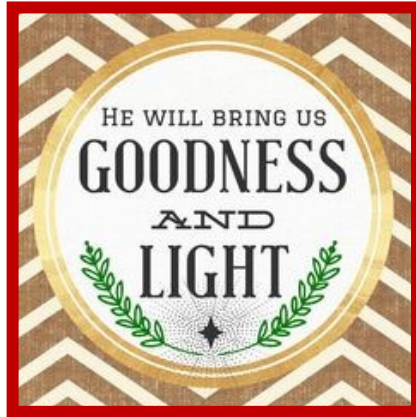


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Advent Blog

Look for a fresh blog entry every day during Advent at the First Church website (fcfumc.net). The posts are likely to include: faith readings, Bible verses and prayers related to Advent and Christmas; simple last-minute Christmas recipes; links to Advent and Christmas songs, hymns and videos; last-minute gift ideas; musings on favorite gifts received; recommendations on where to send a short note of gratitude by email to volunteers, clergy and staff.

This is a project of the Adult Faith Formation team.

To read any of the blogs beginning the first day of Advent, **go to our website (fcfumc.net) and click on ADVENT BLOG link on our home page.** From there you will be taken to all of the blogs up to the current day of Advent

We extend our deepest sympathy to the families of ...

Maxine Stepp – June 17
Georgia Ross – September 10
David Williams – Oct 16
Helen Hawthorne – Oct 24
Dolores Brown – Oct 26

We celebrate the baptisms of ...

Jameson Scott Jarrett – Nov. 1
Jackson Ellis Jarrett – Nov 1
Theodore David Swanson – Nov 10

First Church:
An inclusive, deeply relational community inviting all people to experience God's presence today.

Discover God's Love
Inspire Hope • Grow in Faith • Serve With Joy

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The **Carillon**
December 2019 Volume 25 Issue 12
David Adkins, Editor

First Church: An inclusive, deeply relational community inviting all people to experience God's presence today.

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ADVENT AT FIRST CHURCH "Goodness and Light"

DECEMBER 1 - FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Worship at 8:00 a.m. • 9:30 a.m. • 11:00 a.m. • 5:00 p.m.

DECEMBER 8 - SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Worship at 8:00 a.m. • 9:30 a.m. • 11:00 a.m. • 5:00 p.m.

- 12:00 - 2:30 p.m. - Advent Workshop
- 2:30 - 5:00p.m. - Caroling
- 3:00 - 4:30 - Children's Choir Musical Rehearsal

Wednesday, December 11

- 6:00 p.m. - Children's Choir Musical

DECEMBER 15 - THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT MUSIC SUNDAY (No 8:00 A.M. WORSHIP)

Worship at 9:30 a.m. • 11:00 a.m. • 5:00 p.m.

- "Glad Tidings" presented by the Sanctuary Choir & members of The Fort Collins Symphony Orchestra (9:30 & 11:00 a.m.)
- "Joy" presented by Choir, Soloists and Band (5:00 p.m.)

DECEMBER 22 - FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Worship at 8:00 a.m. • 9:30 a.m. • 11:00 a.m. • 5:00 p.m.

DECEMBER 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE

Worship at 2:00 p.m. • 5:00 p.m. • 7:00 p.m. • 11:00 p.m.

Welcome Dr. David McArthur Encircle (Modern) Music Leader



Dr. McArthur is the Music Director for the CSU Dance program, as well as a collaborative pianist for the CSU Music faculty. He also serves as the Music Director at First Baptist Church of Loveland. He has a Masters of Music from CSU and Doctorate of Musical Arts from CU Boulder. He has experience with Modern Worship and we are delighted to welcome him to the Music Staff at First Church. Join us some Sunday evening to welcome Dr. McArthur to our Staff.



Eastside Park Refurbishment

As a gift to our community for our 150th year, we took the bold step of leading the refurbishment of a nearby park that was unsafe for our neighbors. Partnering with the city of Fort Collins, we were able to raise over \$225,000 for Eastside Park improvements. Our fund raising team has done an outstanding job of inspiring generosity toward this project. With the financial support of so many of our church members and community partners this fundraising effort has achieved our goal, and we could not be more thankful. Good work, First Church! Let us continue to Inspire Hope, Grow in Faith and Serve with Joy.



THE EASTSIDE PARK FUND RAISING TEAM
Emily Land, Heidi Priebe, David Reid, and Stacy Plemmons

United Methodist Women December Meeting



United Methodist Women invites you to join us at 11:30 in the parlor on Thursday, December 12th as we install officers for 2020 and celebrate this holy season of Christ's birth. Festive decorations, delicious sweets and treats, friendly faces and a musical Christmas program given by Karen Stoody and Keilani McConnell assure us of enjoying the spirit of the season. It is a perfect ending to our year's theme, "Sisterhood of Grace", as we remember the 150 years of women dedicated to fulfilling Christ's mission.



Presented by
The Children's Choirs of First Church
Wednesday, December 11 • 6:00 p.m. • Sanctuary

Children meet at 5:00 for final rehearsal on December 11
Dress Rehearsal is Sunday, December 8 from 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. (After Advent Workshop)

Children who have participated in the choir this fall and are in the musical will have a FREE party at Urban Air in January. Date and Time of the party is TBA.

Children and Family Ministry

Dear First Church Family,

We have been busy in the children's ministry wing creating items for a time capsule in honor of our 150th year of ministry in this community. The kids have been busy making paper quilts and filling out cards about what they love about our church. We have plans to put one of the paper quilts, the cards that say what they love about our church, a Vacation Bible School shirt, some photos of the kids and of course a stuffed donut (we definitely need to recognize the importance of donuts at this church). We plan on putting these items in a time capsule, and 25 years later it will be opened. Some of us may or may not still be a part of the church community, but hopefully these mementos will convey how important these kids are, in the children's program to future generations.

Barb Grauberger, *Director of Children and Family Ministries*



**ADVENT WORKSHOP
2019**

When: Sunday, December 8, from 12:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Where: Fellowship Hall

What: Crafting and other holiday fun, (most suitable for ages 3+, but there are some fun things for the tiniest as well.)

Cost: Please bring a dozen cookies as your contribution to the event! Donations suggested for pizza as well. Suggested amount is \$5.00 per family.

Want to help? If you would like to host a craft station or help in some way, please visit: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084baba72ba02-advent3>

FIRSTKIDS

First United Methodist Church
1005 Stover Street, Fort Collins,

Parent's Day Out
First United Methodist Church
1005 Stover Street
Fort Collins, CO 80524
970-443-5255.

The best kept secret in town! Do you need a little break and want your child to experience quality childcare with minimal expense and commitment? This is the program for you! We serve ages 1 (and walking)-5 years old. Tuesday's, Thursday's and Friday's. Parent's Day Out is a licensed, low-cost, drop in child care service servicing the community for 35 years. **It is a safe, nurturing and fun program for the Mom or Dad who needs a few hours. Only \$8.00 per hour for the first child, \$7.00 per hour for a sibling!** Check us out under the Children's Ministry tab at FCFUMC.net.

Message from Melanie

***"Into the world, this demented Inn, in which there is absolutely no room for him, Christ comes...uninvited."* Thomas Merton**

Jesus was always an outsider, born outside of comfort and respectability and murdered outside the city walls. From the manger to the cross, he was on the outside his entire life. The majority of people never accepted or understood his message or mission. Thomas Merton was right, it is a demented world, with no room for Christ.

And yet.... Christ still comes, persistently and patiently, which is the ongoing miracle of Christmas. Year after year we commemorate the reality that God has reached out to us in human form, offering a fresh way of looking at the world, offering goodness and light. In the birth of Christ, God reveals an innocence and tenderness at the heart of things.

Because of Christ's coming, we have the assurance that somehow everything is going to be alright. We need not be afraid of life or death, for there is one who helps bear our griefs and carry our sorrows. In spite of everything sad, strange, and beyond our comprehension, ultimately all will be well.

It is one of the great mysteries of our faith that what was true over 2,000 years ago is true for us now. After all these years, the birth of Christ still has the power to rekindle hope and joy in human hearts. We can dare to believe that innocence and goodness are not illusions, power and might do not always win, miracles are possible, and God is with us even now.

Please join us often during these days of Advent, as we prepare ourselves for this world changing birth once again. May your Christmas be miraculous and blessed.

Melanie

Dr. Melanie Rosa, Lead Pastor

December Sermon Series - *Goodness and Light*
"The child, the child, sleeping in the night, He will bring us goodness and light. He will bring us goodness and light." (*Do You Hear What I Hear?* by Noel Regney)

December 1: "Do You Dream What I Dream?" Luke 1:26-45

December 8: "Do You See What I See?" Matthew 1:18-25

December 15: Christmas Music Sunday

No 8:00 Service

9:30 and 11:00: "*Glad Tidings*" for Choir and Orchestra

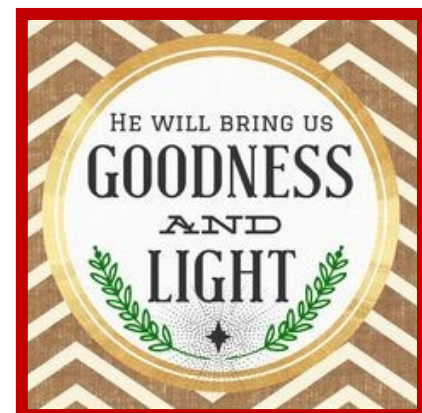
5:00: "*Joy*" Choir, Soloists, and Band

December 22: "Do You Hear What I Hear?" Luke 1:39-45

December 24: "Do You Know What I Know?" Luke 2:1-20

Worship Services at 2:00, 5:00, 7:00 and 11:00 pm

December 29: "Will You Go Where I Go?" John 21:15-19



UMW Christmas Wreath Project

All your wreath orders are in and the products have been created as you read this notice. The United Methodist Women really appreciate your taking the time to think ahead to Christmas while in the midst of fall festivities. Our unit couldn't be successful at raising funds for worldwide mission if it weren't for your generous orders.

Remember to pick up your order in Fellowship Hall Monday through Wednesday during the following hours:

December 2 - 12 Noon to 6:00 p.m.

December 3 - 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

December 4 - 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.



If you forgot to place an advance order, there will be some extra greenery items available to purchase at these times. Orders not claimed by 7:00 p.m. the last day will be bagged and stored in the Rose Garden for pickup at your convenience. We cannot be responsible for satisfying your order, nor can we guarantee the freshness of your items, after December 4.

Thank you so much for your orders! Enjoy!

FUMC Preschool Christmas Service Project

As part of FUMC's mission we see our preschool as a way to live out the message of God's love in the community. This Christmas season the preschool will again be helping the Larimer County Foster Adoptive Parent Association with their annual Christmas Party. Each year the LCFPA hosts a Christmas Party for 300 children currently in foster care in Larimer County.

Preschool and Church families can help by supplying gifts for these special children in our community. A tree with the tags will be in the south hallway, please take a tag off the tree and gather one to three items on the list, (do not feel everything on the tag needs to be purchased), wrap them and return them with the tag attached to the tree. These gifts do not have to be purchased they just need to be gifts from the heart.

You may choose as many names as you would like but they must be returned to the tree no later than Sunday DECEMBER 15th.

Thank-you for helping these special families of our community.

Questions please call Preschool Director Kelly Boettger at 970-482-0343 or preschooldir@fcfumc.net.

Adult Faith Formation Book Study

Wearing God Book Study: A study of Lauren Winner's Wearing God: Clothing, Laughter, Fire, and Other Overlooked Ways of Meeting God will start Jan. 15 and run four consecutive Wednesdays at noon and 7 p.m. beginning Jan. 15.

Winner is Associate Professor of Christian spirituality at Duke University Divinity School and an Episcopal priest and vicar of a congregation in North Carolina. She is the author of four previous books, including Still: Notes on a Mid-Life Faith Crisis.

Author Barbara Brown Taylor had this to say about Winner's new work: "Lauren Winner's curiosity about the life of faith is so compelling—and her intelligence so engaging—that there is nothing more satisfying than settling down with a new book from her. The only problem is that is impossible to read her without being changed."

David Reid will facilitate all sessions. Books are available for \$11 at the Adult Faith Formation table in Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings.



Church and Society Committee Christmas Project

What is the POSADA? Joseph and Mary looking for a place to stay, as Mary was going to have a baby. Not just a baby, but our Savior, Jesus. During this season before Christmas the Church and Society Committee collects toys, coats, gloves and hats for the children of families that are struggling financially. There will be a large tub in fellowship hall to collect gifts for these children until December 15. Please contribute to this wonderful tradition so the children of families in need can receive a gift. Information, jodhop@hotmail.com

Double Nickle Lunch - December 13



Sing into the Christmas season with the **Sunshine Singers** while enjoying the best lunch in town

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



Hosted by:
FIRST
United Methodist
CHURCH

Join us for:

Winter Bike To Work Day

at

Eastside Park

Located to the north and adjacent to
Laurel Elementary School

December 11, 2019
7-9:00 a.m.

Roll into the northwest shelter for
breakfast burritos,
fruit, and coffee!