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The Carillon

August 2021 Volume 27 Issue 8
David Adkins, Editor

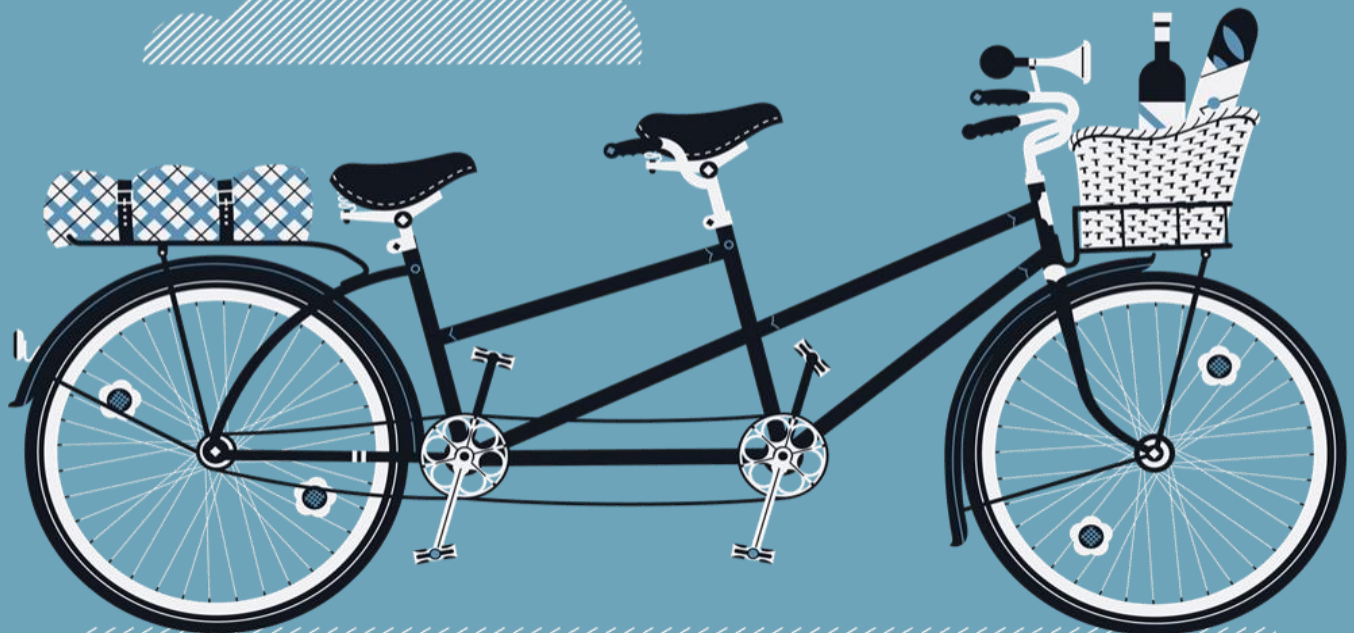
Discover God's Love

Inspire Hope • Grow in Faith • Serve With Joy

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

KICK OFF SUNDAY August 22 First Church Annual Church-Wide Picnic

Every year, to launch the new school year, First Church has an Annual Church-Wide Picnic. This year's Annual Church-Wide Picnic will be held on AUGUST 22 on the church's North Lawn. From 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. donuts and coffee will be served; from 11:15 am to 1:30 pm delicious food will be served. Mark your calendars! Bring family, a friend, a neighbor or a co-worker. Children's activities will start at 10:30 a.m. We will have a bouncy castle and slide, face painting, balloon animals, and more. Come enjoy good company, enjoyable music, delicious food, and lots of fun! Watch for more details in First Wire.



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

Discipleship Ministries

by Pam Raab

At First Church, we take seriously the Great Commission to **make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world**. We understand a disciple to be someone whose life is being transformed by the love of God the creator, through the power of the Holy Spirit and by following the way of Jesus Christ. Nobody is ever finished with their journey of discipleship, and each person's course will be different.

Discipleship is **belonging**. Whether you are new to First Church and are looking for a way to form relationships or a long-standing member looking to deepen your spiritual faith, the ***Journey to Belonging*** diagram will be a useful tool to help you navigate your next steps. It helps us put into practice our church's mission statement to **inspire hope, grow in faith, and serve with joy**.

Please take a moment to examine the diagram and see where you are on your own spiritual journey. First Church is here to help you expand and mature your discipleship. The diagram and link to the brochure detail many of the opportunities available to learn, serve, and connect. Prayerfully consider your next steps to discovering God's love for you



For more detailed information, please see *Journey to Belonging* brochure or church website. (fcfumc.net)

Message from Melanie ...

"The grass withers, the flower fades, but God endures forever." (Isaiah 40: 8)

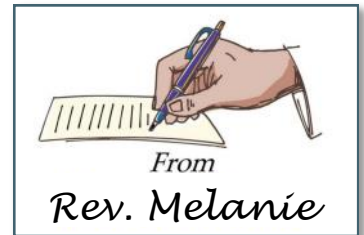
With each passing year I am increasingly reminded of what a short time we have on this earth, and how everything will change and pass away. It is a hard reality of human life, but a reality which makes our lives, relationships and blessings infinitely precious. And makes our time together as this body of Christ infinitely precious, too.

There is much change occurring among the Staff at our church these days, and this is challenging, but inevitable. Custodians Gabe Betzner and Juanita Cruz have left, after cleaning up after us so well. We hired Jake Kinner to join the Facilities Team and are looking for another candidate. Administrative Assistant Haley Candelario has decided to return to CSU in mid-August, and will be greatly missed. We have hired Shelley Nelson, a graphic designer, who was a Music Director in a Methodist church in San Diego and worked as a top administrator for the Kentucky conference of the United Methodist Church. Youth Director Josh Malave graduated from CSU and accepted a job to teach Social Studies at Greeley West High School. Our students and families will certainly feel this loss, and the search continues to look for another Youth Director. Finally, after 18 years of brilliantly blessing us with her musical talent, Karen Stoody has decided to retire. Her last Sunday will be September 12.

Please pray for all of these people and their families in this time of transition, and for our church as well. We seek your patience, as together we move forward trusting in our God, who endures forever.

Melanie

Dr. Melanie Rosa, *Lead Pastor*



THANK YOU, KAREN STOODY!

After 18 years of blessing us with her outstanding musical talent, Karen is taking a well-deserved retirement. Please join us on Karen's last Sunday, September 12 when we will honor her with a reception between services in Fellowship Hall.



Sunday, August 22 Is Undie Sunday!

After the 9:30 service, Rev. Melanie will dedicate our expanded and remodeled Kids' Closet. Please come downstairs to visit our new space and learn how we are serving our community by providing clothing and more to those in need.

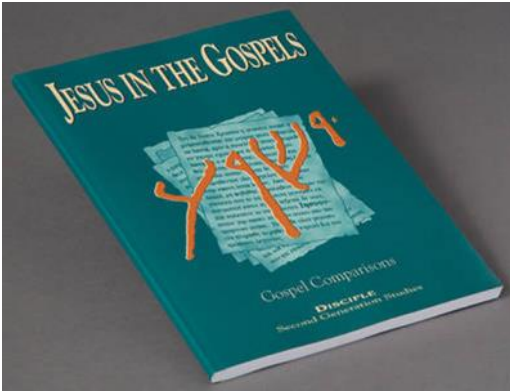
We are currently collecting new underwear and socks for children ages 2 through 18, and diapers sizes 4, 5, and 6.

Let's celebrate our little mission in the basement that is serving our local families by providing gently used clothing. Clothing security leads to both housing and food security.



Liza Judd-Salimbeni
Kids' Closet Coordinator

Jesus in the Gospels DISCIPLE STUDY



JESUS IN THE GOSPLES is a 30-Week Disciple study beginning Thursday September 9th from 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. This class takes participants deeper into the Gospels as the multi-column format of the study manual facilitates comparison of the similarities and differences in all the Gospel accounts, adding richness and texture to the study of Jesus' life and ministry. This in-depth study will be lead (alternately) by Rev. Cynthia Paquette, Cindi Ross-Bell, and David Reid. Two books (Gospel Comparison and Study Manual) are needed. For more information and to sign up contact Cindi Ross-Bell at (970) 481-0921 or falcor@frii.com.

THANK YOU and ALL THE BEST TO JOSH MALAVE!
WELCOME, BARB GRAUBERGER AS INTERIM DIRECTOR OF YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRIES!



A huge **thank you** to our Director of Youth and Family Ministries, **Josh Malave** for working with our youth for the past two years. Josh graduated with a Master of Education from Colorado State University this spring and has accepted a full-time teaching position at Greeley West High School. Josh's last day with First Church was July 31. A cake reception to thank Josh and wish him all the best was held on July 18 during Coffee Fellowship. While we search for a new long-term Youth Director, **Barb Graubeger** our current Director of Children and Family Ministries has been named and has started serving as the



Interim Director of Youth and Family Ministries. Welcome, Barb to this additional role! In addition to working with our children and their families, Barb will connect with our youth and their families throughout the summer. She will offer summer youth programs and service projects so our youth and their families can continue to stay engaged and receive support from their church. Please join the Staff Parish Relations Committee in prayer as they search for a new long term Youth Director.

Habitat for Humanity By Cindi Ross-Bell

Habitat for Humanity closed their fiscal year in June (2020/2021) by celebrating the completion of 4 homes (during a very rough pandemic year!) and beginning construction on 11 more homes. All with the help of faith communities like First Church. We (the Habitat for Humanity team at First Church) and they (Habitat for Humanity) cannot say "THANK YOU" enough for your generosity. Currently there are 90 buildable lots at Harmony Cottages, and we still need your financial support for the mission of housing equity in Fort Collins.

Our next First Church build day is Saturday Sept. 25. We need 6 volunteers to help with the build. Also, First Church will provide a lunch. We will be working at Harmony Cottages near the intersection of Harmony and Taft Hill roads. Construction begins at 8 AM and lasts until 3:30 PM. Habitat follows present CDC guidelines. More detailed information will be provided later. If you are interested, please contact Jim Collinson at jimcollinson56@gmail.com or (970) 377-9687.

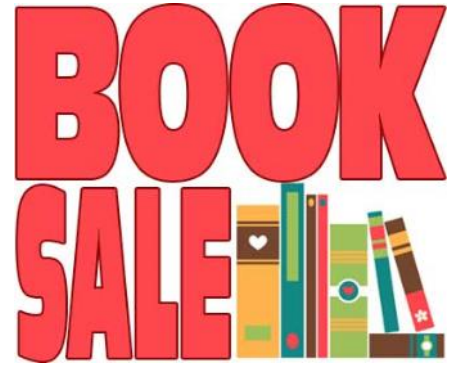


Adult Faith Formation *Book Studies and More*

The almost annual used book and puzzle sale to benefit the Northern Colorado Faith Library will be August 19-22, one day longer than in previous years. No sale was held during 2020 because of the pandemic.

Funds raised through the sale will buy new books, audiobooks, DVDs, Blu-ray Discs, and equipment.

Donations of used books, puzzles, DVDs, and CDs may be left in the library study room. Fiction, mysteries, westerns, and cookbooks are among the best sellers. To schedule a donation pickup, call or text David Reid at (970) 581-2707 or email davidreid24@gmail.com.



Did you know that the church has a labyrinth? It is a replica of the 12 course labyrinth set into the floor of the great cathedral in Chartres, France. Ours is painted on canvas and we lay it out in Fellowship Hall from time to time.

On August 10-12 the labyrinth will be available for anyone who would like to walk it. This is a wonderful meditative, stress relieving experience. If you walk without stopping it takes about 30 minutes. Many people like to stop to pray or reflect from time to time. Some like to sit or lie in the center.

It is also a great partnership or group experience, walking hand in hand or holding a sash looped around the leader's waist, with eyes open or blindfolded trusting the leader. This can be a bonding time.

Children and youth also enjoy following the labyrinth's path.

Everyone's invited to experience the labyrinth for the first time or to renew a previous experience. If you would like to reserve a time for a group, contact David Reid at davidreid24@gmail.com or 970-581-2707.

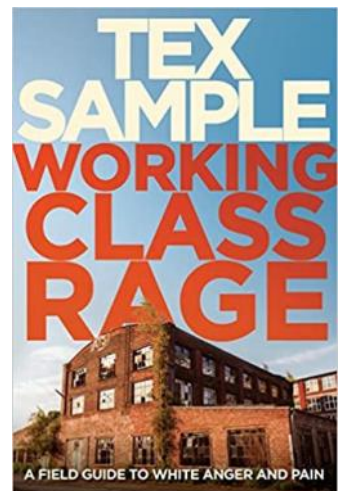
White working-class people are often identified as the voting bloc that gave the nation its most divisive leader in a generation, but Tex Sample argues that they are not what they seem. A four-week study of Sample's *Working Class Rage: A Field Guide to White Anger and Pain* will be offered at noon and 7 p.m. Wednesdays beginning August 18.

Sample is the Robert B. and Kathleen Rogers Professor Emeritus of Church and Society at St. Paul School of Theology and lives in Kansas City. He is an ordained elder in the United Methodist Church.

"This is a must-read for any who want to contribute to a more just and compassionate society," said retired UMC Bishop Kenneth L. Carder.

Emanuel Clever II, who represents Sample's home area in Congress, says, "Sample has the most clear-sighted analysis of the working class and how they are not served well by Democrats or Republicans. For those with a desire to close the gap between the working class and the political class, reading this book is mandatory."

Both sections are expected to be in person at the church. To register, for more information or for assistance obtaining the book, contact David Reid at 970-581-2707 or davidreid24@gmail.com. Copies of the book are approximately \$8.50 to \$10.50.



Children's Ministry Happenings By Barb Grauberger



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.

August 22, 2021 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 stay for the all church picnic. We will have plenty of food, a bounce castle, games and activities that will keep your kids entertained and well fed. Games and activities will be available on the North lawn starting at 10:45 a.m. Food will be served beginning at 11:15 a.m. Don't miss this special event celebrating the ability to gather together and share fun with our First Church community.



August 5, 2021 Toy Story 4 (rated G).

Movie night in the South church parking lot. Snack stand opens at 7:30. Movie will commence at 8:05 (sunset). Bring your own chairs or blankets.

Woody, Buzz Lightyear and the rest of the gang embark on a road trip with Bonnie and a new toy named Forky. The adventurous journey turns into an unexpected reunion as Woody's slight detour leads him to his long-lost friend Bo Peep. As Woody and Bo discuss the old days, they soon start to realize that they're two worlds apart when it comes to what they want from life as a toy.

Women's Retreat Saturday, October 2, 2021



This past year has been rough on everyone. We were thrust into an unstable environment that not only involved COVID-19 but fires, political instability, and racial violence. As a result, we have experienced a gamut of emotions. As we slowly rise from the mess to catch glimpses of hope and joy, we are relieved and thankful. The planning team invites all women to save OCTOBER 2 for the First Church Women's Retreat at Tamasag Conference Center in Laporte. This will be an all-day retreat where we will share stories, savor a delicious meal together, enjoy comradery, and breathe in the beauty and serenity of our surroundings. More details to come. Looking forward to retreating with you!



Music at First Church

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

Sanctuary Choir Resumes Thursday, August 19 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Our Sanctuary Choir resumes rehearsals on Thursday, August 19 and begins singing in worship weekly on August 22, Kickoff Sunday. We welcome new singers at any rehearsal and no audition is required. **We have an exciting year of music planned.** If you enjoy singing, please join us. The pandemic took a toll on many of our members, and we are in desperate need of additional singers for all voice parts and would love to have you join us. Childcare can be provided if needed. **First Church has always taken great pride in their choral program, and the choir has added significantly to the worship experience at our church for many years. For this tradition to continue, those who are able to sing are encouraged to step forward and make a commitment to become involved.** The alternative is a much different looking choral program than FUMC is accustomed to. **If you have the ability, or have ever thought about singing in the choir, I urge you to join us this season. Thank you!**

OKAY CHORALE by Sandra Meyer

Okay Chorale is an informal singing group primarily for those with memory loss and their caregivers. But I would love to invite any who like to sing the "older songs" to join us for in-person singing beginning Thursday, August 5 from 3-4 pm in the church parlor. Our goal is not to have performances but simply to enjoy singing together. We meet the first and third Thursdays of each month. We follow the church's COVID policy and will of course be carefully watching COVID in Larimer County. Please come, just bring yourself, and join in. Sandra Meyer coordinates the group; further information available by calling church office.

THURSDAY IS MUSIC NIGHT AT FIRST CHURCH!

Many of our music ensembles are meeting each Thursday evening this fall. Below are the meeting times and starting dates for each group.

Carillon Handbell Choir—5-6 p.m.
Beginning September 9

Instrumental Ensemble—6-7 p.m.
Beginning September 9

Sanctuary Choir—7-8 p.m.
Beginning August 19

First Church Singers—8:00—8:30 p.m.
Beginning September 9

Children's Choirs Begin Sunday, September 12 10:30—11:00 a.m.

Brenna Martin and Abigail Gilson, Directors

Please watch for more information about our children's choir program in "First Wire"

WILL YOU COME AND FOLLOW ME?

A hymn festival inviting us to answer the call to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God.



**Sunday, August 29
9:30 and 11:00 a.m.**

with composer, Tom Trenney and the Sanctuary Choir

First Church in Mission

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

We are a Mission Oriented Church

Do you know how many different ways your church reaches out in mission into the community and the world? You may be surprised to learn that it's through at least a dozen and a half projects. And most of these need active participation and support by you our members, whether by contributing your time or your resources.

Here are some near-term opportunities:

Faith Family Hospitality. We will host up to 4 homeless families in transition in our church the week of 26 September. There are lots jobs that week that need your participation.

Samaritan House (formerly Catholic Charities). Volunteer to help cook and serve dinner to 40+ homeless people every third Monday and every fifth Thursday of the month near downtown Fort Collins.

Food Bank. Help sort groceries for distribution to those in need the first Friday of each month.

Days for Girls. Help sew and assemble reusable feminine hygiene kits for donation to needy girls every second and fourth Tuesday from 9 am to noon in the church parlor beginning in September!

Kids' Closet is totally free and very active "store" within our church where families in the community can shop for new and slightly used children's cloths. Of greatest need now are new socks, underwear and diapers sizes 4, 5 and 6. Please visit the Kids' Closet at the dedication on Sunday, August 22, between services!

Habitat for Humanity. Last year we were the major contributor in building a house that was purchased by a family in our congregation. This year, we continue to support Habitat financially and we help at on-site build days. The next build-day is 3 August (must sign-up in advance)

Backpacks for Schoolchildren. Donate funds to help assemble supplies for underprivileged schoolchildren in our community.

Other opportunities at other times include:

Buckhorn & Camp Hope Methodist Camps. Located just 45 minutes west of Fort Collins atop Rist Canyon, repair and maintenance work opportunities exist in the spring and autumn.

Kenya Clean Water. When international travel becomes safe and comfortable, join in a once-in-a-lifetime mission trip to East Africa.

Pine Ridge Lakota Community. When travel and visitation is judged safe by the tribe, join in a mission trip to provide financial support and prepare and serve a Christmas banquet to tribal members.

To become more involved, contact the Community and World Mission Committee Chair, Rick Norton (ricknorton14@msn.com) or Rev Cynthia Paquette (c.paquette@fcfumc.net)



FROM OUR FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE Donna M. Newkirk

If there's one thing I love about our church, it's the music. Whether it's singing in the choir, listening to Karen play our wonderful organ, or hearing the bell choir, it's just something that makes our church services very special. Did you know that music is also good for your physical and mental health as well? According to HopkinsMedicine.org, "Research has shown that listening to music can reduce anxiety, blood pressure, and pain as well as improve sleep quality, mood, mental alertness, and memory". An article in VeryWellMind.com reports that: "Music can be a source of pleasure and contentment, but there are many other psychological benefits as well. Music can relax the mind, energize the body, and even help people better manage pain". For more information, see the following articles: <https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/health/wellness-and-prevention/keep-your-brain-young-with-music> And <https://www.verywellmind.com/surprising-psychological-benefits-of-music-4126866>



Yours in Good Health,

Donna M. Newkirk, MSN, APRN-BC Faith Community Nurse

EXPLORING

First Church

Are you interested in learning more about our promising and inclusive church? Would you like to consider the possibility of becoming a member of this compassionate community, sharing the love and light of Christ in our time? If so, Rev. Melanie and Rev. Cynthia invite you to join them on Sunday, August 8 at 2:00 p.m. for a Zoom class about our church and its mission in a post-pandemic world.

If you are interested, please contact administrativeassistant@fcfumc.net for the Zoom link.

FIRST CHURCH Welcomes Composer, *Tom Trenney* August 27, 28, 29

Tom Trenney is blessed to serve as Minister of Music to First-Plymouth Church in Lincoln, Nebraska, and as Associate Professor of Music and Director of Choirs at Nebraska Wesleyan University. He is Artistic Director of Lincoln's Abendmusik Concert Series and Conductor of *sounding light*—a professional choir he founded in 2003. In the past few years, Tom's choirs have been honored to perform for state, regional, and national conventions of the American Choral Directors Association.



A graduate of the Cleveland Institute of Music and the Eastman School of Music, Tom is grateful for the inspiration of his teachers and mentors – especially Anton Armstrong, David Davidson, Craig Hella Johnson, (Mister) Fred Rogers, William Weinert, Anne Wilson and Todd Wilson. His choral compositions are published by Augsburg Fortress, Beckenhorst Press, Choristers Guild, E.C. Schirmer/Galaxy, Morningstar, Musicspoke, Pavane, and G. Schirmer, and he will make his Carnegie Hall conducting debut in June 2022.

Address Correction Requested



**We extend our deepest
sympathy to the following
families:**

Eleanor Thomas - June 20, 2021

Lorrie Wagner - July 1, 2021

Debbie Brack - July 5, 2021

Lloyd Helper - July 18, 2021

Gerry Sampson - July 18, 2021

Marshall Petring - July 15, 2021

**We celebrate with joy the
wedding of:**

Kristen Rubenthaler and Reese Roberts - July 24.



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