



NoCo Beet

Aug. 30, 2021

Labor Day and Christianity?

Labor Day receives uneven treatment in most churches. Labor Day does not appear on the Christian calendar. There are no Labor Day pageants for children. One memorable exception was the time my mother convinced several members of the congregation to come to worship in their work clothes on Labor Day Sunday. There were plenty of farmers with wide-brim hats and overalls, nurses, teachers, a veterinarian, dentists and Clyde Garber, a certified mechanic in his Skelly service station outfit. We honored labor that day.

Today, the topic of labor and faith is studied intently at Vanderbilt Divinity School in the Wendland-Cook Program in Religion and Justice. It's a crucial subject for our time. Expand your understanding of the issues with [this archive](#) of recorded programs and reflections on the Revised Common Lectionary.

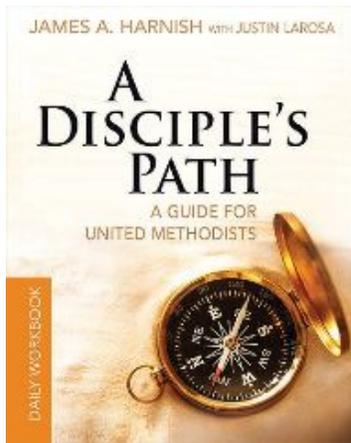
David W. Reid, editor



Northern Colorado



Have you ever sensed there ought to be more to being a member of the church than attending worship, making a pledge, and sitting 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?

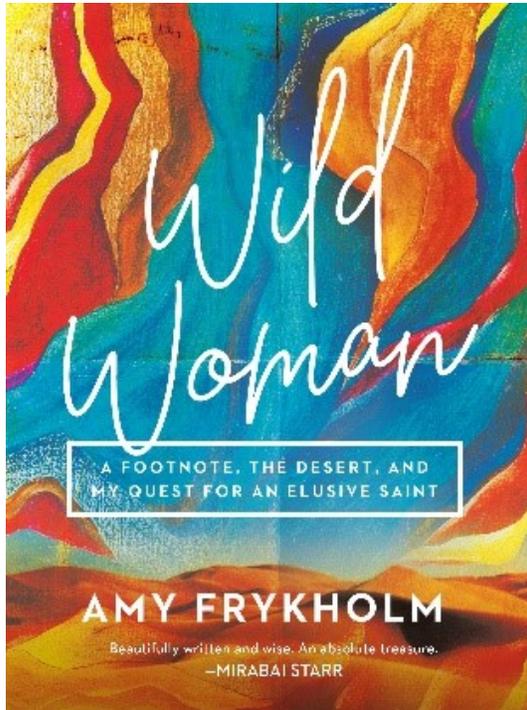
[A Disciple's Path](#) has the potential to revolutionize the way we view our participation in the church, transforming us from wanderers into pilgrims. The program combines a Wesleyan understanding of our growth in God's love and grace with time-tested spiritual disciplines expressed in our membership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

The six-week study will be offered Wednesdays September 22 – November 3 (no class October 13) from noon to 1 p.m. and from 7 to 8 p.m. Materials will be provided free of charge. Sign up Sunday mornings at the Adult Faith Formation table or davidreid24@gmail.com or 970-581-2707.

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.



*Amy Frykholm will speak on her latest book
Wild Woman: A Footnote, The Desert, and My Quest for An Elusive Saint
at First United Methodist Church September 26 at 6 p.m.*

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. Registration is [here](#).

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. No registration is required for Part 2.

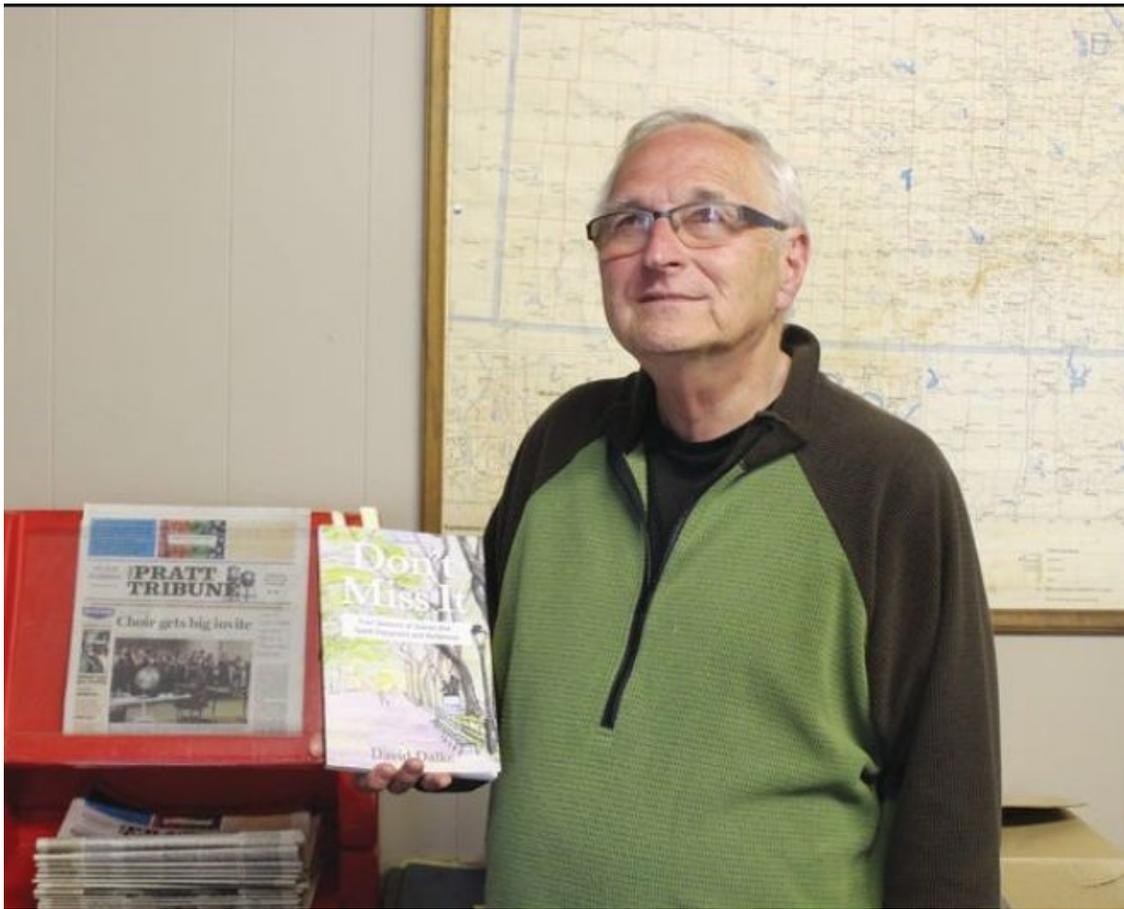


World Wisdoms Project

Put 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. Schuster presents his book, ***Angels We Have Heard Are High: Stories that Bring Christmas Down to Earth*** with Rev. Dalke facilitating.

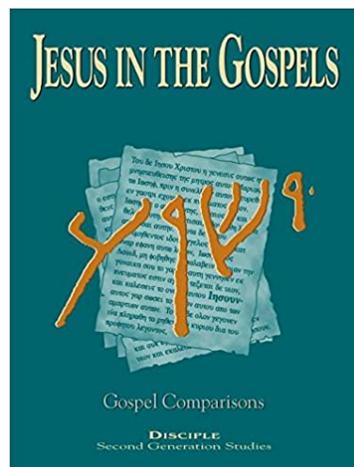
Copies of the books will be available for purchase. Both events are sponsored by the Northern Colorado Faith Library.



*David Dalke with a copy of his book, Don't Miss It.
Photo by Pratt Tribune, Pratt, Kansas.*

The signup deadline has arrived for ***Jesus in the Gospels***, 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 uses the multi-column study manual to compare all the Gospel accounts. Leaders will be 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 David Reid at (970) 581-2707 or davidreid24@gmail.com or Cindi Ross-Bell at (970) 481-0921 or falcor@frii.com.



Regional

One of the true global stars of theology is scheduled to make three appearances in Denver October 10-13, including the [Everding Lecture](#) at Iliff School of Theology. The other appearances are at St. John's Cathedral (Episcopal). **Dr. Kwok Pui Lan** was born in Hong Kong and recently accepted an endowed chair at United Methodist-affiliated Candler School of Theology in Atlanta. She is known for her work in feminist and postcolonial theology.



National/International



How do you recover from a year and a half of being immersed in a global pandemic? Upper Room Ministries will offer a variety of perspectives and healing practices during an online conference **September 30-October 2**. Registration is \$175 but there is a discount if you register by August 30. <https://www.upperroom.org/resilience>

Krista Tippett has developed a [new Wisdom app](#) that delivers a wealth of her NPR programs, podcasts and more. There is a \$99 subscription fee.

The Northern Colorado Faith Library has these resources by and about Tippett:

- [An Evening with Krista Tippett: Religion, Media and Public Life in the 21st Century](#) (recorded at First Church in 2010), DVD 210 TIP.
- [Einstein's God: Conversations about Science and the Human Spirit](#), 215 TIP
- [Speaking of Faith: Why Religion Matters and How to Talk about it](#), 200 TIP



President Obama awards the National Humanities Medal to Krista Tippett in 2014.

theology at Earlham School of Religion, [hosts a podcast on Christianity](#), religion and culture for *The Christian Century* magazine. She is an ordained clergywoman in the Presbyterian Church (USA).



If you are interested in movies and ministry, check out the [Sunday Morning Movies podcast](#), which is hosted for *The Christian Century* by Matt Gaventa and Adam Hearlson.



Candler School of Theology in Atlanta offers a free, six-week online course in the close relationship between gun culture and religion in America. [Details here.](#)

NoCo Beet is a publication sponsored by the Adult Faith Formation Team and Northern Colorado Library Board at First United Methodist Church in Fort Collins, Colorado. Publishers are Rev. Melanie Rosa and Rev. Cynthia Paquette, both of First Church. David Reid serves as editor. Shelley Nelson is the designer and copy editor.

You can find our archive on the [Adult Ministries page](#) at the First United Methodist Church website. If you have comments or suggestions, please feel free to contact us, and if you like what you see please forward this to acquaintances. Everyone is welcome to subscribe by using [this form](#).

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