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# The Carillon

April 2022 Volume 28 Issue 4  
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.*

## CELEBRATE EASTER WITH US!

### PALM SUNDAY

APRIL 10 @ 9:30 AND 11:00 A.M.



### SEDER MEAL EXPERIENCE

APRIL 14 @ 7:00 P.M.



### GOOD FRIDAY

APRIL 15 @ 7:00 P.M.

### *THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST*

BY THEODORE DUBOIS WITH  
CHORUS, SOLOISTS, ORGAN, HARP, FLUTE, AND TIMPANI  
PRESENTED BY SANCTUARY CHOIR



### EASTER SCAVENGER HUNT

FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY  
APRIL 16 @ 10:00 A.M.



### EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL 17 @ 9:30 AND 11:00 A.M.



## Message from Melanie

We do not talk about it much, but mortality is an ever present fact of life. We will all die, hopefully later rather than sooner. While it is a sobering reality, our mortality is also a reliable companion providing sacred meaning and inviting us into deeper appreciation of life. Remembering the natural ebb and flow of all living things, the cycle of continual transformation which governs all of nature, can profoundly enhance our acceptance of life and death.

We have the gift of this moment to move toward wholeness, to soften our hearts, accept what cannot be changed, choose abundant life. And to remember that there is an eternal mystery beyond death, in which all that is best about us abides and endures.

This is the resurrection promise we celebrate on Easter, and is the very heart of the faith we share. We need resurrection, for just when we have emerged from our Covid tombs, a new variant appears, we are faced with an unprovoked military invasion, severe humanitarian crisis, drastic global upheaval, and our ever present companion, uncertainty. We cannot predict what this means for our future, or the future of our human family. Which is why we need a hope beyond fear, and promise beyond uncertainty. Easter and all that it represents, offers an outrageous promise that bad news is not final. This is not naïve optimism, but an assurance born of hope and trust. In this fragile human reality, God gives us a glimpse of something more. Into lives battered by dashed hopes, broken dreams and terrible mistakes, God shows us how to begin again. Into places where heartache abounds, and wounds are unhealed, goodness and grace arise. Our God finds a way in the wilderness, and overcomes evil with love. This defies understanding, so we are asked to trust and believe. The promise of Easter is not just something that happened to Jesus, it is something that happens to us; the resurrection hope of the empty tomb is our hope too.

If you are able, please join us on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and the glorious resurrection celebration on Easter Sunday. Our human existence has greater depths of beauty, mystery, and power than we could ever fully understand. Christ is risen, he is risen indeed!

*Melanie*

Dr. Melanie Rosa, *Lead Pastor*

## A Message from the Conference Council on Finance

Dear Saints of First Fort Collins:

We want to express our deep gratitude for your impressive growth in Connectional giving to the Mountain Sky Conference in 2021. You increased your giving by \$21,300 or 40% from the prior year. Wow. Words do not adequately convey our appreciation. Most of this stayed in the Mountain Sky Conference to support our various ministries, the rest went to support schools, hospitals, recovery efforts nationally and globally. Thank you and God Bless you!

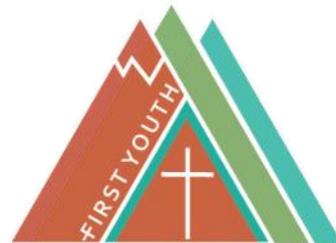
Conference Council on Finance and  
Administration



**First Church Youth**  
Victoria Burkett, *Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries*

**Summer Mission Trips!**  
More details coming soon!

Middle School Mission Trip: June 4-8, 2022 to Buckhorn Camp in Bellvue, CO  
High School Mission Trip: June 18-26, 2022 to Missoula, Montana



**Weekly Events**

**Sunday School**

Middle and High School students are invited to join us in the youth basement Sunday mornings at 9:30! Come hear a new lesson each week (and maybe get some time to play Wii Sports!).

\*We will no longer have Sunday School on the first Sunday of the month so that our students can join the 9:30 worship service!\*

**Wednesday Night Youth Group**

Youth group is open to middle school through high school. We will be meeting from 6:30-8:00 pm in the youth basement. Come join us as we celebrate being able to gather together once again! Please plan on wearing a mask.

**High School Bible Study**

We are starting a new book study soon!

Where: Starbucks, 4218 South College Ave (this is the newest Starbucks at College & Troutman)

When: SUNDAY 4:00-5:30 PM

**First Church Kids**  
Barb Grauberger, *Director of Children and Family Ministries*

**Easter Scavenger Hunt for the whole family!**  
April 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

First Church will be hosting a scavenger hunt that families will do together. Clues of Christian symbols will be revealed at the start of the scavenger hunt. Begin your hunt on the church grounds, find all the clues, and at the end, enjoy some Easter goodies.



*Save the Date*

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2022**

**6/6-6/10-Vacation Bible School** from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. The theme this year is Food Truck Party! Before you fill up your Summer calendar, make sure you block out this week. Your kids will not want to miss it. Look for information regarding registration, coming soon.



## Community Building by David W Reid, *Community Builder*



Our church has initiated a project to bring community organizing to Northern Colorado.

I now work for the church in cooperation with Coloradans for the Common Good, which is the Denver-based affiliate of the Industrial Areas Foundation (IAF). The position will be supported by grant funding.

The IAF created the modern model of broad-based organizing and is widely recognized as having the strongest track record in the nation for citizen leadership development and for helping congregations and other institutions act on their missions to achieve lasting change in the world.

My new title is “community builder” and the task is to bring together approximately 25 congregations, trade unions, teachers unions, nonprofits and community organizations from Larimer and Weld counties to form a new IAF affiliate. I will have succeeded when the new group has sufficient funding to hire a community organizer and has accumulated a substantial reserve fund.

Member institutions of the NoCo affiliate will determine the priorities. Issues that have surfaced in early discussions include mental health (especially for youth); gun safety; wage theft; working conditions for agricultural workers; cost of higher education; cost of health care, especially for immigrants; need for affordable housing; and housing discrimination.

Community organizing draws upon the moral, social and economic-justice teachings of the world’s great religions and some 3,500 congregations are involved worldwide. People of good will sincerely want to encounter the other. Organizing provides a context for that and teaches the relational skills that are necessary for it to occur.

I am eager to speak with individuals and groups about how to participate in this new discipleship ministry. Contact me at [davidreid24@gmail.com](mailto:davidreid24@gmail.com) or call or text (970) 581-2707.

## Community Holy Week Services @ First Presbyterian Church Daily @ 12:00 noon

**You are invited to join in the noon Holy Week worship services at  
First Presbyterian Church, 531 S College Ave.**

**Monday, April 11 | Cynthia Paquette, First United Methodist**

**Tuesday, April 12 | Rob Cowles, Genesis Project**

**Wednesday, April 13 | Gray La Fond, LuMin Ministry**

***Maundy Thursday, April 14 | Jane Anne Ferguson, Plymouth UCC***

***Good Friday, April 15 | David Williams, Abyssinian Christian Church***



## Notes from Our Faith Community Nurse

Birds singing, flowers blooming, maybe 70 degrees, or maybe snow. Spring in Colorado is upon us once again! This means spring cleaning. This spring, consider cleaning out your medicine cabinet. Time to get rid of those old/expired prescription medications, ESPECIALLY potentially harmful ones (pain pills, muscle relaxants). But wait!! Don't just throw them in the garbage or put them down the sink/toilet. They might still get into the wrong hands or hurt the fish and wildlife in our local waters. National Prescription Drug Take Back Day is April 30, 2022 – 10AM to 2PM. For more information, log on to: [https://www.deadiversions.usdoj.gov/drug\\_disposal/takeback/](https://www.deadiversions.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/) . If you miss this date, don't worry. You can contact me and I can still let you know of a location that collects year-round.



Yours in Good Health,  
Donna M. Newkirk, RN, MSN, APRN-BC Faith Community Nurse  
[D.NewkirkANP@gmail.com](mailto:D.NewkirkANP@gmail.com)/(970) 744-8812

# FUMC FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES 2022 GRANT PROGRAM

By Kathryn Lonowski

The 2022 Grant Program of the Foundation for the First United Methodist Church of Fort Collins will begin on April 1st. Grant money is available for church committees and groups to be used for programs, equipment and services that are typically not funded through the church operating budget. The Foundation was begun in 1986 and has distributed nearly \$400,000 in grant money since that time.

## Grant Application Timeline

April 1 – 30: Grant applications may be found online on the church website or picked up in the church office. Applications will also be placed in committee mailboxes.

April 30: Deadline: Completed grant applications must be returned to the church office with the necessary signatures and placed in the Foundation mailbox.

May Review: The Foundation Board will review each application and determine this year's recipients.

June 1: Notification: Grant applicants will be notified as to the status of their application.

The Foundation Board will review each application to determine if the request should be fully funded, partially funded or not funded. In general, the total amount requested for all grants far exceeds the funds available.

Each grant application requires signature approval, and the signatures must be obtained prior to submission to the Foundation. Unsigned applications will not be considered for funding.

If you would like additional information about the Foundation Grant Program please contact Kathryn Lonowski at [klonowski@wicklaw.com](mailto:klonowski@wicklaw.com).

If you would like to make a tax-deductible contribution to help the Foundation grow in capability, please contact FUMC Foundation President Bill Whitaker at [w Whitaker@gmail.com](mailto:w Whitaker@gmail.com).

## Habitat for Humanity Update

By Jim Collinson



On February 25th, the Habitat for Humanity of Fort Collins Faith Build home at Harmony Cottages that First Church supported in 2021 was dedicated. Karen will close on her home and move in soon. Family members, friends, and representatives from several of supporting churches were at the ceremony. Members of First Church supported the build with several volunteers that helped with construction and provided an onsite lunch. We contributed \$5,300 that was matched by Thrivent Financial.

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This year First Church is supporting a home for Ashlen and Stephen with a \$5,000 pledge. They were married on Valentine's Day last year. Ashlen works at the Food Bank and Stephen at the Fort Collins Rescue Mission. You can learn more about this couple by watching "Stephen and Ashlen's Story" on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/WrTCq9Gloss>

Thrivent Financial, which has contributed over \$1.5 million toward building Habitat houses in Fort Collins, will no longer be a sponsor due to internal policy changes. The major supporters for the 2022 Faith Build are Redeemer Lutheran and the Fort Collins Lutheran churches (aka FOCOLU). First Church has again pledged \$5,000 and volunteers toward this year's Faith Build. Stephen and Ashlen will contribute 200 hours of "sweat equity" and pay a no interest mortgage for their home.

Since its beginning in 1993 Fort Collins Habitat has complete over 80 homes locally. Members of First Church have participated in most of these builds.

## Music at First Church

### The Seven Last Words of Christ for Chorus and Soloists by Theodore Dubois

presented by  
**The Sanctuary Choir**  
with  
Organ, Harp, Flute, and Timpani

Friday, April 15, 2022  
7:00 p.m. Sanctuary



Dubois composed *The Seven Last Words of Christ* in 1867 for Saint Clotilde in Paris, where he was the choir director (Maitre de chapelle). He scored the work for full orchestra, chorus, and soloists, but later revised his orchestration to include only organ, timpani, and harp, the version most often heard today.

Please join us for this moving service of Tenebrae sung in English, interspersed with readings and prayers. Throughout the service the Sanctuary will become increasingly dark symbolizing the death of Christ on the cross. Experiencing a service of Tenebrae serves to make the celebration of Easter an even more joyous event.



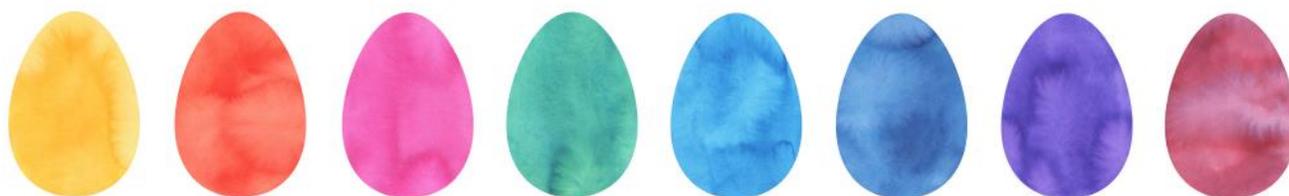
### Easter Flowers—Celebrating Loved Ones

If you would like to purchase flowers in honor or in memory of someone to be displayed in the Sanctuary on Easter, **please pick up an order form at the Welcome Center.** Please complete the order form and return it with your check to the main office no later than April 10. The cost is \$8 and you may pay online (preferred) or with a check. Please do not pay with cash. The flowers will be 6.5 inch potted mums in white, yellow and purple (no choice of color). You may pick up your flower after the 11:00 a.m. service on Easter Sunday, or on Tuesday, April, 19 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Any flowers remaining after April 19th will be taken to our homebound members and friends. Thank you for helping make our Sanctuary festive for Easter!

**Easter**  
**TOGETHER**

 <b>PALM SUNDAY</b> April 10 9:30 & 11AM	 <b>SEDER MEAL EXPERIENCE</b> APRIL 14 7PM	 <b>GOOD FRIDAY</b> DOBOIS' SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST CHORUS, ORGAN, HARP, FLUTE & TIMPANI APRIL 15 · 7PM	 <b>EASTER SUNDAY</b> APRIL 17 9:30 & 11AM
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## A New Lead Pastor Has Been Appointed to Serve First Church Effective July 1, 2022

The Bishop and her cabinet have selected Reverend Brad Laurvick to be our new Pastor effective July 1.

Reverend Laurvick currently serves Highlands United Methodist Church in Denver where he was appointed in 2012.

Rev. Brad is a very dynamic and caring pastor with a passion for ministry. He is uniquely gifted to serve our church as we look to continue our strong and thriving church programs and work to strengthen our outreach.

Brad, his wife Meghan and their two children, Joey (9yrs) and Gracie (5yrs) will be moving to Fort Collins in June. His first Sunday will be August 7 as he will be taking a long planned renewal leave in July.

We welcome Reverend Brad and his family to our church family and pray for our mutual success.



## We express our deepest sympathies to the family of:

Ida Belle Larsh - February 25, 2022

## We celebrate with joy the baptism of:

Sophia Marie Reifinger on March 6, 2022.