

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. 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 *Festival Prelude on "Be Thou My Vision"* by Linker & McFadden
Carillon Handbell Choir
Dr. Joel Bacon, organist

Welcome Rev. Bradley Laurvick
Rev. Cynthia Paquette

*Music for Reflection *On Eagles Wings* arranged by Mark Hayes
Brenna Martin, piano

*Call to Worship 9:30 Elinor Bickley
11:00 Bill Emslie

*Hymn of Praise *Come and Find the Quiet Center* TFWS #2128

Chorus (9:30) *Standing In the Need of Prayer* UMH #352
Children's Message Barb Grauberger
Chorus (9:30) *Standing In the Need of Prayer* UMH #352

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer TFWS #2278

Anthem *Be Thou My Vision* arr. Craig Courtney
Sanctuary Choir

Scripture Matthew 5:43-48

Sermon A Life of Prayer: Rev. Bradley Laurvick
Praying for Our Enemies

The Sacrament of Holy Communion
Morning Suite by Nelson
Lenten Fantasia by Krug
Carillon Handbell Choir

Offering Our Gifts to God

Giving to God through First Church:

1. Give online at 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 *Our Father In Heaven* by J.S. Bach

*Doxology UMH #95

*Sending Prayer

*Hymn of Dedication *Take Time To Be Holy* UMH #395
(vs 1,3,4)

*Benediction

Postlude *Rondeau* by Henry Purcell

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Easter Candy Donations

We will be hosting an Easter egg hunt between the 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services on Easter morning and need your help! **Please place bags of Easter candy (individually wrapped Easter candy) in the collection boxes by March 22nd. Donation bins are in the narthex.** We had hundreds of kids last year and look forward to delighting the crowd again!

Come Hear about Matthews House

On **Thursday, March 14**, a representative from Matthews House will make a presentation at the United Women in Faith unit meeting. Matthews House works to empower youth and families to close the poverty cycle in Northern Colorado. Everyone is welcome to come to **The Parlor at 11:20 for lunch before the presentation.** Questions? Call Julie Wilson at 970-226-5925 or JoAn Hopkins at 970-222-5925.

Bake Sale

Benefitting Habitat for Humanity

Sunday March 24th, there will be a Bake Sale benefiting Habitat for Humanity 2024 Faith Build during Fellowship time **beginning at 10:15 a.m.** Two ways you can help and support: 1. Bring baked goods to be sold to the Fellowship Hall by 9:30 on Sunday 3/24/24! 2. Bring MONEY to purchase delicious baked goods during Fellowship on Sunday 3/24/24! Contact Cindi Ross-Bell (text or call) 970-481-0921 or falcor@frii.com.

Tear Along Perforation

FIRST CHURCH CONNECTION CARD

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

Date _____ Service Time 9:30 11:00 Last Name _____

First Name _____

Email _____ Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ I am a First Time Guest Returning Guest Regular Attender

First Time Guest

Regular Attender

Please let me know about volunteer opportunities Please contact me about membership



Please add me to the "First Wire" weekly email list

Prayer Requests _____

TODAY AT FIRST CHURCH

USHERS/COMMUNION SERVERS:

Randie Bell, Gavin Diaz, Claire Gentile, Simon Helin, Caroline Barkoskie, Sara Gerhardt, Judy Kinner, Michael Diaz, Lois Quintana, Mary Ann Michels, and Eric Wilkinson

WORSHIP CARE TEAM MEMBER: Susan Massa

ALTAR FLOWERS: Today's altar flowers are given by Ted and Linda Schlaugenhauf in loving memory of Linda's parents and two sisters.

PRE-HAGEN LECTURE BOOK STUDY KNOWN: Finding Deep Friendships in a Shallow World Author: Dick and Ruth Foth

Wednesdays, April 3 – 24, 2024

Noon – 1 PM, 7 – 8 p.m. At Village Commons

The Digital Age is all about change, but the need for true friendship never changes. You are designed for real engagement with others---for affirmation that goes beyond a simple "like" on social media, for connection over meals, for hope and excitement about the future. Above all, you need to be known and accepted for who you are. But how do you find and maintain this kind of friendship in a fluid and frenetic culture? (Description on Amazon.com) Books available to purchase (\$13 each) on Sunday mornings.

Sign Up using QR code.



Prayer Shawl Ministry KNIT-IN

Welcome Crocheters and Knitters to our monthly gathering. **Saturday, March 9, 9:30-11:30.** Church Parlor Materials for Shawls and Prayer Squares are available with willing friendly help for new learners.

Grief Support Group

Whether you have suffered a recent loss or continue to grieve a loved one, join us for a time of reflection, learning, and support on the **2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 1 pm in the Conference Room.** If you have questions please contact Rev. Dee Pennington at penninda@att.net or 314-602-7864.

FIRST WIRE EMAIL NEWSLETTER

Want to receive the latest First Church news and announcements in a weekly email? Sign up by emailing communicate@fcfumc.net

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congregational Engagement Opportunities

Scan the QR code or go to <http://tinyurl.com/CongregationalEngagement> for a full list of opportunities to help you grow in faith, get involved, meet new people, learn about care opportunities, and discover new selections from our First Church Library.



2024 CO FRONT RANGE DISTRICT GATHERING

You are invited for the annual Colorado Front Range District Gathering **Saturday, March 9, at Broomfield UMC**, in person for the first time post-Covid! We will join together in a time of worship, district business, learning, and community building. All clergy and laity in our newly formed district are invited and encouraged to gather as we celebrate the congregations and people of the Colorado Front Range. **Registration Fee: \$20** (lunch available for purchase during the registration process, if desired). Choose two workshops from several. **Online registration is available until 6 p.m. Friday, March 8, 2024 or register the day of the gathering.**

Our Church Staff



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



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A Life of Prayer



March 3, 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!