

Super Sabbatical Summer!

Rev. Chris Braudaway-Bauman will be on sabbatical from May 16 to late August. During that time she will be participating in several learning opportunities around changes to ministry, working with other groups of ministers to explore these challenges, writing, reading, and renewing. The congregation will have its own exciting opportunities to learn and grow this summer! We are blessed to have several retired ministers in our congregation who will be providing support to Rev. Linda Kowatch, our Interim Associate Minister, and preaching. We will also be blessed to welcome some amazing guest preachers who will provide workshops and events to keep us thinking and learning.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE OF PREACHERS | WORSHIP AT 9:30 AM SUNDAY

May 22	Gail McDougle	July 10	Quinn Caldwell
May 29	Linda Kowatch	July 17	Quinn Caldwell
June 5	Margot Pickett	July 24	Larry Peers
June 12	Arts Camp Musical	July 31	Larry Peers
June 19	Mark Pickett	August 7	Bob von Trebra
June 26	Linda Kowatch	August 14	Lorraine Leist
July 3	Gary Hart	August 21	Mental Health Sunday

SPECIAL EVENTS

Sunday, July 3 - Citizenship and Discipleship, Gary Hart - 9:30 am Sanctuary

The Sunday of the July 4th weekend has become a time for us as a congregation to offer an extended prayer for our country and to reflect on the relationship of citizenship and discipleship. With voting rights at risk, authoritarianism on the rise and our treasured democracy faltering, our worship on this day is both a confession of the ways we have fallen short of living our ideals as well as a celebration and a renewal of our aspirations. This year, we are deeply honored to welcome former Colorado Senator Gary Hart to our pulpit.

Sunday Evening, July 10 - "Trusting Science, Trusting Faith", Rev. Quinn Caldwell - 6:00 pm Potluck Dinner, Plymouth Hall

Increasingly, we live in a "do your own research" world, where formerly authoritative voices are mistrusted. Both science and religion have been subject to this erosion of trust, and it can be especially difficult to be a person who dwells at their intersection. How are these two endeavors alike, and how are they different? How much (and what kind) of research can a non-professional really do, and when must they trust authorities? What authorities are trustworthy, and how do you decide? What builds this trust, and what erodes it? Do scientists have their own versions of preachers, bishops, scripture? Do Christians have their own versions of experimental design, rigor, peer review, publishing requirements, theory?

Sunday morning forum, July 24 and 31 - "We Were Made for These Times", Rev. Dr. Larry Peers - 8:30 am, Standish Room

We live in a time which challenges us in ways we had not anticipated. We are adjusting some of our expectations and searching for new grounding and purpose. Let's discover our own personal responses to what Clarissa Pinkola Estés has advised us: "My friends do not lose heart. We were made for these times. Yes, for years, we have been learning, practicing, been in training for and just waiting to meet on this exact plain of engagement." Let's explore together: What are the practices that can keep us grounded? What are the convictions that can contribute not only to our own resilience but that of others around us? What resources of faith and hope can we bring to this moment? How do we bring heart rather than lose heart?

Tuesday evening, July 26 - Poetry as a Tool for Wellness, Rev. Dr. Larry Peers - 6:00 pm Potluck Dinner, Plymouth Hall

Based on the work of the Institute of Poetic Medicine, this session is about using poetry to find meaning in our lives. This session will focus on a theme and ways to explore that theme through: relevant quotes, poems, individual writing of poems or reflections, Group sharing of your writing is optional. This is not about writing the perfect poem but about finding ways to express your thoughts and experiences creatively as well as to learn from one another. We will provide generous support to one another as we focus on how poems and words can offer healing and understanding.

Saturday, August 13

Workshop on Life Completion/Unfinished Life Tasks (3 hours - morning), Rev. Lorraine Leist - 8:30 to 11:30 am

The focus will be on Life Completion: making meaning out of a new relationship with aging and mortality. There will be discussion and goal setting activities and Unfinished Life Tasks: coping with the uncertainty and painful eventuality of incompleteness. We will engage in discussion and spiritual practice (e.g., lament, prayer, meditation, deep breathing, visualization).

Monday, August 15 - Life review and legacy building, Rev. Lorraine Leist - 7:00 pm, Heritage Room

An evening small group session for family and friends of those who are aging or with serious illness who would like to engage meaningfully with loved ones.

Thursday, August 18 - Dying Well, Rev. Lorraine Leist - 7:00 pm, Heritage Room

Another evening small group will be an open discussion on finding hope and meaning in the process of dying. Gather for casual potluck suppers before the evening events on Sunday, July 10 and 24!

Mark your calendars and watch your Weekly Update for details on all events!

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION



Quinn G. Caldwell is a father, husband, homesteader, and preacher living in rural upstate New York. He's served two congregations in Massachusetts (including Wellesley Congregational Church, where Chris Braudaway-Bauman was his colleague) and one in Upstate New York. His most recent book is a series of daily reflections for Advent and Christmas called *All I Really Want: Readings for a Modern Christmas*



Gary Hart is a Democratic politician, diplomat, and lawyer who represented Colorado in the United States Senate from 1975 to 1987. He has degrees in divinity and law from Yale. He ran Sen. George McGovern's campaign for President in 1972 and ran for president himself in 1984 and 1988 but did not win his party's nomination. Hart returned to private law practice after the 1988 election and continued to serve in a variety of public roles. He co-chaired the Hart-Rudman Task Force on Homeland Security, served on the Homeland Security Advisory Council, and was the United States Special Envoy for Northern Ireland. He earned a doctorate in politics from the University of Oxford in 2001. He has written opinion pieces for many publications, including *The Huffington Post*, and published several books, both novels and non-fiction.



Rev. Lorraine Leist, MDiv, BCC-PCHAC, is a board-certified palliative care chaplain working with a multidisciplinary medical team in Seattle. She is pursuing her Doctor of Ministry degree at Iliff School of Theology. Lorraine was a member of First Cong for over 10 years and is excited to be back among the church community in Boulder this summer.



Rev. Gail McDougale, a graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary, was ordained in 1975 and pastored UCC congregations in Virginia, Michigan, California, and Oregon. She also served as Associate Conference Minister in the Michigan UCC Conference. She retired in 2011. Gail has remained active in church life here at First Congregational Boulder since 2015 and served on the Metro Denver Association Committee on the Ministry and as Moderator.



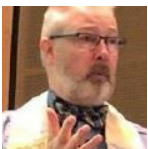
Rev. Dr. Larry Peers has served as a parish minister and in several national positions serving congregations, clergy, and other leaders across many faith traditions in their personal, spiritual and organizational leadership. He has led spiritual retreats that focus on life and career transitions drawing upon his specialized training in organizational change, leadership coaching, and spiritual psychology. Most recently, he has enjoyed leading groups in "Poetry as a Tool of Wellness" and in HeartMath® practices. He has taught in the areas of adaptive leadership and conflict transformation at Lancaster Theological Seminary and Hartford International University for Religion and Peace.



Rev. Margot Pickett retired from active ministry in 2018 after serving UCC churches in New Jersey, New Hampshire, and North Carolina, as well as serving on the staff of the Southern Conference of the UCC. She and Mark moved to Longmont in 2019 to be near their daughter and her family. She is a member of the Climate Action Team and Racial Justice Ministry at FCC.



Rev. Mark Pickett is a graduate of Duke University and Princeton Theological Seminary. He served churches in three states before retiring in 2019. He also took time off from ministry to renovate two one-hundred year old houses.



Rev. Bob von Trebra was ordained at First Congregational UCC - Boulder in 1996. He served as Pastor of a church in the Chicago suburbs for 19 years, and then as Interim Pastor of four churches in Utah, Colorado, and Idaho until his retirement in 2020. Bob and Jill now live in Longmont.