCE UMC PRESENTS

## IT'S NOT EASY BEING GREEN



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2  
7 PM - 8 PM (MDT)

A DISCUSSION WITH  
**BISHOP KAREN OLIVETO**

**belong**

*Please join...*

*Please join a watch party sponsored by the Green Team and the Church and Society Committee. We will watch this important event together on Sunday, October 2, in the Conference Room, from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm.*

Coming Next Week: October 2, 2022

World Communion Sunday

"Big Questions: So That What?"

Matthew 6:9-13



1005 Stover Street • Fort Collins, CO 80524  
(970) 482-2436

## BIG QUESTIONS:



## In Search of Purpose...

Rev. Bradley Laurvick

**September 25, 2022**

You are most welcome at First Church.

We are a fully inclusive, deeply relational community inviting all people to experience God's presence today.

Sunday Worship Services are at 9:30 and 11:00.

There are many opportunities for spiritual growth and connection for all ages.

Thank you for joining us today!