

# 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 *Gather Us In* by John Behnke  
Dr. Joel Bacon, organist

Welcome Rev. Bradley Laurvick  
Rev. Cynthia Paquette

\*Music for Reflection *Holy, Holy, Holy / It Is Well* by Ruth Elaine Schram

\*Call to Worship 9:30 Colleen Bell  
11:00 John Allum

\*Hymn of Praise *Welcome* W&S 3152

Chorus (9:30) *Lord of the Dance* UMH #261  
Children’s Message Barb Grauberger  
Chorus (9:30) *Lord of the Dance* UMH #261

Pastoral Prayer and Lord’s Prayer

Anthem *If I Can Help Somebody* arr. David Brunner  
Sanctuary Choir

Scripture Acts 18:1-3

Sermon Simple Gifts: Welcome Home! Rev. Cynthia Paquette

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 *Give Me Jesus* by Mark Hayes

\*Doxology *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH #94

\*Sending Prayer

\*Hymn of Dedication *All are Welcome*

\*Benediction

Postlude *Welcome Table* by Matthew Corl

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Celebration of Ministry - All Church Gathering Today

Join us **3-4 p.m. today** 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.

## Exploring First Church

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 today 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.

## Dr. Joel Bacon Organ Recital at FUMC Monday, Jan. 22

Dr. Joel Bacon will present a solo organ recital on **Monday, January 22 at 7:30 p.m. at FUMC**. The program will include works by Bach, Mozart, and Herbert Howells. Free and open to the public.

## ST. OLAF CHOIR CONCERT

### First United Methodist Church, Fort Collins

Saturday, Jan. 27, 2024 – 7:00pm

The St. Olaf Choir, conducted by Anton Armstrong will perform across the Southeast during its 2024 national tour. For more than a century, the St. Olaf Choir has set the gold standard for choral singing, performing for millions around the world. Composed of 75 mixed voices, the St. Olaf Choir is hailed as one of the nation’s premier a cappella ensemble, renowned for its artistry and beauty of sound. Scan the QR code to get tickets.



## FUMC Travel Club Meeting

Our next meeting is **Monday, January 29, at 7pm in Room "Club 5.0" (2nd floor)**. We will talk about our 2024 travel plans! New members are always welcome! Questions? Contact Robin at [RNorell@gmail.com](mailto:RNorell@gmail.com)

## Come sing with “Songs for Life”

Join us **Sundays 11-11:45 in Rhythm Road classroom** at the far east side of the 2nd floor of the education wing. We are enjoying learning each other’s favorite Contemporary Christian pop/praise tunes.

## Congregational Engagement Opportunities

Scan the QR code to see a full list of opportunities.



## TODAY AT FIRST CHURCH

### USHERS:

9:30 Dave Rubenthaler, Jerry Wiese, Chris Weber,  
Judy Kinner

11:00 Eric Wilkinson, Dennis Bode

**WORSHIP CARE TEAM MEMBER:** Lisa Cole

**ALTAR FLOWERS:** Today's altar flowers are given by Tom and Karen Guter in celebration of their 53rd wedding anniversary.

### Lenten Journey for Kids

Only 40 spots available! **Starting February 14th**, the Lenten Journey for Kids is available to **K-5th grade**. We will be allowing kids to stay until 8 p.m. to align with youth group, classes or just for fun. This is an interactive class to teach our First Kids about the Lenten season. **We will meet each Wednesday for 6 weeks 6:30-7:30**. There will be no class on March 13th (Spring break). Sign up with the QR code!



### The Meaning of Christ for Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Join us **January 21 and 28**, as we dive into the question Dietrich Bonhoeffer asked all across his life, "Who is Christ for us today?" **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).

### "SABBATH: An Ancient Practice Meets the Modern World"

*2-hour documentary created by Journey Films*

**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. We will meet January 24<sup>th</sup> 6:30-8:00 p.m. for **SABBATH** Part 2 in The Parlor.

### 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 B'nai Havurah, 6445 East Ohio Street, Denver**. First Church now has a voting voice in this organization that increased emergency rental assistance to \$29.1M from only \$4M. Can we do this same kind of work in NoCo? Contact David Reid at davidreid24@gmail.com or 970-581-2707.

### The Wesley Prayer Challenge

The Tuesday Prayer and Share group will begin a study of The Wesley Prayer Challenge, by Chris Folmsbee, on **Tuesday, February 6**. Join us in the **Upper Room Classroom from 10-noon** for pondering, praying, and practicing this Covenant Prayer. **Books are available on Amazon**. Contact Margaret Hotze for more info at 970 420 4283.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### 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**. Look for the white board at the Missions Table in Fellowship Hall between services, or scan the QR code for the shifts.



### 2024 SPRING SPEAKER SERIES

You are invited to join one of our very own, **Jill Phipps/Jill Haymaker** ([jillhaymaker.com](http://jillhaymaker.com)), regular contributor of Chicken Soup for the Soul books and popular clean romance writer, 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.

### 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 at no cost. Take the card to Safeway. Before the checker starts your order, tell them you want to reload a gift card. 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.

### Class Facilitators Training, 1/28

The Adult Faith Formation Team is looking for interested congregation members to assist us in facilitating FUMC's Wednesday classes, Advent classes, Lent classes, and other future offerings for adults. **Join us on Sunday 1/28 from 12-2pm for a training session**, where we will be sharing our vision for faith formation classes and expectations and support given for lay facilitators to achieve that vision. All are invited, regardless of previous facilitation experience. Lunch included. **Please RSVP by Tuesday 1/23 to Whitney Pennington pennwhit09@gmail.com**.

### Free Blood Pressure Clinic! Jan. 28

Come have your blood pressure checked including a free nursing consult next Sunday. Sponsored by your FUMC Faith Community Nurses.

### Connect With Our Pastors

Rev. Brad Laurvick  
Lead Pastor  
[brad@fcfumc.net](mailto:brad@fcfumc.net)

Rev. Cynthia Paquette  
Pastor of Congregational Engagement  
[c.paquette@fcfumc.net](mailto:c.paquette@fcfumc.net)

First United Methodist Church  
1005 Stover Street • Fort Collins, CO 80524 • (970) 482-2436



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SIMPLE GIFTS

January 21, 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!