

First Presbyterian Church of Littleton

Belong, Believe, Be Loving



September 1, 2021

First Word

WELCOME BACK FPCL CHILDREN: SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS SEPTEMBER 12TH

Welcome back to Sunday School, FPCL Families and Children! We're so excited to see all your children back in Sunday School and cherish the time we get to spend with them in learning the Word of God! Please note the following updates:

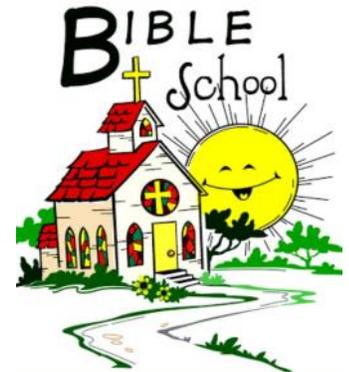
Fall Kick-off: Starting Sunday, September 12, 2021, Sunday School will be offered weekly! Let's get ready to "Crumbl"!!! The children are invited to join us for a Crumbl cookie after the September 12th service. They're so delicious, Pastor Cody even used them as a Children's Sermon illustration-just sayin'!

Sunday School Time: Sunday School time is to-be-determined. Watch for the Bulletin and E-blast announcement with details in early September.

New Curriculum: FPCL Children's Ministry is pleased to announce we'll be starting a new Sunday School curriculum commencing on September 12, 2021. We're so excited to "Dig In" to God's Word as we explore the Bible in a year! We'll move through Scripture in chronological order so that your children can better understand the narrative of the Bible and grasp both the character of God, as well as the love He has for His children. Wow, can't wait!

Operaton Christmas Child: We're working closely with the Mission's Committee to participate in the OCC project that FPCL is launching. Our hope is that your children will get the opportunity to share in the blessing of serving/giving by writing prayers to be inserted into the boxes, packing boxes, and sending love and the message of hope across the nations!

If you have any questions, please contact Melissa Moore-Winslow at children@fpcl.org.



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Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As of Tuesday, August 24, I am back in the Pastor saddle!

Thank you to everyone for the time and space to think, rest, and restore. I have confirmed

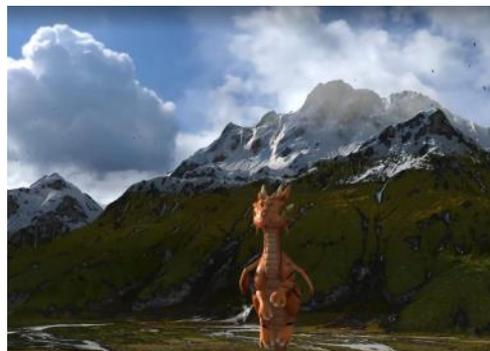
with my own eyes that the building is still standing, and so far people seem to generally still like each other. Those were my two main goals for FPCL in my absence, so well done everyone! :-)

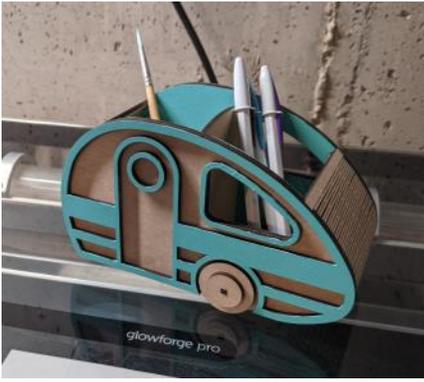
I will give a more hands-on presentation about the technology I worked with and created at the September 25 Saturday Lunch, but here are a few highlights.

My main project was creating a custom play tower that accommodates Charlie's particular interests and needs. I dedicated the whole month of June to this effort, which means the lumber was delayed until late July. And the slide still hasn't arrived, but "maybe tomorrow" they say. Other than the slide, the structure is up and has been certified "fun" by both Charlie and Caleb.

Other tech projects include:

- Created a programmable wheeled robot with sensors and a camera (think self-driving car)
- Created the first levels of a video game that teaches kids the basics of computer





programming while they play

- Used my new laser cutter to create many things, including an RV camper-style pencil holder that matches my parents' camper

I am still perfecting some wall-mounted activity boards that can be added to the play tower and be changed as needed

Becca and I also enjoyed a little trip to Steamboat without the kids! We had never been before, and we thoroughly enjoyed the hiking and many other aspects of the town. In the spirituality arena, I have been gathering the best resources to create a simple yet customizable discipleship plan that is based on time-honored discipleship practices, your personal spiritual gifts/DNA, your resonant spiritual pathways, and your divine purpose during this phase of life. This is still a work in progress, but you'll be hearing more about this in the coming months.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you again!

In Christ's Service Together,

Pastor Cody



**New Fall Worship Schedule
Begins September 12**

Adult Sunday School –9am
Worship—10am

Watch for more information
coming soon!

A Minute for Stewardship - The Gift of Remote Worship

"Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone." 1 Corinthians 12:4-6

As a committee, we often encourage our congregation to use their spiritual gifts, i.e., time, talent, and treasure. This month, I wanted to share how many of you have helped me remain connected to our Church by using your gifts to create the remote / virtual worship experience.

At the end of 2020, and through the majority of 2021, I have been working abroad in the Netherlands. Any other time, this would have been a wonderful opportunity to experience Europe with Stacey and other family members, but the complications of COVID and an ever-changing climate of regulations and safety precautions have made this a very complicated and sometimes frustrating exercise. Fortunately, technology (which can sometimes be a both a blessing and a curse) has helped me remain connected to my entire family, including the FPCL family.

Finding a place to worship during my time overseas has been very difficult due to COVID lockdowns, language barriers, and an ever-changing travel schedule. Through it all, I have been so grateful for the many staff, members, leaders, and friends who have delivered a rich worship experience through YouTube or Facebook! While this was a necessity for everyone when we could not meet in person, it remains very important to me during my time away. Although I am not technically "home bound", this experience has helped me understand what it can mean to feel isolated and lonely. What a blessing to experience a weekly worship service rich with inspiring messages and music.

My thanks to everyone who has contributed to this ministry by providing these gifts and more:

- Financial support to purchase the equipment needed for the sound and visuals.
- Technical volunteers who have recorded, uploaded, and performed trouble shooting as needed
- Pastors, liturgists, musicians, and others who have prepared for and participated in worship

It has been a joy to experience First Presbyterian Church of Littleton while walking along **these beautiful canals** many Sundays in 2021, but I look forward to joining all of you regularly later this Fall!



Thanks again – I hope to worship with all of you in October!

**Submitted by Dave LeMay on behalf of the Stewardship Committee:*

Dave LeMay, Chair: 303-619-5190, 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@gmail.com

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



In 2019 Session approved the creation of a restricted account titled the “Legacy Fund”. The purpose of this account was to establish a monetary balance large enough to establish an Endowment Fund for FPCL. The goal was to reach a *minimum* of \$100,000 in 10 years’ time for the establishment of this fund.

As a reminder, an Endowment Fund provides a way for our members to leave a legacy for their lifetimes and future generations to the ministry goals of FPCL. The FPCL Endowment Fund will be money invested in a diversified set of investment vehicles (managed by the Finance Committee, or sub-committee of Finance). The principal invested will remain restricted while the funds generated will be used to support FPCL ministries and missions as directed and approved by Session.

Update on our progress:

Current balance of the Legacy Fund through July 2021 = \$43,680

- 2/3 of this balance has come through annual surpluses of annual budget approved by Session
- 1/3 of this balance has come from donations of both living members and memorial bequests
- Recently, FPCL was blessed to receive a \$10,000 gift to this fund from an anonymous donor

While we hope to establish an Endowment Fund once the critical mass \$100,000 is raised, this should be considered the minimum, or starter goal. This initial investment would generate approximately \$5,000 annually for FPCL. As we continue this great momentum, please consider contributing to this effort in the following ways:

- A one-time monetary gift / bequest
- An add-on to your pledge
- As a memorial gift

Thanks to everyone for your support to date!

Questions? Ask Bob Chapman, Dave LeMay, or John Ansted.



Western Welcome Week Review

How great it was to be “together again” sharing our beautiful sanctuary, and warm and friendly volunteers with quilt lovers and avid book readers! In spite of the lingering conditions related to COVID, we were able to return to something “normal” and “like before.”

What made this event even more fun was the number of people who shared their First Pres connections! One visitor was married in our sanctuary 40 years ago this past July—she donated \$20, 50¢ for each year she had been married. Another came and asked if we still had the spiral staircase behind the choir loft. Her mother would play for weddings here and she and her sister would come and play on the stairs while their mother practiced, they loved those stairs! One lady, who was enjoying Mary's "concert" told us her husband had attended here when he was young.

But the one incident that should remind us all of the influence we have when we share Christ's love with the broader community is important to tell. One visitor recalled a time that she and her children stayed at the church overnight. She asked Roberta if she was here when the church housed homeless families, Roberta said no, but remembered hearing about it. The woman went on to say that she and her children (oldest son now 18) were one of those families who stayed at our church. She recalled that everyone here had been so nice to them. She said being here saved her life. She now has a good job and her family is safe. (Roberta gave her the books she was buying)

We owe a round of applause and many thanks to all who helped:

- ◆ Scout troop 444 for helping move tables and books on Monday then helping again with breakdown on Saturday.
- ◆ Sue Chandler and crew for packing up in record time. We donated 39 boxes of left over books to ARC.
- ◆ to all of our volunteers that kept things going -- taking tickets, selling books, walking around, answering questions and greeting folks at the door.
- ◆ to Blythe Lund & Roberta Wheeler, who working together, planned, organized, picked up books and quilts and solved unexpected problems. What a team! They even were willing to spend the night at the church when the Windermere door mechanism broke making locking up impossible. Fortunately, Gary Lund was able to secure the door and both were able to go home and sleep in their own beds.
- ◆ to Mary Dailey for her impromptu organ concert Saturday afternoon. She volunteered to help, but when she arrived with organ music in hand -- she entertained visitors by playing the organ, adding a special treat for all. It was WONDERFUL. The church was full of beautiful quilts and lovely organ music. People clapped, some went up to talk to her. Next year maybe a tip jar on the organ?

Between donations and book sales \$1500 was collected. The funds will support our Whiz Kids Tutoring program and our Peacemaker quilters. The donation quilt was won by our own Stacey Ryan! But the best part, the connections made with the community.

This year we were more than just a Quilt Show and Book Sale -- we were experiencing and practicing this year's Western Welcome Week's theme of "Together Again". As Roberta said, “What a treat to have been a part of this event—we saw a lot of smiles on lots of faces.”

MINUTE FOR MISSION

This month the mission monies were sent to LaPuente, Vietnamese Fellowship, Hearts Full of Happy, Uplift International and Pastor Carol. We thank you for continuing to contribute to our church.



THANK YOU--THANK YOU---THANK YOU!!!!

The backpack project was a huge success this year. For a while, it looked like we were not going to make our goal of \$2,890 but we did and even have a little money left over to buy backpacks when they go on deep discounts in Oct. Six backpacks went to each of 3 Presbyterian Churches-Bethel, Vietnamese Fellowship and Valverde. Four went to the Campo's, a family Dee Getzinger has been working with and 12 went to our local Field Elementary School. The

mission committee thanks all of you for your donations. This church is amazing! If you see any backpacks marked on sale this fall and would like to donate them for next year, we would be glad to receive them

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



The Mission Committee is excited to announce a new project that we will be leading and all are invited to participate! We will be launching **Operation Christmas Child**, A Samaritan's Purse project, in September.

This initiative supports a church-to-church ministry model where churches like ours pack shoe box gifts for children in need in remote areas around the world. The shoe box gifts are distributed by trained volunteers and ministry partners in local churches in more than 100 countries. The unexpected gift brings joy and sparks hope in the life of a child as they hear of Jesus' love for them. So save your shoe boxes (medium size) and plan to attend the OCC Launch Party after service on Sunday, September 12th, where the Youth Group and Mission Committee members will be available to help you gift wrap your shoe box or build a pre-printed box to fill. Gift guidelines will be provided and refreshments and snacks will be served. Watch for future announcements with additional information and details. ***"go into all the world and proclaim the Gospel"***

(Mark 16:15, ESV).

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,

Melissa Moore-Winslow, Director of Children's Ministry, Email: children@fpcl.org
Cell: (703) 258-9563

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

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



ANNOUNCING THE RETURN OF THE FREE COMMUNITY DINNER

The Community Dinner team is hopeful and excited that we may be able to restart the monthly Free Community Dinner on January 25, 2022, and then continue on the last Tuesday night of each month.

We were all so happy that other non-profits close to our church were able to provide food and meals during this long shut down due to COVID.

In September, we will start speaking with the non-profits in our area which have supported our dinners and then begin marketing our dinners (including our Thanksgiving dinner) in October.

The team made our decisions based on figuring out the best way to keep our volunteers and guests safe, while still being able to provide them with the warm hospitality and good, healthy dinners they all looked forward to each month. We will start volunteer sign-ups sometime in the late fall. If you have any questions, please feel free to give me a call, Lynda Kizer 303-794-6136 or speak to any other team member.

We want to express our continued gratitude to our wonderful, supportive congregation that have kept us and the dinner in your prayers.

Warmly, THE COMMUNITY DINNER TEAM

Cheryl Baughman, Sue Chandler, Becky Gibson, Deb Graham, Stacey LeMay, Ruth Mandrell, Carolyn Roark and Lynda Kizer.

Elders

Christi Kamath, Clerk of Session Sue Chandler Bob Chapman Bill Frear
Julie Johnston Lynda Kizer Mary Lareau Michaela Wilson
Charles Kellogg, Treasurer Rick Wilson, Presbytery Commissioner
Kathy McDaniel, Presbytery Commissioner

Deacons

Kathy McDaniel Margaret Ansted Cheri Blanchard Joy Carreno John Wilson

Stewards

Julie Johnston Marilyn Osterhoff Barb Smart Blakeley Winslow

MARK YOUR CALENDARS & JOIN US FOR
F.P.C.L.'S INTER-GENERATIONAL
GAME NIGHT
FELLOWSHIP
EXTRAVAGANZA!!



Join us in celebrating fall with the fun and frivolity
of FPCL fellowship!!

WHEN: Saturday, Sept. 25, 2021 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. self-contained "finger foods" snacks
(bag of popcorn, brownies, bowl of chips, fruit, veggies, etc.)
& / OR
2 liter or 6 pack of soda (water is good, too!)
4. Optional – fun items (for all ages) for the BUNCO prize table!!



Questions?

E-mail Miss Karen at meers@ecentral.com

Hope to see our FPCL family there!!



Thank you to everyone for your many prayers, words of encouragement, cards and meals. Your kindness and generosity have made my healing easier and gave me smiles through it all. I'm grateful. Blessings, Barbara Fowles

My Sisters and Brothers in Christ,
Thank you for the many phone calls, the beautiful plants and flowers and all the cards that would let me know that you were there— caring, and praying. You all are awesome! Love in Christ, Carolyn Wilkins

Dear Church Family,
We would like to express our appreciation to those responsible for supplying the elements for communion at our house. That kept us connected to the congregations.
Glenn & Marie Hunter

Prayer List

Jon Heggie Gloria Pool Jim Biner Joyce Lei Joyce Fuller
Rollie Fuller Kent Griffith Jean Wilbur Joy Carreño Lonna Williams
William Hults Joanie Coffey Family of Dixie Ruland upon her death.
Michael & Tracy Eidson upon the death of Michael's father, Herb Eidson

In Service to Our Country

Major Ricky Casburn, Capt.; Connor Venrick, Hawaii; Brett Wilson; Sgt. Benjamin Lund, Jordan; Bobby Johannsen; Connor McDaniel, Army; LCDR. Per Rychecky, USS Harry S. Truman; Donnie Donahue, Marines, Prague; Nathaniel Syron; Cpl. Isaiah Boehm, Ft. Carson CO; Jeremy Colwell; C2C Cameryn McKinnell, USAFA; MAJ Wm McKinnell USAF Pentagon

Missions

Jory & Mallory Bayne, Metro Denver, Presbytery of Zimbabwe, Cross Cultural Community, South Asia Mission, Jeffco Action Center, Highline Place, Love, INC

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. Ephesians 6:18



Are you looking for a volunteer opportunity that doesn't take much time yet offers meaningful support to our Church?

Then joining the Columbarium Committee is perfect for you! This committee only has two brief meetings a year! We send cards to families twice a year, decorate the Columbarium at Christmas and have a few more little projects.

You don't have to do it all! You may have a calling for helping grieving families, arranging flowers or behind the scenes record keeping.

What a wonderful way to support our Church family.

Interested? Want more information? Call Carolyn Roark (303-973-0895) or Barbara Fowles (303-986-8220)



BACKYARD

CHILDREN'S



CARNIVAL

WHEN: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2021 [1:00PM- 3:00PM]

WHERE: FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH-LITTLETON (FRONT/SIDE YARD): 1609 W. LITTLETON BLVD., LITTLETON, CO

WHAT: GAMES, SNACKS, BIBLE STORIES AND PRIZES!

WHY: TO HAVE FUN PLAYING GAMES AND LEARNING ABOUT THE PARABLES OF JESUS! COME ONE, COME ALL, AND SUPPORT THE FPCL CHILDREN'S MINISTRY! IT'S FREE!

THE
KINGDOM
OF
GOD
IS
LIKE...





Return Service Requested

OFFICE HOURS

**Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday 9am to 2pm,
Wednesday 1 to 4pm,
Closed Friday and Saturday**

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- ◆ **Sunday Worship at 9:30 am**
- ◆ **FIRST WORD NEWSLETTER: The DEADLINE for the October Newsletter is Friday, September 17.**