



**First Presbyterian
Church of Littleton**

First Word
February 1, 2018



This summer the youth of First Pres. Littleton will partner with Next Step Ministries and join the relief efforts in Houston, Texas after Hurricane Harvey. It is an honor for us to join the clean up after such a devastating storm. I hope you will partner with us as we prepare for this trip. Our team is mighty and ready to work. We would love your help through prayer and/or donation to our summer trip.

We are at it again, Red Envelope Fundraiser begins the First Sunday in February! This year with a twist! Each envelope will also contain a story or hope from one of our team members. Check out the full information on how red envelope fundraiser works below.

We will have 100 Red envelopes labeled 1-100 on the front, on display in Chandler Hall. Each envelope represents a dollar amount to be donated to the youth summer mission trip to Houston. Follow these simple steps to donate to these amazing life changing trips for our Youth!!!

- **Pick up a red envelope with the number of the amount you would like to donate**
- **Put that amount in the red envelope**
- **Drop into a red box once the envelope is filled.**
- **Yes, it's that simple! Consider Giving all through the month of February!!!**



Calling all Cooks! It is that Time of Year Again!

Sunday, February 18, 2018

11:45 a.m.



Everyone is invited to attend and participate in the Annual Soup/Chili Cook-Off at 11:45 a.m. in Ficklin Hall. There will be lots of fun prizes and we will AGAIN have unbiased judges! If you would like to enter your soup or chili in the competition, please register by completing a registration form and put it in the box in Chandler Hall. If you would like to just come "taste", please sign in also. The Soups/Chilies must be in Ficklin Hall by 10:00 a.m. to be judged. They must be hot and ready to judge (crock pot suggested).

FEBRUARY MISSION PROJECT***FOOD DRIVE FOR LIFE CENTER

Life Center is located on Datura Street and maintains a local food bank. This is their vision. "Transforming Communities. We live this out by investing in one life at a time, by sharing the hope and love of Christ while meeting immediate needs and providing long-term solutions to empower people to live the life that God has for them." The Mission Committee will again be sponsoring a food drive for Life Center during the first two weeks of February. Our food drive last February brought in 528 lbs of food. We again asked Life Center for suggestions of food they use the most. This is the list: canned fruit, canned meat (chicken, tuna), jam or jelly, Hamburger Helper type meals, Ramen noodles, chunky peanut butter, ketchup, pickles, salad dressings, Mac 'n' cheese dinner cups, 4 pk jello or fruit cups, pop tarts and any other kind of single serve foods that they can give to the homeless. They gratefully accept all food products. Grocery bags with the list attached will be passed out on Sunday, January 28 and February 4. Food should be returned no later than February 11. Thank you in advance for your participation.

Mission Needs!!

Toiletries: Samples for La Puente. There is a basket in Chandler Hall by the office door, where you can put sample size shampoos, conditioners, soap, lotions, mouthwash, etc. The men's group that volunteers their skills at La Puente each year will take them there this summer.

Zimbabwe Kids Committee: The church needs a representative from our church to join this Denver Presbytery Committee, which oversees fundraising for water wells in Zimbabwe.

From the Heart....

Dear Church Family, We want to thank you all for your thoughts, prayers, get-well wishes and cards. And also, a huge Thank You to the Peacemakers in our church, who hand-stitched Floyd's beautiful quilt! It is beautiful and he loves it! And also, a Special Thank You to Carol, who has been so supportive, caring and kind. We love you all! Floyd is improving here in Ft. Collins near our family.

Many, Many Blessings to you all! Floyd, Joyce & Family





You're Invited to a Workshop for Loss & Grief

Six Monday Evenings, Feb. 12 – Mar. 19 ◆ 6:30-8:00 pm
In the Library of First Presbyterian Church of Littleton
1609 W. Littleton Blvd., Littleton, CO 80120
Limited to 8 participants. No fee for workshop.

Anyone who breathes has experienced loss and grief. Our losses may occur in any area of our living including job loss, relationship loss, loss of health, loss of pet, loss of a dream to the death loss of a family member or friend. We don't always receive support and understanding when we experience a loss and the accompanying grief. And, we are not always given the time and space needed for healing our grief. In fact, our fast-paced society discourages us from showing or sharing our pain but rather encourages us to "buck up" and stay busy.

This workshop is designed to provide you with information about the grieving process and to give you support in doing the work of mourning. Whether your loss is fairly recent or occurred some time ago, you will learn some key aspects of this important work. You will learn that this is an up and down journey, that you will need extra rest and quiet time and that you need and deserve support from others. And, you will be encouraged to write about your loss and to occasionally use ritual to honor this loss in your life. We offer you a safe place, with good support, to begin to practice some of the essential steps in healing from your loss. We hope you will join us and take the opportunity to learn and grow towards a fuller, deeper life.

PARTICIPATION IS BY REGISTRATION ONLY. Workshop sponsored by First Pres Littleton. To register please call the church office, 303-798-1389 by Friday, Feb 9.

Facilitator: Jaynie Muggli, MA, LPC with Pastor Carol Parsons



Jaynie has a Master's in Counseling Psychology from the University of Colorado, a Bachelor's in Humanities from Colorado College and is a Licensed Professional Counselor. She has worked as a bereavement counselor and grief group facilitator for ten years, the last nine at Collier Hospice, Lutheran Medical Center in Wheat Ridge. While at Collier, Jaynie created and facilitated an expressive arts therapy group, a writing grief group and a "Who Am I Now group." She has provided expressive mandala drawing workshops at both West Pines Behavioral Health Center and for the Center for Spirituality at the University of Denver. Prior to her counseling education, Jaynie pursued personal and spiritual growth work with

varied organizations in the Metro area: participation in retreats and regular study with the Denver Guild for Sacred Studies, participation in weekend long classes at Naropa University in poetry, Celtic traditions and life direction. Jaynie has also pursued the "life learning" experience of individual counseling in order to grow more fully in response to life's challenges.

FREE CONCERT - SAVE THE DATE !!!

**THE
TINTINNABULATION
RINGERS,**



MEMORIAL HANDBELL CHOIR

AND

**FPCL'S NEWEST RINGERS
IN CONCERT!!**

KAREN A. MEERSMAN, DIRECTOR

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR A FUN EVENING OF LAUGHS, BELLS,
CHIMES AND GOOD TIMES!! ALL AGES ARE WELCOME!**

**FEATURING MUSIC FROM ADELE, DISNEY,
CAPTAIN & TENILLE, LA LA LAND, & THE RETURN
OF THE AUDIENCE FAVORITE RING-ALONG!!**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH -
7:00 - 8:00 P.M.**

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - 1609 W. LITTLETON BLVD.
LITTLETONPRESBYTERIAN.ORG**

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC -

**A FREE-WILL OFFERING WILL BE TAKEN TO SUPPORT
THE TINTINNABULATION RINGERS' TRIP
TO THE AREA XI FESTIVAL AND CONFERENCE
IN ALBUQUERQUE, NM JUNE 21-24, 2018**



If you are interested in finding out about **MAKING THIS CHURCH YOUR HOME**, please call Elinor, our Office Administrator (303-798-1389), or email her at fpcl@fpcl.org. Interest classes will be held on Sundays, February 18 & 25 from noon to 2:00p.m. In Ayers Parlor (across the hall from the Sanctuary), with lunch included.

The Memorial Handbell Choir of
First Presbyterian Church of Littleton
cordially invites you to the 35th annual

SOUTHERN COLORADO HANDBELL FESTIVAL CONCERT



Date: Saturday, February 17, 2018

Location: Colorado Springs City Auditorium
221 East Kiowa Street
Colorado Springs, Colorado

FREE Public Handbell Concert at 7:30 p.m.

Historic Mighty Wurlitzer Organ Sing-Along begins at 7:00 p.m.



Please plan a road trip to scenic Colorado Springs to watch and listen to the members of our Memorial Handbell Choir as we participate in an exciting and uplifting concert, along with a brass ensemble and over 300 ringers from across the front range. Mark your calendars now!

Questions? Contact Karen at meers@ecentral.com

**AS ALWAYS, WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE
A MULTITUDE OF SUPPORTERS FROM
F.P.C.L. IN THE AUDIENCE!**



A Minute for Stewardship – Spiritual Gifts

What are YOUR spiritual gifts? As eloquently stated on our church's website:

“God has wired everyone with the ability and passion to serve in particular ways. Think of it as your post in God's kingdom.”

You may have long ago figured out what your exact gifts are. But perhaps you're still trying to find a fit that's “just right.” Either way, First Presbyterian has a resource available on the website, a “Spiritual Gifts Assessment.” This is a survey that can help you understand your unique God-given passions and abilities. Several Stewardship Committee members have completed the assessment and we have found that the results have both confirmed initial beliefs and provided some surprises and new insights.

What abilities and passions are you “wired” with? Are you a strong leader? Perhaps you have the gift of encouraging others in their faith. Maybe your passion is mercy, responding with great compassion to those in need. In Stewardship, we refer to the “Three T's” of “Time,” “Talent,” and “Treasure.” We encourage you in coming months to explore your talents, your spiritual gifts and seek out a place in the church where you can put them in action. You might even want to bring those gifts as a new member of the Stewardship Committee (our doors are always open)!

Talk to Pastor Cody or one of us to find out more about taking the “Spiritual Gifts Assessment.” We'd love to help you discover your God-given gifts!

See you in church!

Your Stewardship Committee:

Dave LeMay, Co-Chair: 303-741-6522, leprinoRD@gmail.com

Trey McDowell: 720-254-0639, trey.mcdowell@gmail.com

Sue Chandler, 303-347-9191, mesue35@aol.com

Dee Getzinger, 303-797-8343, deedg2667@aol.com

Pete Gordon, 303-929-2917, petegordon48@gmail.com

Don Meersman, 303-319-6774, dmeers77@gmail.com

Chancel Choir Invites You to:

***“Sing to the LORD a new song; Sing to the LORD, all the earth.
Sing to the LORD, bless His name; Proclaim good tidings of
His salvation from day to day.” Psalm 96:1-2***

MUSIC is one of the most meaningful ways we communicate with God. Use your gift of singing or music to lead others into God's presence. The Chancel Choir meets on Wednesdays at 7pm and would love to have you join them. Questions? Call Mary Dailey, Director of Worship Arts , (303) 668-0727

Saturday Lunch, February 24, 11:45 AM, Ficklin Hall

Evelyn & Hal

Present *Great Songs on Flute with Electronic Keyboard plus Polkas & other Favorites on Accordion!*



Evelyn Rutenberg, a graduate of the UCLA School of Music, has been playing flute professionally in the Metro Denver area for over 35 years. She has been Principal Flute with the Arapahoe Philharmonic for the past 36 seasons. Additionally, she is an accomplished accordionist having studied with internationally renowned Robert Davine at the University of Denver's Lamont school of Music.

Hal Rutenberg, Evelyn's husband, began his musical training on a Hammond organ as a pre-teen, then transitioned to Oboe in high school and college. He turned to electronic keyboard about 20 years ago, and he and Evelyn have been a dynamic duo ever since. They live in Lone Tree.

Deluxe Taco Bar catered by Chez Jose

Program & Lunch \$13.00, Program Only (1pm in sanctuary) \$6.00

Reservations taken until Feb. 19 at church or call 303-798-1389

**First Presbyterian Church of Littleton
1609 W. Littleton Blvd., Littleton, CO 80120
303-798-1389, fpcl.org, fpcl@fpcl.org**

Our giving to children in need became a gift that keeps on giving —



Roberta Wheeler and Tanya Smith took backpacks that many of our members had donated, to Field Elementary last fall. You may remember Roberta sharing a very emotional experience about a Dad they met bringing three kids to school and carrying a baby — and they all needed shoes and school supplies. Before they took the backpacks out of the car, the principal met them outside and said a Dad with three children had just come to the school and she was meeting with them right then. She wanted to know if those children could have

the first three backpacks. Roberta and Tanya asked what grades the kids were in and brought those in first; and that is when they met the Dad and children. When the children were looking at everything in the backpacks, Tanya mention to the Dad about the gift cards. The principal whispered that the Dad had told her he needed to get the children new shoes, and he was so appreciative he would be able to using the gift cards. The Dad then helped move the rest of the backpacks into the school, saying over and over, "Thank You So Much." This story really touched my heart when Roberta shared one Sunday, and I knew at that moment that more could be done for this Dad and his children.

I began to communicate with Roberta, and she coordinated my being able to meet with the Dad at our church one afternoon. After listening to his story, I knew "God had a plan" for this man, his family and me. The Dad is 30 and is in the process of getting custody of four children with the help of a pro bono attorney — only the six year old son is his child, but all four are siblings. What a selfless young man to sacrifice to keep them all together. They are all living with his mother and father in a two-bedroom home. I asked him about his needs when we met, and then called Sue and Scott Chandler who got many ARC vouchers to give him to get clothes for his children. I called him before Thanksgiving to see what his kids wanted for Christmas, and he said they only wanted to be able to give him a birthday party and cake on Christmas Day. I wanted to help them have a great Christmas for the first time ever, and I knew there was "help" out there for them, beyond what I was giving. I spoke with Tanya, and she encouraged me to contact Love, Inc. I did, and was transferred to the lady who runs it. After she heard the full story, she asked me to call the Dad to come see her right away. He did! Later, she called me in tears, saying she had a miracle for this young man and his family. A medical group had just called Love, Inc. looking for a needy family to give them a Christmas to remember. The Dad was in shock when I called him. So a few days before Christmas, a lady from the clinic, whom I had been working with, called to say she was "bringing Christmas" to my house to take to this family. She filled the back of my car to the brim with gifts for the Dad, the grandparents and four children. There was a huge sack for each of the kids with clothes and toys, huge stockings for each of them, and a winter coat for the Dad and his parents. Plus, a card for them with generous gift cards. And the group did not forget that the kids wanted to give the Dad a birthday party on Christmas Day, so they packed up a sack of birthday

party things and a gift card to have a cake made and a banner. This group did not forget a thing. It was therefore, a wondrous day before Christmas Eve when my son and I went to their home to see all four of the kids waiting at the door as we entered a “home of love and family.” I have never been a part of anything like this. It was beyond spectacular. This is the FIRST Christmas they have ever really had. God had a plan! And again, this ALL started with our church giving back packs to a school with very poor kids — and especially, to a very young Dad and his children. I feel blessed to now be a part of their lives. They are so appreciative and giving!

Another “gift” is that after I learned that the children were kept out of school for a while before the Dad could get them, the second oldest was held back. And the six year old was so afraid he would be held back, he wanted a Leap Frog tablet to help him. Thanks to someone special who added to what I was doing, he got that tablet! And since this all began with the school and the learning issues, I am excited to share I have a friend who is a teacher and has offered to tutor all three of the school kids, starting at the beginning of the year through the summer. So now you can see what we did for them was for sure the beginning of the “gift that keeps on giving.”



Always know that God has a plan ——— listen, and you will hear it! Jeremiah 29:11.

If you would like to help this family in any way, please contact me. God bless our giving church family with such huge hearts!

Dee Getzinger



THE AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP will meet Thursday, **February 8** at 1:00 PM in Ayers Parlor. The **February** book is “**The Hornet’s Nest**” by Jimmy Carter. Please come and join us and enjoy a lively discussion.

MEN’S BREAKFAST



Saturday, February 10 @ 7:30 am Join us at Louis’ Diner,
across the street from the church.



SHABBY SHEEP WINTER STUDY

Restless---Because You Were Made For More

Wednesdays at 10am in the Upper Room

Tuesdays at 7pm in the Upper Room

Prayer List

- Shirley Calhoun and family upon the death of Cal Calhoun
- Clarence Aull
- Floyd Seibert
- Vi & Ron Cooper
- Dick Kinney
- Ruth Pitman
- Lois Reish
- Joyce & Rollie Fuller
- Wilmajean Coate
- Marlene Cass
- Kent Griffith
- Jeannie Payne
- Camilla True
- Lyle Graff
- Jean Wilbur
- Jean Clyne
- Bill Wunderlich
- Steve Woodworth

In Service to Our Country

- Capt. Ricky Cashburn
- 2nd Lt. Connor Venrick
- Brett Wilson, at sea
- Sgt. Benjamin Lund, Afghanistan
- WC2 Justin Robert Kohler, Iraq
- Bobby Johannsen, Flight Training, Corpus Christi, TX
- Lt. Per Rychecky, Whidbey Island NAS, WA
- Connor McDaniel, Army

Missions

- John Altemus
- Jory Bayne, Metro Denver
- Presbytery of Zimbabwe
- Metro Saints Covenant Community
- South Asia Mission

“Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the LORD.”

Psalm 31:24

FINACIAL UPDATE

	December 2017		Year to Date 2017	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
Income	\$58,462.11	\$60,954.00	\$ 462,090.97	\$ 453,750.00
Expenses	\$43,727.33	\$37,736.09	\$ 446,256.35	\$ 448,106.00
Surplus/Deficit	\$14,734.78	\$23,217.91	\$ 15,834.62	\$ 5,644.00

The church shows a surplus for 2017. Wow! Thanks to everyone keeping their expenses within budget and more than anticipated member support, session will be able to fund some much needed repairs and community outreach programs for 2018.

CHURCH OFFICERS

ELDERS

John Ansted
Barb Biner
Jeff Colwell, Clerk of Session
Janice Fagan
Maria Franklin
Bill Frear
Jim Grow
Charles Kellogg, Treasurer
David LeMay
Kathy McDaniel
Tanya Smith
Mick Venrick

DEACONS

Cheri Blanchard, Vice Moderator
Joy Carreno, Moderator
Karen Ervin, Co-Secretary
Pete Gordon, Treasurer
Doug Lemieux
Marilyn Osterhoff
Mary Sealman
Dan Smith

Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. Acts 20:28

Staff Directory

Pastor Cody Sandahl: (303) 798-1389 Ext 104,

- Emergency Number: 720-258-6185, Email: cody@fpcl.org

Pastor Carol Parsons, Director of Congregational Care: (303) 798-1389 Ext 106

- Cell: (303) 919-7624, Email: pastorcarol@fpcl.org

Allie Atchison, Youth Director, (303) 798-1389 ext. 110,

- Cell: (303) 335-8122, Email: allie.e.atchison@fpcl.org or christianed@fpcl.org

Karley Gosselin, Director of Children's Ministry, (303) 798-1389 Ext. 111

- Cell: 262-365-9310, Email: Karley@fpcl.org

Mary Dailey, Director of Worship Arts, Cell: (303)668-0727

- Email: mkdailey@me.com

Karen Meersman, Director of Handbells & Children/Youth Music

- Email: meers@ecentral.com

Cynthia Kern, Wedding Coordinator C-(720) 985-7090, H- (303) 988-1984

- C.A.Kern@icloud.com

Elinor Packard, Office Administrator (303) 798-1389 Ext 101

- Email: fpcl@fpcl.org

Joan Lund, Financial Secretary (303) 798-1389 ext.103,

- Email: finance@fpcl.org

**First Presbyterian Church
of Littleton**

1609 W. Littleton Blvd.
Littleton, CO 80120

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E-mail: fpcl@fpcl.org

www.littletonpresbyterian.org

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Return Service Requested



OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday 9:00 am to Noon and 1:00pm to 4:00 p.m.

Office is closed on Saturdays.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- ◆ Sunday Worship: 8:30 am & 10:30am
- ◆ Adult Sunday School: 9:30am
- ◆ Children's Sunday School: 10:45am

FIRST WORD NEWSLETTER

The deadline for the **March** newsletter is **February 16th**.

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