



First Congregational United Church of Christ

Greeley, CO

Sunday, January 21, 2023

10:00am

Additional Announcements & Full Calendar

For more details regarding the following ways to engage, connect, and serve with First Congregational Church visit www.firstconggreeley.com/announcements:

- Becoming a Member at First Congregational
- Centering Prayer
- Wednesday Night Live Schedule and Meal Rotation
- Choir Schedules & Info
- Scripture Seminar

You can access the church calendar at <https://www.firstconggreeley.com/calendar>.

First Congregational Church Staff Contacts

Rev. Ben Konecny (he/him), Minister, Head of Staff
(RevBen@firstconggreeley.com)

Rev. Tamara Torres McGovern (she/her), Minister, Head of Programs
(RevTamara@firstconggreeley.com)

Tammi Van Drunen (she/her), Children's Minister
(Tammi@firstconggreeley.com)

Nicholas Gilmore (he/him), Director of Music
(Nicholas@firstconggreeley.com)

Whitney Janzen-Pankratz (she/her), Community Coordinator
(Whitney@firstconggreeley.com)

Laura Gurney (she/her), Church Administrator
(Laura@firstconggreeley.com)

Shona Royle-Grimes (she/her), Pianist, Jubilation Choir Director
(Shonarg@comcast.net)

Kathy Azari (she/her), Rainbow Choir Director
(kathyazaria@comcast.net)

Colin Williamson (he/him), Genesis Choir Director
(colin@firstconggreeley.com)

Kati Rittner (she/her), Organist
(kati@firstconggreeley.com)

PRELUDE

Theme and Variations
Dorothy Elder, organist

Denis Bedard

RINGING OF THE BELL

CHORAL INTROIT

Psalm 131

Jeffery Van

WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER

You are invited to text prayers you would like included in our Prayers of the People to 970-573-6299 by the end of the Reflection. Please include your name with your prayer.

KIDS MUSIC

Let Us Walk in the Light of the Lord

Vicki Hancock Wright

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader/People)

(from Feasting on the Word Liturgies)

God built the heavens and the earth, and everything in them.

God calls us to be builders as well.

God calls us to build our lives:

To restore broken places and continue to grow.

God calls us to build our faith:

To study the world and ponder its interpretation.

God calls us to build our community:

To build bridges of understanding and systems of justice.

God calls us to build history by fulfilling the promises of scripture:

To preach the good news of God's love and liberation for all people.

*GATHERING HYMN

Eternal Savior, Strong to Save

Tune: Melita (TWC#358)

Eternal Savior, strong to save,
whose arm does bind the restless wave,
Who bids the mighty ocean deep
its own appointed limits keep;
O hear us when we cry to Thee
for those in peril on the sea.

O God of love and God of power,
your children shield in danger's hour;
From rock and tempest, fire, and foe,
protect them where-so-e'er they go;
Thus, evermore shall rise to Thee
glad hymns of praise from land and sea.



We are a community who seeks to be rooted in God's love, nourished on our spiritual journeys, and growing as an inclusive Christian presence in Northern Colorado and beyond.

**No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,
You are welcome here.**

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 2:1-22
For the Word of God in scripture,
For the Word of God among us,
For the Word of God within us,
Thanks be to God.

REFLECTION

Rev. Ben Konecny

CHORAL ANTHEM

Spirit of God Powell Weaver

CALL TO THANKSGIVING

*DOXOLOGY

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER

*CLOSING HYMN

For the Fruits of All Creation NCH (black) #425, vs. 1, 3
For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.
For these gifts to every nation, thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
Future needs in earth’s safekeeping, thanks be to God.

For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
Most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Benediction Dorothy Elder

POSTLUDE

I’ve Got Peace Like A River Mark Hayes, arr. Marvin Gaspard

Faith Formation

Children: This week, we’re hearing about a farmer and their growing seeds. All kids 3 years old - 5th grade are welcome!
Youth: Middle and High Schoolers are invited to gather in the youth room today! Youth group is also held on Wednesday nights during Wednesday Night Live.
Nursery care is available weekly from 9:45 - 11:15 am..

Wednesday Night Live

Join us for Wednesday Night Live - our midweek programming with something for everyone.
5:15 - 6:00 pm: Dinner in Chadwick Hall. \$3/person or \$9/family. Gluten free and vegetarian options are provided.
6:00 pm: Organized Games in Gym begins (preK-5th grade)
6:00 pm - 7:15 pm: Youth Group & Adult Education.

Current Adult Education Offerings:

- Join Rev. Dr. Mark Lee for “Things Not to Say: Articulating a More Informed Progressive Christian Faith.”
- Join Whitney Janzen-Pankratz in an exploration of Jesus as spirit person, teacher of alternative wisdom, social prophet, and movement founder as outlined in Marcus Borg’s book *Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time*. Reading the book is not necessary, but if you would like to, it is available via ebook and audiobook on Hoopla with a High Plains Library District card.

The Silver Circle (for Seniors)

Our next Silver Circle gathering will take place on **January 25th at 10:00 am**. We will gather to learn more about Habitat for Humanity in Greeley. Our first stop will be to the Greeley Museum of History, where we will visit the special exhibit *Greeley-Weld Habitat for Humanity: 35 Years and Building*. Following the exhibit we will have a light lunch and conversation with some of our FCC Habitat Historians and current members of the board. Then we will load back into the van for a tour of several habitat neighborhoods in Greeley and Evans, led by Rok Kron. We will return to the church between 1:30 and 2:00 pm. We have limited seats in the van so please RSVP to Rev. Tamara.

FCC Game Night

Football season is over, but isn’t time for the Super Bowl yet. Come join us **February 4 from 2:00 - 5:00 pm** for FCC Game Day. Bring your favorite board games or cards and a snack to share for a time of fun & fellowship. You can learn a new game or play one of your old favorites.

Wreath Ring Return

Did you make a wreath during Advent Workshop? If so, don’t forget to bring the wreath ring back to the office so that we can use it again next year. Thank you!

Office Closed for Staff Retreat

The Church office will be closed January 29 & 30 while staff is away at Staff Retreat. Regular office hours are 9am-3pm Monday - Thursday.

Craft and Knitting For Habitat

Are you interested in knitting or crafting items to sell as a fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity? If so, please contact Sue Norris at snorris2005@gmail.com.