



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST · BOULDER



Finding Purpose

October 20, 2024 | 10:30 AM

1128 Pine Street Boulder CO 80302 | 303.442.1787 | www.firstcong.net

Welcome to The First Congregational Church Boulder, a community of faith on a journey of faith. Founded in 1864, the first church built in Boulder, we have been gathering ever since as a community of kindred hearts to worship, to learn and grow in the light of God's grace, to extend ourselves in compassionate service, and to be instruments of God's transformation in the world.

As a member congregation of the United Church of Christ, we believe "God is still speaking." We listen and open our lives to the movement of God's Spirit stirring us up in the new thing God is always doing in our midst. We trust as our Pilgrim forbears prayed, "There is yet more light and truth to break forth from God's holy word."

Our commitment to the extravagant love of Jesus makes the words, "All are Welcome," as inclusive as they sound. We are glad you are here: believers and agnostics, conventional Christians and questioning skeptics, people brimming with hope and those who wander in despair, people of all races, cultures, and abilities, of all gender identities and sexual orientations. Whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

If you would like to donate **FLOWERS** for a special occasion or in honor or memory of a loved one for an upcoming Sunday service, please contact Anne Byrne 303-601-7671 (annebyrnehome@comcast.net).

NURSERY care is available with Ginger.

CHILDREN start in worship, and will go with Susan for Sunday School.

YOUTH will remain in Worship.

We have a **HEARING LOOP SYSTEM** in the Sanctuary which sends sound directly into a hearing aid/cochlear implant. Switch your hearing aid to T-coil. Or, in both the Sanctuary and Chapel, pocket-sized FM receivers are also available from the ushers. BYO earbuds or use the new ones provided. **WHEELCHAIRS** are also available, please ask an usher for assistance.

Through **YOUR GIVING** online or in-person, you can count on the nurturing ministry of FCC Boulder Church. Each one of us plays an important part, including through our financial support.

MOBILE

Text JOY2GIVEFCC to 73256

ONLINE

www.firstcong.net/give

ENVELOPE

Cash or Check



STAFF

Rev. Christina Braudaway-Bauman *Senior Minister* | Rev. Linda Kowatch *Associate Minister*

Dr. Kajsja Teitelbaum *Director of Music* | Rev. Lianna Campos *Minister of Faith Formation*

Julie Griffiths *Office & Facilities Manager* | Christopher Carter *Communication Specialist*

Renee Loewen *Accountant* | Anne Martinez *Director of Children and Youth Music*

Jessica Kressin, *Chancel Choir Accompanist* | Christine Teng *Youth Choirs Accompanist*

Angie Dickinson *Mickle AV and Event Specialist*

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Adagio from Voluntary III in D minor
Kajsa Teitelbaum, organ

J. Stanley

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Linda Kowatch

*PASSING THE PEACE

*HYMN #25

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

INVOCATION

God of all the ages,
You call the church to keep watch in the world
and to discern the signs of the times.
Grant us the wisdom which your Spirit bestows,
that with courage we may speak truth to the culture,
and complete the work that you have set before us.
We pray in the name of Christ,
who lives with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

We bless the children as they go to church school with Susan

SCRIPTURE

I Corinthians 12:4-11

SERMON

Finding Purpose

MUSICAL REFLECTION

Take My Life, God, Let it Be

arr. C. Tomlin

Take my life and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee
take my moments and my days,
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of Thy love.
Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice and let me sing
Always only, for my King.
Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee.

Take my silver and my gold,
Not a mite would I withhold.

Take my intellect and use
every power as you choose.

Here am I, all of me.
Take my life it's all for Thee.

Take my will and make it Thine,
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is Thine own,
it shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my love, my Lord, I pour
at Your feet its treasure store.
Take myself and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**The asterisk is an invitation to rise in body or spirit.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

MUSICAL MEDITATION

INVITATION TO COMMUNITY LIFE

OFFERTORY

At Thy Feet
Chancel Choir
Jessica Kressin, piano

by J.S. Bach, arranged by C.F. Manney

At thy feet we humbly kneel, Lord, be near us.
May we now Thy presence feel, Lord, be near us.
Fill our hearts with love of Thee, Lord, be near us.
In Thy mercy hear us.

Keep us free from all alarms, Lord, be near us.
In Thine everlasting arms, Hold and cheer us.
Bind our souls with bonds of faith, Lord, be near us.
In Thy mercy hear us.

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Praise God, from whom all blessing flow.
Praise God, all creatures high and low.
Praise God, for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of Grace,
We thank you for the many gifts you have given us
through our lives and our resources.
To you we offer all that we are and all that we have.
Multiply our lives and our gifts, offered back to you,
so that all of your creation thrives. Amen.

*HYMN #495

Called As Partners in Christ's Service

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Toccatà in E minor

J. Pachelbel

HAPPENING TODAY

Crop Hunger Walk - Today at 2:00 PM Walk Starting (Cairn Christian Church, Lafayette)

The Crop Hunger Walk raises funds and awareness for Community Food Share, committed to helping feed people in need in our community, and Church World Service, who provide disaster relief around the world. Walk and/or, donate to our team using the QR code, and stop by the Crop Walk Table at church to learn more. Contact Team Capt. Denise Cone (denise.cone@msn.com).

GOTV Voter Canvassing in Colorado - Register (valan.norton@gmail.com) by today, 10/20

Events - Sundays, 10/27 & 11/3 at Noon (Congregational District 8)

The Election is coming and the non-partisan GOTV Campaign continues! Colorado CD 8 (Thornton area) is a new district that may determine control of the U.S. House. We will canvass selected neighborhoods on October 27 and November 3 with support from Together Colorado. Meet at the church at noon to get instructions and handouts, then drive in pairs to the neighborhoods where we will canvass. Register with Alan Norton (valan.norton@gmail.com) by Sunday, 10/20/24 if you are interested.

SEASON OF PRAYER

Prayer Booklets

Each week, during our Season of Prayer, you are invited to pick up a Prayer Booklet of Scripture, prayers, poetry, and art to prompt your reflection and accompany you through the week. If you have a reading or photograph you would like to contribute to this offering of edifying words and beauty, please send it to Chris Braudaway-Bauman at chris@firstcong.net. The booklets are available to you in print form in the narthex of the sanctuary or online (see your weekly email for links).

Contemplative Prayer Worship - Thursday Evenings from 6 to 6:45 PM - Chapel

Gather in the Chapel for a weekly service of silence, quiet singing, candlelight, and gentle community – a time to rest in God's presence, listen for Spirit's leading, and speak the prayers and concerns of your heart. Please note that during the last week of October, the service will move to Wednesday, October 30, to avoid Halloween.

Prayer Walks - Continue...

Monday, 10/21 and Saturday 10/26

Join church member Jane Ireland for Prayer Walks in nearby city and town centers. The walk on Monday, October 21 at 3 PM will begin at 749 Main St, Louisville, Meet in front of Louisville City Hall. And again in Superior on Saturday, October 26 at 3 PM, Meet in parking lot of Superior Town Hall at 124 E Coal Creek Dr, Superior. We pray for voters and elected leaders everywhere. You'll find more information about all the walks online at - <https://tinyurl.com/3y6s8rau>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MLK Highway Designation - Thursday, 10/24

Join us at the Dairy Arts Center in Boulder for a celebration marking the renaming of US Hwy 36 to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Highway. This historic event, spearheaded by Representative Junie Joseph and the NAACP Boulder County Branch, honors Dr. King's legacy. Enjoy an evening of entertainment, guest speakers, including former State Legislator Wilma Webb, and community leaders. The event is free and open to the public. Reception: 5:30 – 8:00 PM.

Life After Doom: Wisdom and Courage for a World Falling Apart With Brian McLaren

Friday 10/25 from 7 – 8 PM & Saturday 10/26 from 8:30 - 11:45 AM - Pine Street Church, 1237 Pine Street
Tapping into the themes of his new book, Brian McLaren invites us to engage in the catastrophic failure of both political and religious leaders to address urgent realities of our time: ecological overshoot, economic injustice, and civilizational collapse. Come explore the complexity of hope, the necessity of grief, and discover new ways of thinking, becoming, and belonging for the common good. Learn more about Brian McLaren (<http://brianmclaren.net/about-brian>) and the book *Life After Doom*. Register for the Event Here (<https://tinyurl.com/2netbfdy>).

Fellowship of the Grape - Friday, 10/25 from 6 – 8 PM -1497 Lodge Lane, Boulder

Our last FOG of 2024 will take place on Friday, October 25th from 6- 8:00 PM. We will celebrate our seasonal change with “Wines of Autumn” at Stewart and Karen Hoover’s home, 1497 Lodge Lane, Boulder. Couples please bring an appetizer and a bottle of wine. Singles may bring either. Non-alcoholic beverages will be provided. All over 21 are welcome. Come join us for a night of sharing wine, wonderful food and summer and fall stories .

The Saint John’s Bible Exhibit - Saturday, 10/26 from 10 AM – 12 PM - 685 Inca pkwy, Boulder

Join us at Atonement Lutheran Church for a unique opportunity to experience a 25-print exhibition of the Saint John’s Bible, the first hand-lettered, illuminated Bible commissioned by a monastery in over 500 years. Explore captivating images from both the Hebrew Scriptures and New Testament. Docents will be available for guided insights, and a BBC documentary on its creation will be shown. Open houses are scheduled for Saturday, October 26, 10 AM–12 PM, and Tuesday, November 11, 10 AM–12 PM.

Join Us for Spooky Halloween Organ Concert - Sunday, 10/27 at 4PM

Family activities and dinner at 4 PM, followed by a thrilling organ performance by Dr. Kajsja Teitelbaum. Plus, enjoy haunting poetry readings by Nancy Wade and Lianna Campos! Come in costume and receive a special treat at the door. Don’t miss this family-friendly Halloween celebration!

Forum: Caring for One Another - Sunday, 10/27 at 9:15 AM - Standish Room

“Fostering a caring community where everyone belongs” is Goal 3 of our strategic plan. When we see a need or hear a prayer request, what can you do? Join us and find practical ways we can better care for one another! Linda Kowatch (linda@firstcong.net) will facilitate this discussion with members of our visitation and care teams. We will explore ways we can care for one another through organized ministries, but also as individuals. Join us so all may know they belong!

Mindful Works: Pastry Sunday and Meet the Chef - Sunday, 11/3 - Plymouth Hall During Coffee Hour

Join our ministry partner Mindful Works at Coffee Hour on 11/3 so you can meet their new Kitchen Coach, Chef Maria Lorenzo, and sample some of their new pastry items! These items will be available to preorder just in time for Thanksgiving! *Mindful Works is a social enterprise providing empowering work to individuals striving to overcome obstacles due to mental health challenges. For more information go to <https://mindful-works.org>*

Fall Congregational Meeting of the Church - Sunday, 11/17, following 10:30 AM Worship Service

Our Fall Congregational Meeting will be on Sunday, 11/17 in Plymouth Hall immediately following worship and coffee hour. We will affirm Lianna’s Call now that she is ordained, present the 2025 Target Budget, and discuss other new business. Everyone is welcome and members are strongly encouraged to participate in these important conversations about the future of our church. Childcare and children’s activities will be provided during the meeting.

Exploring the Pandemic Impact on Congregations - Take the Survey by 11/15!

Our church is part of a 5 year study aimed at gathering critical information about the changes in the religious landscape since the COVID-19 pandemic. Researchers want to hear from you, members and friends, age 18 and older who attend First Congregational Church. Whether you are new to our church or a long-time participant, whether you attend in person or online or both, please take 10-15 minutes to fill it out. You can access it via the QR code or with the following link (<https://tinyurl.com/5n8dwx65>). Prefer a print version? Pick one up in the church office.