

**FIRST**  
United Methodist  
**CHURCH**

1005 Stover Street  
Fort Collins, CO 80524  
970.482.2436

[www.fcfumc.net](http://www.fcfumc.net)



The **Carillon**

September 2021 Volume 27 Issue 9  
David Adkins, Shelley Nelson, *Editors*

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.*

## Message from Melanie ...

It has been wonderful to see many of you face to face in worship these past 4 months. There is nothing like the gathered body of Christ coming together to worship God. We do things in worship we do not do anywhere else. We utter the name of God, and not in vain, but with reverence, gratitude, and awe. We affirm what we believe, even when there are times we struggle with that belief. We join our hearts as one in prayer, and recite an ancient prayer that Christians have said for thousands of years. We give thanks for all that is good in our lives, and consider what we need to change, let go of, improve. Together we sing, and we let others lift us to the heavens with their gift of music. We honor and remember our dead, and we dare to speak of resurrection and eternal life. We join lives together for better or worse, with great hope for the future. We baptize with ordinary water and the blessing of God, and promise to love newcomers as we join them in supporting our church with prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. We take small symbols of ordinary bread and juice, just enough to fulfill our spiritual hunger, and there we encounter God with us.

In a recent sermon I mentioned an opinion piece in the New York Times, in which Collin Hansen wrote: "The body of Christ isn't the same when you separate its members. The hands and feet and ears and eyes need to be assembled for this body to work for the good of all. Christians need to hear the babies crying in church. They need to see the reddened eyes of a friend across the aisle. They need to chat with the recovering drug addict who shows up early but still sits in the back row. They need to taste the bread and wine. They need to feel the choir crescendo toward the assurance of hope in what our senses can't yet perceive. We need to know the church members as our extended family."

Gathering together is essential within a tradition in which God took on flesh and dwelt among us. While I am so profoundly thankful for our ability to Live Stream worship and offer high quality online worship, there is nothing like the gathered Body of Christ on a Sunday morning. I hope to see you in person in church soon.

*Melanie*

Dr. Melanie Rosa, *Lead Pastor*

## Sermon Series: "A Disciple's Path"



**September 12**— "A Disciple's Path: To Be Like Jesus" Matthew 25:31-40

**September 19**— "A Disciple's Path: Worship" Psalm 100; John 4:23-24

**September 26**— "A Disciple's Path: Mission and Service" Jonah 3:1-9; Matthew 28:18-20

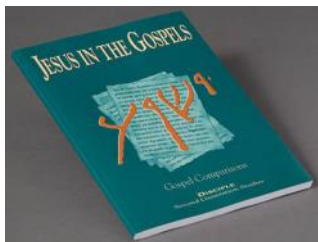
**October 3**— "A Disciple's Path: Evangelism" John 4: 4-30

**October 10**— "The Disciple's Path: Faith Formation" Genesis 15:1-6

**We encourage everyone to wear masks in worship and in large groups at church to keep everyone as safe as possible. Thank you!**

# ADULT FAITH FORMATION

David Reid



## Jesus in the Gospels

*Jesus in the Gospels* is a 30-week Disciple in-person study beginning September 9 at First Church. Classes will be 6:30 to 8 p.m. on Thursdays.

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 led (alternately) by Rev. Cynthia Paquette, Cindi Ross-Bell and David Reid. Two books (the Gospel comparison and the study manual) are needed. For more information and to sign up contact Cindi Ross-Bell at (970) 481-0921 or [falcor@frii.com](mailto:falcor@frii.com).



World  
Wisdoms  
Project

## World Wisdoms Project

The pandemic experience is the focus of two related events in September from World Wisdoms Project.

"Listening . . . to the Voices of Grief, Gratitude, and Hope through Music and Reflection" will be 6:30-8:30 p.m. September 9 at Aztlan Center, 112 E. Willow Street, Fort Collins. Featured music is African American spirituals.

Part 2 of this program is a public art-making event 3-7 p.m. September 24 at Old Town Square. Participants may create a personal flag that will be flown at the square. Musicians and poets will provide a reflective atmosphere and the Fort Collins Interfaith Council will close with lighting of the Hope candle at sunset.

## Wild Woman: A Footnote, The Desert, and My Quest for An Elusive Saint

Amy Frykholm, award-winning writer, scholar and journalist, will speak on her latest book *Wild Woman: A Footnote, The Desert, and My Quest for An Elusive Saint* at 6 p.m. September 26 at First United Methodist Church in a presentation sponsored by the Northern Colorado Faith Library.

*Wild Woman* is the record of Frykholm's quest to follow the footsteps of fifth-century desert hermit St. Mary of Egypt. This quest led Frykholm throughout Egypt, Israel, Palestine, and Jordan where she searched for the meaning of Mary's life and learned to embrace the wild and sacred within. With a scholar's eye and a mystic's heart, Frykholm offers a look at an elusive and dynamic figure from history while offering insights into our own inner--and potentially rewilded--lives. Books will be available for sale from Old Firehouse.



## A Disciple's Path

by Margaret Janson

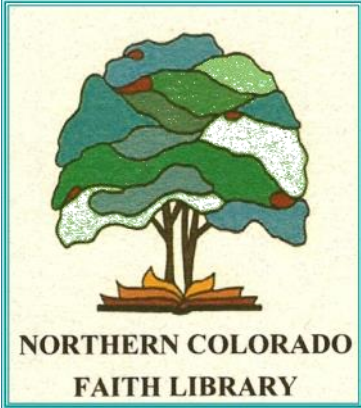
Have you ever sensed there ought to be more to being a member of the church than attending worship, making a pledge, and serving on a committee? Or felt there was something you needed to be doing but didn't know how?

Wherever we are along the journey of faith, most of us long for something more; or have the realization that church should be not just where we go, but who we are. How do I follow Jesus in a real and tangible way? What spiritual practices will help me experience a more vibrant relationship with God?

*A Disciple's Path* has the potential to revolutionize the way we view our participation in the church, transforming us from wanderers into pilgrims. The program combines a Wesleyan understanding of our growth in God's love and grace with time-tested spiritual disciplines expressed in our membership vows, helping newer and seasoned members alike take the next step in becoming dynamic, engaged followers of Jesus Christ.

The 6-week study led by Rev. Cynthia, David Reid, and members of the Discipleship Team will be offered Wed. Sept. 22 – Nov. 3 (no class Oct. 13), at noon or 7:00-8:00 PM. Materials will be provided. Sign up Sunday mornings at the AFF table or [davidreid24@gmail.com](mailto:davidreid24@gmail.com) or 970-581-2707.

## NORTHERN COLORADO FAITH LIBRARY



Mark these dates on your calendar for events featuring retired clergy members from First Church:

October 13, 7 p.m. – Rev. David Dalke presents his book, *Don't Miss It: Four Seasons of Stories that Spark Enjoyment and Reflection* with Rev. Charles Schuster facilitating the conversation.

December 8, 7 p.m. – Rev. Charles Schuster presents his book, *Angels We Have Heard Are High: Stories that Bring Christmas Down to Earth* with Rev. Dalke facilitating.

Copies of the books will be available for purchase. Both events are sponsored by the Northern Colorado Faith Library.

## WOMEN'S WEEKLY PRAYER AND SHARE GROUP



### Are you interested in a small group for prayer, devotions, and fellowship?

Women's weekly Prayer and Share group is starting on Tuesday, September 7, at 10am in the Upper Room classroom. Welcome to anyone who would like to be part of this group, or who just want to visit. Call Margaret at 223.8539 for more information, or to leave a prayer request.

## DAYS FOR GIRLS COMING TOGETHER AGAIN!

Days for Girls is an international nonprofit organization ( [daysforgirls.org](http://daysforgirls.org) ) that provides reusable feminine hygiene products to girls all over the world who, without them, have to drop out of school and cannot maintain a job. To date, our First Church DfG group has made over 1000 kits that have been distributed in Kenya, Lebanon and Chad. Please join us to make these feminine hygiene kits and be a part of this amazing mission that allows girls to be able to follow their dreams. We will be meeting in the church parlor every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday from 9 am to noon. We need people who can sew, serge, cut fabric, iron and more! We look forward to seeing you soon! For more information, please contact Kate Norton at 970-402-6783 or [flf67@live.com](mailto:flf67@live.com).





## CONGREGATIONAL CARE OPPORTUNITIES

### Love in Action

Congregational Care is in search of a Coordinator for Love in Action. Love in Action partners with members needing assistance with one time tasks such as lawn work, rides to medical appointments, grocery pick up and other acts of kindness with volunteers from the congregation. This person will receive requests, send emails to the list of existing volunteers and connect a volunteer with the requester whenever possible. Recently, there have been only one or two requests per month.

Please contact the church office at

[administrativeassistant@fcfumc.net](mailto:administrativeassistant@fcfumc.net) or 970-482-2436 or Stephanie Lane at [talsal2@comcast.net](mailto:talsal2@comcast.net) or 970-229-0296 if interested in helping with this important ministry.



### Transportation Ministry



Congregational Care is in search of a Coordinator for our Transportation Ministry. This ministry coordinates rides to Sunday church services for our members at care facilities that are no longer able to drive. We are also in need of a few more drivers and assistants. Please contact the church office at [administrativeassistant@fcfumc.net](mailto:administrativeassistant@fcfumc.net) or 970-482-2436 or Stephanie Lane at [talsal2@comcast.net](mailto:talsal2@comcast.net) or 970-229-0296 if interested in helping with this important ministry.

## HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Our next First Church build day is Saturday Sept. 25. We need 6 volunteers to help with the build. Also, we may need volunteers to help prepare a lunch, which is uncertain at this time because of the Delta variant. 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](mailto:jimcollinson56@gmail.com) or (970) 377-9687.



## MUSIC AT FIRST CHURCH

If you are a singer, play a band or orchestral instrument or play handbells (or would like to learn) you are invited to join our Sanctuary Choir, Church Instrumental Ensemble, or Handbell Choir. For information on any of these groups, please contact David Adkins, Director of Music and Communications at [Choirdir@fcfumc.net](mailto:Choirdir@fcfumc.net). All are welcome! You do not need to be a member First Church to participate in the music ministry of First Church.





## Parent's Day Out

Parent's Day Out is re-opening September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021! Space is available for ages one and walking up to 5 years old. We offer quality childcare with flexibility and affordable pricing.

Check out our new and improved website and some important changes to our business model. Begin the registration process via our website: [Parentsdayoutfcmc.org](http://Parentsdayoutfcmc.org) Tell your friends and neighbors about our program. We look forward to welcoming-coming new and old friends!

## Children's Sabbath and 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Bible Presentation October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Join us for a very special morning in which we honor the children of First church. There will be no Sunday School at the 9:30 service! There are spots available for children to usher, greet and read liturgy! Look for the sign ups, coming soon.

3rd graders! We will be presenting you a Bible of your very own at Children's Sabbath on October 10<sup>th</sup> at the 9:30 a.m. service. Look for more details to come.

If your child is interested in receiving a Bible on Sunday at the 9:30 a.m. service on October 10th, RSVP to Barb Grauberger at [childrensdirector@fcmc.net](mailto:childrensdirector@fcmc.net).



## Trunk or Treat & Chili Cook-Off Sunday, October 24th, 3:30 - 4:30

Join us for our annual Trunk or Treat and a chili supper. The afternoon will be filled with free pumpkins to decorate and lots of exciting decorated cars filled with candy. This is an event you won't want to miss! Stay for the chili supper after trunk or treating. Further details to follow.

## YOUTH MINISTRY HAPPENINGS

By Barb Grauberger



### August 25 - Introductory Youth group for incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders

A special introductory youth group for 6<sup>th</sup> graders only. If you are a 6<sup>th</sup> grader, you are invited to a special event introducing you to Youth Group. Come join us for information, fun and getting to know your youth leaders a little better. Meet in the Youth Basement from 6:30-8 p.m. We are so excited for you to join us this year!

### September 1

Youth group for grades 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> begins September 1<sup>st</sup> from 6:30-8 p.m. Join us for fun games, fellowship, learning about God and just being with your community. Led by Barb Grauberger and Nick Tomasini.

### September 1

Youth group for grades 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> begins September 1<sup>st</sup> from 6:30-8 p.m. Join us for fun games, fellowship, learning about God and just being with your community. Led by Barb Grauberger and Nick Tomasini.

## 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!



# DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES

## Grow in Faith

United Methodists help one another grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. First Church offers many ways to assist in our faith journey as we grow in our relationship with him.

We flourish when we celebrate God's presence in worship with a faith community. Whether we are coming to church or watching services online, there are elements of the service that speak to each of us and deepen our relationship with Christ. First Church is here to help us grow in our spiritual practices. Through prayer, scripture, and Bible study we are drawn closer to God. Sunday School, book studies, guest speakers, and the resources in our church library are a few of the things the church offers to help expand our understanding of the Bible and build our Christian relationships, leading us to become more like Jesus.

The Discipleship Ministry Team is ready to help you connect to opportunities to grow in your faith.

## Journey to Belonging *Discover God's Love*



For more detailed information, please see the *Journey to Belonging* brochure or the church website. ([fcfumc.net](http://fcfumc.net))



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

Bud M Anderson - July 31, 2021

Rhonda Hageman - August 2, 2021



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

Rebecca Groh and Ellie Miller—September 4

