

FIRST THINGS FIRST

NEWS FOR THE CHURCH FAMILY AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STERLING, COLORADO

APRIL 2022

APRIL 17

Easter

10:30AM WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION

A MESSAGE FROM MICHELLE. . .



Throughout the season of Lent, we have been considering how God's provision is *Full to the Brim*, even during challenging circumstances. Whether it's the Holy Spirit's provision for Jesus during his time of temptation in the wilderness, or the lavish love and grace of the father who welcomes the prodigal home, the scripture readings during the season of Lent remind us, if we are looking, that we can see that God pours out love, mercy, and grace to sustain us throughout all our days. As we've challenged ourselves to look for fullness, even in a season known for deprivation, we've been invited to consider what an *expansive* life might look like.

Soon we will be through the season of Lent, and into the days of Easter. We know that Easter celebrates the resurrection of Christ, but it's easy to forget that the promise of new life, hope, fresh starts, surprising beginnings, and the life that really is life... these are promises for us, today. The resurrection of Christ doesn't only offer us the promise of new life *someday*, it also offers us the promise of new life *this day*. If we expand our expectations of new life beyond literal life and death, we can begin to experience new life, as often as each breath we take.

So, as we make our way through the season of Lent and move toward Easter, as signs of Spring begin to poke through the dry earth, let's continue opening ourselves to the promises of God for a rich, full, unhurried, and expansive life... not just in the next life, but in this life also. Take a deep breath in, and begin, again and again.

May God give eyes to see and hearts open to receive these precious gifts which God provides, even in the midst of our real life.

Rev. Michelle

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Military Personnel

Luke Brigham (Randy & Terry's son)
Thomas Gage Snyder (Kim Schlup's son)
Cameron Venn (Doris Ramsel's grandson)

For those with special needs or concerns....

Florence Annan	Haley Mead, Braxton, and Kaisen
Ron & Carol Barrett	Jimmie McCaffree
Norm Blackburn	Emerson McClanahan (Ellen Bernhard's daughter)
Brenda Boeff	Delinda Korrey McDowell
Luke Brigham (Kay Rich's Nephew)	Aline Marquez (Becky Cranwell's friend)
Randy & Terry Brigham	Rev Betsy & Eric Moe & the people of Guatemala
Paul Budin	Jeni Porter (In-law of Blackburns)
Gabe Chapin	David Prince
Cooperating Ministry	Frances Rhodes (Dave's mother)
Jeanne Crouch & Family	Agnus Rundus
Cierra Davis (friend of Becky Cranwell)	Steve Shinn (friend of Jim Leh)
Andrew DeSouza (Michelle Hawkin's son)	Darrell Smith
Gary Espinoza (Arden Fennell's family)	Becky Stieb, Justin & Torin (Friends of Michelle Hawkins)
Family Resource Center	Barb and Bart Thiele
Norman Foos	Charlie & Roseanne Thompson (friends of Nebletts)
Bryce Gilliland (friend of Kaans)	Peggy Thompson (Carol Arnold's daughter)
Craig Gilliland (friend of Kaans)	Amy & Byron Uhrich (Jill Vollmer's parents)
Meridith Goodwin (friend of Propsts)	Under the Umbrella
David Hashman, SCF Inmate	Robert Vance (Michelle White's dad)
Sonja Holden (friend of Arden Fennell)	Norma Wagner (Jana Lock's mom)
Hollis Jackson	Declan Nash Warner (Jason Rose's grandson)
Chris Jutz	Masi Wells (friend of Taylor Cranwell)
Josh Jutz & Kaylee	Jeff Weskamp
Robert Koehler (friend of Laura Guenzi)	Joan Whitney
Debby Korrey (Darla's and Delinda's sister)	Jim & Jean Williamson
Patty Moriarity Korrey (Delinda's and Darla's sister- in-law)	
Dona Lightsey	

APRIL

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

5	Steve Burnham
8	Jocelyn Knutson
	Ashley Roberts
9	Emily Werner
10	John Guenzi
12	Rena Morrison
14	Kaleb Knutson
	Katharine Nelson
17	Timothy Lister
19	Grayson Steele
20	Mike Burnham
	Robert Hall
22	Adalyn Sonnenberg
23	Quentin Roberts
24	Austin Foos
	Ted Propst
25	Melissa Kaan
	Lavton Miller
26	Hadlev Jackson
28	Pam Trimble
29	Darla Korrey Gertner

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
May your day be blessed!

Do you have an update on anyone listed on our church prayer list? We'd love to hear the good news of recovery, healing and answered prayer. If you have a joy to report, let us know!

SESSION. . .

From the February 15, 2022 Session Meeting

The Session of First Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Sterling, Colorado, held a regular meeting on Tuesday, February 15, 2022, at 5:15 p.m. in the conference room.

Sue Weingardt was seated as deacon representative and given voice.

PASTOR REPORT:

Rev. Michelle officiated funeral services for:

- Shirley Mae Hager on January 21, 2022.
- Wendell Newton Sanders on January 27, 2022.
- James Lowery on February 3, 2022.

Committee Rosters for 2022 were received.

SUMMARY OF ACTION:

The Session voted ...

- To approve the 2021 Statistical Report.
- To approve Rev. Denise Pass, Executive Presbyter for the Presbytery of Plains and Peaks, as the guest preacher on March 13, 2022.
- To offer times of fellowship and games at the church.

- To approve a grant from the ELMST Fund for \$1,286.55.
- To approve a grant from the ELMST Fund for \$25,000.
- That the money received from the Walsh Family Trusts be kept in checking and used to purchase the new copier for \$9447 from Journal Office Supply.
- To remove three members from the active member roll.
- To approve a building use request from Elsie Fetzer to allow use of the building on February 27, 2022 between 3-5pm for the purpose of conducting auditions for the Orpheus Club Milligan Award.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Terms of call for Rev. Michelle (recommended by session in October 2021) will go to the congregation for approval at the Annual Congregational Meeting, February 27, 2022 after worship.

Congratulation to Carson and Erin Guenzi on the birth of their son Wade Dave on February 20th.

Congratulations to the Logan and Mikayla Guenzi on the birth of their son Jackson Brooks on March 16th.

FINANCIALS. . .

	<u>February 2022</u>	<u>YTD 2022</u>
Income/Offerings	16,617.84	55,629.91
Expenses	<u>30,426.51</u>	<u>52,676.56</u>
Income / (Loss)	(13,808.67)	2,953.35
Investment Transfers	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Income/(Loss) after Transfers	(13,808.67)	2,953.35



ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING. . .

The congregation and corporation of First Presbyterian Church, Sterling, Colorado held the Annual Congregational Meeting following the morning worship service February 27, 2022. The moderator Reverend Michelle Witherspoon opened the meeting with prayer. A quorum was present.

Copies of the 2021 Annual Report were distributed.

The moderator recognized retiring elders Cheryl Kaan, Trae Miller, and Jeff Rice and retiring deacons Kathy Rice, Pam Trimble, and Jill Vollmer for their service.

Ministry Highlights were presented for Worship and Sacraments by Elsie Fetzner (video), Christian Education by Nancy Mann, Mission by Nancy Mann, Fellowship by Cheryl Kaan, Nominating Committee by George Witherspoon, Membership & Stewardship by Pam Werner, Finance by Connie Ham, and Personnel by Jackie Reynolds.

Upon recommendation from the Session **IT WAS VOTED** to approve the Pastor's Terms of Call for 2022. The meeting was adjourned.

★★★★**WE NEED OUR CHURCH FAMILY**★★★★



The rummage sale is coming up April 4-8, 2022.

Please consider helping in the following ways and note the dates and times on your calendars.

Sunday April 3rd following worship we will need to carry racks and rummage from Janet's office to Milligan Hall

Donations will be accepted beginning on Monday, April 4th and Tuesday April 5th from 9 A.M. until 5 P.M.

We need many helpers to unpack and mark donations between the hours of 9 A.M. and 4 P.M., Monday and Tuesday and to mark items until noon on Wednesday

The sale begins on Wednesday evening, April 6th, from 6 P.M. to 8 P.M.

(There will be an early buyer's fee of \$2 per person.) We need people to help sell on Wednesday evening, Thursday and Friday.

On Thursday April 7th from 9 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. items will be sold as marked.

On Friday April 8th from 8:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. items will sell for \$3-\$5 per bag, depending on the size of the bag.

At 4:00 P.M. on Friday remaining items will be bagged and sent to a charitable organization. We need help to pack them and to clean Milligan Hall.





COMMUNITY *Lenten Services*

**JOIN US EVERY WEDNESDAY NOON FOR A
LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICE
AND SACK LUNCH.**



**SERVICE STARTS AT 12:10
AND CONCLUDES BY 12:40**

SACK LUNCHES WILL BE AVAILABLE TO EAT AT THE CHURCH OR TAKE WITH YOU.

**FREE WILL OFFERING GIVEN TO COOPERATING
MINISTRIES OF LOGAN COUNTY.**



**SERVICES ARE AT CHRIST UM CHURCH
4th & Main ... 522-2910**

March 2
Richard Von Steinman
1st English Lutheran

March 23
Kevin Blankenship
City Manager

April 13
Kristie Firme
Christ UM Church

March 9
Lew Champ
First Christian Church

March 30
Bill Couchenour
Nazarene Church

Location & Time Change:

April 17th 6:15am

SONRISE SERVICE

March 16
Terry Krayenhagen
Faith Church

April 6
Michelle Witherspoon
1st Presbyterian Church

Wisdom Park
In Charmony
Jodie Harless
Faith Church

HOLY WEEK & EASTER . . .

EASTER LILIES

\$35 each
(order by April 3)



Easter Lily Donation Form

Please return forms by April 3

Donor's Name: _____

In memory of: _____

or

In honor of: _____

☐ My lily(ies) will be delivered to the church. (Traditional wrapping is gold foil with white ribbon.

or

Please have lilies delivered by Friday, April 15)

☐ I'd like to order lilies through the church:

of lilies: _____ Total: (\$35/each): \$ _____

Please make checks out to First Presbyterian Church with a memo specifying "Easter Lily."

HOLY WEEK & EASTER . . .

Maundy Thursday Seder Supper

Come...

*not because you are strong,
but because you seek God's strength.
not because you must,
but because you may.*



THIS IS THE LORD'S TABLE

April 14

6:00 pm

First Presbyterian Church

All Are Welcome | Please RSVP: 970-522-2708

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER. . .



Easter Egg Hunt & Brunch

9:30 am ~ April 17

All are welcome!

(There will be no Fellowship Coffee following the service on Easter Sunday. Join us before worship instead!)

VISITATION. . .



Visitation Volunteers

We are looking into expanding our visitation ministry at FPC by organizing some volunteers to visit and look after members of the congregation. Sometimes these relationships develop naturally, when a younger member of the church gets close with an older member of the church and just instinctively reaches out and keeps in touch.

We are asking for volunteers who might be willing to connect with another church member, making sure his or her needs are being met. This could be the beginning of a wonderful friendship that allows for the opportunity to do as Jesus would have us do - to love and care for one another. You don't have to be a deacon, or an elder, to participate in this visitation ministry (though deacons and elders are welcome to participate).

If you're interested in learning more, or if you'd like to sign up for this team of volunteers, please reach out to Rev. Michelle.

Thank you!

THE PIE AUCTION. . .

The Pie Auction was held at our church on Sunday, March 27th. Sponsored by the Membership/Stewardship Committee, this year's event raised \$2690 to support the missions supported by our church. Twelve people donated pies, a cake, cupcakes, scotcheroos, a loaf of bread, jarred cookies, and a German meal. Twenty-four people purchased an item or meal or donated funds for our missions support fund.

Thank you to all those who helped to make this church event such a success!!



Thanks, Marc, for your help!

Our church supports The Family Resource Center, Help for Abused Partners, The Cooperating Ministry of Logan County, and other organizations in our community.



Prospective Buyers!

Help For Abused Partners provides:

1. 24-hour crisis line response
2. Emergency shelter, food and other necessities
3. Individual advocacy and support
4. Weekly support groups, women & children's groups
5. Help with protective orders
6. Community outreach & education

The Family Resource Center reported they continue to serve 20-25 kids each Monday. In addition, about 30-35 kids attend Teen Club each week using a curriculum that encourages them to make good choices and use tools for building resiliency. Also, high numbers of homeless individuals come to the building for food, warm clothing, hot coffee, or just someone to talk to.



Looks Delicious!



The Cooperating Ministry of Logan County provided supplemental food assistance to 7,263 Logan County residents in 2021. About 116 households receive rent and utility assistance programs each year. Emergency services needs such as temporary shelter, gas vouchers and prescription assistance have nearly doubled over the past four years.

Our Youngest Bidder!

PRESBYTERY MISSION TRIP. . .

Presbytery of Plains and Peaks Mission Trip

In June the Presbytery of Plains and Peaks is sending a team to Mexico for a mission trip, and three of our members at FPC will be among them!

The Mission Team will partner with Yucatan Peninsula Missions to continue the construction of a high school and university serving our neighbors in the Zone Maya region of Mexico. This school provides opportunities to improve the lives of its students, who then are able to transform their families and communities.

Connie Ham, Michelle Hawkins, and Haley Mead have answered the call to serve on the Mexico Mission Team of the Presbytery of Plains and Peaks.

Each person is called to contribute to the work of Christ in different ways. While not everyone may be equipped to participate in a mission trip like this one, some people may feel called to support this work in other ways. So we are asking that you pray for Connie, Michelle, and Haley, and for the whole mission team and for the work of YPM. If you would like to get regular updates on the team's progress and specific prayer requests, please let us know. We'll be commissioning them in our worship service at FPC on Sunday, June 5.

Your financial support for this trip is also welcome. The total cost for the trip is \$1,500 per participant. The Presbytery is covering \$500/person; FPC is covering \$500/person for each of the participants from our congregation; and the participants are asked to provide/raise the remaining \$500/person. Gifts in any amount are appreciated.

You may write a check to First Presbyterian Church with "Mexico Mission Trip" in the memo line, and you may specify whether you'd like to sponsor Connie Ham or Michelle Hawkins or both (Haley has already raised her portion). You may also give online at <https://www.1ston4th.com/give> with the note: "Mexico Mission Trip: Connie Ham and/or Michelle Hawkins," or you may contribute via Connie and Michelle's Facebook fundraisers on the church's Facebook page.

As the trip gets closer, we will also invite you to help them collect supplies that the team will bring to the village in Mexico... things like school supplies, toiletries, etc.

Thank you for your prayers and support.



UPCOMING EVENTS. . .

Community Prayer Vigil for Ukraine

"Pray without ceasing." — 1 Thessalonians 5:17



Join with other churches across the presbytery for a

Presbytery-Wide Worship Service

Sunday, April 24

10:30 a.m.

(online & radio)

There will be no onsite service on April 24.

Gather with friends to watch the April 24 service in homes. If you'd like to join with others and need help finding people to join, let us know.

Save the Date:

2022 VBS

~

June 6-10



**In Person & on
Facebook**
**First Friday @
First Presbyterian
Vocalist
John
Chapdelaine**
April 1, 2022

12:05 to 12:35

South 4th and Ash, Sterling
Free & Open to the Public

facebook.com/fpc.sterling



Camps for All Ages!!

Adventure Camps!!

Go Online to Register Now:
<https://www.highlandscamp.org/>

Senior High Camps!!

First Timers Camps!!

CONGRATULATIONS

The following Sterling
High School students
made the second quarter
honor roll:

Mason Boeff

Carlee Hicks

Audrey Reeves

Ava Reeves

Addison Steele

George Witherspoon



Help someone when they need it most.

Suicide is preventable. Anyone can make a difference.

Attend the half-day safeTALK training program and quickly learn four basic steps to connect people at risk of suicide to life-saving resources. Both professionals and members of the general public save lives using safeTALK training. Anyone 15 or older can attend.

Wednesday, April 20 at First United Presbyterian Church of Loveland.
400 E. 4th Street, Loveland, CO 80538

Dinner: 5 p.m.

Training: 5:30-9 p.m.

Dinner and training are free, but reservations are required.

Reserve your spot at <https://forms.gle/TcS3wcf6bDLtwCWz5>

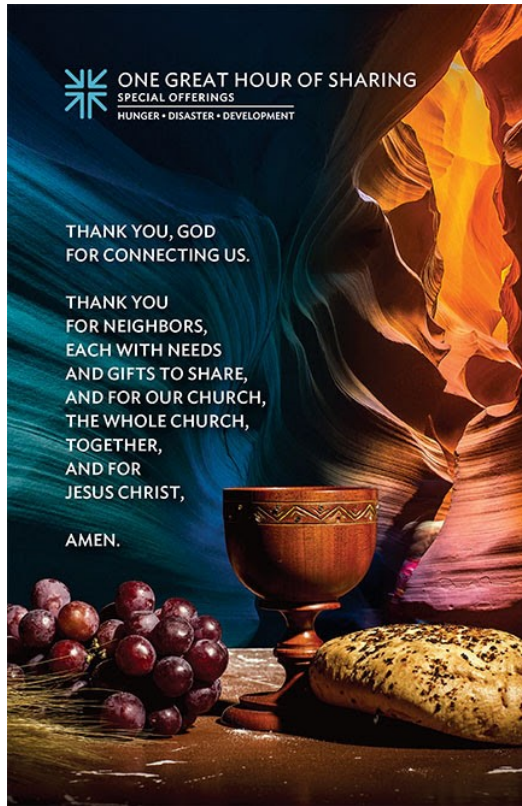
Learn more at www.livingworks.net/safetalk



LivingWorks

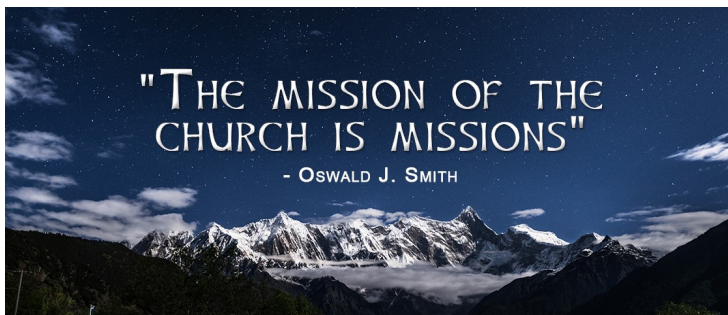
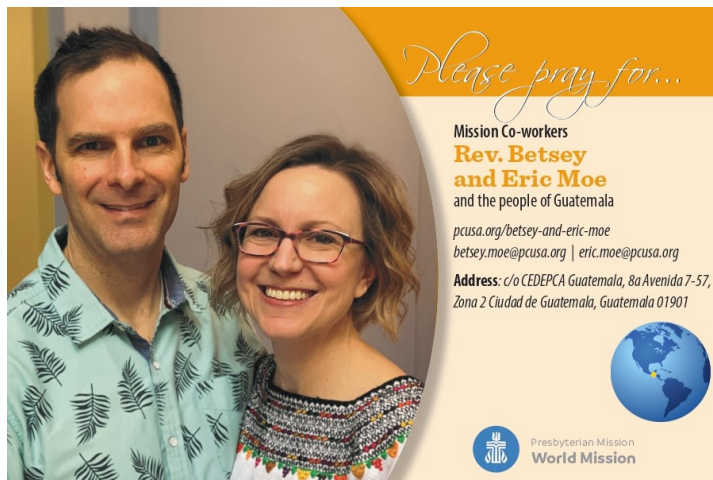


MISSIONS. . .



One Great Hour of Sharing is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for Justice, Resilience and Sustainability. These funds support Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Hunger Programs, and Self-Development of People.

We will be collecting this special offering during lent and Easter. You may make checks payable to FPC with OGHS on the memo line; there are offering envelopes on the table outside the church office. The One Great Hour of sharing offering



Food Pantry Needs

You may bring your donations to the church, put them under the table outside the church office, or in the box in the elevator vestibule.

Cooperating Ministry:
Peanut Butter
Microwave Rice Packets
"Both are helpful in meal boxes." Dean Boeff

NJC Food Pantry needs:
Nuts, Dried Fruit, Trail Mix; Jerky; Tuna or Salmon (cans/packets); Protein Bars; Peanut Butter; Nut Butter; Crackers; Granola; Fruit/ Nut Bars; Instant Oatmeal; Popcorn; Microwavable meals.

SERVING IN CHURCH

USHERS

April 3 Traci Reeves
Ava Reeves
Audrey Reeves

April 10 Dean Boeff
Tammie Malone
Jeff Christenson

April 17—Easter
Sue Weingardt
Justin Cranwell
Mike Werner

April 24 (online & radio only)

FELLOWSHIP COFFEE

April 3 Property Committee
April 10 Personnel Committee
April 17 Easter Brunch & Egg Hunt (9:30 am)
April 24 n/a

COUNT OFFERING

April 3 Bev Cumming
April 10 Bob Smith
April 17 Connie Ham
April 24 n/a

SOUNDROOM

April 3 Jeff Christenson
April 10 Justin Cranwell
April 17 Steve Burnham
April 24 n/a

FIRST RESPONSE

April Tammie Malone
May Audrey Reeves

LAY READERS

April 3 Karen Torres
April 10 Linda Meisner
April 17 Gary/Kay Rich
April 24 n/a

BULLETIN DELIVERY

April Jeff Christenson
May Tammie Malone
June Sue Weingardt

COMMUNION

APRIL 14, SEDER SUPPER

Communion elements will also be provided.

APRIL 17, 2022

You are welcome to bring your own elements to worship. Prepackaged, single-serving, communion elements will also be available.

Preparing Communion

April 14 Fellowship Comm.
April 17 Nancy Mann & Mike Tyson

Remember to let the church office know if you trade serving dates with someone.



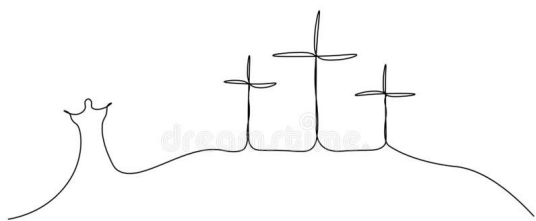
April 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
					12:05 First Friday – John Chapdelaine	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Rummage Sale Lily Deadline 4:00 Presbytery 6:00 Christian Educ. Com.	2:00 Worship & Sacraments 5:15 Fellowship	12:10 Comm. Lenten Service 5:30 Bells 7:00 Choir			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Palm Sunday 10:30 Worship 11:30 Fellowship Coffee		5:15 Finance Committee	12:10 Comm. Lenten Service 5:30 Bells 7:00 Choir	6:00 Seder Supper	Good Friday Newsletter Deadline	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Easter 9:30 Easter Brunch & Egg Hunt 10:30 Worship	Church Office Closed	5:15 Session		1:30 Women's Bible Study		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
10:30 Worship (online & radio only)						

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
130 SOUTH 4TH STREET
STERLING, COLORADO
80751

APRIL



FIRST THINGS FIRST

If you wish to be taken off this Newsletter mailing list, please call the church office at 522-2708.

Newsletter Deadline is the 15th day of the month prior to publication. Items may be submitted on flash drive, on CD or in text format to Tammie Malone or Jackie Reynolds c/o the church office, by e-mail (newsletter@firstpressterling.org) or phone (522-2708).

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WORSHIP

Sunday, 10:30 a.m.

Morning Worship in person or
on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/fpc.sterling

RADIO MINISTRY

Sunday, 10:30 a.m. On KSTC (AM 1230)

Staff:

PASTOR MICHELLE WITHERSPOON

E-mail michelle@firstpressterling.org

Cell Phone 970.580.4358

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR BEVERLY CUMMING

E-mail bevc@firstpressterling.org

Cell Phone 970.466.0262

BOOKKEEPER KARLEE MANUELLO

MUSIC COORDINATOR/ORGANIST ELSIE FETZER

ASSISTANT ORGANIST MARSHA DAVIS

CHOIR DIRECTOR DARLA KORREY GERTNER

BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR LINDSEY JACKSON

PROPERTY MANAGER JANET KLOBERDANZ

INNOVATOR OF FAMILY AND YOUTH CONNECTION
AND FAITH DEVELOPMENT KAY BRIGHAM RICH

NEWSLETTER EDITORS TAMMIE MALONE
AND JACKIE REYNOLDS

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