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United Methodist
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www.fcfumc.net



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Urgent Pastoral Care

If you need Urgent Pastoral Care, please call the church office. If you call after church office hours (M – F, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.), please leave a voicemail for one of our pastors (ext. 123 for Rev. Melanie and ext. 122 for Rev. Cynthia). We will receive immediate notification of your voicemail and will return your call. For Emergency Assistance Fund, please call 970-494-5960 to leave a voicemail. The person on call will return your call within 24-hours. The Urgent Care phone line (970-294-6595) is no longer in service.

Pastoral Care

CAN WE TALK? Church and Society Roundtable on Contemporary Racism #2.

Because of the large amount of interest, the story continues February 23, 2020, 12:00 noon (after 11 a.m. Worship). Light lunch provided. Explore our hidden, involuntary reactions to the unknown. Analyze how institutions and cultural norms mask the consequences of racism. Examine racism just below the surface. How have our experiences and our Christian faith affected our thoughts on social justice and racism?



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

February 2020 Volume 26 Issue 2
David Adkins, Editor

*First Church: An inclusive, deeply relational community
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Message from Melanie

“Though we cannot think alike, may we not love alike? May we not be of one heart, though we are not of one opinion? Without all doubt, we may.” John Wesley

As you probably already know, there was a most promising development within the United Methodist Church recently. Since last summer a group of 16 diverse global church leaders have been meeting in high level mediation with Kenneth Feinberg, one of the nation's leading experts in mediation and dispute resolution. (Feinberg oversaw the victims' compensation funds after 9/11 and the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill disaster). Feinberg donated his time to our denominational mediation, due to his deep interest in the public witness of religion.

This group of 16 global leaders (including African Bishops and advocacy group leaders with very different perspectives) went public on January 3 with a “protocol” under which traditionalists — who oppose same-sex unions and ordination of gay clergy — would leave to form a new denomination, using \$25 million in denominational funds. The proposal keeps the UMC intact for all congregations desiring to remain, with plans to remove all restrictive language regarding LGBTQ persons from our Book of Discipline.

Legislation laying out the full plan is still in the works, and then it must be approved at our General Conference in May. I anticipate that it will receive broad support from all three segments of our denomination—traditionalists, centrists, and progressives. Keep in mind, that this proposal does not guarantee a specific outcome, but if passed at General Conference, it would give United Methodists in the United States the opportunity to choose a fully inclusive future. This has the potential to finally liberate the church from decades of infighting and disagreement.

In the meantime, denominational legislation will not prevent discrimination and intolerance. So much damage has already been done, and LGBTQ persons will still wonder, upon visiting a United Methodist Church, if they will be welcomed unconditionally, if they will be permitted to teach children, if the pastor will baptize their children or perform their wedding. No matter what happens at the denominational level, First Church will continue to share the expansive and generous love of God, and be a place of welcome and inclusion for all people, no exceptions.

I am hopeful about the future, and grateful to lead a church where all belong.

Melanie

Dr. Melanie Rosa, Lead Pastor

FIRST CHURCH REACHES OUT IN SUPPORT OF CHRIST UMC

On January 12, some members of First Church attended worship at our sister church here in Fort Collins, Christ UMC. They presented the congregation posters with hundreds of well wishes and signatures from our church family. This act of loving support was in response to some racist graffiti that was spray painted on the church a few weeks earlier. We stand in solidarity against hatred and racism of any kind. Great job, First Church!



SEASON OF LENT BEGINS

Wednesday, February 26 is Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of Lent. Lent is the season of repentance, introspection, and reflection in preparation for the great celebration of Easter. During Lent we prepare ourselves by journeying with Jesus all the way to the cross, and beyond. Ash Wednesday is a solemn and significant observance in the Christian calendar, during which we receive ashes on our bodies as a reminder that we are dust and to dust we shall return.

We invite you to mark the beginning of this sacred season by joining us for Ash Wednesday worship on February 26 at Noon and 7:00 pm in the Chapel.



SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

On Tuesday, February 25 the Youth will host our annual Shrove Tuesday pancake supper as a fund raiser for their summer mission trips. This is the last day before we begin the more somber and sacrificial season of Lent, so we celebrate with good food and good friends. Please join us from 6:00 to 7:00 in Fellowship Hall.



Tuesday, February 25
6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

All proceeds support youth mission trips.



MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH SLEDDING TRIP BUCKHORN CAMP - FEBRUARY 16—17

Middle School aged youth will be taking an overnight trip to Buckhorn Camp! We will sled, have dinner together, play games, and connect. It is an overnight trip, and all will return the following morning. This is a great opportunity for discipleship, group bonding, and affordable winter fun! Cost: \$10



HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING IN CHILDREN'S MINISTRY THIS MONTH

SUNDAY MORNING:

Nursery at all services—infant—6 years old

9:30 AM SERVICE: This is our main service for Children's programming. We offer Sunday school classes for 3 year old's (by September 15th of 2019) through 5 years of age. If your child is Kindergarten-5th grade they will join us after the children's message upstairs in the Theater room for our large group gathering. After large group, we will break up according to grades for more small group God time.

On the first Sunday of the month, we offer our fun and interactive **First Kids Club** for Kindergarten-5th grade. After the children's message in the Sanctuary, join us in the Theater room for fun and games. We will deliver your child back to the Sanctuary at the start of communion so that they may partake in communion with you. If your child is a preschooler, they may stay in the service or be checked in at the room 121 (the preschool room) which is staffed by nursery employees.

SUNDAY EVENING:

During our Sunday evening Modern Service, children are welcome and encouraged to stay at the service. We provide an area that is just for kids and grown-ups where children can play, parents can be near their children and enjoy the service at the same time.

Sunday School in February is made for LOVE!

This month we will be focusing on **LOVE** during Sunday School. This is one of my favorite lessons to teach children. It is so simple, yet so profound. God loves us. That's it! If I had one wish for children, it would be that they know, God loves them, no matter what.

3RD GRADE BIBLE CLASS:

Once a month the 3rd graders who received their Bibles have been meeting for an hour to learn more about the contents of this special book. If you have a 3rd grader, we would love to have them join us for fun, games and lots of learning. Classes will be held from 8:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m. in the Corner Café in the Children's Ministry wing. Here are the dates for the rest of the semester: January 12, February 9, March 8, April 19, May 10th

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
SAVE THE DATE! JUNE 8TH-12TH FROM 9 A.M.-12 P.M.**



FAITH COMMUNITY NURSING NOTES FEBRUARY 2020

Greetings from your FUMCFC Faith Community Nurses! We have been working behind the scenes to get our program up and running, and hope to be much more visible throughout the coming year. Beginning in early 2020, we will be doing some research on what our congregation feels are the health topics of the most importance and interest to our congregation. We then plan on coming up with what we hope are innovative, creative, and entertaining ways to bring you health education and information based on those topics.



Each month in our "Nursing Notes", we will give you an update on what we are doing, as well as offering monthly health tips.

For example, I have applied for a grant that, if awarded, will help go towards some "starter" equipment for our Faith Community Nurses such as blood pressure cuffs, as well as scholarship money towards Faith Community Nursing classes for RN's interested in joining our program.

I am very excited to announce that Jennifer Sanford, RN, has joined us and hopes to be taking the FCN classes during this upcoming year.

Health Tips for February:

February is National Heart Month. Here are a few very simple tips you can use to take better care of your heart:

- Have an eating plan that has an emphasis on vegetables, fish, "healthy" fats such as avocados, olive oil, and unprocessed nuts. The Mediterranean eating plan is a good example of this.
- Move more! Something as simple as walking for a total of 30 minutes a day can improve heart health.
- Get enough sleep! Adults really do need 7-9 hours of sleep a night to refresh and recharge, including your heart.

See you again next month!
Donna M. Newkirk, RN, MSN, FNP-BC
Faith Community Nurse



PARENT'S DAY OUT

Parent's Day Out is a terrific ministry for children and families here at First Church. This program is over 35 years old and provides drop-in child care for children ages 1 (and walking) through age 5. With 4 different classrooms and a staff of 11, we strive to provide a safe, stimulating, nurturing, and educational environment for young children. Our hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9-2:30, and Fridays, 9-1. The cost is \$8/hr, \$7/hr for siblings with a \$20 yearly registration fee. We are a licensed program that runs September—May. New Families are always welcome. Our days are filled with free play, music, stories, circle time, crafts, early literacy and math, and outdoor play. A snack is provided and parents supply a sack lunch for children staying over the lunch hour. We have a great time and would love to invite new friends to join us. Please feel free to visit, or check out our website at parentsdayoutfcmfc.org. You can also call us for more information at 970-494-5950, or Gail Farnum at 970-443-5255.



REPORT FROM OUR MISSIONARIES TO KENYA... BY RICH FISHER, ELAINE KARNS, KATE & RICK NORTON, DIANE PETERSON

As we write this article on January 8, we have completed about half of our mission trip to Nakuru, Samburu, and Meru, Kenya; things are going very well. The first day of the clean water construction project at a new primary school was busy. The 12' deep pit for the 4-stall latrine is being finished by workers we hired. Soon, the pit will be lined with stone, the slab will be laid and the stone walls will be built. Installation of the rainwater harvest system of the school roofs with a 10,000 liter tank has started. Hand washing stations will follow. The 547 Days for Girls kits made by women of our church will be distributed in Samburu and Nakuru schools with training provided to the girls by Kate Norton and boys by Rick Norton. Elaine Karns, Bonny Thomas, and Diane Peterson are contributing their artistic talents by painting instructional letters, numbers and images on walls in the classrooms. Rick and Kate Norton are helping to construct the school kitchen. All the women have enjoyed interacting with the school children. The Kenyans who we are working with are gracious and hard-working. A few of them have visited First Church over the years. We will have a full report on all that we have done when we return. Asante Sana.



HABITAT MULTIFAITH BUILD BAKE SALE - FEBRUARY 2

There will be a bake sale on February 2 in the Fellowship Hall from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Proceeds from this sale will go toward the Habitat 2020 Multifaith Build for Becky Ailor and her daughter, Ember.

Bakers, it is time to show off your gifts and talents. Please bring your donated baked goods to the church office between January 27 and 31. Any baked goods brought on February 2 should be taken directly to the Fellowship Hall before 9 a.m.

**BAKE SALE!
FEBRUARY 2
9 a.m. - 11 a.m.**

This is an event sponsored by the Missions team in collaboration with the United Methodist Women and our First Church family. You certainly want to be at church on February 2 to purchase baked goods to take home to share with your family, friends, and co-workers.



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY 2020 MULTIFAITH BUILD: *Building a Home for One of Our Own – Becky Ailor and Her Daughter, Ember*

First Church will be the Anchor Church, the largest donor and contributor of labor among the multifaith communities, to build a Habitat Home for Becky Ailor and her daughter, Ember. On Sunday, February 2, we will celebrate the beginning of a drive to raise funds toward the building of this Multifaith Home. First Church will raise \$50,000, which will be matched by several other faith organizations. Homeowners purchase their home with an interest free loan based on their income and put in 250 hours of sweat equity, work put into the home. The home will be located as part of the Harmony Cottages near the southeast corner Taft Hill and Harmony roads. Five Saturdays and a Thursday have been reserved for First Church building crews. Several fundraising events including a bake sale on February 2, an art show, a story-telling night, and several more events are also planned. A wall-raising is scheduled for early Saturday morning, March 28, and the home will be dedicated sometime next autumn.

Becky grew up in First Church where her mom, Lori Ailor is still an active member. She participated in many church activities in her school years and was confirmed in 9th grade. Becky is a graduate of CSU with a degree in Human Development and Family Studies. Owing to the high cost of housing, Becky and Ember are currently living with Lori.

Becky stated, "It felt surreal to be accepted into this amazing program. I'm so grateful for this opportunity; it still hits me all the time that I'm lucky and blessed to be in this position. Owning a home means safety and stability, where both my daughter and I can achieve anything! It will be a place to always come back to after being away – not just a safe place, but a place of love, acceptance and exploration."

The Missions Team look forward to working with First Church on this meaningful mission project. Please watch for more information throughout the year.

DEDICATION OF NATASHA'S HABITAT HOME

The dedication of Natasha and Samantha's Habitat home in the Harmony Cottages addition was held on December 14. The ceremony included short talks by representatives from Habitat Fort Collins, the Anchor church, Thrivent Financial, and Rev. Cynthia Paquette who led the prayer. Natasha responded with a heart-felt thank you.

This Faith Build was supported by \$50,000 raised by Our Savior's Lutheran Church, an additional \$50,000 from other churches including First Church, and an \$100,000 match by Thrivent Financial. Builders were from the supporting churches including First Church.



THE SPIRITUALITY OF MISTER ROGERS 7 P.M. • FEBRUARY 12 • CHURCH PARLOR

Retired Presbyterian pastor Rev. Rich Thompson will talk about "The Spirituality of Mr. Rogers" at 7 p.m. Feb. 12 in the Parlor.

"Fred Rogers spoke to the very best of our humanity," said Thompson. "He continues even posthumously to do so."

Both Thompson, who served as president of the Fort Collins Interfaith Council for many years, and the late Fred Rogers were ordained clergy in the Presbyterian Church (USA).

The host of Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood on PBS has been the subject of a PBS special, a documentary film and the current feature film, "A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood."

Rogers said he went into television because he hated it and thought there were better ways of using it. His program for children addressed issues of race, political assassinations and the events of Sept. 11, 2001.



WORLD WISDOMS PROJECT FEBRUARY 6

World Wisdoms Project will present **Encountering Awe: Science, Mysticism, Poetry 6:30-8:30 p.m. Feb. 6 at Northside Aztlan Community Center, 112 E. Willow St., Fort Collins.**

Presenters include: Steve Lundeen, professor emeritus of physics, Colorado State University; Stephen Hatch, Christian contemplative and adjunct professor of religious studies at Naropa University; and Dan Beachy-Quick, poet and University Distinguished Teaching Professor of English, Colorado State University.

Suggested donation is \$10. WWP seeks to enhance our community's ability to embrace all faiths and beliefs, cultures and lifestyles as inevitable growth and change unfold.



ANNUAL USED BOOK SALE

The annual used book and puzzle sale is scheduled for Feb. 7-9 in the Northern Colorado Faith Library and the Parlor.

Hours are 9 a.m.–1 p.m. Feb. 7; 9 a.m.–1 p.m. Feb. 8; 8 a.m.–1 p.m. on Feb. 9. All funds raised through the sale will buy new books, audio books, DVDs, and equipment.

Donations of used books, puzzles, DVDs and CDs may be dropped off at the library through Feb. 5. To schedule a pickup, call David Reid at (970) 581-2707. Popular fiction, mysteries westerns, and cookbooks are among the best sellers.

