



The Carillon

August 2019 Volume 25 Issue 8
David Adkins, Editor

Discover God's Love
Inspire Hope • Grow in Faith • Serve With Joy
First Church: *An inclusive, deeply relational community
inviting all people to experience God's presence today.*

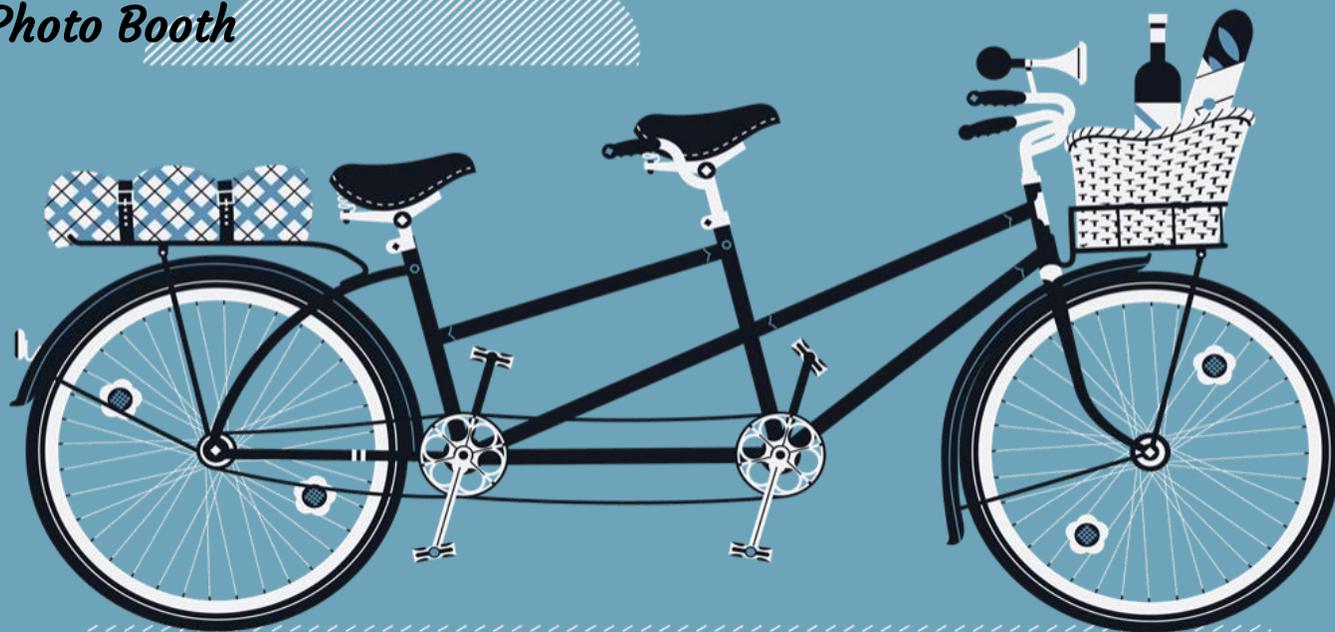
*Let's celebrate the 150th anniversary of First Church
and kick off our fall programs with an*

Old-Fashioned Picnic

Sunday, August 25 • 4:30—7:30 p.m.

On the church front lawn at the corner of Elizabeth and Stover

- *Chicken Dinner with Homemade Cobblers*
- *Entertainment by the popular FY5 Bluegrass Band
& Storyteller David Dalke*
- *Games and Bouncy Castle*
- *Photo Booth*



Members, Friends, and neighbors are invited to join us!



First Church will sponsor the first Neighborhood Night Out event in five years when it hosts an ice cream social and the animated movie *The Lorax* on August 6 at Eastside Neighborhood Park.

Parking at Eastside Park is limited, so the church bus will shuttle anyone who needs a ride to the park, which is adjacent to Laurel Elementary School, 1000 East Locust Court. Pickup will be in the church's south parking lot beginning at 6:45 p.m.

Ice cream and drinks will be available starting at 7 p.m. and the movie will be shown at approximately 8 p.m., when the sun sets. Participants need bring only a lawn chair or blanket. The movie based on a Dr. Seuss story runs one hour and 35 minutes.

Fort Collins Neighborhood Services, which promotes Neighborhood Night Out throughout the city each summer, has provided the screen and projector for this event.

Eastside Park Improvement: Answering the Call

It's likely you've never been to Eastside Park. Neighbors consider it unsafe after dark. Chain-link fencing secures Laurel Elementary school's playground, keeping our children out of harm's-way. According to a 2016 Coloradoan Article, "(Eastside Park) has seen numerous sexual assaults, including one recently that allegedly involved a child, aggravated assaults, and aggressive transients..."



Located just northeast of FUMC and adjacent to Laurel Elementary, Eastside is listed on the city's master plan as a community park. Parks like Eastside are designed as a catalyst for residents and businesses to enjoy open green space, walking paths, and anchor communities, serving as the literal 'common ground'. Sadly, this park is not serving our neighborhood well in its current state.

Our neighbors want this park back and FUMC is answering the call. In collaboration with the City of Fort Collins, renovation of Eastside Park has been identified as a relevant and lasting gift to mark FUMC's 150th Anniversary of service to Fort Collins.

FUMC is spearheading a community campaign to invest \$245,000 to change the park's pattern of behavior, returning it to safe neighborhood use. First, physical improvements are needed to open up the space, making it a viable venue for residents and businesses to reserve. But real culture-shift will come with increased (positive) community use. Of the funds raised, \$20,000 is designated for FUMC to host activities at the park, bringing positive usage to the neighborhood, and breaking old patterns of behavior.

For the last two months, our 150th anniversary fundraising team has been meeting with neighbors, business owners, influential community leaders, and FUMC members to share our vision for this space. To date, response has been exceptional! So far, \$116,000 has been committed to FUMC's Eastside Park renovation project. "Won't you be a neighbor?"

For additional information, or to pledge your support, contact:

Emily Land: Emily80L@hotmail.com or
Stacy Plemmons: stacyplemmons@msn.com.

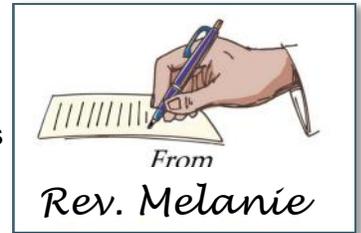
Eastside Park Improvement: Proclamation from Mayor



First Church was recognized on Tuesday, July 16 by Mayor Wade Troxell with a Proclamation from the City of Fort Collins for helping make our community a welcoming and enjoyable place to live, work and play. We were honored for our investment in Eastside Park and for our participation in Neighborhood Night Out on August 6. We are spearheading a movie night in Eastside Park, connecting with our community and building relationships with our neighbors. We are living into our mission to inspire hope, grow in faith, and serve with joy. Thank you for your support!

Message from Melanie

“Take your Christian head off, shake it wildly, and put it back on!” So advises globally recognized Franciscan priest Richard Rohr. I have thoroughly enjoyed teaching a class this summer on his latest book, which he considers the culmination of his life’s work: The Universal Christ. I commend it to you, for this is one of the most important books on Christian theology of the last decade. Rohr helps to redeem Christianity for modern Jesus followers who are weary of being portrayed as ignorant, hypocritical, intolerant zealots who are more passionate about what they condemn than what they affirm. This book helps to articulate a universal, inclusive, loving Christ consciousness encompassing all creatures and all creation. Which is precisely consistent with the vision and values of First Church.



Richard Rohr contends that long before Jesus was born the Christ consciousness has been at work in the world, deeply embedded in all things, as all things. He writes: “The Christ mystery is not a one-time event, but an ongoing process throughout time, as constant as the light that fills the universe. Jesus came out of an already Christ-soaked world. The second incarnation flowed out of the first, out of God’s loving union with physical creation.” The Universal Christ preceded the birth of Jesus and continues today as the mysterious force of love, goodness and tender care for all things.

THEOLOGY MATTERS AND IT SHAPES NOT ONLY OUR BELIEFS BUT THE BEHAVIORS THAT FOLLOW.

Theology matters and it shapes not only our beliefs but the behaviors that follow. God has never been wholly confined to Christ, yet was vividly revealed through Christ and together we are learning how to follow his example. We do not always get it right, but together we keep trying to live into this universal Christ consciousness.

I am passionate about sharing this very good news with those who desperately need it. Helping people know that they are valued, loved, and connected to one another is the only way to change the world.

What a blessing to be a part of a community dedicated to understanding and promoting the timeless universal Christ consciousness that heals and transforms. This is worthy of our very best efforts and I am thankful to share this journey with you.

Melanie

Dr. Melanie Rosa, Lead Pastor

Summer Sermon Series: “Mentors in Faith” Continues

Join us in worship this month for the continuation of our popular Sermon Series: “Mentors in Faith”

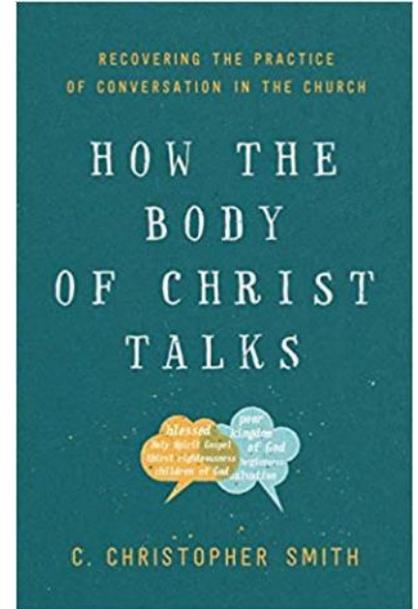
- ◆ August 4—Holy Communion, “**Mentors in Faith: Susanna Wesley**”
- ◆ August 11—“**Mentors in Faith: Sergio Méndez Arceo**”
- ◆ August 18—“**Mentors in Faith: Carl Jung**”
- ◆ August 25—Fall Kick off Sunday, “**Mentors in Faith at First Church**”

Adult Faith Formation *Book Studies and More*

C. Christopher Smith's new book, **How the Body of Christ Talks: Recovering the Practice of Conversation in the Church**, will be the subject of study for five one-hour sessions at noon and 7 p.m. on Wednesdays beginning Sept. 11. David Reid will facilitate the study. Books are available for \$12.

In today's highly charged social and political environment, we don't know how to talk well with others—especially with people whose backgrounds differ from our own, says Smith. He addresses why conversation has become such a challenge in the 21st century and argues that it is perhaps the most-needed spiritual practice in our individualistic age.

Smith shows how church communities can be training hubs where we learn to talk and listen to one another with kindness and compassion. The book explores how churches can initiate and sustain conversation, offers advice for working through seasons of conflict, suggests spiritual practices and dispositions that can foster conversation, and features stories from several congregations that are learning to practice conversation.



A Brief History of the European Slave Trade: This one-session class will be led by Diane Smith at noon and 7 p.m. Oct. 16.

It's been exactly 400 years since the first slaves arrived in Jamestown in what was to become the United States of America, which is leading to new discussions about slavery in United Methodist Churches. The denomination has prepared a study guide and other resources.

As Smith notes, the history of slavery goes back to the time before the birth of Jesus. You'll learn some surprising new information about where slaves came from, who owned slaves and the intersection of slavery – and its abolishment in parts of the world – with Christianity.

World Wisdoms Project: First Church will co-sponsor a panel discussion at 6:30 p.m. Nov. 14 in Fellowship Hall that is tentatively titled "Encountering the Holy in a Complicated World." Suggested donation for WWP events is \$10.

A full schedule of events will soon be posted on the website at worldwisdomsproject.org. WWP seeks to be a diverse, intergenerational and multi-faith and belief community that responds to the search for spirituality and wise action in the world today. First Church supports this nonprofit organization by providing space and staff support for WWP programs.

Financial Peace University: Sign up at the Adult Faith Formation table on Sundays to participate in this practical course that runs from 7 to 8:30 p.m. on Wednesdays from Sept. 11 through Nov. 6.

Participants do not need to be members of the church to attend. Cost is \$109 per family (single person or a couple) and payment is due at registration. Scholarships to reduce your portion of the fees are available to offset costs if the fee is outside your ability to pay. Contact David Reid, davidreid24@gmail.com, for information on scholarships.

All materials are supplied and childcare is free. For more information on this program, visit www.daveramsey.com.

FINANCIAL *Peace*
UNIVERSITY

Summer Relaxation – Yoga, Mindfulness, and Labyrinth

Summer Relaxation – Yoga, Mindfulness, and Labyrinth will provide a variety of meditative experiences Aug. 21-23, along with multiple opportunities to experience the church's labyrinth in Fellowship Hall. You can participate in any of them or all.

Yoga instructor Ann Lundeen will lead three, one-hour sessions of yoga: Chair yoga will be at 9 a.m. Aug. 21; Yin yoga will be at 6 p.m. Aug. 22; and Hatha yoga will be at noon Aug. 23.



Adapting practices from Amy G. Oden's book, *Christian Mindfulness: Right Here, Right Now*, Martha Conant will offer mindfulness instruction at 2 p.m. each of those days.

In addition, the church's labyrinth and materials on how to experience the labyrinth in various ways will be available throughout all three days. Personal instruction will be provided immediately after each of the yoga sessions.

Update on the UMC from Rev. Melanie



In June our Mountain Sky Conference met in Billings, MT, where two petitions were passed (by 95% and 98%) that support our commitment to welcome and inclusion for all of the diverse people of God.

The first petition states: "The Mountain Sky Conference of The United Methodist Church, cannot and will not comply with the strict requirements of the Traditional Plan adopted at the 2019 General Conference; we reject and will not enforce the punitive and exclusionary policies in The Book of Discipline focused against gay and lesbian persons, their partners, allies, or

their friends as a faithful, biblical witness to the love of God revealed in Jesus Christ. We will welcome all persons into the full life of our congregations and annual conference, regardless of gender identity, sexual orientation, or where they are on their faith journey. We will support the clergy of the Mountain Sky Conference who, as a matter of Christian conscience and pastoral faithfulness, choose to conduct same-sex unions and that we will take no disciplinary action against them on this matter. We will affirm calls to ministry based solely on the discernment of the gifts and graces necessary to fulfill that call."

Additionally, another petition passed which asked our Conference Roundtable to form a team to develop options for moving forward, including but not limited to partnering with other like-minded bodies, developing legislation for General Conference 2020, and possible separation from The United Methodist Church, which embraces the Traditional Plan.

I continue to serve on the Pathways Team of the Conference tasked with seeking a way forward through this mess. We meet frequently and are exploring several options, including disaffiliation from the denomination as a Conference. We are also waiting to learn more about the plan recently introduced by Bishops Bard and Jones proposing that each Annual Conference would choose to join one of three groups they are tentatively calling the Traditional Methodist Church, the Open Methodist Church and the Progressive Methodist Church. Obviously, First Church would be a part of the Progressive Methodist Church. Much remains to be seen about the details of what those organizations would look like.

The next General Conference will meet May 5-15, 2020 in Minneapolis. Lots of proposals will be considered and discussed prior to that time, and of course I will keep you posted. In the meantime, First Church will remain a welcoming, inclusive and loving place for all children of God, no exceptions!

Double Nickel Luncheon August 9



Come for a fun time playing
Have you Done This?
bingo.

Prize for winner(s) of game.

- **Best lunch in town \$4.00**
- **No reservations required**
- **12:00 Noon**
- **Fellowship Hall**

150th Anniversary Gala Sunday October 20

4:30 – 5:00 Dedication in the Sanctuary
5:00 – 7:00 Celebration in the Fellowship Hall

You won't want to miss this festive and elegant Gala, the final culmination of our year-long celebration of the 150th Anniversary of FUMC! There will be a brief program in the Sanctuary honoring God's work over the last 150 years in our beloved church. You are then invited into the Fellowship Hall which will be transformed into an elegant celebration space, fitting for such an event! There will be food, music, and conversation as we enjoy the company of a church united in gratitude.

Tickets for this event will go on sale August 25th and be sold every Sunday through October 6th. Tickets are \$20/person.
(Nursery available for 4 & under)

EXPLORING FIRST CHURCH

EXPLORING

First Church

We, here at First Church are so 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. Melanie and Rev. Cynthia invite you to attend the Exploring First

Church session on August 18 at noon 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 chance to tour the church building. As soon as possible, please e-mail administrativeassistant@fcfumc.net or call (970) 482-2436 ext. 112 if you plan to attend. Childcare will be provided if requested ahead of time. New members will be received at all worship services on August 25.

Welcome Josh Malave! Our New Director of Youth and Family Ministries



Josh started as First Church's Director of Youth and Family Ministries on July 28, 2019. He comes to us by way of Roanoke, Va. Josh is Puerto Rican, both his parents are native Puerto Ricans. He is bilingual in English and Spanish; lived for a while in Los Angeles where his father went to seminary and served as a pastor. Subsequently, being a pastor's kid, he moved with his family to Louisville, Ky. Josh graduated from Western Kentucky University with a B.A. in Corporate and Organizational Communication in 2014. He worked as a Religion Teacher and Associate Chaplain at Fork Union Military Academy in Fork Union, Va, became a Student Pastor at Passion Community Church in Powhatan, Va, and attended Union Presbyterian Seminary for two years. After much discernment, Josh decided that ordained ministry is not what he is called to but ministering to students, specifically teenagers, is his passion and calling now and in the foreseeable future. Please warmly welcome Josh and his wife, Alexis. Alexis just started working at CSU.

Sanctuary Symbols at First Church by Kathy Kuenzer



Music at First Church

"Inviting people to experience God's presence through music."

Bell Choir Update Submitted by Karen Stody

The handbell ringers have been busy this summer practicing and presenting several small ensemble pieces, and this will continue in August and September. On August 21 the Carillon Handbell Choir will have its first rehearsal to get started on fall music. They rehearse from 6:00-7:15 on Wednesdays and are an experienced group.

The Alleluia Handbell Ensemble will resume this fall and their first rehearsal will be Thursday, September 5, at 4:30. This group started out as a beginner bell choir a few years ago, and it is still open to beginners! We learn techniques and present music in church a couple times a year (or more, if we are ready!) Our goal is to have at least 8 ringers in this group, allowing us to play standard 3 octave bell music.

Please contact Karen Stody by email at karestoo@gmail.com if you have any questions.

I look forward to meeting new ringers!

Sanctuary Choir Resumes Thursday, August 22 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Our Sanctuary Choir resumes rehearsals on Thursday, August 22 and begins singing in worship weekly on August 25, Kickoff Sunday. We welcome new singers at any rehearsal and no audition is required. **We have an exciting year of music planned including a possible tour to Edinburgh, Ireland in the summer of 2020.** If you enjoy singing, please join us. We are in need of additional singers for all voice parts and would love to have you join us. Childcare can be provided if needed.

START UP DATES FOR OTHER MUSIC GROUPS

Church Orchestra - Wednesday, September 4

Children's Choirs - Sunday, September 8

The most familiar symbol in our sanctuary is the cross and flame. Its birth followed the union of the Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren Church in 1968. The symbol relates the United Methodist church to God through Christ (the cross) and the Holy Spirit (the flame).

Other symbols in the Sanctuary include the empty cross, which represents Jesus' resurrection; triangles, which represent the Trinity—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; and the open Bible, which symbolizes the word of God.. Other items also have specific meanings.

Colors symbolizing the days and seasons of the Christian year are used for stoles and other vestments, altar cloths, and church decorations. The liturgical colors vary with each season, and at First Church include blue for Advent, white for Christmas, purple for Lent, white for Easter, and red for Pentecost. The remainder of the year is considered Ordinary Time and the liturgical color is green.

The candles on the altar represent Jesus' coming into the world and into our lives. The light is carried into the worship service to symbolize Jesus' coming into the presence of the worshipping community. Later, the light is carried out into the world to show that Jesus Christ is for all people everywhere.

Our Usher Team greets and assists First Church members and guests as they prepare to worship. You may also see them collecting the offering and providing assistance to attendees. Our Usher Team is always looking to grow so that we can keep our Sunday worship services running smoothly. Would you please consider serving on our Usher Team one Sunday a month? This is a great way to meet people whether you are new to our church or have been a long time member. Please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Catherine Pawlikowski, to learn more about our Usher Team as well as the many other volunteer opportunities within First Church. You can reach Catherine by email membership@fcfumc.net or by calling the church office.





**FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
of FORT COLLINS**

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Our Newest Members—Welcome Home!



LISA FENTON-FREE



**JEN DIAS AND BREE BARTON
WITH RUE, RILEY & ELLIOT**



JEFF AND AMY LIBRANT



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Children's Ministry Happenings

by Barb Grauberger, Director of Children and Family Ministries



As Summer quickly speeds by and we get closer and closer to the start of the school year, I wanted to share with you some events that will be taking place in August and September.

8/25/19 - Fall Sunday School Kick Off

Join us Sunday morning at the 9:30 a.m. service as we celebrate coming together again after Summer break. We will be welcoming our children into their new classes and celebrating being together again. Continue the fun, and come back for the all church picnic at 4 p.m. We will have plenty of food, games and activities that will keep your kids entertained and well fed. Don't miss this special event celebrating 150 years of FUMC ministering to the community of Fort Collins.

New check in procedure

We will be trying out a new check-in procedure and hope to have it fully up and running by Fall Kick Off on 8/25. Look for I-Pad's set up at the Children's Check in desk. Simply check in on the I-pad and a nametag will be printed for you and your child. When picking up your child from Sunday School, you will have a matching number code on the nametags. We hope that this will help with a smoother check in as well as create another level of security for your child.

Children's check in center has a new look

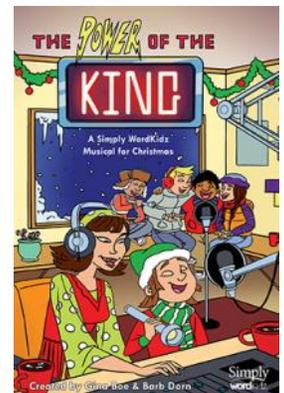
All Summer long the staff associated with Children's programming has been working to refresh and make our check in/workspace area visually appealing. Parent's Day Out has an office now and all of our Children's Ministry supplies will be neatly enclosed behind cupboard doors. Many thanks to the Foundation, the children's programming and private donors and worker bees that made this a reality. A special thanks to Bill Whitaker and John Hervey who built the Parent's Day Out Office.

Mental health workshops

Our kids are dealing with numerous mental health challenges that begin at a surprisingly young age. First Church wants to help parents navigate these challenges that children experience. We will be offering 4 Wednesday night sessions beginning September 11th. Pick one topic or all 4 to attend. Each session will go from 7-8 p.m. with childcare provided. Stay tuned for specific topics

Children's Choirs begin September 8, 10:30—11:00

The Cherub and Joyful Noise Children's Choirs will resume weekly rehearsals on Sunday, September 6 from 10:30—11:00. They will sing several times throughout the fall term and conclude with the presentation of the Christmas musical, *The Power of the King*. All children K5—2nd grade are invited to join the Cherub Choir and all children in the 3rd through 5th grade are invited to join the Joyful Noise Choir. Brenna Martin and Josh Colonnieves will lead the choirs again this year.



Back to School Supplies by JoAn Hopkins

Many families in our community are unable to provide the supplies their children need to start school. August 6th the Annual Backpack program will be provided by *Mujeres de Colores*. The school supplies required are also needed. If you do not have the time to shop for school supplies or backpacks, we accept money and will do the shopping for you. There is a big plastic tub in Fellowship Hall provided to collect your gifts. The generosity our church has provided in the past is greatly appreciated, and we hope our church will again be generous in helping with this project. Most stores have the list of the supplies needed posted. Thank you for your help and generosity. If you have any questions please contact JoAn Hopkins at jodhop@hotmail.com.



Grocery Cards Continue to Provide Support to First Church *New Procedures for King Soopers*

The new way to support First Church and the United Methodist Women is through your King Soopers Loyalty Card, Alternate Number or Key Tag. **Reloading your King Soopers gift card will no longer result in a contribution to this program.**

If you don't have a King Soopers loyalty card, obtain one at your King Soopers store and register it at the store's Service Desk or by calling **1-800-576-4377**. Be sure to register an email address and password. There is no charge for this service.

To link your Loyalty Card with the Church, enroll online at www.kingsoopers.com/communityrewards, using the email and password used when you registered the card. You can use the number we have been given (**SB653**) to navigate directly to **Fort Collins First UMW-EOM** to select it as the non-profit organization you wish to support. You may also come to the Grocery Card table on Sundays where there will be a computer and someone to help you enroll.

Be certain to always use your loyalty card when shopping at King Soopers. Your Loyalty card will continue to be used for discounts and gas points, etc., but will also earn contributions to the Church and the United Methodist Women.

Please continue to purchase Albertson's/Safeway and Sprouts gift cards at the Grocery Card table in Fellowship Hall on Sundays as you always have. There are no changes to the procedures for these cards.

If you have questions, please call Dea Carroll at 970-222-5545.

