

SUNDAY WORSHIP FOR AUGUST

- August 2** Rev. Dr. Anthony Scott [Matthew 14:13-21](#)
- August 9** Rev. Jenny Shultz-Thomas [Matthew 14:22-33](#)
- August 16** Rev. Jenny Shultz-Thomas [Matthew 15: \(10-20\), 21-28](#)
- August 23** Rev. Dr. Eric C. Smith [Matthew 16:13-20](#)
- August 30** Rev. Jenny Shultz-Thomas [Matthew 16:21-28](#)



Worship with us remotely on Sundays at 10:00A at <https://bit.ly/FPCC-LIVE-Worship> or view previous services on the [FPUCC YouTube Station](#).

What's Happening?



During the pandemic and social distancing, First Plymouth has transitioned to holding worship services, classes and meetings online via Zoom and GoToMeeting.

To find the most recent scheduling of these opportunities, please go to the Church Calendar online at <https://bit.ly/FPCC-calendar>.

SHELBYNEXT NEWS

From a Computer

1. Directory of Members & Friends
2. Change your login username/password
3. Change your address/phone number/email address
4. Add your picture to the directory
5. Join a group
6. Make a pledge
7. Give (via credit card or ACH)
8. View your giving history



From the Mobile App (iOS and Android)

1. Directory of Members & Friends
2. Change your address/phone number/email address
3. Add your picture to the directory
4. Give (via credit card or ACH)
5. Text to Give
6. View your giving history
7. Check in for Worship!

From the Church Website

1. [Make a Pledge](#)
2. [Pay your Pledge](#)
3. [Give Non-Pledged donations](#)

Assistance is available at
720-667-1327

or
aturner@firstplymouthchurch.org
[Download a setup cheat-sheet now!](#)
[Download "Text to Give" instructions](#)

First Plymouth Congregational Church

3501 S. Colorado Blvd., Englewood, CO 80113 303-762-0616
Find more information on our website at www.firstplymouthchurch.org

2020-2021 FIRST PLYMOUTH CHURCH COUNCIL

- Moderator**
Phil Thompson
- Vice Moderator**
Liz Mascitelli
- Treasurer**
Carole Westphal
- Church Clerk**
Pat Olson

- Members at Large:**
June 2021: Allison Pasternak and Sandy Clough
June 2022: Laura Eley and David Stevenson
June 2023: Deborah Arca and Robert Henderson

FIRST PLYMOUTH OFFICE CONTACTS

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- Mary Lee Anderson
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- Beth Baker-Owens
- Anya Beebe
- Laura Benson
- Bill Boyd
- Howard Brand
- Denise Brown
- Jean Clark
- Donna Cole
- Isabella Cole
- Leslie Conner
- Linda Cordts
- Ardy Craig Cowperthwaite
- Kit Cowperthwaite
- Sharon Day
- Amos Decker-Smith
- Hazel Decker-Smith
- Jessica Dill
- Ansel Duesenberg
- Wyatt Duesenberg
- Laura Eley
- Vivian Gilbert
- Pat Gunckel
- Sarah Harland
- Emily Haskins
- Kat Haskins
- Bruce Henson
- Logan Ide
- Beth Irtz
- Carol Jolly
- Karen Kilde
- Kent Lemburg
- Tobin Lindstrom
- David Lisman
- Sean Long
- Jenna Luttkus
- Anita Mast
- Benjamin Montgomery
- Marcia Muth
- Randy Nicholas
- Cissy Nuanes
- Miracle Nuanes
- Christopher Parise
- Tim Pasternak
- Nancy Rockafellow
- Ken Sawyer
- Nancy Sensel
- Charles Settle
- Larry Strawser
- Judy Tauchen
- Heidi Thomas
- Peg Thompson
- Becca Thompson
- Marcia Wagoner
- Galen Weaver
- Bruce Wiley
- Julien Wiley
- Sebastian Wright
- Susan Yoshiwara

MEET VERLYN BARKER

This month we will highlight yet another interesting member of First Plymouth. Verlyn Barker's knowledge and experience runs from theology to medical ethics to international Christian youth.



Yes, we have another Reverend Doctor in our midst. The Reverend Doctor Verlyn Barker became a member of

First Plymouth Church in 2007 by letter of transfer from Riverside Church in New York City. After being a New Yorker for 27 years, he moved to Denver to be near family.

Verlyn's attachment to the United Church of Christ and First Plymouth runs deep. He attended youth camp at Doane College (his mentor was Dr. Arthur Taylor, Frank Taylor's father), got his B.A. Magna Cum Laude from Doane, (overlapping one year with Frank and Marion Taylor) and he attended Yale Divinity School (same class as Stuart Haskins.) With several breaks in his education, Verlyn received both a B.D. from Yale in 1956 and with the support of a Danforth Fellowship, his Master of Sacred Theology in 1961.

Upon graduation from Yale, Verlyn was called to serve on the national higher education staff of the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries with responsibility for Ministries in Higher Education and the Student Christian Movement. During his tenure with the UCC, he worked on many and varied projects. Besides working with Christian youth all over the world, he participated in the new national dialogue between science and religion. Then he worked in the development of the medical humanities which addressed the implications of new technology of the education and practice of medicine, e.g. the uses of the respirator. Who decides?

For eight years his office was in St. Louis, then a move to the New York office of UCC. During his sabbaticals, he met the requirements and received a Ph.D. with a major in American Studies from Saint Louis University, a Jesuit institution. This is why we have another Reverend Doctor at First Plymouth. Plus, he received an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Doane College.

Verlyn was born on a farm near Auburn, Nebraska. With an older and a younger brother, he started his education in a rural one-room schoolhouse. In 1943, the family moved to Omaha because of his father's desire to serve his country by working in the Martin Bomber plant. (He actually worked on the Enola Gay bomber.)

Verlyn is glad to be settled in Englewood and attending First Plymouth Church.

Learn more about the newest First Plymouth members who joined July 26 at <https://bit.ly/32WidGV>.

Stay in Touch!

The administration at First Plymouth uses email as the main method of communicating with members and friends.

MailChimp's semi-weekly and monthly updates are sent to those who "opt-in" via a subscription form, whether members or not at <https://bit.ly/FPCC-MailChimp>.

Members & Friends can maintain their own information in ShelbyNext with their own credentials. Need credentials? Contact Amy at editor@firstplymouthchurch.org.

MINISTRY NEWS

The **Progressive Christianity** class will continue *on the second and fourth Mondays in August at 7:00 PM*. The 2020-2021 program year begins in September at which time we expect the schedule to change again. Join these meetings via the Church Calendar at www.firstplymouthchurch.org.

Nursery & Sunday School Registration is now open for the 2020-2021 Program year. Please register your child(ren) today on the church's website at <https://bit.ly/FPCCSSRegistration>.

The **FP WISE Task Force** is offering their newly published book, "*You Are Not Alone*" for a suggested donation of \$10. Please email the church office at office@firstplymouthchurch.org for your copy!

COMMUNITY NEWS

Introducing "FP Roots": The primary function of roots is to supply a tree with the nutrients and water it needs to survive. Like a tree, our community thrives from our nourishing one another with love & compassion, through shared learning & service, and by growing together in faith. FP Roots consists of "Treehouses" (small groups) which are for anyone interested in connecting with like-minded people for support, friendship, and growing in faith together. Treehouses are for everyone; families, individuals, and couples of all ages. Register for a Treehouse today at: <https://bit.ly/FPCC-Treehouse>.

Women's Retreat 2020. Along with the many other wonderful annual FPCC events, the Women's Retreat at La Foret for 2020 is cancelled. In the spirit of connecting with other women at First Plymouth, the planning committee urges each of you to reach out to one or more women in the next couple of months. This effort is to remind us to continue to think about and care for each other during this pandemic.

UCC Webinar: "The Green New Deal and Reparations" August 5 at 11:00 AM. When it comes to justice-oriented policy proposals that seek to fundamentally transform our society, the Green New Deal and reparations currently rise to the top. Yet, often they are discussed separately, despite clear and compelling connections. The Green New Deal Resolution proposed in Congress sought "to promote justice and equity by stopping current, preventing future, and repairing historic oppression." At the same time, the demand for reparations compels our society to address the historic injustices of systemic racism, including environmental racism. [Register now!](#)

"Sankofa - Reaching Back and Stepping Up", a conversation sponsored by the UCC, with the co-authors of "Radical Reconciliation: Beyond Political Pietism and Christian Quietism," has been rescheduled for Tuesday, August 11 at 1:30 PM MST. Register today at <https://bit.ly/2CVyvFp>. Join the conversation!

AUGUST SHARE-THE-PLATE

In 1959, a group of Denver-area churches (including First Plymouth) collectively recognized a need for affordable housing for their aging church members struggling to live well on a limited income. After more than sixty years, **Kentucky Circle Village** continues to offer affordable and attractive housing for seniors in a neighborhood setting that nurtures fellowship and cooperative activities. This mission could not be more prescient than right now. While a 2017 renovation and recapitalization project repositioned the organization to more effectively care for the property through its regular budget (comprised solely of rent income), fundraising supports the many ways the organization can enhance the quality of life of residents. Donations received from Share the Plate will fund social and educational events for residents, one-time services such as housekeeping following a hospital stay, in-home disability accommodations, and increased accessibility to the KCV grounds. Thank you for your generous and ongoing commitment to Kentucky Circle! For more information, please contact executive director, Julie Hoebel, at jhoebel@kentuckycircle.org.

Contribute to Share-the-Plate via [text to give](#), [ACH](#) or [Credit Card](#) or by check *made out to First Plymouth Church with "STP" noted on the memo line and mailed to the church.*



The Eley's Epic Road-Trip!

by Cindy Eley

I just want to report that we are home, safe and sound. For those who don't know, we decided we had to see those grandbabies in Vermont, and none of us were comfortable with flying there at this point in the pandemic. So Craig and I and our daughter Laura quarantined ourselves in Denver for 2 weeks, and our son Paul, his wife Sarah and their 2 kids quarantined themselves at their home outside Montpelier. We had recently bought a Honda Ridgeline truck for the purpose, and we rented a small travel trailer so that we could be essentially self-contained except to pump gas, all the way. It worked out pretty well (we did use the restrooms and showers at the campgrounds where we stopped overnight), but we never had to have any contact with people or go into any stores or restaurants on the way there. The drive was arduous, to say the least. Three long days, with a few minor issues and delays, but no serious problems. But it's just sooooo long - it was a really good thing there were three of us to take turns driving, and long hours of daylight in mid-summer.

The visit there made it all worthwhile. It was great to see the kids and grandkids and have time to really relax and enjoy being with them. Then the long drive home, which was a little easier because of the time-zone changes in our favor, and the weather was a little cooler. We had about 45 minutes of torrential rain driving through Des Moines on our last evening, but we just crawled along behind a big semi and eventually got to our hotel that we had booked a few hours earlier when we saw all the rain in the forecast. We were tired but very happy to get home the next day. Five days later, I'm still not back up to full speed, but I attribute that to some actual fatigue, the heat, and the fact that for a little while there's nothing I urgently need to do, so I'm gonna take it easy! I promise never to complain again about how long it takes to get there by air!

Laura documented the whole trip on her blog and she has given me permission to share. It's long, and I don't want anyone to feel that they have to read it, but she has some good pictures, if you want to take a peek: <https://bit.ly/3fd1x0t>.

I hope everyone's summer is going well. I'd love to hear from those of you who I haven't been in touch with, and I'm always up for a Zoom coffee chat or happy hour. Take care!

July's Joys and Concerns



For our members' privacy, a list of the prior month's [Joys and Concerns](#) is available on the church website under the [FP Members](#) section. Email your Joys and Concerns to Anthony Scott at pastoralcare@firstplymouthchurch.org for inclusion on our webpage.



First Plymouth Congregational Church UCC
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THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER