



The *Carillon*

August 2017 Volume 23 Issue 8

From Pastor Melanie...

Dear First Family:

What a month it has been! My heart is overflowing with gratitude and high hopes for our shared future. The way you have welcomed us into your faith community, the way you are so eager to support your church and are stepping up in tangible ways, the way you already serve and share, all of these things are inspiring indeed.

I have learned much about this church over the years, and particularly during the past 4 months as I tried to get up to speed before my arrival in Fort Collins. Since my arrival here I have been impressed by numerous things:

- Your intelligence and curiosity
- Church and community groups utilizing our well maintained facility
- The outstanding caliber of your staff
- The First UMC Foundation generously supporting various ministries
- Volunteers who show up day after day and further our ministry in countless ways
- The bookmobile---235 books were checked out during one week this summer
- Hosting homeless families in our church four times each year
- Supporting lifesaving water projects in Kenya
- Large and stimulating classes with loyal participants
- How much this church means to folks who have been here for 50 years or 5 weeks

That is just the beginning, I could go on and on. I am meeting with all of the various groups and committees this summer, and I know there are more positive impressions to come. As a newcomer I am seeing this church with fresh eyes, and so far I like what I see. We already have so much that is good and strong. Now we need to work together to discern what comes next: where God is calling us to go and how we best reach new people with the love and light of Christ. There are areas that need to be strengthened, some things that need to be changed, and together we will pray, listen, learn, and discern the way forward into a new era together. I am very hopeful and delighted to be here. Thank you for the gracious way you have welcomed me and Fred into your family of faith.

Pastor Melanie



Kick Off Sunday Is August 27

by Pastor Cynthia, Executive Pastor

A New Era is already here at First Church, and a new school year is fast approaching. On **August 27** we welcome our neighbors, guests, and church community home from all their summer travels. We have lots of fun and excitement lined up starting at 10:45 AM. Bring your lawn chair and come enjoy delicious food, great music, wholesome fellowship, and fun entertainment!

A Love Feast (a shared fellowship meal) of burgers, veggie burgers, hotdogs, potato salad, chips, and ice cream will be available as we continue to build community and extend God's welcome to our guests and to one another. Please bring specific food items to share with your church family and guests. **Tags with specific food items needed for this kick off event are at the Welcome Center, near the east door of the Sanctuary. Please take one or more tags and pick up the food items listed.**

As you enjoy food and fellowship, children get their faces painted and play with twisted balloons, sit back, relax, and enjoy *Barbara Jo and the Hippie Buckaroo Band*. While the music is still playing, the whole family can hop on the Horse Wagon for a ride round the block. After you return from your ride, enjoy popcorn that is grown and popped by one of our church leaders. For dessert, we have ice cream! Children and adults can then get competitive on the inflatable basketball challenge and inflatable pony race. The fun continues until 1 PM. Make sure you stay until the end. You will not want to miss out on anything. Let's get excited!



Bookmobile Gratitude

by Janet Krech

This summer our Tuesday Summer Bookmobile reached a new record-setting level of service with 102 kids and 230 books loaned in one week! We are all in this together, following God's leading!

Special thanks to:

- Nancy Lefler, who drove and led our bookmobile while I was out of town.
- FUMC VBS 4th and 5th graders, who led our new bookmobile "Book Buddies" activity at Linton!
- VBS Families, who generously donated many books and small prizes as their service project.
- Fran Lefler, who recommended that Fort Collins Rotary Club donate to our bookmobile.
- Fort Collins Rotary Club, for eagerly giving \$500 to buy new high-interest books and graphic novels.
- Barnes and Noble, for holding a Book Fair the weekend of July 21-23 and giving a percentage of profits to our bookmobile.
- Linn Zink, for creating a terrific recruitment video.
- Amazing volunteers who tirelessly carry crates, read with kids, encourage one another, and consistently serve wherever needed.



New Bequest to Church Foundation Announced

by John Allum, Foundation President

A very generous bequest has been made recently to our First United Methodist Church Foundation by Joe and Joan Looper, long time church members. Joe passed away in January 2011 and Joan's death occurred this past December. Both remembered their church in their wills.

Joe and Joan were always in Fellowship Hall between services, welcoming people and getting to know them. They led the Membership & Evangelism Committee and were involved with the Putnam Elementary School mentoring program. Joe served on the Foundation Board, and they were both very involved in trying to start the Wellington United Methodist Fellowship.

Their bequest to the Church Foundation will be used to support the church music program, community outreach, youth mission work, and membership and evangelism. We have been truly blessed to have Joe and Joan as faithful members of our congregation with their dignity, grace, and generosity. Their legacy will continue to support the ministries of our church.



Church Foundation Grant Awards 2017 – “Second Round”

by Stephen Zink

Did you know that our church has its own Foundation which awards grant money for special needs of the church each year not funded in the annual budget? Since its founding in 1986, the Foundation Board has awarded more than \$325,000 in grant money to various church committees and groups. During the “Second Round”, which ended on July 3rd, grant dollars totaling \$19,890 were awarded to the following recipients, among others:

- Trustees: Audio Video Booth Enclosure
- Trustees: Block Grant - Various
- Preschool: Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Replacement
- ATRC: Network Storage Capacity Expansion
- ATRC: Network Rapid Recovery Capability
- Music Ministry: Future Concert Series
- Music Ministry: Conductor's Podium
- Adult Faith Formation: Portable Stage

Grant money is generated each year by the general fund of the Foundation. A formula preserves and grows the principle of the general fund of the Foundation so that it will continue to provide funds for new grants each year.

The FCFUMC Foundation is a separate 501 (c)(3) non-profit corporation. Donations to the Foundation are tax deductible, gratefully accepted, and are conservatively held and invested to support special needs of the church and its ministries. Donations can be made to the general fund which generates the annual grant awards or to the other restricted funds that the Foundation holds.

If you are interested in helping to grow the capabilities of the Foundation by making a tax deductible contribution, please contact Stephen Zink, Foundation Vice President, at (970) 980-3037 or svzink42@gmail.com.

Thank You from Pastor Charles Murry

Dear Friends at First Church,

Cheri and I are deeply thankful for the many expressions of kindness you extended to us during this transition time. Your encouragement is one of our church's virtues, and we will take your gift with us into our retirement. I was overwhelmed with the words you sent with your cards. It was a privilege to work alongside you.

I also have encouragement to give you. One of the tremendous strengths of our church is the staff. Whether in children, youth, adults, music, or administration, our congregation is blessed. And, First Church is doubly blessed with pastors, both elders and deacons, answering God's call. My gratitude goes out to each staff person for their service and each offering his/her gifts in Christian service. I further encourage each of you to actively partner with pastors, staff, and one another in working for the greater good in ministries to serve God in Christ.

In the coming years, I will be listening for the advancements being made by the United Methodists in Fort Collins. The best years for our church are still ahead of us.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Charles Murry

Reaching the Fort Collins Community

by Joan Carter,
FCFUMC representative to the Fort Collins Area Interfaith Council



Our church is a member of the Fort Collins-Loveland Area Interfaith Council and has been represented there for many years. IFC includes representatives not only of faith communities, but also of local nonprofit social service organizations in this area. We meet each month to network, hear from speakers about social issues such as health, aging, parenting, and advocacy for those who have few resources. The programs are exciting, insightful, informative, and engaging – as are the people who attend!

In addition to facilitating a dialogue to bridge differences, IFC is a conduit for faith communities and agencies to provide grants to worthy entities. Money for grants comes from faith community members of IFC. In 2017, \$11,000 was distributed to applicants for program assistance. In effect, this congregation's support of local services and the work of the Community and World Outreach Committee is extended through the IFC, which connects many of the area's service organizations.

Receiving much-needed supplemental funds this year were the Boys and Girls Clubs, ChildSafe Colorado, Crossroads Safehouse, Dance Express, Disabled Resource Services, Elderhaus, La Familia, Food Bank, Kids at Heart, Colorado Health Network, Project Self-Sufficiency, Teaching Tree, and Voices Carry Child Advocacy Center.

IFC is open to all who share in its inclusive purpose! Please watch for announcements next month about the IFC meeting to be presented in our *newly remodeled* Fellowship Hall where you can learn about the Theologian-in-Residence program. This program is scheduled for September 7 at 9:00 a.m.

2017 FC FUMC Women's Fall Retreat Saturday, October 21

Place: Our favorite get-away spot, TAMASAG, outside of Laporte, CO on the beautiful Cache La Poudre.

More details will be available in the next edition of the Carillon.

This event is sponsored by the Commission on the Status and Role of Women (COSROW).

Take a Stand on Bullying Workshop

A "Take A Stand On Bullying" workshop will be presented on August 4 and 5. This workshop will help students and parents learn and understand the different types of bullying. It will help students build safer and more welcoming environments in their school and community, and also teach them action to cope with bullying behaviors.

This workshop is lead by Intercultural Community Builders. There is no fee, lunch, snacks, and training materials will be provided. If you have questions call Carol Miller, Director of Intercultural Community Builders at 970-689-0226 or email at camil@frii.com

ATRC Committee Update

by Chuck Andre

Seen any great video presentations lately? All one would have had to do is attend one of the Sunday church services in the Sanctuary or a small group meeting in the Fellowship Hall. On display (pun intended) have been some of the newly installed video components from a recent upgrade. Those include new high def projectors and ultra-bright screens, confidence monitors for the clergy and choir in the Sanctuary, and 70 inch flat panel displays in the Fellowship Hall. Behind all of the visible components lies a state-of-the-art video control system, extremely complex in its componentry but very simple to operate.

Imagine being able to easily select from 6 different video sources and direct each one to a different monitor, or mix and match. We can do that. Imagine having different video sources on the two screens in the Sanctuary while being replicated in the Fellowship hall. We can do that. Imagine having the ability to view a presenter's PowerPoint on one screen and a video clip on the other screen. We can do that. The list goes on and on, including the ability to project a speaker's laptop screen from the front of the Sanctuary wirelessly to the projectors overhead, and displaying music and words on portable monitors for the Children's Choir while the audience views the group on the big screens. None of this would have been possible without two very important elements. The first is the fact that the ATRC committee gratefully received a portion of the extremely generous Makenin bequest. This was earmarked for video upgrades to both the Sanctuary and the Fellowship Hall. The second, and equally important element was the incredible and tireless effort of a group of dedicated church volunteers. They provided countless hours of labor to prepare for and facilitate the installation of the myriad of high tech components used by the contractor. Without their help, this project would simply have not have been possible.

We are just scratching the surface in terms of our AV capabilities. The new video equipment coupled with our state-of-the-art audio system will allow us to do things we could only dream of just a few months ago. Anyone interested in learning more about the new equipment and its ease of operation should contact the ATRC committee. Please take time to thank the following individuals for their indispensable contributions. Listed in reverse alphabetical order, they are:

Bill Whitaker, Reggie Short, Joe Settle, Henry Reyna, Don Lybecker, Dale Conant, Ed Carlson, John Benton, and Chuck Andre

Thank you...

We were deeply humbled and touched by your kindness and generosity toward us at the reception on July 9 in Fellowship Hall. It means so much to be so warmly welcomed as we begin this new season of ministry together at First UMC. We promise to serve you well. It is our honor and privilege to serve as your appointed pastors!

Pastors Melanie and Cynthia

Dear FUMC Fort Collins,

Thank you so much for the donations to our camp. Your donations will be used for Camp Hope scholarships as well other camp scholarships. Your donations will also extend to maintenance at camp. We greatly appreciate your support of our camp.

Thank you,
The Buckhorn Staff

Seniorwise by Linn Zink

This Could Be the Last One....

Monday at the Movies on August 21 will present Florence Foster Jenkins, from 1 to 3 in the Cinema Room, open to all and free. This may be the last Monday at the Movies. Our Senior Council is reviewing the senior ministry programs that are going strong and those not as well attended. We are looking for ways to move ahead with some continuing and some new possibilities to offer through our First Church Senior Ministry.

If you have ideas or suggestions, please let us hear from you. Members of the Senior Council include: Diane Smith and Linn Zink, Co-Coordiators and members: Lynne Ellison, Judy Sayre Grim, JoAn Hopkins, Mickie Watt, Margie Welsh, Bev Winsett, Joe Winsett and Stephen Zink.

August Double Nickel Senior Lunch Program

On Friday, August 11 at noon in Fellowship Hall, Pastor Melanie Rosa will present, "Leading with Grace—One Woman's Journey". This is an opportunity for us to get to know our new Lead Pastor better and to have some discussion time with her. We will have a presentation to make for her as well. Don't miss this special program and another great \$4 lunch – the best \$4 lunch in town!

Senior Ministry August Calendar

Thursdays, 3 & 17– *Okay Chorale*, open singing group from 3 to 4 in the Village Commons – newcomers of all ages welcome – especially those with memory issues!

Friday, 11 – Double Nickel Senior Lunch – 12:00 noon to 1:30 in the Parlor, \$4

Thursday, 17 – Seniors serve at Food Bank for Larimer County, 9:00 to 11:00 AM

Monday, 21 – Movie from 1 to 3, Florence Foster Jenkins, Cinema Room – free; all ages welcome!

Watch for details in the church bulletin and emails about upcoming Senior Ministry events!

For more information, to help at Double Nickel, or to sign up for any of these activities, or the senior ministry email list, contact Linn Zink, Senior Council member, lczink@gmail or 970-689-3047.

Handbell News by Karen Stoody

The Carillon Handbell Choir and the newly formed beginner group, the Alleluia Handbell Ensemble, have been taking the usual summer break since the end of May. We did come together for a rehearsal and to participate in the July 9 worship service to welcome Pastor Melanie, and I thank all the ringers who were willing and able to be part of that day!

Rehearsals for the fall season will begin in August, so these dates are on the calendar as we get back to our regular weekly bell practice times. The **Alleluia Handbell Ensemble** will rehearse on Thursdays this year, with our first meeting time set for **Thursday, August 10, at 4:30 PM**. After a full year, this group is one step past being beginners, but the repertoire will always be chosen to integrate beginners into the process. Several people have expressed an interest, and please know that we will be excited to welcome you!

The **Carillon Handbell Choir** will continue to meet on Wednesdays, and our first rehearsal will be **Wednesday, August 16 at 6:00 PM**. There will be a lot of new music to learn this fall, and we usually play in church once a month. This is a very talented and experienced group, and we often have the need for more ringers to cover extra bells in our more challenging music.

For more information on bells, contact Karen Stoody:

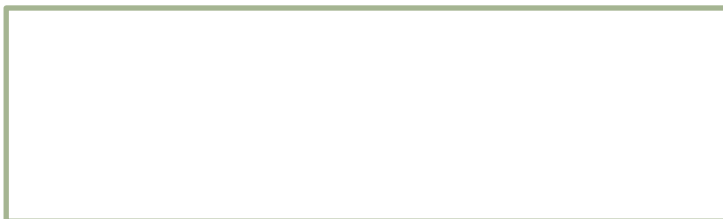




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We Remember with Sympathy the Families of ...

June 9 – Virginia Wooldridge
June 14 – Katherine McMillen

June 15 – Ethel Maxwell
June 22 – Tom Peterson

July 4 – Jeanne Cavender



SUMMER OF THE ARTS
August 2
5:30 – 7:30 PM

Featuring the “David Wohl Trio”

Performing entertaining versions of classic rock, jazz, swing, blues and more!
David Wohl (Keyboard), Andrew Vogt (Sax/Clarinet), and Tom Barbour (Guitar).

- Outside on the church grounds-
- Please bring your lawn chairs, blankets and a picnic dinner to enjoy-
- Dessert will be provided by First Church Adult Faith Formation Committee-

Contact David Reid, Darcy Campbell or Rob Kiser for more details.
Please plan on attending and enjoy an evening of fabulous music.

