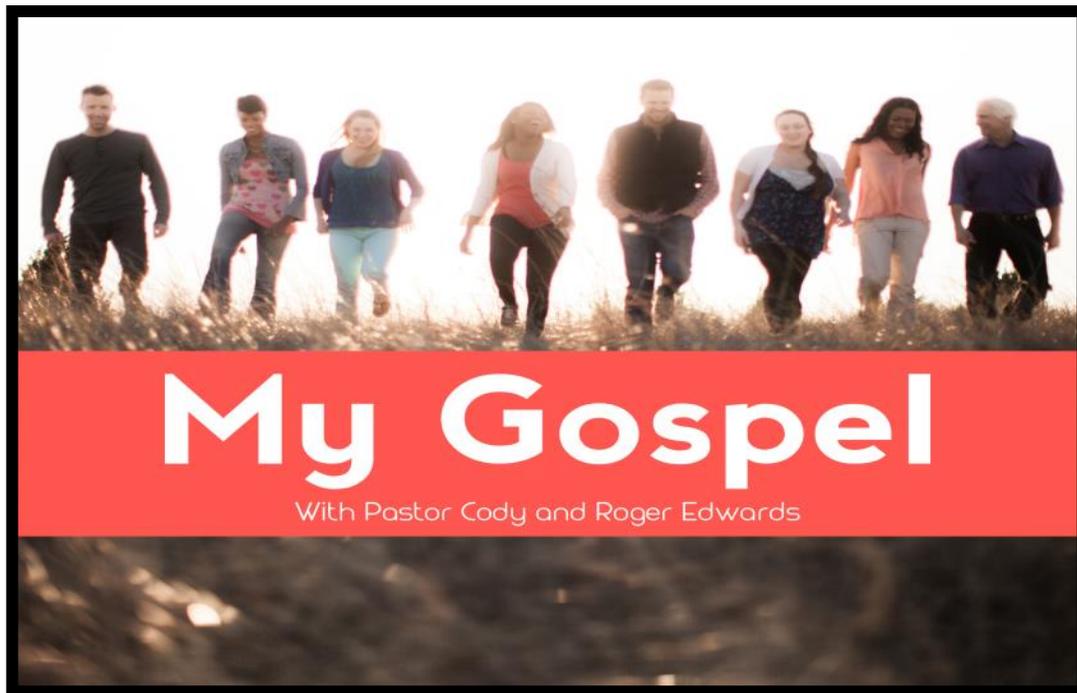


New Adult Sunday School Class Begins January 19 at 9:45 am



**Do you think you don't have a faith story?
Do you have a story but don't know how to share it?
Are you nervous to have a spiritual conversation?
Discover "My Gospel"**

Class begins at 9:45 am. Location to be announced.



**First Presbyterian
Church of Littleton**

First Word
January 1, 2020

Upcoming Sabbaticals

“But Jesus often withdrew to the wilderness for prayer.” - Luke 5:16

Carol and Cody are taking time for renewal, reflection, and re-commitment in 2020. Here are the basic details, and we will share more details about Cody’s sabbatical as it approaches.



Rev. Carol Parsons Sabbatical

January 1 through January 31

Please allow Pastor Carol the same consideration that Jesus’ disciples gave to him in allowing him to withdraw on his own for prayer. This restored Jesus’ soul, and we want Carol to be similarly restored. Call Pastor Cody at 484-619-4503 or 720-258-6185 for any pastoral care

needs or concerns while Carol is away.



Rev. Cody Sandahl Sabbatical

May 11 through August 11

Pastor Cody will be working on resources for parents to disciple their children at home in ways that are age-and-stage appropriate. He is also working on discipleship resources for parents of children with special needs. Cody will present these materials, along with some technology projects, shortly after his return.

While Cody is away, Pastor Carol will preach twice a month and we are scheduling engaging guest preachers for the other weeks. Pastor Carol will handle day-to-day issues with support from the Personnel Committee and Session. We are planning to go to a single worship service during the summer of 2020, so start thinking whether you prefer 9:30am or 10am. We will have a survey in January where you can provide feedback.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS & JOIN US FOR
F.P.C.L.'S INTER-GENERATIONAL

GAME NIGHT
FELLOWSHIP
EXTRAVAGANZA!!

**Join us in celebrating the new decade
with fun and frivolity of FPCL fellowship!!**

WHEN: Saturday, January 4, 2020 6 – 8 p.m. (eat dinner beforehand!)

WHERE: Ficklin Hall

PLEASE BRING:

1. friends!!! 😊
1. your favorite games, cards, etc...
2. a gallon-size bag of ice (for drinks)
3. last name begins with A – L=
self-contained "finger foods" snack
(bag of popcorn, brownies, bowl of chips, fruit, veggies, etc.)
- last name begins with M – Z=
2 liter or 6 pack of soda (water is good, too!)
4. Optional – fun items (for all ages) for the BUNCO prize table!!
5. Child care provided, too!



Questions?

E-mail Miss Karen at meers@ecentral.com or Kate Ballard at children@fpcl.org

Hope to see our FPCL family there!!

January Youth Collaboration Event



ICE SKATING!!!



Saturday, January 11, 2020 6-8pm

Hosted by Redemption Hills

Watch for more details to come, including details to RSVP and register.



Pastor's Breakfast News

Homemade breakfast burritos with green chili awaited the guests and December birthday members at the December 8th Pastors breakfast. Special thanks to David Housh and Cheri Blanchard for their hospitality in providing the wonderful meal.

If you or your group would like to provide a meal for a Pastors Breakfast in 2020, we would love to hear from you. We have dates available in February, March and April. Please contact one of us if you have any questions or would like to sign up.

Thank you.

Kathy McDaniel (303)919-2177 or Stacey LeMay (303) 250-2261



How Will Your Story End?

The Benefits of Aging by Design Not Default



Jane W. Barton, MTS, MASM, CSA
FREE Lunch & Program • January 19
Noon-2 • Ficklin Hall

First Presbyterian Church of Littleton

1609 W. Littleton Blvd. Littleton, CO 80120

**Register online at fpcl.org/barton or call the church office
303-798-1389.**

Although we live in a death averse society, you have probably thought about how you want your journey to end. If you are like the majority of people in our country, you want to die at home—surrounded by your family and friends. But the sad reality is this —most people don't get what they want at the end of life. Due to circumstances and the domino effect of acute, aggressive care—far too many people die in the sterile, unfamiliar, dehumanizing environment of an ICU. So, the question is this—How can we reclaim authorship of our ending?

Register online at fpcl.org/barton or call the church office 303-798-1389.



January “Togeth Fresh Starts & N

‘Happy New Year!

What will you do with God’s gift of time?

12 months, 52 weeks, 366 days (it’s a leap year), 8,784 hours, 525,040 minutes.

At the outset of the new decade, 2020 marks a turning point of sorts.

May the following prayers and scriptures guide, nurture and inspire you.

Lord, You Make All Things New

Lord, you make all things new
You bring hope alive in our hearts
And cause our Spirits to be born
again. Thank you for this new year,
for all the potential it holds. Come
and kindle in us a mighty flame
So that in our time, many will see the
wonders of God and live forever to
praise Your glorious name.

Amen

“**For surely**, I know the plans I have
for you,” says the Lord, “plans for
your welfare and not for harm, to
give you a future with hope.”

—Jeremiah 29:11 (NRSV)

Prayer for 2020

Almighty God,

Help us to believe in ourselves and know
whatever happened in the past is done! We
are new creatures in Christ and will move
beyond past events. With you, we will walk
uprightly, because you direct our steps. We
declare new beginnings and new opportunities,
as we place Jesus at the center of our lives.
Amen.

But the Lord says, “*Do not cling to events of
the past or dwell on what happened long ago.
Watch for the new thing I am going to do. It is
happening already— you can see it now! I will
make a road through the wilderness and give
you streams of water there.*”

Isaiah 43:18-19 Good News Translation (GNT)



ier in Prayer” ew Beginnings



*Together in Prayer: January 19
Come to Ayers Parlor at 10 am
Experience the power of praying with others.
Jodie Wiepking on Harp*

Prayer for the New Year

Lord,
New resolutions are not what I
need in the new year. What I
need is a renewal of the mind.
Remind me, each day, to begin
by asking for your guidance.
I want to seek you first this
year and grow even closer to
you. Amen.

When the Carols Have Been Stilled

When the carols have been stilled,
When the star-topped tree is taken down,
When family and friends are gone home,
When we are back to our schedules
The work of Christmas begins:
To welcome the refugee,
To heal a broken planet,
To feed the hungry,
To build bridges of trust, not walls of fear,
To share our gifts,
To seek justice and peace for all people,
To bring Christ's light to the world.

by Michael Dougherty, a variation
on Howard Thurman's 'When the Song of
the Angels is Stilled'



No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not
achieved it, but I focus on this one thing:
Forgetting the past and looking forward to
what lies ahead, I press on to reach
the end of the race and receive the heaven-
ly prize for which God, through Christ
Jesus, is calling us. — Philippians 3:13-
14 New Living Translation (NLT)

A Minute for Stewardship – A Message on Giving

"God has given each of you a gift from His great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another." — 1 Peter 4:10

Permanent, ongoing happiness only comes in service to others. God wired us to serve. Why? Because God wants you to be like Him. Most people don't know this, but there are secrets to joy. And you can find both of these secret pathways to joy through service.

To find real joy, we must shift from an inward focus—"It's all about me"—to an outward focus—"It's all about God and serving others."

The truth is, the most helpful people are the happiest people. So we must use our gifts to help others. It "feels good" to use our gifts to help others and serve Him and His people!

Thanks to Dee Getzinger this month for the impactful message which she received from Rick Warren's Daily Hope Devotional – www.pastorrick.com/devotional

2020 Pledge Drive Update Many thanks to all who have pledged for 2020. We still have approximately 16 people / families who pledged in 2019 that have yet to respond. If you need a pledge card, please let Elinor know, or you can email Joan directly of your intention – finance@fpcl.org.

See you in church – Happy New Year!

FPCL Stewardship Committee:

Dave LeMay, (Committee Chair): 303-619-5190, leprinoRD@gmail.com

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

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

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

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



Question: Do legacy gifts (planned giving) need to wait until death?

Answer: No – some members donate a portion of their annual required minimum distributions (IRA, SE IRA, SIMPLE IRA, or retirement plan account), or in some cases adding an additional legacy gift to their annual pledge for church operations. For those that are on a fixed income or cannot increase their pledges on a regular basis, legacy giving is a great way to increase their pledge to the ministry of FPCL.

MINUTE FOR MISSION: ZIMBABWE KIDZ



FPCL is in a Mission Partnership with five other Denver Presbyterian Churches. The mission of this partnership was to become partners with the Presbytery of Zimbabwe in providing clean and safe drinking water to villages in Zimbabwe. Since the partnership began 18 wells have been drilled, solar power pumps installed and large above ground storage tanks provided for the Presbyterian Churches and Schools in 18 different communities. These wells provide clean and safe water, for drinking and cooking. Also raising vegetables, chickens and cattle for their own use as well as selling them to local stores.

Your mission dollars have supported this Life Giving ministry. At this time, we are looking for one person to join the effort by attending one meeting a month at St. James Pres. and reporting back to the Mission Committee or better yet come join the committee. If questions call: Cheryl Baughman 617-285-4942 or Tanya Smith 303-694-1299

Thank you, Thank you for all the purchases made to support Love With Actions. When I visited this group in Rwanda in November, I was in awe of everything Director Gilbert Kubwinmana had been able to accomplish to start this mission. We recieved a thank you note from Golbert, thanking us for our support. He said that LWA is now supporting 35 children and their families. They were also able to support 12 children to received orthopedic surgery and were able to help 12 children go to school after medical treatment. Twenty-five women have jobs at LWA sewing and weaving. These are women who have been abandoned by their husbands and families because of giving birth to a handicapped child. I was so inspired to help them that I brought back 2 suitcases and a duffel bag full of their crafts to sell. When I unloaded them, I worried that I would not be able to sell everything and prayed that God would open the hearts and purses of FPCL members. Sue Chandler and I set up the sale on November 24 and were so thankful for the generosity of this church. We sold almost everything and collected \$1,450. What a blessing from God. Thanks to all of you!! Cheryl Baughman

Financial Update

	November 2019		Year to Date 2019	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
Income	\$29,117.69	\$32,382.70	\$ 401,374.37	\$ 409,761.26
Expenses	\$37,571.37	\$41,351.93	\$ 396,745.89	\$ 430,523.10
Surplus/Deficit	(\$8,453.68)	(\$8,969.23)	\$ 4,628.48	\$ (20,761.84)

Looking forward to another year in God's service in Littleton! Happy New Year!

FREE Grief & Loss Class

Begins February 17

First Presbyterian Church of Littleton



This 6-week class is open to everyone, who wants a better understanding of grief and loss, and how to successfully navigate the many twists, turns, and detours. We will deal not only with losses from the death of a family member or friend, but also losses of a relationship, pet, job, health, and dream. We offer you a safe place with good support to practice some of the next steps in healing from grief and loss, and building strength for the life you want to live.

February 17 – March 30, 6:30 - 8:30 pm.

**First Presbyterian Church of Littleton
1609 W. Littleton Blvd., Littleton, CO 80120**

Jaynie Muggli with Pastor Carol Parsons will lead the class. Ms. Muggli has a Master's in Counseling Psychology and is a Licensed Professional Counselor with more than a decade of experience as a bereavement counselor and grief group facilitator. Pastor Carol is Minister of Care at First Presbyterian Church of Littleton and previously served as a hospital chaplain for 13 years.

In order to properly prepare materials for everyone coming to the class, please register by February 10.

Simply call the church office, 303-798-1389.

Prayer List

- Jill Moffat & family upon the death of her sister
- Bob Jordan & family upon the death of Dee
- Jon Heggie
- Kristin Packard
- Gloria Pool
- Jim Biner
- Joyce Lei
- Eleanor Spence
- Joyce Fuller
- Wilmajean Coate
- Kent Griffith
- Jean Wilbur
- Joy Carreño
- Rollie Fuller
- Tim Graham
- Lonna Williams

- William Hults
- Jay Radcliff
- Jerree Stroh

In Service to Our Country

- Capt. Ricky Casburn
- Capt. Connor Venrick, Hawaii
- Brett Wilson, at sea
- Sgt. Benjamin Lund, Afghanistan
- Bobby Johannsen
- LCDR. Per Rychecky, USS Harry S. Truman
- Connor McDaniel, Army
- Donnie Donahue, PFC, Marines, Prague
- Nathaniel Syron, Aide to the Army Chaplain
- Pvt. Isaiah Boehm, Ft. Polk, LA

Missions

- John Altemus
- Jory Bayne, Metro Denver
- Presbytery of Zimbabwe

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

Kate Ballard, Director of Children's Ministry, (303)798-1389 ext. 111

- Email: children@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

James Bierschwale, Interim Director of Youth, (303) 798.1389 ext. 110

- Email: youth@fpcl.org

Cynthia Kern, Wedding Coordinator Cell: 720) 985-7090, Home: (303) 988-1984

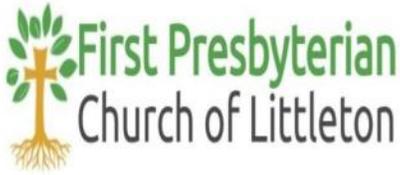
- C.A.Kern@icloud.com

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

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Inside this Issue

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**
- ◆ **Children's Sunday School 10:45am**
- ◆ **FIRST WORD NEWSLETTER:**
The **DEADLINE** for the **February** Newsletter is Friday, January 17

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