

FIRST
United Methodist
CHURCH

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The Carillon

August 2022 Volume 28 Issue 8
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.*

A MESSAGE FROM BRAD ...

"Fort Collins is fantastic! We are settling in well. The only things missing are relationships..." This is my standard response when family and colleagues ask how our move went. It truly is an amazing town, we are feeling quite at home in our new space, and we can't wait to meet you. I know those relationships will not be missing for long!

My favorite part of ministry is relationship. From our relationships with God, to our relationships with one another, to our relationships with our community... relationship is what Church is all about. I am also in awe of how all of these relationships intertwine— especially the ways our relationships with God are strengthened through our relationships with one another and the community around us.

I am so grateful for all of the intention that has gone in to setting up the gatherings in the weeks to come. I look forward to being with you in small groups, as we get to know one another and begin the journey toward meaningful relationship. With you, through you, and because of you, my relationship with God and the community we serve will become stronger. I pray it will for you as well.

Be Blessed and Be a Blessing,

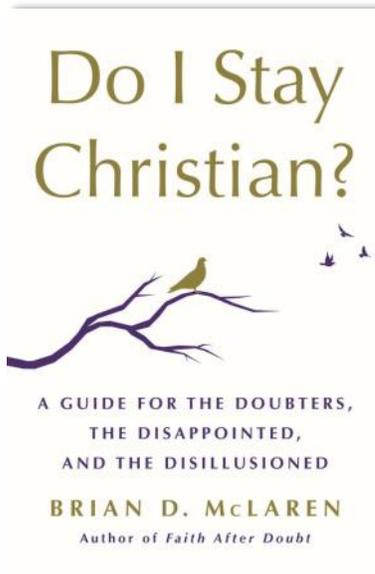
Brad

Rev. Bradley Laurvick, *Lead Pastor*



ADULT FAITH FORMATION
Mark Lee, Director of Adult Faith Formation

**"Do I Stay a Christian?" by Brian McLaren,
Online 4 - session self-paced study in September,
recommended by the Adult Faith Formation Committee.**

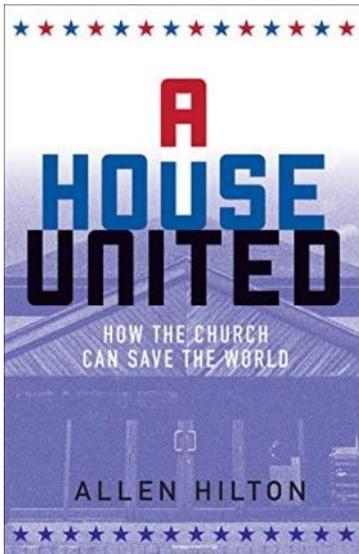


Join Brian McLaren and Tripp Fuller ("Homebrewed Christianity") as they lead an online community through four sessions with Brian McLaren's newest book. McLaren explores with honesty and humility the compelling reasons many people walk away from Christian faithing. He also gives suggestions toward a vision of Christian faithing that he and others find more liberating and life-giving.

This class operates asynchronously, so you can watch the McLaren/Fuller videos at any time that fits your own pace of reading the book. They will also host a live, real-time, Q&A discussion for four Sunday evenings starting September 11, 5:00 pm MDT. If a group from the church wanted to self-organize and gather together for those Q&A's, there could be some great discussion among them beyond the online work! (Contact Rev. Mark Lee and we'll arrange a meeting space.) The class is pay-as-you-like (even zero); the book can be bought from your favorite sellers. Once you sign up, you will be given links to access the class materials, videos, and live sessions. Info and link to sign up are at <https://homebrewedchristianity.lpages.co/doistaychristian/>.

Courageous Conversations Workshop

Saturday, September 17, 2022, 8:30am - 1:00pm (brunch included)



Our world is fractured along lines of politics, class, race, religion, and nation, but many of us long for ways to reach across these divisions. As a followup to the 2022 Hagen Lecture presented in March, Rev. Dr. Allen Hilton is returning to First Church to help us reconnect with one another. This half-day workshop will teach us practical skills to enter into Courageous Conversations – generative discussions where we genuinely listen and engage across differences to heal division and transform the world. Contact Lisa Fenton Free (lisa@rmhealth.org) with questions or to request childcare.

Can I attend the workshop even if I didn't attend Dr. Hilton's lecture this spring? Yes! Please do! This workshop will focus on skill building not covered during the lecture.

Is there any pre-work for the workshop? There is no required pre-work. We suggest reading Dr. Hilton's book *A House United: How the Church Can Save the World* to get some background on how we came to be so divided and why the church is called to heal divisions.

August Book Study: A 4-week study of Dr. Hilton's book, *A House United: How the Church Can Save the World*, led by Whitney Pennington, will begin Wednesday 8/10 at 7pm on Zoom. [Sign-up for the book study here](#). Copies of the book are available for \$10 Sunday mornings in Fellowship Hall. You can arrange with Rev. Mark Lee (email him at AFDL@fcfumc.net) to pick up a book during church office hours.

FROM REV. CYNTHIA PAQUETTE, *Executive Pastor*

Spiritual Practices that Transform Small Group



I invite you to join me on the journey of learning, practicing, and sharing in the spiritual practices that transform our lives. We will meet **weekly in person on Mondays from noon to 1 PM (September 12 – December 12, 2022)** in the **Conference Room or off-site** to learn and share with each other a spiritual practice that we will practice individually throughout the week. On September 12, we will begin with the spiritual practice of worship. Human beings are made for worship; we are prone to worship someone or something. If we do not worship God, we might devote ourselves to the things our culture worships. We will learn and practice, and together reflect on the meaning of different spiritual

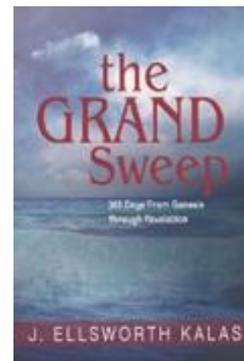
practices in our lives. There is little reading for this group; the focus will be on mindful practice and reflection. Sign up on Sunday mornings at the Adult Faith Formation table or using this link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1qFDHLjOUiD3oywul1r71HDrE6ShAs0Pm1UC_ErJpgYE/edit

Year-Long Bible Study

Rev. Cynthia will be leading a year-long Bible study using the Grand Sweep Year-Long Bible Study by Dr. J. Ellsworth Kalas as a guide. Together we will study the Bible from Genesis to Revelation and apply the lessons to our lives. We will meet **weekly in person on Mondays from 6:30 to 8 PM in the Conference Room from September 12, 2022 to the end of October 2023**. Sign up on Sunday mornings at the Adult Faith Formation table or using this link: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1Z0EiwZ5wo1ReZxASpweMBCVSpFPQU61ws3C8A1-3urs/edit>.

Zoom option is available for both offerings whenever you are out of town but would still like to be present.

Questions? Contact Rev. Cynthia, c.paquette@fcfumc.net



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY UPDATE

Cindi Ross-Bell

Please help us welcome Stephen and Ashlen, our Habitat for Humanity Common Ground Faith Build family for 2022, on Sunday September 4. Come hear their inspirational story, and join them for a meet and greet after the 9:30 service. We will be hosting them with a cake reception in the Fellowship Hall in-between services during coffee fellowship. They are looking forward to meeting the congregation, and a chance to express their appreciation for the funding and on-site help First Church is providing for their new home.



In other Habitat news, volunteers are needed for the Saturday, September 24 build of Stephen and Ashlen's house in the Habitat Harmony Cottages at the corner of Taft Hill & Harmony Rd. Seven (7) builders are needed and three (3) people are needed to help provide lunches. No building experience is required. Habitat staff will be present for guidance. If you are interested, please contact Jim Collinson at jimcollinson56@gmail.com or call (970) 227-0789.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN / UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

What is United Women in Faith?

We are a powerful, fearless force driven by God's love and united in sisterhood. With a focus on women, children and youth, we act for justice and transform communities. During our 150-year history, our organization has had several names, the last one being United Methodist Women. As United Women in Faith (UWFaith), we stand ready to not only continue our legacy but forge courageous new paths. It's an exhilarating time as we commit to even greater inclusivity, action, and impact.

UWFaith seeks to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship and education so that they can inspire, influence and impact local and global communities. Join us, because love in action can change the world! You'll find flexible opportunities for spiritual growth and ways to act for social justice, support your community, live your faith and enrich your life.

You can get involved through the unit at First Church. This can include belonging to a circle, a small group that fosters connections and provides programs of the group's choosing. We also have district and conference activities. Or, you can opt for the UWFaith All Access membership, with easy online access to member resources nationwide. Either way, you choose to engage when, where and how best fits your life.

We are a Christian organization that welcomes spiritual women of all faiths. All people who identify as women are welcome to become a member. There is no annual membership fee. Our members generally give, as their budgets allow, to support the good work we do together to make an impact in the world. Through membership you can help UWFaith continue to support nearly 100 projects and community institutions that address today's vital needs across the United States. We also support and empower local women in more than 50 countries around the globe to be leaders in the church, community, and the world.

Many of our events are open to women and men, regardless of membership. Our local unit meetings are open to everyone. For information about our national organization, visit <https://uwfaith.org>. For information about the First Church UWFaith unit, contact Rita Bee at 970-215-7857 (email: rbee50@hotmail.com) or Lori Ailor at 970-556-4729 (email: shoebxladylady2001@yahoo.com). United Women in Faith remains the official women's organization of The United Methodist Church. Our next unit meeting is a kick-off event for the year with a program on the Future of Fort Collins. We will start with a lunch after the 11:00 service on September 11.



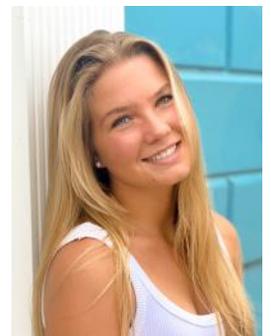
FIRST CHURCH YOUTH - SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Victoria Burkett, Director of Youth and Student Ministries



Calvin Robinson

We are excited to congratulate this year's recipients of the FUMC-FC Foundation Youth Scholarship, Anne Priebe and Calvin Robinson! We treasure their steadfast involvement with our youth program over the years and wish them all the best as they start their college journey.



Anne Priebe

You're Invited

COMMUNITY EVENTS AT EASTSIDE PARK

HOSTED BY FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH FORT COLLINS
SPONSORED BY THE BOHEMIAN FOUNDATION

August 14: Community Ice Cream Social (4-6 p.m.)
August 28: Community Picnic (10:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.)

MUSIC AT FIRST CHURCH

David A. Adkins, *Director of Music*



It is hard to believe, but it is almost time for kids to head back to school and that means it is time to launch another year of great music for worship at First Church. Listed below are the various music ensembles, their start dates, and who to contact for more information. We are always seeking new folks to join all of our groups, so I encourage you to consider joining us this year if your schedule permits. We have a great year of music planned for all ages, and a few new groups to introduce. **Please watch “First Wire” and the Sunday bulletin for more information or email David Adkins / choirdir@fcfumc.net.**

CHURCH INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE WELCOME BACK REHEARSAL - August 17 from 5:30—6:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)

SANCTUARY CHOIR WELCOME BACK REHEARSAL - August 18 from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. (Choir Room)

CARILLON HANDBELL CHOIR WELCOME BACK REHEARSAL - August 18 from 5:15 - 6:15 p.m. (Choir Room)

FIRST CHURCH SINGERS - Rehearsals begin September 8 from 8:30 - 9:00 p.m. (Choir Room)

CHILDREN'S CHOIRS -Rehearsals begin Sunday, September 11 from 10:30—11:00 a.m. each Sunday

WOMEN'S CHORUS -Rehearsals begin Tuesday, Wednesday September 7 - 1:00—2:00 p.m. (Choir Room)

ALLELUIA HANDBELL CHOIR—Rehearsals begin Thursday, September 8 - 4:00—5:00 p.m. (Choir Room)

FIRST CHURCH YOUTH - MISSION TRIP

Victoria Burkett, *Director of Youth and Student Ministries*



The High School Mission Trip to Missoula Montana was a blast! We had the opportunity to serve several local United Methodist Churches as well as a homeless shelter and public park, all while enjoying the beauty of Montana.

We made great memories and even greater friendships.



EXPLORING FIRST CHURCH

EXPLORING

First Church

We, here at First Church, are excited to see so many new faces and meet so many new people on Sundays. We are here to help new people get plugged in. Would you like to learn more about Methodism in general and First Church in particular? Are you considering membership in this vibrant community of faith? If so, Rev. Brad and Rev. Cynthia invite you to attend the Exploring First Church session at noon on August 14 in the Parlor. We will have a light lunch followed by a session on Methodism and the many ministries to be involved in at First Church. Please email membership@fcfumc.net, or call (970) 482-2436 ext. 111 by August 9 if you plan to attend. Childcare will be provided, with reservations by August 9.

SAVE THE DATE! OCTOBER 25—29

It's that time again. **We are arranging to have a church directory printed.** With so many new members, and our younger children growing up, our directory is seriously out of date. Trying to find someone's picture pre-COVID (and let's be honest, COVID has aged us all) is a real struggle. For the newer members, a new directory is essential in putting a name to a face, and for those who have been here longer, the directory is a great tool in helping to learn the names of newer people. In September, we will begin sign-ups for photos for the new directory. PLEASE help everyone out by signing up for a photo slot when we start this process in late September.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY HAPPENINGS

Barb Grauberger, Director of Children's Ministries

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.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE FUN FAMILY CENTERED ACTIVITIES!

8/14/22: Ice cream social at Eastside park 3 p.m.-6 p.m.

8/28/22: 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. Your children will be officially promoted to the next grade of Sunday school on this day. Continue the fun and stay for all church picnic at Eastside Park (note the different location). We will have a free food truck, free Kona ice, games and activities that will keep your kids entertained and well fed. Games and activities will be available at Eastside park starting at 10:45 a.m. Don't miss this special event celebrating the ability to gather and share fun with our First Church & neighborhood community.



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Address Correction Requested



OUR FIRST CHURCH FAMILY ...

We welcome the following new members into our church family:
Steve and Carol Strong

We Celebrate with joy the baptism of:
Molly Katherine McCrery on July 10

We express our sympathy to these families:

Gladys Elaine Johnston - June 18, 2022
Charles Welsh – June 23, 2022
Eugene Doering - July 21, 2022



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