



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST · BOULDER



An Artemis II astronaut took this picture of Earth from the Orion spacecraft's window after completing the translunar injection burn. There are two auroras (top right and bottom left) and zodiacal light (bottom right) is visible as the Earth eclipses the Sun. Image: NASA

And God Said...

May 31, 2026 | 10:00 a.m.

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

Welcome to First Congregational Church, 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 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." Like our Pilgrim forbears, we trust "there is yet more light and truth to break forth from God's holy Word."

Inspired by God's boundless grace as revealed in the radical love of Jesus Christ, we aim to make the words "All are Welcome" as inclusive as they sound. Whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

EARLY SCHOOLERS will start in their classrooms at 9:45 a.m. **CHILDREN** and **YOUTH K-12** will start in Worship and then go to Sunday School with Anne.

CHILDCARE for **BABIES, TODDLERS,** and **PRESCHOOLERS** is available in the Toddler Room beginning at 9:30 a.m., located in the lower level to the right of the stairs/elevator. Parents of little ones will also find rocking chairs in the back of our Sanctuary.

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



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

STAFF

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

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

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

Renee Loewen *Accountant* | Julieta Garcia Reyes *Director of Children's & Youth Music*

Anne Martinez, *Director of Joyful Littles Music* | Jessica Kressin *Chancel Choir Accompanist*

Christine Teng *Youth Choirs Accompanist* | Angie Dickinson *Mickle AV and Event Specialist*

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Romanze, Op. 118, No. 5
Jessica Kressin

J. Brahms

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Chris Braudaway-Bauman

***PASSING THE PEACE**

***HYMN 12**

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

God our Creator,
In the beginning, your Spirit moved over the deep
and your voice called forth light.
Day by day, you made a world sturdy enough for living,
earth beneath our feet, water to drink,
trees heavy with fruit, creatures of every kind,
and human beings made in your image.
You looked upon all of it and called it good.
So, meet us here again.
Remind us that we belong to this created world,
not as masters of it, but as creatures within it
dependent on your mercy.
Open our eyes this morning to the holiness
that hides in ordinary things –
in soil and song, in neighbor and stranger,
in the simple gift of being alive together beneath your sky.
All this we offer through Christ,
who holds all things together, Amen.

Children and Youth may go to Sunday School.

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 1:1-2: 1-4

SERMON

And God Said...

Rev. Margot Pickett

***HYMN 556**

God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Linda Kowatch

THE LORD'S PRAYER

From A New Zealand Book of Prayer

Eternal Spirit,
Earth-maker, Pain bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:
The hallowing of your name echoes through the universe;
May the way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world,
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings,
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trial too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and forever. Amen.

MUSICAL MEDITATION

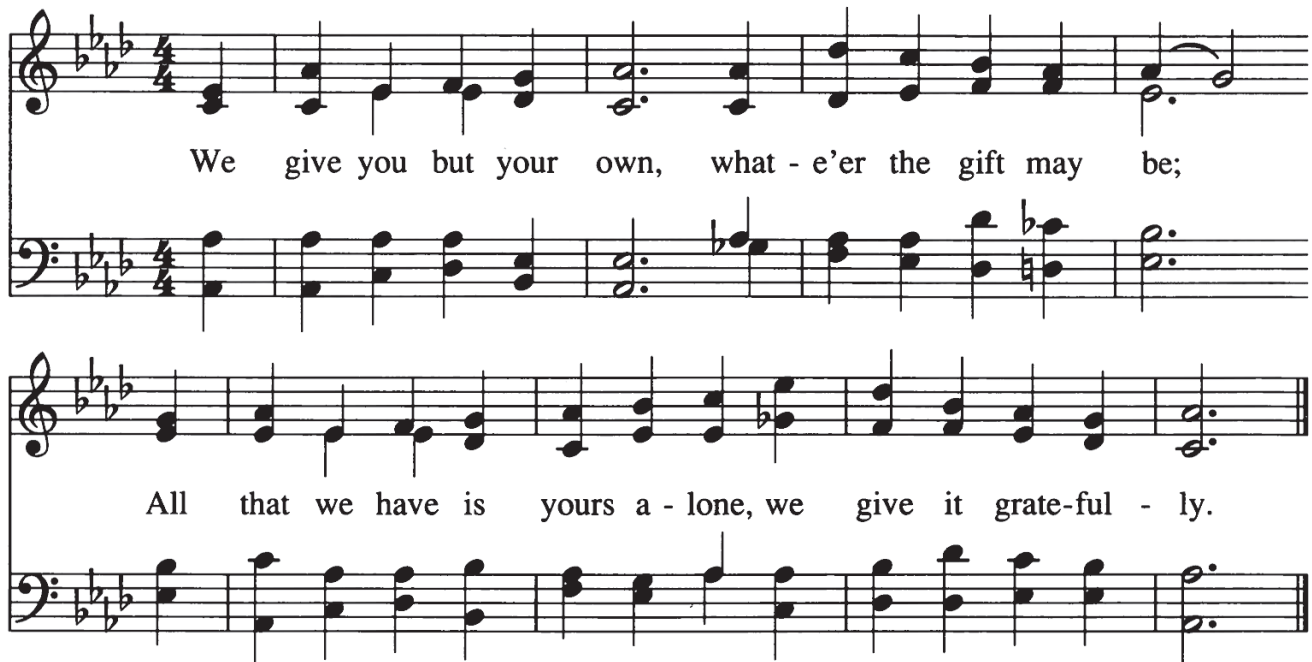
INVITATION TO COMMUNITY LIFE

OFFERTORY

To the Spring, Op. 43

E. Grieg

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE (785)



We give you but your own, what - e'er the gift may be;

All that we have is yours a - lone, we give it grate-ful - ly.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***HYMN 567**

Stars and Planets Flung in Orbit

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Prelude and Fugue in F, BWV 556

J.S. Bach

The Healing

This planet will not
be healed
by powerful politicians
in big cities
who spend trillions
on a global strategy
that never quite begins.
They also burn
much fuel.
Earth will be healed
by villagers
who sing,
by backyard gardeners
like you,
who walk more slowly
right here,
who feel the green
through bare soles,
speaking fewer words,
cradling
each others anger
like mothers,
awakening
the heirloom seeds
of the heart.

by Alfred K. LaMotte

HAPPENING TODAY

Young Adult Lunch on Pearl Street – Sunday, 5/31, 11:15 a.m.

After worship, join Jill and Bob von Trebra, and Chris Braudaway-Bauman at a restaurant on Pearl Street. We'll gather around a table to share good food, good company, and good conversation. Whether you're new or have been here awhile, there's a place for you. Meet after 10:00 a.m. Worship in the Link.

Trinity Lutheran Church Boulder – Community Open House – Sunday, May 31, 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church in Boulder, Colorado is celebrating 130 Years of Ministry! Wow! You are invited to help celebrate with food, building tours, fun history & photo displays.

Campaign Feasibility Study Report Meeting Dates

Our work with Fellowship Development, the consultants guiding our Capital Campaign Feasibility Study, is nearing completion. In the coming weeks, members of our Planning Team will host several opportunities for the congregation to hear the results of the study, ask questions, and learn more about possible next steps in this season of discernment for our church's future. Please join us at any of the following gatherings:

Sunday, 6/14: 8:45 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. | Standish Room

Monday, 6/15: Board of Management Discussion and Vote

Wednesday, 6/17: Church Council Discussion and Vote

Friday, 6/19: 7:30 p.m. Zoom

Sunday, 6/21: 8:45 a.m. | Standish Room

Sunday, 6/21: Congregational Meeting, 11:15 a.m. | In Person and on Zoom

Thank you for the thoughtful participation that has shaped this process. We hope you will take part in these important conversations together.

Capital Campaign Feasibility Study

Who ever said we don't have opinions here at First Cong? No one ever. So, we know you will share yours with the church and we need it. Our combined voices will help us chart the future for our beloved faith community. We hope to hear from every voice. If you have not yet participated through survey or scheduled interview, please take 5-10 minutes to share your opinions about our proposed Capital Campaign initiative! See this morning's "Sunday's Here" email for the links or use the QR codes below. Please read the brief fact sheet first and then fill out the survey.



fact sheet



survey

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wear Orange, June 5-7

Help us honor the people in the United States affected by gun violence and elevate the voices of advocates who are taking action to demand an end to gun violence. Because orange symbolizes the value of each person's life, we wear orange to call an end to gun violence. Please join our Gun Violence Prevention (GVP) Ministry all weekend and on Sunday by wearing a scarf, pin or other orange item to worship on June 7.

Special Open House on Home Electrification – Saturday, 6/6, 10:00 a.m. | 1105 Toedtli Dr

Stu Cummings, a founder of Go Electric Colorado and guest speaker at last month's CAT forum on home electrification, is offering First Cong members a special showing of his home's energy modifications and cost savings on Saturday, June 6 from 10:00 a.m.-Noon in S. Boulder. Please stop by 1105 Toedtli Dr. and bring your curiosity and questions! Bonus viewing: Stu's garden, certified by the Colorado Native Plant Society. For more information, contact patricia.whitaker@comcast.net.

Danni Bangert Memorial Service – Saturday, 6/6, 2:00p.m. | The Chapel

With deep sadness, we share that our beloved friend and member Danni Bangert died on March 11, 2026. Danni was a member of First Cong for over 50 years. We hold her husband of 68 years, Merv, and daughters, Lesli and Lari, and their families in our hearts and prayers. A Service of Thanksgiving for Danni will be held at First Congregational on Saturday, June 6, 2026 at 2:00 p.m. in the Chapel. There will be a reception after the service in the Standish and Heritage Rooms.

ARTS Camp Musical – Sunday, 6/7, 10:00 a.m. Worship

Hear ye, hear ye; Jonah has returned and he has a whale of a tale to share! On June 7th, our ARTS Camp campers return to present The Big Fish, a film noir telling of the story of Jonah set to some jazzy showtunes. Come to worship to see our annual ARTS Camp musical and learn what Jonah was really doing on his trip. We welcome our new children and youth choirs director, Julieta Garcia Reyes, and our counselors and volunteers Maeve Brown, Nora Hess, Bob Matthias, Louisa Matthias, Laura McCutchen, Roy McCutchen, Amelia Steed, and Violet Tatterson.

Spring Picnic for All – Sunday, June 7, 11:30 a.m. | Foothills Community Park

Everyone is invited to join us for our annual Spring Picnic immediately following the ARTS Camp Musical at our 10:00 a.m. Worship service on Sunday, June 7. BBQ sandwiches (pork, chicken, and a vegan option), pasta and green salad, baked beans, dessert and beverages – all provided for you by our Board of Community Life. Please feel free to bring a lawn chair as sometimes we fill up all the seating. All are welcome and warmly encouraged to join us for food, fellowship, games, and a playground for the kids. Hope to see you there under the picnic shelters!

First Cong PRIDE Booth at Boulder – Volunteers & Frozen Freezer Pops NEEDED!

Saturday, 6/13, 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. | Downtown Boulder Library Parking Lot

In 1987 First Cong became an Open and Affirming Congregation, meaning we invite and affirm our LGBTQ+ siblings into membership and leadership. To live into that covenant, we invite everyone to participate in Boulder PRIDE on June 13, 2026. We need volunteers to help host and welcome people at our booth AND we need 600 frozen freezer pops. You can sign up for both in the Link after worship or email valdesc@hotmail.com to become part of the First Cong PRIDE Booth Team.

PRIDE Sunday Worship – Sunday, 6/14 at 10:00 a.m. | Sanctuary

Each year during June, we celebrate PRIDE with a special service. You will hear from LGBTQ+ and Allies Ministry Members about the importance of belonging to a faith community where everyone is welcomed and affirmed. At this service you are invited to wear your rainbow bandanas and other rainbow clothing to show love and support for our LGBTQ+ Siblings.

Call to Congregational Meeting – Sunday, 6/21, 11:15 a.m. | In Person and on Zoom

(<https://tinyurl.com/yc6avvyy> – Meeting ID: 846 6662 2944, Passcode: 907860)

The congregation will meet for an important Congregational Meeting on Sunday, June 21, immediately following worship, at 11:15 a.m. At this meeting, the congregation will vote on whether to move forward with a Capital Campaign this fall and will also vote to affirm the members of the Selection Committee for Associate Minister. Childcare and activities for children and youth will be provided during the meeting. As we continue discerning our future ministry, your presence and participation are greatly valued.

Navigator Program

If you are new to the church and want to learn more about its programs and groups or if you're a long-time member with knowledge to share, the Navigator Program can help! The Membership Committee will link new members with long-time members who will help them learn more about First Cong's boards, committees, ministries, and small groups. Our goal is to integrate new members into our church community. For more information or to become part of the Navigators, contact Nancy Wade.

New Tenant in Our Carriage House

After standing vacant since last September, our Carriage House is once again under lease. Unless Ventures, a Boulder-based venture capital firm focused on industrial innovation, advanced manufacturing, and climate technology, has signed a one-year lease with an option to extend for an additional year. They were introduced to us through Gibbons-White, the church's facilities management company, and are moving in this week. With downtown Boulder office vacancies near 30%, we feel especially grateful to welcome a new tenant whose work resonates with our values and brings creative energy to this unique space.

Summer Days Devotional

"Instructions for living a life: Pay attention. Be astonished. Tell about it." – Mary Oliver

Pick up your copy of *Summer Days Devotions* featuring the poetry of Mary Oliver in the Narthex and the Link.

Contemplative Camp at La Foret – July 12-18 | La Foret Conference & Retreat Center

Contemplative Camp has been an annual event for more than 40 years. Experience a week of learning about, and practicing contemplative prayer (also known as Centering Prayer or meditation) in the beautiful natural setting of La Foret Conference & Retreat Center near Colorado Springs. There are also opportunities for reading and discussions, walking the labyrinth, and hiking. Comfortable accommodations are available in the new Lapp Lodge. Visit the La Foret website (www.laforet.org/events) at or talk to Bob von Trebra (trebra@comcast.net) for more information.

Camping Trip – 6:00 p.m. August 21 - 11:00 a.m. August 23 – Rocky Mountain National Park

Contact Person: Lianna Campos (lianna@firstcong.net)

Returning this summer is our Family Camping Trip! As the summer closes, folks of all ages bring a tent and meet up at Rocky Mountain National Park for a weekend of restful joy. This year our theme is *What Every Living Thing Needs*. Through nature, conversation, song, and community, we will explore and experience the interconnectedness of the whole earth. This trip is open to all ages. Adult: \$50, Children and Youth (Ages 5-18): \$20.

