

With God, we will  
set the table for all  
who hunger and thirst.

welcome.

## THE COMMUNICATOR NOVEMBER, 2017



### BE • CONNECT • ENGAGE

*Love... binds everything together in perfect harmony.* Colossians 3: 14

Congratulations FCC! You have a new settled pastor in the **Rev. Heather Hagginduff** beginning January 1, 2018. Very Exciting!

The interim transitional journey of liminal, in-between time, will come to a close at the end of December 2017. A new time will begin for FCC with new pastoral leadership filled with promise and possibility. The Spirit continues to guide and to make all

things new even in the midst of a world in uncertainty and turmoil.

It has been an adventurous Interim journey for us, and WE ARE NOT DONE! We have a couple of more months to PREPARE for the arrival of Rev. Haginduff and her family. So the transitional journey continues....

I arrived on September 1, 2016 to a congregation grieving the loss of its beloved lead minister of fifteen-plus years, **Benjamin Broadbent**. Grief was palpable and real. The loss of meaningful relationships, friendships and community are deeply felt. The end of every meaningful relationship is always mourned. Yet, all ends hold new beginnings and give way to new possibility. Such a possibility was embraced with our theme of the year - *With God, we will [ ]* fill in the bracket. *With God all things are possible.*

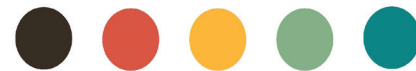
Indeed, with God all things are possible! You welcomed me with openness and warm reception. You opened your hearts to the changes, shifts in worship, in congregational life, in community. You received my ministry with gratitude and cooperation, including my perspective and interpretation of scripture through a different prism. I have not only enjoyed my ministry with you, I have also felt enriched by FCC's warm community. Thank you!

This fall we embraced a new theme **Be. Connect. Engage.** And as a new time is upon FCC, you connect and are bound to a new covenantal relationship with a new Lead Minister. A formal agreement between persons, a covenantal relationship, rests on a shared commitment to work together toward the same goals, values and purposes. It is a promise to walk together in partnership.

I am very excited for FCC and its promising future with the leadership of Rev. Haginduff. I celebrate with you and give thanks for the hard and faithful work of the Search Committee. The timing of this seems so very appropriate as we move into the month of November, the month of thanksgiving and gratitude; then to the month of December and the season of Advent, a time of waiting and preparation for the birth of Love and new beginning.

As we give thanks and as we wait and prepare, we invite you to make a pledge for the 2018 annual appeal for the mission and ministry of the church. Make your financial covenant with FCC and be part of this exciting journey as we continue to become what God has intended us to be.

Thanksgiving blessings to you,  
Pastor Nayiri



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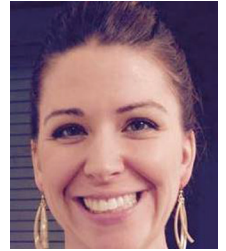
# WORSHIP - NOVEMBER 2017

## BE • CONNECT • ENGAGE

*Love... binds everything together in perfect harmony. Colossian 3: 14*

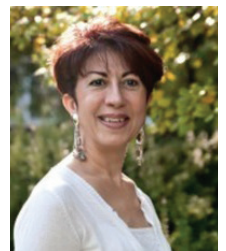
### TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY OF PENTECOST, NOVEMBER 5

Today, during this Multi-Generational service, we remember the Communion of Saints who have gone before us. We celebrate Holy Communion during both services of worship. **Mandy Todd** preaches on 1 Corinthians 12:12-27. Joyful Noise Children's Choir sings "This is the Day" by Ken Berg at both services, and the Chancel Choir shares "The Journey Home" by Robert H. Young. As a special treat, children will be invited to listen and watch Organist **David Acton** play the postlude from the Chancel, with special attention on his pedalwork!



### TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF PENTECOST, NOVEMBER 12 GRATITUDE SUNDAY

Today, we give thanks for all the gifts shared at FCC to make the ministry and mission of Jesus Christ possible through FCC. We raise our gratitude to God in thanksgiving for each covenanting member and friend. **Rev. Nayiri Karjian** preaches. Worship music is provided by our brass ensemble, BrassWorks 5, who will also accompany the Chancel Choir in "Antiphon," from Ralph Vaughan Williams "Five Mystical Songs."



### TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST, NOVEMBER 19

Today, we welcome **Mallory Everhart**, a member in discernment and seminarian at Iliff School of Theology, to our pulpit. Mallory is a slam poet, is the Bereavement and Volunteer Coordinator at Abode Hospice, and serves on the FCC Sanctuary Team. The Bells of Saint Vrain share worship music.



### TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST, NOVEMBER 26 REIGN OF CHRIST

Today, we present Bibles to our third graders who have walked through a fun ten-week session to learn our faith story, to increase understanding and appreciation of the scriptures. **Rev. Nayiri Karjian** preaches. The Chancel Choir shares John Biery's of "The Lord Will Reign Forever" at 11:00.



Historical Sunday was October 22. We celebrated FCC's 143rd birthday with an exciting and beautiful day of worship, memories, and historical facts! We were blessed to honor those who have been members of FCC for 30-50+ years! Here is a group photograph of those who were in attendance. Thank you for celebrating with us!



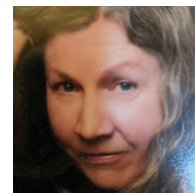


# SEARCH UPDATE!

by Jill Robinson / Jan Johnson

Search Committee Co-Chairs

[jrobinson@trgarts](mailto:jrobinson@trgarts) / [jjohnse@aol.com](mailto:jjohnse@aol.com)



It is with great joy that we announce that on Sunday, October 15, the members of our Congregation voted overwhelmingly to call the **Rev. Heather Lee Haginduff** as our next Lead Minister, effective January 1, 2018.

The Lead Minister Search Committee has been working diligently since October 2016 to take our Congregation through an intensive process of crafting our church profile that clarified the key qualities our church needs in its next leader. These qualities were our anchor throughout this process, serving to help us sort through the 50+ applications we received, and to develop interview questions that dug deeply--not just into the candidates' credentials and experience, but into who they are as people, how they've succeeded and made mistakes, and how they've grown and forgiven.



These key qualities also helped us quickly reach the unanimous conclusion that Heather was the absolute right candidate for FCC.

As Search Committee members, we know that we've been getting to know Heather since May--and that our Congregation hasn't yet reached the same familiarity. And we also know that the energy

during our Candidating Weekend was electric: full of nerves and excitement and curiosity, with the Holy Spirit filling the Sanctuary and moving through us all.

Look for more information in the coming months about Rev. Heather Haginduff's transition, as well as an opportunity to share our immense gratitude to **Rev. Nayiri Karjian** who has served us so well in this interim season.



Heather, Josh, Lulu and Ruby Haginduff





# ADVENT 2017 FOR FAMILIES

by **Del Hokanson**, *Director of Children's and Family Ministry*  
[del@fcucc.org](mailto:del@fcucc.org)



*Lucy Cavin, serving communion from her wheel chair.*

This year, during the Faith Formation Hour in Advent (9:45 a.m.-10:45a.m.), families will **CONNECT** with each other with a focus on **GIFTS**: the **GIFT OF JESUS**, our **GOD-GIVEN GIFTS** and the **GIFTS** that we pass along and share with others.

Families will gather for three Sundays on December 3, 10 and 17 and they can anticipate:

- A singing element - to **CONNECT** with **Mandy Todd**,
- A simple theatrical element guided by **Hannah Rockey** of The Millibo Art Theatre fame,
- A gift wrapping element - to **ENGAGE**, related to that week's characters, be it Angels, Mary and Joseph or the Shepherds. More details are to come, but our gift giving will include low sugar cereals for Project Angel Heart, diapers for Ecumenical Social Ministries (ESM), and donations for the Humane Society.

The fourth Sunday of Advent coincides this year with Christmas Eve, hence we will only have a single morning service at 9:30 a.m., no Faith Formation Hour, and then there is a choice of Christmas Eve services at 3 p.m., 5 p.m., 7 p.m. and 11 p.m.

**We encourage families to consider attending:**

## OVERHEARD!

*Thanks so much for allowing Silas to share on Sunday. He came home from church and said, "This was one of the best days of my life!" You made him feel so special. - Kisti Felps*



### 1) The Mystery on December 17 at 4:00 p.m.

– a traditional rendition of the nativity story, complete with characters in authentic costumes and an opportunity for preschoolers / kindergarteners to participate around the Manger.



*Sam Cavin, serving communion.*

### 2) The Family Friendly Christmas Eve Service on December 24 at 3:00 p.m.

Before entering the Sanctuary, children will be invited to identify with a nativity story character by choosing a simple costume prop and a gift that they will bring forward during the service. More details to come.

*Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you. - Luke 6:38*





# THE MADRIGAL AND THE MYSTERY OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH

by **Candace Datz**, *Director of Youth and Adult Ministry*  
[candace@fcucc.org](mailto:candace@fcucc.org)

Is it really already time to start thinking about the incredible Advent traditions that we have at FCC!? Goodness. This fall has gone by so quickly! But this winter, we get to have the fun of having **BOTH The Madrigal** dinner and **The Mystery** during the holiday season. As you well know, the Youth play fun and vital roles in the production of both of these events, serving as knaves and wenches who serve the meal at The Madrigal, and singing in the Angel Choir and the Shepherd gathering during The Mystery. We make great memories while we participate



*Knaves & Wenches at The Madrigal*



*The Mystery*

in these events together, forming inside jokes and relational bonds that help us to be vulnerable and open with each other as the school years progress. These events are not just fun additions to the Youth Ministry at FCC, they are a vital and integral part of it. If you know a 6th-12th grader who would like to have some fun and make some friends, please let me know this month.

## ADULT FAITH FORMATION OFFERINGS

by **Candace Datz**, *Director of Youth and Adult Ministry*  
[candace@fcucc.org](mailto:candace@fcucc.org)

### FAITH FORMATION I (IN THE LIBRARY)

Quest continues this month in the Gregg Library during the Faith Formation Hour every Sunday. Facilitated by UCC ordained clergyperson, **Elizabeth Vincent**, this interactive curriculum leads participants through some of the foundations of the Christian faith, allowing space for questioning, doubts, and variant interpretations. This is a safe space in which to have an honest conversation about faith, to learn something new, and to hear old things in new ways. All are welcome!

### FAITH FORMATION II (IN THE MUSIC ROOM)

**November 5 - Health Care from Coverage to Care** – Led by Barbara and David Mosser; hosted by the Health Ministry Team. The information learned from this program will enable you to navigate your way more easily through the system and with more control over your choices and your finances. Attendance is limited to 30 people. Call the FCC Office to sign-up for this session (719.635.3549).

**November 12 - Changes in Medicare** - Led by Stan Grant who will inform us about the changes in Medicare that are occurring in 2018 that will affect our coverage. Stan Grant is an expert in these changes and the effect they have on seniors' coverage. This information is likely to enable you to be in more control of your health care needs. We hope that you don't miss the opportunity.

**November 19 - FCC's Involvement in the Colorado Springs Sanctuary Coalition**; hosted by the Sanctuary Ministry Team. Come hear about FCC's involvement with the Colorado Springs Sanctuary Coalition and get an introduction to current challenges to immigration reform.



# THE FORUM IN NOVEMBER

by **Ardith Hanson**, The Forum Co-Chair  
[ardithmarie@gmail.com](mailto:ardithmarie@gmail.com)



## **MENSTRUAL JUSTICE, THOMAS MERTON, GUARANTEED INCOME, & SURVIVING THE ANDREA DORIA**

### **NOVEMBER 5: TOMI-ANN ROBERTS**

#### **BLEEDING IN JAIL: OBJECTIFICATION AND THE FIGHT FOR MENSTRUAL JUSTICE**

Tomi-Ann will discuss her involvement as an expert for a class action lawsuit on behalf of jailed women subjected, en masse, to degrading strip and body cavity searches in which those who are menstruating must remove soiled feminine hygiene products and, in many cases, bleed in front of one another and the deputies. She will explore the issues raised around the problematic emotions of shame and disgust that ensue when we repudiate our own or others' biological bodies. She will discuss some exciting ways that evidence-based advocacy can serve the cause of menstrual justice. Dr. Roberts, a popular Forum speaker, is a professor of Psychology at Colorado College and has focused on the social psychology of emotion, gender, and the body; psychological consequences of the sexual objectification of women and girls; philosophy of emotions; psychological components of women's reproductive health; positive psychology of mirth, enjoyment, awe and wonder.

### **NOVEMBER 12: ERIK HANSON**

#### **THOMAS MERTON AND THE RELEVANCY OF CONTEMPLATION IN TODAY'S WORLD**

Dr. Hanson, Senior Instructor in the Department of Philosophy at UCCS, will speak to us about Thomas Merton, the renowned twentieth century theologian and Trappist monk. He will discuss the relevancy of Merton's contemplative virtues and how they might assist us in navigating through our current cultural climate of "social media, social distrust, social unrest, and social breakdown." Dr. Hanson holds academic degrees from the University of Boulder, University of Bristol, King's College London, and Purdue University. He specializes in the Philosophy of Religion.

### **NOVEMBER 19: DAPHNE GREENWOOD**

#### **WORK AND PAY IN A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY**

How does a sustainable economy relate to environmental and social sustainability? What has changed about work and pay to shrink the middle class and upward mobility? What roles have education urban development, and health care played? ... formal and informal policies about race? ...gender equality? ...immigration? How can technological change and globalization contribute positively without causing more insecurity? Should the response to automation be a universal basic income? How does that stack up against "employer of last resort" and the EU's "flexicurity" initiative? **Daphne Greenwood** is Professor of Economics and directs the Colorado Center for Policy Studies at UCCS. She has been a member of FCUCC since 2004 and is a former state legislator.

### **NOVEMBER 26: ARDITH HANSON**

#### **"WELL! WASN'T THAT A GREAT ADVENTURE?" - SURVIVING THE SINKING OF THE ANDREA DORIA**

On the night of July 25, 1956, **Ardith Hanson**, along with two brothers and her very pregnant mother were steaming towards NYC. In a thick fog, the SS *Stockholm* plowed into the side of their ship, the SS *Andrea Doria*. She will tell her memories of that night, bring some mementos, and briefly describe her trauma treatment with EMDR decades later. Ardith retired in 2010 from a career in Blood Banking and Clinical Laboratory Technology; since then, she spent four years assembling *The Communicator* and several years on the JWW Committee and the Health Ministry. She is now co-chair of The Forum.

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*The Forum is brought to you through the efforts of your Forum Team: **Ardith Hanson, Sean Buchanan, Don Allred, Bruce Latimer, Cathy White, and Leah Davis Witherow**. Send your questions, comments, and ideas to **Sean Buchanan** ([sean.a.buchanan@gmail.com](mailto:sean.a.buchanan@gmail.com)) or **Ardith Hanson** at ([ardithmarie@gmail.com](mailto:ardithmarie@gmail.com)).*

To be added to The Forum newsletter list, sign up during The Forum or contact **Emily Bond** [emily@fcucc.org](mailto:emily@fcucc.org). To listen to recorded sessions of The Forum, visit the FCC website ([www.fcucc.org](http://www.fcucc.org)), select "faith formation," then "adult," then "The Forum."



# THE MADRIGAL 2017



**MADRIGAL TICKETS  
ON SALE IN THE  
FOUNDERS' ROOM  
- NOVEMBER 5 -**

**JOIN US!  
NOVEMBER 30, DECEMBER 1,  
DECEMBER 3  
6:00 P.M.      TICKETS: \$40**

Enjoy music, drama, frivolity and fun as well as the mystery and wonder of Christmas with the Madrigal Singers, directed by **Mandy Todd**, a play directed by **Max Ferguson**, a gourmet meal prepared by **Patti White**, music by the Colorato Quartet and the WoodDove Recorder Consort. This bi-annual Christmastide tradition is the perfect way to usher in the holy season of Christ's birth.







# SEARCH COMMITTEE, LEADERSHIP GRATITUDE & GENEROSITY

by Nancy Henjum, Member of the LCC

[nancyhenjum@msn.com](mailto:nancyhenjum@msn.com)

What do these three things have in common? Everything! Nine people responded to a call that will shape the future of our beloved church. While not a member of this Search Committee, I am willing to declare with confidence that its members led their process with gratitude for our community. I also assert that they have led with generosity. They have been generous with their precious time, generous with their listening, reflection and support. If I had to guess, their generosity with each other has grown love and respect to last a lifetime. I say these things with conviction, not because any have shared their conversations, but because I see the impact of their work, their joy and pride. I see how they treat each other. I hope you will find a way to offer your gratitude to these beautiful people for their service of leadership.



Leadership is a broad concept and it generates numerous ideas about its meaning. As our title suggests, the Leadership Cultivation Committee exists to nurture and develop leaders and leadership within the ecosystem that is Primo Congo. The leaders who respond to a need or a call serve in roles that help us turn our vision, with God's help, to "Set the Table for All Who Hunger and Thirst" into action.

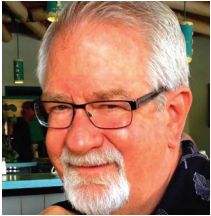
With November's seasonal rhythm as our guide, we reflect on the leadership qualities of gratitude and generosity. As Lynne Twist, author of *The Soul of Money* shared with us in our Sanctuary some five years ago: There are two branches of gratitude: Gratefulness and Thanksgiving. The interplay generates generosity. <https://gratituderevealed.com/lynne-twist/>

Some of the most effective leaders I have worked with embody these two qualities. While generosity might be expressed in monetary reward, its greatest impact is when expressed through other behaviors such as assuming good intention and seeking to understand when it is easier to blame or judge. Having the sometimes-difficult conversations that can arise when intent and impact don't match is a generous and courageous act. The outcome generates gratitude for increased understanding, growth and trust.

We are preparing to welcome a new leader into our community! It is exciting and can also generate some concern. What is possible? What can we grow? Where will we go? What will change? What will we gain? What will we lose? Will we fall in love? Will we feel lukewarm? Whether these questions excite you or scare you – may we all welcome our new Lead Minister with generosity and gratitude. And as we roll out the welcome mat, may we also share our gratitude with **Pastor Nayiri Karjian** for her able and graceful interim leadership.

If you would like to learn more about practicing your leadership at FCUCC, please contact any member of the Leadership Cultivation Committee (LCC). We love to have coffee, wine, beer, pie or your favorite delectable and talk about what might be possible for you!





# THE 106TH TRADITIONAL MYSTERY PAGEANT

by **Richard Grebenstein**, The Mystery Committee Member  
[sirgreb@gmail.com](mailto:sirgreb@gmail.com)

Our Christmas Mystery takes its name from the mystery plays or dramas that began in the early 10th Century and flourished well into the 1400s in western Europe. Our musical-drama is a Christmas Pageant combining the biblical accounts of the birth of Jesus along with church legends and beloved Christmas carols. It is performed each Advent season on the Sunday before Christmas.

One unknown in The Mystery is "Who will be Mary and Joseph?" We have a lovely tradition of secrecy surrounding these two people each year--the Mystery Members tapping persons in our faith community who have contributed outstanding service.

The ceramic figure of the "Bambino" (Christ Child) and the censer carried by a Wise Man were acquired in Italy by Dr. Alfred A. Blackman's Family around 1900 and lent to the church for use in the play by the Haney family. In 2009, the Haney family gifted the family heirlooms to First Congregational Church. The cruse for myrrh is like those from biblical times. In 2010, the Mystery Committee had the "Bambino" repaired and restored to its original integrity. In the drama the Angel Choir is composed of high school and college-age youth, and the Seraph's (lead angel's) part is sung by one of the church's excellent female vocalists. The Shepherds' roles are taken by male singers of the church, and the Wise Men solo parts carried by baritone voices. During the pageant, cherub-children of the congregation come forward and present a gift of song before the manger. A cookie and wassail gathering follows in the Founders' Room.

We hope "The Mystery" opens you to the Deepest Mystery this season!

**SAVE  
THE DATE!  
DECEMBER 17, 2017  
4:00 P.M.**





# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

by Rev. Dr. **Jacque Franklin**, *Minister of Pastoral Care*  
[jacque@fcucc.org](mailto:jacque@fcucc.org)



## STEPHANIE AND AARON BROWN

**Stephanie** and **Aaron Brown** have been married for ten years and have three children **Moses**, **Luna**, and **Elvis** ages six and under. Aaron and Stephanie are joining FCC after searching for a faith community that shares their core beliefs. They wanted a loving healthy community where they could raise their children. They are both involved already in building community through Sunday School, Youth Ministry, Young Families and Young Adults. Aaron works as a fulfillment supervisor, and Stephanie is a stay-at-home parent. In her free time, she attends UCCS for Communications. An interesting fact about Aaron is that he is an identical twin! They have two Siamese cats and a golden puppy.

*Welcome Stephanie and Aaron,  
 Moses, Luna, and Elvis!*



STEPHANIE



AARON

## BRIAN DIMIT AND JOHN SPEARS

**Brian Dimit** is a Director of Clinical Applications. He grew up Episcopal and his faith journey brought him here with his partner John, for community. He is already involved in financial giving, ushering and is interested in community outreach and fundraising. He is a board member for Inside Out. **John Spears** is the Executive Director of the Pikes Peak Library District. He was raised in the First United Methodist in Libertyville, Illinois. He too is involved in ushering and would love to become more involved in the music of the church and/or assist in the Gregg Library. Interesting thing about John is he taught line-dancing at a lesbian bar in St. Louis. And there seems to be a competition about who has the most tattoos!

*Welcome  
 Brian and John!*



BRIAN



JOHN





# GRATITUDE SUNDAY & #GIVING(THANKS)TUESDAY

by Ruth Roland, Director of Financial Ministry  
[ruth@fcucc.org](mailto:ruth@fcucc.org)

*If you haven't yet made your 2018 Financial Covenant, please bring it to church this month or, better yet, simply complete your covenant online by visiting:*

*<http://www.fcucc.org/give/financial-covenant-form>*

The month of November is synonymous with gratitude as we celebrate the fruits of the harvest and the Thanksgiving Holiday. This month at First Congregational Church, we are especially thankful for the fruits of the Search Committee's work which culminated in the congregational call to **Rev. Heather Haginduff** on October 15. And, we are extraordinarily thankful for all those who have already made their 2018 Financial Covenant to support our joint ministry with **Rev. Haginduff**.

In this spirit of gratitude, the Stewardship Team will be hosting Dinner on the Grounds on Gratitude Sunday, November 12, after the second worship service. As is our custom, we will provide the drinks and the main dish for both carnivores and vegetarians.

Check below to find out what side dish you are asked to bring. Please come to enjoy this time together of good food and company!

GRATITUDE  
SUNDAY  
NOVEMBER 12

FOUNDERS'  
ROOM  
12:15 PM

YOU ARE  
WELCOME!

DINNER ON



## THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE WILL SERVE:

- Roasted Pork Loin with Cider Demi-Glaze
- Spinach & Veggie Lasagna
- Drinks

## PLEASE BRING A DISH TO SHARE ACCORDING TO YOUR LAST NAME INITIAL:

- A-H (Salads)
- I-R (Vegetables/Sides)
- S-Z (Desserts)



THE GROUNDS

CELEBRATION  
OF  
GRATITUDE!

FIRST  
congregational  
CHURCH  
united church of christ  
COLORADO SPRINGS



Later in the month, while the rest of the social media world will be buzzing about #GivingTuesday, the Stewardship Team will be recognizing **#Giving(Thanks)Tuesday**. We don't want to give too much away, but we don't want you to miss out on this!

While you're on the church's website, check out all the 2017 Mission Moments that are loaded in the Give menu – it has been quite a year! Thanks so much for all you do as part of the ministry of your church.



# 15TH ANNUAL MICAH 6 AWARDS BANQUET

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15 2017

Many Congratulations to this year's Micah 6 Award Honorees:

**Don Allred**  
**Siri Everett**  
**Rich Law**



We were honored to have **Rev. Dr. Stephany Rose Spaulding** attend as the Keynote Speaker.



The First Micah 6 Awards Banquet was held in the spring of 2002 to recognize individuals and organizations nominated by members of First Congregational Church because they embodied the spirit of Micah 6: 8 to "do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with your God."







# CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

## SEPTEMBER 17 - OCTOBER 8

by **David Acton**, *Organist / Office Administrator*  
[david@fcucc.org](mailto:david@fcucc.org)

**THANK YOU** to **Sky Foerster**, **Tiffany Schmid**, **Alysa Webb**, and **Matthew & Samuel Cole**, who served as liturgists. **Jenny Cavin**, **Kisti & Maren Felps**, **Laura Pfender**, and **Claire Radtke** provided support in KC Worship. **Denise Ellsworth**, **Judy Jacob**, **Sandy Johannsen**, and **Cyndi McFarland** provided support in Godly Play Worship. Thank you also to members of the Children's Ministry Team, and to **Amy Colwell**, and the **Laffely Family** for their support and set-up help on Rally Sunday. Special thanks also to **Aaron Brown**, **David Bribach**, **Jill Cameron**, **Ty Clark**, **Heather DeZarn**, **Alison Gerbig**, **Regina Kornmesser**, **Brad Mikaelian**, **Polly Strovink**, and **Cathy White** who are guiding Fall Sunday School classes. And thank you to **Todd Beltracchi**, **Lois Benson**, **Drew Cavin**, **Tyescha Clark**, **Tom Francis**, **Jane Gazal**, and **Lesli Weaver** who have offered Youth Faith Formation support.

We offer **CONGRATULATIONS** to **Brad** and **Sue Mikaelian** who completed OWL training in elementary and secondary levels, respectively. **Adam Gibbs** also completed OWL training in 7th-9th grade levels. **Lori Miskel** and **John Rowe** were married on September 23. **Jim and Sue Todd**, parents of **Mandy Todd**, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on September 30.

**PRAYERS** are lifted to those who are suffering from cancer and undergoing treatment, including **Sarah Delwiche's** father, **Ron Sele**, **Charlie Hall**, and **Frank Koenigsamen**. For those who have been hospitalized or are experiencing health concerns including **Dolly Eager** and **Marcie Mayer**. **Jim Bramwell** was hospitalized with infection and released to care facility for rehabilitation. For those recovering surgery, we pray for **Dave Babin**, recovering from a detached retina; **Colette Berge**, recovering from back surgery; **Sharon Harrison**, recovering from hip surgery; and **Sue Taylor's** mother, **Bobbie Taylor**, recovering from surgery for a broken arm. We pray also for **Burl Kreps** and **Wilma Steenbergen** who prepared for and underwent surgery. **Mo Morrow** is experiencing challenges with flood damage to her home. For the world, we pray especially for the citizens of California, Florida, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Texas, and all others who are affected by hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and fires. And to the many affected, directly and indirectly, by grief, fear, and loss surrounding the shooting in the city of Las Vegas. Finally, we pray for **Rev. Heather Haginduff**, called to be the next lead minister of First Congregational Church, as well as her family as they prepare to transition their lives to Colorado Springs in January.

We offer **CONDOLENCES** to **Jeanie and Phil Tate** on the loss of their daughter, **Val Tate**, on September 6. Services were held at FCC on October 21. Condolences are offered to the family and friends of **Margery Layton** who passed away on September 16. Services were held at FCC on September 22. Condolences are also offered to the family and friends of **Marcy McNeill**, who passed away on October 6. Services were held at FCC on October 21.



# A PEEK IN THE PAST: FREE SPEECH

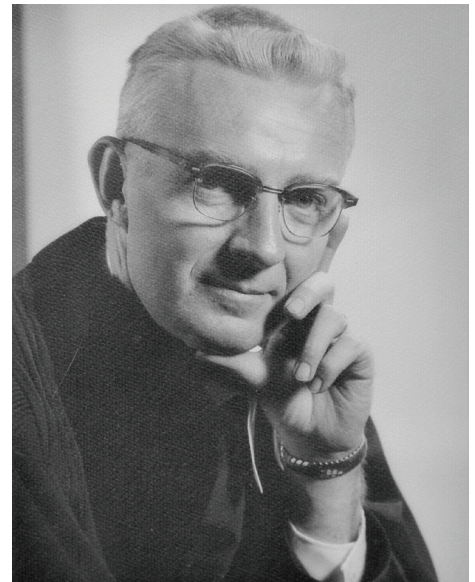
by Chris Steenbergen, Church Historian  
[chris.steenbergen@yahoo.com](mailto:chris.steenbergen@yahoo.com)



Among the documents I received from the archive of Lenore Poulson, our earlier historian who recently passed away, was a program of the celebrations in 1949 on the occasion of the church's 75th anniversary. The program stretched over eight days, including services on October 23 and 30, a seminar on "Free and Non-conformist Churches," and a lecture on "Faith and Freedom in American Higher Education" by previous pastor Rev. D. D. Williams - all evidence of a newly vibrant church. The anniversary committee alone consisted of 27 members. The guide of FCC into the post-war era and renewal had been Thomas Dick, Jr.

Thomas C. Dick, Jr. was born in 1911 in Elizabeth, New Jersey. He went to Tusculum College in Greene, Tennessee where he met and married his wife Katrina. They moved to Chicago where Tom studied at the Theological Seminary and received his B.D. on the thesis "Man's Confrontation of Death." Ordained in 1939, he served from 1940 as the pastor of Plymouth Congregational Church in St. Paul, Minnesota where he also was the director and secretary of the Minnesota Congregational Conference.

In 1944 the call from FCC came, and Tom and Katrina with two-year-old twins Jim and Jeanette moved to Colorado Springs. There their younger children Elinor (1946) and Robert (1949) were born. In the ten years of Rev. Dick's pastorate, the church's membership grew from its 374 low to over 650. The Parish House was remodeled (The basement rooms addition under the Founders' Room) and a full choir was established under the direction of a minister of music, Mrs. Jessie Newgeon Hawkes. Among many public functions, Tom Dick co-founded the Unity Council, resided over Christmas Unlimited, and was moderator of the Colorado Congregational Conference. Katrina worked with the YMCA and the League of Women Voters. Both were active in the PTA.



Rev. Thomas Chalmers Dick, Jr.

In a 1953 PTA meeting Rev. Dick spoke up in defense of the local ACLU and what was deemed to be "the teaching of socialist ideologies." In the McCarthy era and conservative Colorado Springs this was anathema. In letters to the editor of *The Gazette*, to the church and to him personally, he was accused of Communist sympathies. An FBI inquiry followed and Pastor Dick escaped indictment only because he was "a clergyman ... with a wife and four children." Colorado Springs had become uncomfortable, which may well have contributed to the pastor's decision in 1954 to resign. His farewell sermon was on Philippians: "Faith held in heart and mind."

Tom Dick's next pastorate was First Plymouth Congregational in Lincoln, Nebraska, one of the largest Congregational Churches in the country, where he stood for five years, after which he moved on to Washington, DC and later California. He died in Fremont, California in 1985 as the result of a car accident and was buried in Alameda.

**Did you know?!**  
If you visit the newly  
redesigned FCC website,  
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# IGNITE PROGAM BEGINS AT LA FORET

by Ani Rose Whaleswan, FCC Sexton  
[livingstonesunlimited@gmail.com](mailto:livingstonesunlimited@gmail.com)

*Our 21st century world is descending into aggression, fear and separation. War, genocide, violence, slavery, pandemics, poverty, natural disasters--all these are common place in this new century, despite most people's longing to live together in peace. - Margaret Wheatley\**

I would have to add all the "isms" (our "prisms"): racism, sexism, ageism, liberalism and conservatism, homophobia, ableism,... It is sad and true that these are "commonplace." They exist in the outer world, in churches and families, and within.

What will we do? What role do we play individually, in the communities in which we live, in our families, with our friends, and as a church? How will—and how must—some things change? How will—and must—I change who I am, how I know myself, how I speak, and what I do?

These realities and these questions are what IGNITE is all about.

For more than five years, seven visionary leaders have dreamt and created a Leadership Initiative within the Rocky Mountain Conference. In October, the pilot program began with a week-long retreat at La Foret. For nine months participants will have regular, chosen, deliberate connection through check-ins, meetings, cohort gatherings, shared resources, and fun. In April, we will again spend a week at La Foret. Twenty-seven clergy and lay leaders from around the Rocky Mountain Conference feel called and determined, purposeful in learning what God is doing, and how to respond. We are studying and practicing several methodologies and fields of thought about collaborative and participatory leadership. Much of what underlies the approach is based on a body of work called "The Art of Hosting and Convening Conversations that Matter." It is about shared leadership and shared wisdom. It is about the notion that God is at work in all, in new ways, and we need every voice to understand, listen, and continue to serve and love well in troubled times. It is also an approach deeply rooted in practice (not just words) and retreat (change the person, change the world).

Truly this is a bold and daring step for the Conference to be dreaming, financing, creating in order to allow the Spirit of the future to emerge. The answers are not known yet. It takes courage. It takes practice. It takes curiosity, non-judgment, honest conversation.

But/And God is still speaking. If we listen, and listen well, we will all emerge with Her.

Please keep us all in prayer and please ask questions. I hope to share the ongoing process, share resources, methods and more. You KNOW where to find me on Sundays!!

\*Margaret Wheatley, author of *Turning to One Another*, *Leadership and New Science*, and *Who Do We Choose To Be* (2017) and several other visionary books.



## GREAT ATTENDANCE - THANK YOU PARENTS!

During the Faith Formation Hour in October, over 35 parents gathered together to connect with each other while networking needs and ideas for the future. Thanks to **Jessica Gemm** for spearheading conversations in collaboration with staff for this growing, vital and exciting demographic in our community.



Kick off the holiday season with  
this POPS tradition:

## Christmas Party at the Ridings' Home

Saturday, December 9  
6:00 p.m.

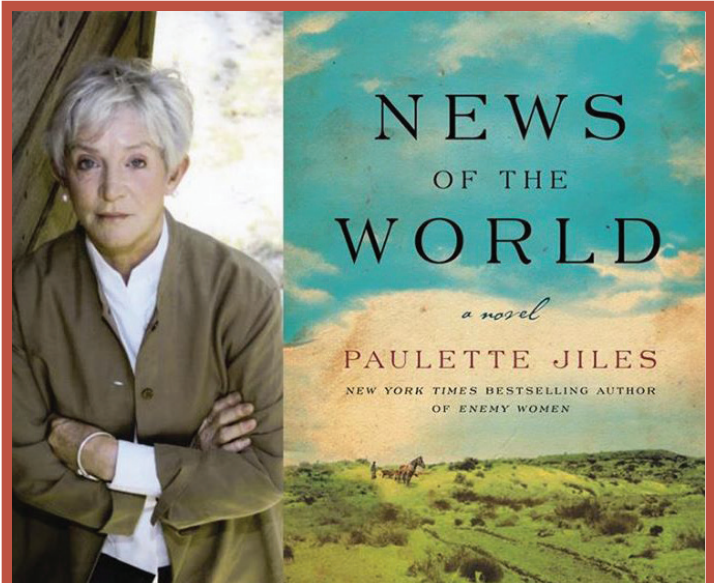
Join other Parents Out Partying Somewhere  
(POPS) for a shared meal and fellowship.

Details will be sent by evite in  
November; please contact

**Jane Ridings** ([janeridings@hotmail.com](mailto:janeridings@hotmail.com))

to be placed on the distribution  
list or for more info  
about POPS.

**Parents of ANY description  
(including empty-nesters) are  
invited; newcomers  
are always welcome.**



## Book Discussion Group

Sunday, December 10  
6:00 p.m.

Gregg Library

All are invited to join a discussion of *News of the World* by Paulette Jiles.

Coffee and Goodies will be provided!

For more information about this gathering  
and future get-togethers of the  
FCC Book Discussion Group, please contact  
**Linda Boles** ([jobolesjr@comcast.net](mailto:jobolesjr@comcast.net)).



## CHURCH PROGRAM & OFFICE STAFF

**Rev. Nayiri Karjian**  
Interim Lead Minister  
**Rev. Dr. Jacque Franklin**  
Minister of Pastoral Care  
**Mandy Todd**  
Director of Music & Arts  
**Candace Datz**  
Director of Youth & Adult Ministry  
**Del Hokanson**  
Director of Children's & Family Ministry  
**Ruth Roland**  
Director of Financial Ministries  
**Emily Bond**  
Communications Coordinator  
**David Acton**  
Organist/Office Administrator

## CHURCH COUNCIL

**Connie Brachtenbach**  
Moderator  
**Scott Tetrick**  
Vice Moderator  
**Michael Gemm**  
Treasurer  
**Lisa Mason**  
Secretary  
**Lynne Stefonik**  
Care & Fellowship  
**Alyce Morgan**  
Outreach  
**Chris Reimer**  
Worship & Spiritual Life  
**John Beavers**  
Education

## AD HOC STAFF

**Gail Rogers**  
Wedding Coordinator  
**Victoria Hansen, Ani Rose Whaleswan**  
Memorial Services Coordinators  
**Amy Colwell**  
Receptions Coordinator

## CHURCH STAFF

**Ani Rose Whaleswan, Curt Daniel**  
Sunday Sextons  
**Doris Fletcher, Bob Scheafer**  
Custodians

## NURSERY STAFF

**Kiara Nath**  
Nursery Attendant Supervisor  
**Sean Drevs, Kären Knabe,**  
**Alana Khederian, Kiara Nath,**  
**Kaitlyn O'Donnell & Thea Roland**  
Nursery Attendants

## APPOINTED OFFICERS

**Lois Benson**  
Membership Clerk  
**Chris Steenbergen**  
Historian

## PASTORS EMERITI

**Rev. Dr. Jerry Jordan**  
(1973-1988)  
**Rev. Dr. James White**  
(1989-2005)

## VOLUNTEER POSITIONS

**Pete Hokanson**  
Communicator Editor  
**Rose Enyeart**  
Communion Coordinator  
**Ann Benson**  
Flowers Coordinator  
**Marsha Garrett**  
Liturgist Coordinator  
**Virginia Carson**  
**Dave Doman**  
Head Ushers  
**Ellen Seel**  
Sanctuary Steward  
**Phyllis White**  
Flute Choir  
**Blake Pelton**  
Lay Representative to ESM  
**Lesli Weaver, RN**  
Congregational Nurse

**Curt Daniel, Christy Kessler,**  
**Sue Prendinger,**  
**Margaret Reiber, Lucy Shick,**  
**Pat Steffens, Phyllis White**  
Office Volunteers

## ASSOCIATED IN MINISTRY

**Rev. Steve Alsum**  
**Rev. Darlene Avery**  
**Rev. Lyn Boudreau**  
**Rev. Stephen Brown**  
**Rev. Pat Dolin**  
**Rev. Derek Krehbiel**  
**Rev. Patty Walker**  
4-Way Covenant

**Candace Datz, Mallory Everhart**  
Seminarists

**Candace Datz, Mallory Everhart,**  
**Samantha Garrett**  
Members in Discernment

## VOLUNTEER CHAIRS

**Paul Schwotzer**  
Audio/Visual  
**Alysa Webb**  
Children's & Family Ministry  
**Lucy Shick**  
Clergy/Congregation Relations (AM)  
**Sid Shelton**  
Facility Improvement  
**Julia Nace**  
Financial Ministries  
**Michael Gemm**  
Financial Advisory  
**Pam Shockley-Zalabak**  
Grant Writing  
**Kathy Beck, Jeanie Tate**  
Gregg Library  
**Steve Getty**  
Grounds  
**Peggy Weissman**  
Health Ministry  
**Karol Finch**  
Historical  
**Gordon Riegel**  
Human Resources  
**Steve Brown**  
Just Peace  
**Gloria Latimer**  
JWW Lectureship Series  
**Hope T. Woodhead**  
Kitchen Witches  
**Jessica Gemm**  
Leadership Cultivation Committee  
**Derek Krehbiel**  
Ministry Discernment  
**Sky Foerster**  
Mission Giving & Outreach  
**Susie Marten**  
Music & Arts Ministry  
**Nancy Forgý**  
The Mystery  
**Kathy Kreps, Sharron Waterhouse**  
Prayer Shawl Ministry  
**Dennis Kleinsasser, John Stefonik**  
Risk Reduction & Response  
**Eleanor Law, Connie Raub**  
Sanctuary Arts Ministry  
**Margaret Reiber**  
Stephen Ministry  
**Reba Holmes, Verl Holmes**  
Stewardship  
**Sean Buchanan, Ardith Hanson**  
The Forum  
**Judy Kolz**  
Visitation Ministry



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

*First Congregational UCC is an Open and Affirming Congregation. We invite people of every age, ace, marital status, sexual orientation, gender expression, means, ability and spiritual tradition to join us in the love of God and neighbor through Christian worship, dedication to education and commitment to service.*



### WOULD YOU LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE COMMUNICATOR?

We invite you to submit articles, notices, and letters relevant to the life of our congregation.

Accepted submissions may be edited for length, clarity, and correctness.

Opinions expressed by writers do not necessarily reflect official FCC policy.

**The DEADLINE for the next issue (December 2017 Issue) is Wednesday, November 15, 2017.**

Please send to: [emily@fcucc.org](mailto:emily@fcucc.org) AND [petehokanson@gmail.com](mailto:petehokanson@gmail.com)

### REQUIREMENTS:

- Include author's name, church role, contact email, and contact telephone number.
- Include a title suggestion and, if desired, photos, etc.
- Full page articles should be a MAXIMUM of 500 words (one page in size 12 font).  
\*\*If articles include photos or graphics, please submit a shorter article.
- Short articles and announcements are welcomed and will be vetted to decide about inclusion.
- May be a MSWord attachment or an email.
- Accepted LATE submissions may be placed in the next edition or may be sent out via weekly e-blast.