

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 to-day, 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.** Serendipity Class—Village Commons; Upper Room Class—Upper Room (Room 235)
- 10:55 a.m.** Open Hearts Class—Village Commons

ORDER OF WORSHIP

*Please rise in body or spirit.		
Prelude	Fanfare Dr. Joel Bacon, organist	by Jacques Lemmens
Welcome		Rev. Bradley Laurvick Rev. Cynthia Paquette
*Music for Reflection	<i>What Wondrous Love This Is</i> Carillon Handbell Choir Members	arr. Douglas Wagner
*Call to Worship		9:30 Mike Kohler 11:00 Jerry Wiese
*Hymn of Praise	<i>Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing</i>	UMH #400
Chorus (9:30) Children’s Message Chorus (9:30)	<i>Lord of the Dance</i> <i>Lord of the Dance</i>	UMH #261 Barb Grauberger UMH #261
Pastoral Prayer and Lord’s Prayer		
Anthem	<i>Simple Gifts</i> Sanctuary Choir	by Aaron Copland
Scripture	Acts 9:36-42	
Sermon	“Living Simply, Living Like Jesus, Simply Living Like Jesus”	Rev. Bradley Laurvick
Offering Our Gifts to God		

Giving to God through First Church:

1. Give online at [fcfumc.net](https://www.fcfumc.net).
2. Check or cash. All loose one dollar bills go to those in need.
3. Offering your time, talents, gifts, service and witness.

Offertory	<i>This is a Day of New Beginnings</i> Dr. Joel Bacon, organist	by Michael Burkhardt
*Doxology	<i>Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow</i>	UMH #94
*Sending Prayer		
*Hymn of Dedication	<i>Here I Am, Lord</i>	UMH #593
*Benediction		
Postlude	<i>Postlude</i> Dr. Joel Bacon, organist	by C.V. Stanford

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sacred Enneagram

Come join us as we study and practice in a historic Christian contemplative tradition. Nurture your own spirituality and grow in intimacy with God all while learning to know yourself in a deeper way. Weekly meetings: Saturdays, 10:30 - 12 noon in Gathering Place. If you have questions, contact Catherine Glandt.

Celebration of Ministry - All Church Gathering

Join us **3-4 p.m. Sunday, January 21st** as we celebrate the ministry of the last year and look forward to all God will do through First Church in the year to come. Discover amazing ministries you may not have encountered before. It will be a fun-filled affair with "awards show energy." Dessert will be shared after.

The Meaning of Christ for Dietrich Bonhoeffer Presentation by Ross Loomis

Join us **January 14, 21, and 28**, as we dive into the question Dietrich Bonhoeffer asked all across his life, "Who is Christ for us today?" We will look at the nature and consistency of Bonhoeffer's theology across different phases of his life and review the meanings of Christ to Bonhoeffer. Because we live in a more theologically diverse time than Bonhoeffer did, we will also look at ways he might have advised how we should relate to persons of different beliefs. **We'll meet in the Parlor from 9:30 - 10:30 for the presentation by Ross.** If you have questions, please email Diane Peterson (dmpeter16@hotmail.com).

Faith Family Hospitality Sign Up

It's almost time again to welcome unhoused families at our church! **Our guests will be here January 28 to February 4, and sign-ups begin this weekend.** As we temporarily bring them into our community, we need help! Some shifts are family friendly (dinner preparation), some can be done at home (laundry), some are very social (evening hosts), some are fun (child care Tuesday evenings), and some even let you sleep on the job (overnight hosts). And all the evening shifts include dinner! We are also looking for food donations to feed our guests. So look for the white board at the Missions Table in Fellowship Hall between services, or scan the QR code for the shifts that you want. Email Robin Norell at RNorell@gmail.com with questions. Thank you for your hospitality!



Exploring First Church

We here at First Church are excited to see so many new faces and meet so many new people on Sundays. We are here to help new people get plugged in. Would you like to learn more about Methodism in general and First Church in particular? Are you considering membership in this vibrant community of faith? If so, Rev. Brad and Rev. Cynthia invite you to attend the Exploring First Church session at **noon on January 21 in the Parlor**. We will have a light lunch followed by a session on Methodism and the many ministries to be involved in at First Church. You will also have a virtual tour of the church building. Please email Gail Wells at membership@fcfumc.net, or call 970-482-2436 ext. 111 by January 17 if you plan to attend. **Childcare will be provided but must be reserved by January 17.**

TODAY AT FIRST CHURCH

USHERS:

9:30 Dana Sampson, Mary Ann Michels, Randy Olson,
Connie Cardenas

11:00 Eric Wilkinson, Susan Leinhart

WORSHIP CARE TEAM MEMBER: Kandy Moore

ALTAR FLOWERS: Today's altar flowers are given by one of our members in honor of our ministry team and everyone who made our time together as a congregation during Christmas so special & meaningful.

Special Movie Viewing - January 17 and 24

"SABBATH: An Ancient Practice Meets the Modern World"

2-hour documentary created by Journey Films

Feeling rushed, overwhelmed, constantly in motion, overcommitted, tired? Did you set a goal to take more time to relax, rejuvenate, spend quality time with family, friends, yourself, and God? Interested in taking a dive into a deeper understanding of Exodus 20: 8-11 and the practice of Sabbath.

Bring family and friends and join the Adult Faith Formation Committee in the viewing of "SABBATH". Told as a collection of short stories encompassing many faith practices **SABBATH** explores the history of one of the world's most important spiritual practices and its timeless relevance for a stressed-out, modern world. **SABBATH** ties together our collective history, our health practices, our response to God's invitation and the search for a more sustainable way of life.

When: January 17th 6:30-8:00 p.m. **SABBATH** Part 1

January 24th 6:30-8:00 p.m. **SABBATH** Part 2

Childcare will be provided but must be reserved by calling the church office by January 12.

Where: The Parlor

Facilitators: Sandy Merriweather and Whitney Pennington

How can we build community in NoCo?

Join with other congregations, unions and nonprofits to learn more at the Delegates Assembly of Coloradans for the Common Good. **The meeting is 3:30-5 p.m. February 4 at Centro San Juan Diego, 2830 Lawrence Street, Denver.** First Church now has a voting voice in this organization that increased emergency rental assistance to \$29.1 million from only \$4 million. That's enough to keep 6,000 Denver families in their homes for a year. Can we do this same kind of work in NoCo? Contact David Reid in Fellowship Hall or at davidreid24@gmail.com or 970-581-2707.

COMMUNICATE REQUEST FORM

If you have an announcement to include in the Sunday bulletin, please submit the details by Wednesday before, using the QR code:



ANNOUNCEMENTS

First Church Community Personal Information and Picture Update

You are important to us, and we want to remain connected with you. **Please scan the QR code so your church community can get to know you better.** Your records will be updated in the First Church Database and you'll be added in the New Church Pictorial Directory.



If you would like to be in the directory yet don't have the technology to enter your own information, please stop by the table in the fellowship hall between services today. We will happy to help. If you have your own picture you would like included, please bring that as well. If you would like someone to update your information and picture for you, please see Gail Wells in the Fellowship Hall between services today. For questions and additional information, contact Rev. Cynthia via email (c.paquette@fcfumc.net).

2024 SPRING SPEAKER SERIES

Writing Stories & Writing Your Own Story

Speaker: Jill Phipps (writing as Jill Haymaker)

Wednesday, February 7, 2024, 6:30 – 8 PM

You are invited to join one of our very own, **Jill Phipps/Jill Haymaker** (jillhaymaker.com), regular contributor of Chicken Soup for the Soul books and popular clean romance writer of the Peakview Series, The Aspen Ridge Series, Peaktop Dude Ranch Series, and Montana Pines Series, for an evening of dessert and fun learning about **"Writing Stories and Writing Your Own Story"**. Jill's books will also be available for purchase. **Dessert and book signing is from 6:30 – 7 p.m.. Jill speaks from 7-8 p.m..** Childcare will be provided, but must be reserved by calling the church office by February 2. If you have questions, please contact Rev. Cynthia via email (c.paquette@fcfumc.net).

Do You Shop at Albertsons Safeway?

Stop by the United Women in Faith/Grocery Cards table in Fellowship Hall to pick up a Community Giving Gift Card. There is no cost for the card. Take the card to Safeway and, before the checker starts your order, tell them you want to reload a gift card. You can load any amount up to \$500 on the card. Every time you use the card to pay for groceries or fuel, Albertsons Safeway will donate money to support missions through First Church and United Women in Faith. What an easy way to have a positive impact on the world! Questions? Mary Ann Kerttula, makerttula@comcast.net/970-219-6747; Dea Carroll, deacurt4947@gmail.com/970-222-5545

Connect With Our Pastors

Rev. Brad Laurvick

Lead Pastor

brad@fcfumc.net

Rev. Cynthia Paquette

Pastor of Congregational Engagement

c.paquette@fcfumc.net

First United Methodist Church

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



SIMPLE GIFTS

January 14, 2024

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!