

FIRST THINGS FIRST

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

MAY 2022

Spiritual Mothers

Tend to the

Soul



**VERY HAPPY
MOTHER'S DAY**

A MESSAGE FROM MICHELLE. . .



It's easy to forget that Easter is more than a Sunday. As I think about the *season* of Eastertide, and the implications of resurrection, I've been wondering...

Where do we see signs of life (every day)?

How do we experience new life, and the life that really is life?

If we are people of the resurrection, how then shall we live?

When do we feel most and truly *alive*?

These are some of the questions I'll be exploring throughout the season of Easter, and I welcome your input! Where do *you* see signs of life (every day)? When do you feel most and truly *alive*? Do you come alive when listening to music, or working in your garden, or cooking or baking...? Maybe you come alive when spending time in nature, or curled up with a good book. Or, maybe it's when you laugh with friends. Let me know how you experience *the life that really is life* — I'd love to hear from you. Give me a call, send me an email... let me know your thoughts, or let's get together to reflect together on how resurrection impacts us in *this* life.

May God help us all to open to new life and fresh hope unfolding within, among, and all around us.

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

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!

MAY

VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY

2	Sue Weingardt
3	Ann Leh
5	Chris Roberts
5	Tessa Rounph
7	Mike Werner
7	Don Jones
8	Erin Guenzi
14	Jase Knutson
14	Hollis Jackson
14	Linda Borner
15	Ron Barrett
15	Dave Guenzi
16	Shelby Weingardt
16	Daisy Borner
20	John Fabela
20	Dylan Cranwell
20	Harper Roberts
21	Barbara Thiele
21	Bart Thiele
25	Lilly Miller
26	Jimmie McCaffree
27	Kinslev Jo Rossen
27	Marli Christenson
29	Jenevieve DeSoto
29	Rod Mari
31	Connie Sue Clark
31	Kay Fix
31	Mackenzi Meier
31	Cason Guenzi

MAY YOUR DAY BE BLESSED ~

SESSION. . .

From the March 22, 2022 Session Meeting

The Session of First Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Sterling, Colorado, held a regular meeting on Tuesday, March 22, 2022, at 5:15 p.m. in the conference room.

Traci Reeves was seated as deacon representative and given voice.

SUMMARY OF ACTION:

The Session voted ...

- To approve the following time away for continuing education for Rev. Michelle: Festival of Homiletics, May 16-20, 2022, Denver, CO.
- To invite the congregation to donate supplies (such as school supplies) for the village in Mexico where the Presbytery Mission Trip participants will visit and to invite the congregation to donate money to cover the remaining cost of the mission trip (\$500/person).
- To donate \$100 from Other Session Mission to SHS After Prom and to donate \$200 from Other Session Mission to Ukraine Humanitarian Fund through the United Nations Office of Coordination of Humanitarian Partners (OCHP).
- To approve a Maundy Thursday Seder Supper service with communion, on April 14, 2022.
- To approve the baptism of Danny Duodu on Easter Sunday, April 17, 2022.
- To utilize the presbytery's pre-recorded service for April 24th (with no onsite worship).
- To approve the baptism of Marryn Rose Sheldon on Palm Sunday, April 10, 2022.
- To hold a pie auction on March 27, 2022, to raise funds to support our budgeted mission partnerships.
- To approve the February, 2021 Transaction Detail Report.

	<u>March 2022</u>	<u>YTD 2022</u>
Income/Offerings	21,990.35	77,620.26
Expenses	<u>32,952.16</u>	<u>85,628.72</u>
Income / (Loss)	(10,961.81)	(8,008.46)
Investment Transfers	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

★★★★**Thank You from the
Rummage Sale Team**★★★★

Many, many thanks for everyone who helped with the rummage sale. We had so many good workers to help make our sale the best it has ever been. We made \$4,185.00 thanks to all of you who helped.

Thank you Pam and Mike Werner for the use of your trailer, and to Cheryl and Dennis Kaan for hauling our leftovers to Fort Morgan's Goodwill.



God Bless You All

New AV System — Update

As previously reported, the session has approved an audiovisual system upgrade that will include replacing a majority of the sound room equipment, mics, speakers and cameras, and adding two flat panel displays where the blue urns are now and a screen on the balcony face. Installation of the new AV system will happen over two weeks in August, and we are excited as we plan to launch and dedicate the new system in August. Preparations will be underway soon, as we make a new home for the church's urns. The urns provide such a significant visual component in our worship space, and they connect us to our heritage in deep and meaningful ways. We are delighted that even as we upgrade to some modern AV components, we will retain the historic and lovely ambience in the sanctuary. The plan is for the urns to stay close to where they are now, as an alcove will be created for each urn, just below their current location. This will keep them visible to the worshipping community to continue to offer inspiration to those in the present and the future, as we remain connected to our past.



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!

UPCOMING EVENTS. . .

In Person & on Facebook **First Friday @ First Presbyterian**



**Sterling
High
School
Jazz Band**
May 6, 2022
12:05-12:35

Free & open to the public
130 South 4th Street, Sterling
[facebook.com/ fpc.sterling](https://facebook.com/fpc.sterling)

Save the Date:
2022 VBS

~
June 6-10

Register online:
[https://
fpcsterlingvbs.mycokesburyvbs.com](https://fpcsterlingvbs.mycokesburyvbs.com)



UPCOMING EVENTS. . .

Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, May 29

10:30 a.m.



Bring your animals to church for this casual outdoor service. Let us give thanks for all the animals!

SPECIAL SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN



MOTHER'S DAY

Honor her for all that her hands have done. - Proverbs 31:31

Sunday, May 8 ~ 10:30am

with Mother's Day craft/activity



CONGRATULATIONS

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

Mason Boeff

Carlee Hicks

Audrey Reeves

Ava Reeves

Addison Steele

Taylor Caldwell

CONGRATULATIONS

Bailey Jackson, daughter of Cory and Megan Jackson, was named Sterling Middle School Student of the month.

PRESBYTERY 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.”

Another way you might support the mission team is to help them collect school supplies that the team will bring to the village in Mexico. Please bring your donations to the church before June 5th.

Thank you for your prayers and support.



JENEVIEVE SANDERS MANUELLO DeSOTO
WILL BE CELEBRATING HER 99TH BIRTHDAY
ON SUNDAY, MAY 29TH

AND, GOOD FRIEND JIMMIE McCaffree
WILL BE 106 ON THURSDAY, MAY 26TH



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:

Pancake Syrup

Canned Ravioli

“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.



***Our Amaaaazing Rev. Michelle ~
Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!!***



April 28, 2022

Dear VBS Volunteers and Potential VBS Volunteers!

For those of you who have contacted me about volunteering for our Food Truck Party Vacation Bible School program, **THANK YOU!!** If you are still thinking about it, this letter is for you too! Our Vacation Bible School theme this year is **FOOD TRUCK PARTY ~ On a Roll With God!** It will take place June 6-10, 9 am – 12:00 pm.

We will have a planning meeting on **Sunday, May 22** right after church in the fireplace room in Fellowship Hall. I will provide a light lunch for all who attend and will have materials, t-shirts and schedules available at that time, so **please RSVP to let me know if you can attend on May 22.**

In the meantime, let me know if you're ready for your leader materials.

I can't wait to introduce you to this wonderful, fun, creative curriculum and to gain a better idea of what you would like to see happen during our FIRST traditional Vacation Bible School since 2019! This is such a valuable program to be offering to the kids in our community and I thank you so much in advance for your commitment to the program.

If you aren't already signed up to lead a particular area, please also be in touch with me so that we can determine what area you are most interested in volunteering for.

As you know many hands are needed for a successful Vacation Bible School program and I appreciate so much all who are able and willing to make this commitment. Please don't hesitate to call, e-mail or text me with any questions!

I can't wait to see you May 22!

Kay Rich

Contact info: 970-571-0766 (cell) Klbr1956@yahoo.com

First Presbyterian Church
130 S. 4th St. | Sterling, CO | 522-2708
www.firstpressterling.org
The Rev. Michelle D. Witherspoon, Pastor



2022 Vacation Bible School Registration Form

June 6-10 ~ 9am-12pm

First Presbyterian Church

Or register online:

<https://>

fpcsterlingvbs.mycokesburyvbs.com

Child's Name _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Address _____

E-mail Address _____

Phone Numbers Home _____ Cell _____ Work _____

Age Information Date of birth _____ Age _____ Male / Female

Last school grade completed _____

Home Church _____

Allergies / Medical Information / Other: _____

Emergency Contacts

Name _____ **Phone** _____

Name _____ **Phone** _____


Dismissal Information

Name(s) of person(s) who may pick up this child from VBS _____

Please return completed Registration Forms to the church or register online at

<https://fpcsterlingvbs.mycokesburyvbs.com/>

May 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10:30 Worship with communion 11:30 Fellowship Coffee	11:00 Nominating Committee 6:00 Christian Educ. Com.	5:15 Fellowship	5:30 Bells 7:00 Choir		12:05 First Friday – SHS Jazz Band	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
10:30 Worship 11:30 Fellowship Coffee		5:15 Finance Committee 5:30 Presbytery (Zoom)	5:30 Bells 7:00 Choir			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
10:30 Worship 11:30 Fellowship Lunch 11:30 Nominating Committee Newsletter Deadline		5:15 Finance Committee	5:30 Bells 7:00 Choir	Bell Maintenance 11:00 Visitation Group 1:30 Women's Bible Study		Highlands Workday
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
10:30 Worship 11:30 Fellowship Coffee 11:30 VBS meeting		5:15 Session	10:30 Membership Stewardship Committee 5:30 Bells 7:00 Choir			
29	30	31				
10:30 Blessing of the Animals	Church Office Closed Memorial Day 					

SERVING IN CHURCH

USHERS

May 1 Traci Reeves
Ava Reeves
Audrey Reeves

May 8 Jeff Christenson
Tammie Malone

May 15
Mike Werner
Terri Rhodes

May 22 Dean Boeff
Sue Weingardt

May 29 Delinda Korrey McDowell
Ken McDowell

FELLOWSHIP COFFEE

May 1 Nominating Committee
May 8 Finance Committee
May 15 Fellowship Lunch
May 22 Chancel Choir
May 29 Membership/Stewardship Committee

COUNT OFFERING

May 1 Bev Cumming
May 8 Bob Smith
May 15 Connie Ham
May 22 Linda Meisner
May 29 Bev Cumming

SOUNDRoom

May 1 Jeff Christenson
May 8 Justin Cranwell
May 15 Dean Boeff
May 22 Tanna Prince & Rex Witherspoon
May 29 Steve Burnham

FIRST RESPONSE

May Audrey Reeves
June Mason Boeff
July Terri Rhodes

LAY READERS

May 1 Becky Cranwell
May 8 Myra Westfall
May 15 Bob Smith
May 22 Jackie Reynolds
May 29 Bev Cumming

BULLETIN DELIVERY

May Tammie Malone
June Sue Weingardt
July Mason Boeff

COMMUNION MAY 1, 2022

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

Preparing Communion

May 1 Rose Neblett
June 5 Darla Korrey

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

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

MAY



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

E-mail karlee@firstpressterling.org

MUSIC COORDINATOR/ORGANIST

ELSIE FETZER

ASSISTANT ORGANIST

MARSHA DAVIS

CHOIR DIRECTOR

DARLA KORREY GERTNER

BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR

LINDSEY JACKSON

PROPERTY MANAGER

JANET KLOBERDANZ

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