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The Carillon

January 2022 Volume 28 Issue 1
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

"When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone, when the kings and princes are home, when the shepherds are back with their flocks, the work of Christmas begins. To find the lost, to heal the broken, to feed the hungry, to release the prisoner, to rebuild the nations, to bring peace among others, to make music in the heart." Howard Thurman

The work of Christmas is not over, it has just begun, as 2022 dawns before us. This year, I will be working with your elected church leaders to discern how God is calling us to serve, bless, and heal during this time of challenge and opportunity. We have been through so much in the last two years, and this current circumstance presents a rare opportunity for us to be the heart and hands of Jesus Christ; to express our love for God in the way we love others. Our church is here to be a powerful force of goodness and light, and many people are counting on us.

May God help us in this promising New Year, as we seek, (to paraphrase John Wesley): "To do all the good we can, in all the places we can, for all the people we can, as long as ever we can."

Thank you, First Church, for your continued engagement, participation, generosity, and support. It matters now more than ever. May 2022 be a happy and healthy New Year for all of us.

Dr. Melanie Rosa, *Lead Pastor*

HUMAN RELATIONS DAY - January 16, 2022

Human Relations Day is the first of the United Methodist Special Sundays that we observe, and this year it falls on Sunday, January 16, the Sunday closest to the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Your gifts that day will support our denominational efforts to build Beloved Community through faith based programming, community development, youth offender rehabilitation programs, as well as our work with at risk teenagers. Each of God's children are equally important. Thank you for your support.



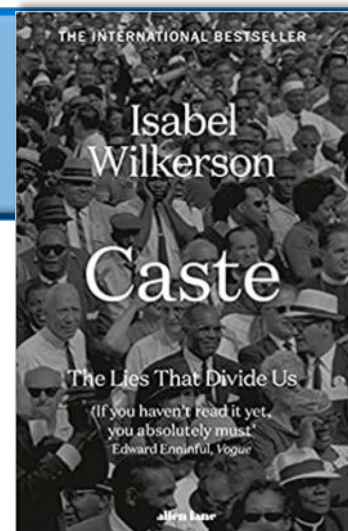
FAITH FORMATION

Caste: The Origin of Our Discontents
beginning January 12 at noon in person or
7 p.m. online

Co facilitated by Don Gaymon and David Reid

Caste is the highly acclaimed and disturbing book by Isabel Wilkerson built on deeply researched stories about real people. She explores how America today and throughout its history has been shaped by a hidden caste system and a rigid hierarchy of human rankings.

Discussions are scheduled for January 12 and 26, and February 9 and 23. Books are \$15 and available from David Reid, davidreid24@gmail.com or 970-581-2707.



INTERFAITH SPIRITUALITY BOOK CLUB

In 2022, the interfaith spirituality book group will meet every other month at 3 p.m. on the third Sunday in-person at First United Methodist Church. The role of facilitator will rotate. Here are the books selected for January and March:

January 16: *Hope and Witness in Dangerous Times: Lessons from the Quakers on Blending Faith, Daily Life, and Activism* by J. Brent Bill. This short book (88 pages) is available as an ebook and a paperback. David Reid will facilitate the discussion.

March 20: *No Cure for Being Human: (and Other Truths I Need to Hear)* by Kate Bowler, professor at Duke Divinity School and author of *Everything Happens for a Reason: And Other Lies I've Loved*. Lory Clukey, professor emerita, University of Northern Colorado, will facilitate.

WORLD WISDOMS PROJECT

Rev. Amanda Henderson and Professor Miguel De La Torre, both of Iliff School of Theology, will engage in a panel conversation addressing the question **“Has Religion and Religious Belief Influenced the Mindset of White Superiority?”** 6:30-8:30 p.m. February 8 at Heart of the Rockies Christian Church, 6501 Brittany Court. This is a World Wisdoms Project program and co-sponsored by First Church. Register at worldwisdomsproject.org.



UPDATE ON SCOUTING MINISTRIES

- Dr. Melanie Rosa, *Lead Pastor*

First Church has long been a Chartering Organization for a variety of Scouting groups, hosting meetings, ceremonies and special events in our church for over 50 years. Across the country, local United Methodist churches have been leading sponsors of Boy Scout and Cub Scout troops; we have a denominational Center for Scouting Ministries. Last year, the Boy Scouts of America filed bankruptcy as a result of widespread sexual abuse allegations. Negotiators for the United Methodist Church have reached a settlement to pay \$30 million as part of the Boy Scouts of America's bankruptcy reorganization plan. This is to be paid over three years into a trust fund for survivors of Scouting-related sexual abuse. The settlement comes after months of negotiations, and the overall bankruptcy plan still must be approved by a federal bankruptcy court.

Our United Methodist connectional system has brought together lawyers from across our denomination to work on behalf of every local church to protect our churches as well as lead in prayerful care and remuneration for the victims. This settlement would allow a reorganized Scouting program to continue to be chartered by a United Methodist Church.

United Methodist leaders said the settlement meets key objectives, including bringing healing and support to survivors, and absolving local United Methodist churches from abuse claims involving Scouting activities. There have been **no** allegations of abuse occurring in our church. We look forward to many more years as a Chartering Organization for Scouts, and are thankful for this settlement.

NOTICE FROM STAFF PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE

- Dana Sampson, *Chair SPRC*

During the month of January, Rev. Cynthia Paquette will be on renewal leave. This is something offered to clergy by our Book of Discipline, and has been unanimously approved by our Staff Parish Relations Committee. During that time, Rev. Melanie will be assisted by a variety of dedicated volunteers to make sure you receive excellent care in Rev. Cynthia's absence.

Dana Sampson, *Chair SPRC*

FIRST CHURCH CARE CLOSET

-Joan Carter

First Church CARES for you in ways you may not be aware of! On the second floor of the Education Wing (near the Village Commons Classroom) is a small room which is the repository for **medical** items of a wide variety. If you have a short-term need for such items while you rehabilitate at home, check out what we have in stock!

For example: wedges (to prop you up in bed), a tall reading light (for a bedside or chair), soft casts for your leg, a shower stool, a high-rise toilet topper, a wheelchair, a walker, crutches, and many more things. Just inquire at the Church Office if you need something and you'll be escorted to the **Care Closet** to look for and select the specific item that you need.

For further information, contact *Joan Carter* (curator of the Closet) at carteroregon@gmail.com.



MUSIC AT FIRST CHURCH - Alleluia Handbell Choir

Prior to the Pandemic, First Church had started the Alleluia Handbell Choir for beginner to intermediate ringers. This group is reforming in 2022. If you played before, or are interested in playing, please contact David Adkins @ choirdir@fcfmc.net. Day and time for rehearsals will be set based on the needs of the group. However, plans are for this handbell choir to meet during daytime hours rather than in the evening.

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION FOR FUMC CO-OP PRESCHOOL 2022- 23 SCHOOL YEAR BEGINS FEBRUARY 3 FOR FUMC CHURCH MEMBERS

Class Offerings

3 Year Old Classes- (Must be 3 to start in the Fall)

2 days: Tues. & Thursday mornings

3 days: Mon, Wed, Friday mornings

Older 3/ Younger 4 Combo Class -

3 days: Mon, Wed, Friday mornings

Pre-K Classes- (Must be 4 to start in the Fall)

3 days: Mon, Wed, Friday mornings

4 days: Monday-Thursday mornings



FUMC members not currently enrolled in preschool will be able to register Thursday February 3.

Open registration for the public will be February 4. Members may register after their designated day, but they will lose their priority status. Registration involves completing an online registration form and paying the \$60 non-refundable registration fee. To access the registration form, please visit our website www.preschoolfumc.org and look for admissions tab.

Our annual open house will be done virtually this year with an online tour of the classrooms and video with important information. This video is available now.

If you have any questions or would like to visit the program, please call the Preschool Director, Kelly Boettger 482-0343 or email preschooldir@fcfumc.net.

Please spread the word to your friends and neighbors about our excellent preschool program!

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY FUNDRAISER

-Jim Collinson

Dean Block and the Open Hearts Sunday school class were successful in the silent auction of nativity creches. They raised \$715 for Habitat for Humanity. The class used Dean's woodworking room in his basement to construct the creches. Funds will be applied to the 2022 Faith Build at the Harmony Cottages located at the corner of Taft Hill and Harmony roads. Opportunities for building participation will occur soon.



FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

Would you like to be debt free months, years or decades before you planned? Millions of folks have, and you can too. Please join us For Financial Peace University, a 9-week class on how to be debt free and enjoy life more. Classes will be held Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 8:30 pm, January 12 to March 9, at our church. Anyone is welcome to attend, so invite your family and friends. Don Silar, facilitator, can be contacted at dfsilar@aol.com. You can also register at Financialpeace.com.



SPECIAL EVENT FOR WOMEN

• February 27, 2022 • FELLOWSHIP HALL • 2:00-4:30pm

All women are invited to spend the afternoon of **February 27th** to meet local author **Leslie Verner** and to hear a select panel of guests discuss her book, ***Invited: The Power of Hospitality in an Age of Loneliness***.

After nearly two years of being unable to gather with friends and loved ones, it can be a challenge to reconnect. Here is a chance to meet **in person** to share what it means to be hospitable and welcoming! Featured in the gathering will be readings from the book, small group discussions, a diverse panel of community members, light refreshments, and a book-signing period with the author. **Childcare will be provided** with advance registration. There is no charge, but all donations will go toward the ministry of our **Kids Closet**. Books will be available for purchase at the event. Advance purchase of the book will be available throughout January.

Quoting from her book:

*Real hospitality is not having a 'Pinterest'-perfect table. True hospitality is not clean, comfortable, or controlled. It is an invitation to enter into a sacred space together with friends and strangers. **Invited** will empower you to prioritize people over tasks.*

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



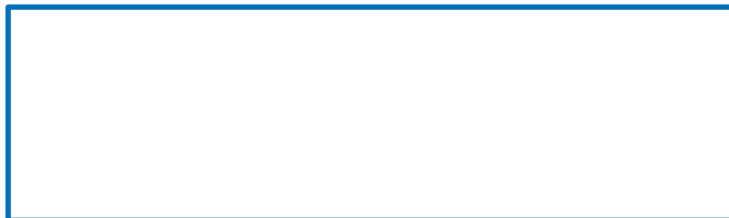
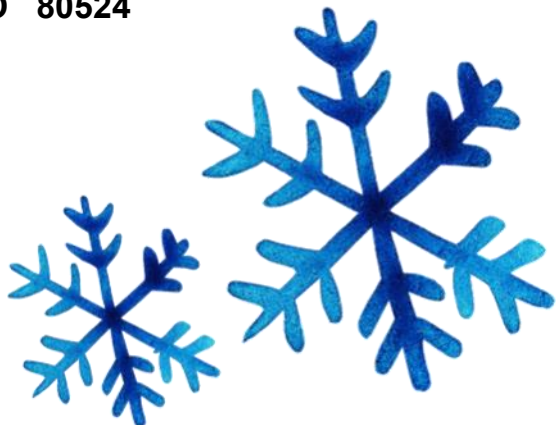
The United Methodist Women will have their Unit meeting on Thursday, January 13 at 11:20 a.m. in the Parlor. The speaker will be Mary Beth Downing from Colorado Springs. She will be talking about "Creation Care". Mary Beth will broadly introduce the Drawdown Project and their top 80+ climate disruption solutions. She will then focus on climate solutions that are possible from empowering women and girls. If there is time, she will explore the growing resources being developed by the Mountain Sky Creation Justice Task Force. Questions? elbode8@gmail.com **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**



GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

You made it through the holidays, but if you are grieving the loss of a loved one that is no longer with you, there may be some sad feelings that linger. Our **Grief Support Group** is available to help you figure out how to cope with these feelings. We are a very patient and understanding group on a similar journey. Join us the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 1 p.m. starting January 11, 2022, in

the church conference room. Enter the church through the east entrance off of Stover Street. You don't have to be a member of FUMC to join, so feel free to invite anyone who might benefit from a grief support group to attend with you. Contact JoAn Hopkins (JODHOP@hotmail.com, 970-222-5925) or the church office (administrativeassistant@fcfumc.net, 970-482-2436) for more information.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Allan & Teddy Wintersteen



Cathy and Derek Phillips



Jim and Linda Whitlock



Theresa Reifinger



Jennifer Stimson

We extend our deepest sympathy to the following families:

Claire Manning - November 30, 2021

Harriet Lemesany - December 12, 2021