

#FIRST PRES

May 2018



SEND ME

Dear First Pres,

Who knows what can happen when God breaks into our normal, everyday routine and calls us up into a bigger narrative and a higher purpose? Are you catching the mystery—the excitement—of knowing a God who can take any one of us and use us to accomplish His work in the world? I hope the tales of Old Testament heroes and heroines we’ve been exploring this spring in worship are getting under your skin. I hope they’re inspiring you to watch for the places where God is at work in the world and say “Yes!” when He calls you to join Him in His work.



This issue of *First Pres Magazine* takes us further down that path, exploring the places where God is at work among us right now. I invite you to read with an open heart, asking God to draw you deeper into His story. Where do your gifts and His transformational work intersect? How is He calling you to give yourself away for the sake of others? You don’t have to be a mature disciple of Jesus to answer the call to serve. In fact, for many who were unsure about starting to follow Christ, service was the “lab” in which God helped them to sort out some of the doubts with which they wrestled. Serving others helps put into perspective who God is, who we are, and to what He’s calling us. Will you answer the call?

In Christ,

Tim McConnell, Lead Pastor

A stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim McConnell'.

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FIRST PRES MAGAZINE

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First Pres Magazine | May 2018
Volume Ten, Issue Three
© First Presbyterian Church of
Colorado Springs, CO. Published by
First Presbyterian Church,
a non-profit organization.

To contact First Pres Magazine:
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Colorado Springs, CO 80903-1392 or
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Printed in the U.S.A.



By Katie Fowler

I have a friend who became a Christian while serving at a Group Workcamp. I don't remember the reasons that led him to go on a Christian service trip when he wasn't yet a Christian, but he did. He signed up, and through that time of service, God got hold of him.

Wherever you are in your journey, there is something good and significant about serving. You may be exploring the Christian faith. You may be new to following Jesus. Or perhaps you have been following the Lord for the majority of your life. Wherever you are along the path, moving toward others in service—moving toward God in service—allows something new to begin in your life. It might be a new perspective on those around you. It could be a new understanding of who God is and what God is doing in our world. Service always shapes us. Service has shaped me.

When I was in seminary, I went with a nearby church to serve in the Watts neighborhood in Los Angeles. It was an experience that forever shaped how I think about our world and what it means to seek justice in the name of Jesus.

What is it about service that provides space for God to do something new in our lives? I could take a few guesses. Certainly,

there is something significant about getting our eyes off ourselves and onto others. We also find that it's often in life's uncomfortable or stretching places that we grow—that we discover more of who God made us to be. But I also believe that there is something of God that we can only learn through the act of giving ourselves away, because our God is a God who gives Himself away. Jesus said, **"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many"** (Mark 10:45).

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. once preached, "Everybody can be great, because everybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and your verb agree to serve. You don't have to know about Plato and Aristotle to serve. You don't have to know Einstein's 'Theory of Relativity' to serve. You don't have to know the Second Theory of Thermal Dynamics in Physics to serve. You only need a heart full of grace, a soul generated by love."

The act of service done in love teaches us about who God is. This is the life of love we are invited into as we step onto the Path of Discipleship.

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth. – 1 John 3:16-18



Prepared and Called

An interview
with Delma Cliett

By Lindy Keffer

More than three decades ago, God sent Delma Cliett to inner city Wichita, Kansas. To this day she still feels she wasn't "tough enough to be there," but the experience was divinely designed to open her eyes to the needs of children in challenging situations. Delma's heart broke when she met students exposed to violence, for whom responding in violence was a given. They often went hungry, and they were failing in school. "I kept thinking, 'We have to start earlier,'" she says. The driving desire to reach at-risk children in their formative years found its outlet years later. In 1983 Delma and her husband moved to Colorado Springs, and in 1990 she became the second director in the then-21-year history of Get-Set Preschool.

Get-Set is First Pres' free preschool ministry to our downtown neighbors who qualify based on need. Because the program is fully funded by First Pres, Get-Set is able to offer a Christian curriculum—a rarity in need-based programs. It's exactly the kind of opportunity Delma had been longing for. "This ministry is

like a gift of God to me," she explains, "like a glove that fit my hand. It used all my gifts and it stretched me."

Given the longed-for opportunity to "start early," Delma hasn't wasted a minute of her time with pre-kindergartners for the past 28 years that she has served as Get-Set director. Her routine with them is simple, but profoundly effective:

Love Them – "We get to spend 18 to 20 hours per week with the children," she reports. "It's a safe and secure environment," vital for making inroads with children who have grown up with significant instability. "We discipline them out of love. We talk a lot about their choices. I really do believe that these seeds, planted, will make a difference in their lives."

Feed Them – The Get-Set Pantry provides students a hot lunch each day. Delma and her staff use lunch time as an opportunity to encourage good manners and healthy eating

habits: "If they try a vegetable five or six times, they might find that they like it."

Give Them the Gift of Reading – Through both large- and small-group practice, students gain early reading skills. Sounds® phonics education gives them a foundation for learning the English language that will serve them well throughout their academic career.

Model Healthy Face-to-Face Relational Skills – "The staff will role-play being 'ugly' to each other, then show how to be kind instead," explains Delma. Practice of these communication skills is required on the students' part. By the time they go on to kindergarten, "most of them know how to talk things out *and* ask for what they need."

Share the Gospel – "In the spring, we tell the Easter story nine days in a row. You just have to see all of these little faces. They're just mesmerized as we teach. I felt like they absorbed more and more every day—they really got it."

The faithful offering of these gifts, day after day for an entire school year makes a measurable difference. "I can't tell you how much they change in nine months—that Pre-K year is so important," reports Delma. "They're so much more confident going into kindergarten, and it's social as much as academic." The well-rounded preparation



children receive at Get-Set gives them a much better chance both of succeeding in school, and also of successfully advocating for themselves.

As Delma closes this season and moves into retirement, she has words of deep gratitude for those who have served alongside her at Get-Set: "Our volunteer base is amazing. Some of them have been here as long as I have. I think it's so rewarding for them—they come to give, but they receive so much. Our job is to find where they're comfortable helping—we want to put them in the right place." Currently, the greatest volunteer need at Get-Set is in the kitchen. "Cooks" can come once per month or even more regularly and help prepare and serve lunch to the students. *See page 9 for Get-Set volunteer opportunities.*

God bless you, Delma, as you retire.
We are immensely grateful for your 28 years with Get-Set,
and hundreds of Get-Set students across multiple generations
are forever changed.



74 YEARS of VBS

Rufina Holstegge's Story

By Lindy Keffer

Sometimes it takes stuffing six people into a VW Rabbit and driving far up into the mountains to make Vacation Bible School a reality. This clown-car-esque memory is one of hundreds flowing from Rufina Holstegge's 74-year history of helping to lead VBS, or Bible School, as she calls it. For Rufina, VBS was a labor of love from which she retired only last year, at age 90.

How did it all begin? Rufina recalls: "I was 16 years old. My older sister was head of the junior department at our church in Wichita, Kansas. She asked me if I wanted to teach Bible School. She gave me a class of nine little boys, and that sold me. I love to teach boys and I have been teaching Bible School ever since."

Rufina's VBS adventures have taken her across oceans and off the beaten path. She's led VBS in Pakistan and Romania, and for 30 consecutive years in Navajo Country in Utah. She's worked with groups of 40 and groups of 3,000. In the 1990s, Rufina and her



Rufina with a Navajo student in the late 1990s

husband moved from Wichita to Colorado Springs to be nearer to their adult children, and First Pres became the beneficiary of her long history with and deep love for VBS. She served for five years in two different homes during the season when First Pres held Backyard Vacation Bible Schools all over town.

Why, after all these years, is VBS still such an effective model for sharing Christ's love with kids? Rufina thinks the outreach factor is the key: "It reaches children who would never hear otherwise. It reaches people who wouldn't come, even though the churches are right on the corner."

Would you like to reach kids through this summer's First Pres VBS for kids ages 4 through 4th grade? Themed "Nothing Is Impossible," VBS runs July 9 to 13 and explores the Miracles of Jesus. Find VBS volunteer opportunities on page 8 of this magazine. To register for VBS go to www.first-pres.org/vbs.



Rufina's Bible School class in Romania

Send Me!



Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying,
"Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?"
And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"
Isaiah 6:8

A familiar passage. A familiar call. Here am I. Send me.

This month we introduce a new quarterly First Pres publication of **Send Me!** It lists all the volunteer needs for both First Pres and our local mission partners. If you're ready, willing and able to serve, let us know by calling or emailing the contact person listed for each opportunity. Some positions require special skills or experience, an interview process, a background check or specific training. For others you can simply show up. We'll be glad to let you know the next steps when you tell us of your interest. You can also find and share these opportunities at www.first-pres.org/volunteer.

Feel free to remove this 8-page section from the magazine and save it for your reference or share with a friend.

SERVE IN FIRST PRES MINISTRIES

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES VOLUNTEER NEEDS

Upward Bound Overnight Camp Staff – Help kids going into 3rd through 6th grade have an incredible experience and a chance to make their faith their own! This commitment includes training before camp and your presence at camp from 9 a.m. on June 2 through 5 p.m. June 8. You won't want to miss this week! Requires background check. To volunteer, contact Priscilla at pwittrock@first-pres.org or 884-6126.

Vacation Bible School Group Leaders – Shepherd a "flock" of children through the week of VBS, July 9 to 13 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., Monday through Friday. Group leaders will greet their flock of children each morning in the Worship Center and guide them through a rotation of activities in The Connection (Main Building, third floor). Requires background check. To volunteer, contact Priscilla at pwittrock@first-pres.org or 884-6126.

Vacation Bible School Activity Leaders – Leaders will be able to choose which workshop they would like to facilitate, to include Bible story skits, service projects and games in the gym throughout the week of July 9 to 13, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. All of the lessons and materials will be prepared and provided for you. Requires background check. To volunteer, contact Priscilla at pwittrock@first-pres.org or 884-6126.

Vacation Bible School Worship Leaders – Lead children in opening worship time in the Worship Center throughout the week of VBS, July 9 to 13. Leaders will be able to share their musical gifts as children learn new worship songs, connecting to our "Nothing Is Impossible" theme for the week. Requires background check. To volunteer, contact Priscilla at pwittrock@first-pres.org or 884-6126.

Note: VBS Training will be held for all volunteers on Sunday, July 8, from 12:30 to 2 p.m. in the Connection (Main Building, third floor), and lunch will be provided!



Check-In Welcoming Team – Do you love people and enjoy helping them have a great first experience here at First Pres? Help us greet new families and regular participants as they arrive each week. Experience with technology is preferred, as volunteers will be assisting with the check-in computers. Requires background check. To volunteer, contact Priscilla at pwittrock@first-pres.org or 884-6126.

Sunday School Teacher K-4 – Lead Kindergartners through 4th graders as they connect with God's Word. There are many different themed workshop rooms to teach in, and summer is the perfect time to give it a try! Requires background check. To volunteer, contact Priscilla at pwittrock@first-pres.org or 884-6126.

Sunday School Shepherd – Loving hearts are needed to regularly work with our K-4th Grade Connection "flocks." Shepherds develop relationships with Sunday School kids, committing to work with the same group of children for a school year. Shepherds don't teach regularly; instead, they engage in the relational side of our Sunday School. Commitment is one school year, at least two Sundays per month from 9:45 to 11:05 a.m. Requires background check. To volunteer, contact Priscilla at pwittrock@first-pres.org or 884-6126.

Sunday School Worship Leader – Help lead K-4th Grade kids in worship on Sunday mornings. Once-per-month commitment, 9:50 to 10:10 a.m. Requires background check. To volunteer, contact Priscilla at pwittrock@first-pres.org or 884-6126.

Creation Station (Preschool) Sunday School Teachers for the 2018-2019 School Year – Teachers welcome preschoolers into their classrooms on Sunday mornings, sharing Jesus' love for them through Bible stories, crafts, games and friendships. There are four people on a teaching team for each classroom, allowing for a flexible monthly schedule of teaching two times per month. Curriculum is provided, and all lessons and materials are prepared ahead of time so that you can arrive Sunday morning ready to minister to families and teach our little ones. This is a wonderful opportunity to partner with parents in laying a

strong foundation for their child's faith journey! Requires background check. To volunteer, contact Priscilla at pwittrock@first-pres.org or 884-6126.

Bible Break Leader – Bible Break is designed for preschool-age children and is a place for children to learn and play while their parents are listening to the sermon in worship. Leaders engage kids in further learning following the children's sermon at 11 a.m. worship. All lessons and materials will be prepared and provided for you. This position has a flexible schedule, and volunteers can sign up for one or more Sundays per month. This is a great opportunity for youth to develop their leadership skills as we serve our little ones together! Requires background check. To volunteer, contact Priscilla at pwittrock@first-pres.org or 884-6126.

Nursery Volunteers – High school students and adult volunteers can help in the nursery on Sundays and during the week. If you love kids, please sign up for a fun hour or two with these little guys. Requires background check. To volunteer, contact Beth at bmorrison@first-pres.org or 884-6139.

Get-Set Preschool Bus Rider – Get-Set Preschool is our high-quality free preschool offered to our downtown and SE Colorado Springs neighbors. Minister to kids and assist bus drivers on pick-up or drop-off routes by riding along once per week. To volunteer, contact Helen at hhazelton@first-pres.org or 884-6130.

Get-Set Preschool Cook – Prepare and serve simple meals to students two times per month. To volunteer, contact Helen at hhazelton@first-pres.org or 884-6130.

Get-Set Preschool Classroom Helper – Assist Get-set teachers in the classroom once per week. To volunteer, contact Helen at hhazelton@first-pres.org or 884-6130.

Get-Set Preschool Reader – Read to children in the classroom once per week. To volunteer, contact Helen at hhazelton@first-pres.org or 884-6130.

STUDENT MINISTRIES VOLUNTEER NEEDS

Van Drivers – Safely drive students and leaders to locations in Colorado Springs in church vans during Serving Springs, 12:45 to 4 p.m., July 9 to 13. Three drivers per day are needed. Requires background check and motor vehicle record check. To volunteer, contact Allen at ahunter@first-pres.org or 884-6221.

Safely drive students and leaders to Water World in Denver and back that evening: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Wednesday, August 8. Three drivers are needed. Requires background check and motor vehicle record check. To volunteer, contact Allen at ahunter@first-pres.org or 884-6221.

Snack Captains

For Serving Springs – Coordinates with a team and brings in enough snacks for 30 students for each morning's gathering: 8 to 9 a.m., July 9 to 13. Requires background check. To volunteer contact Allen at ahunter@first-pres.org or 884-6221.

For High School Crud Wars – Coordinates a team to prepare or gather enough snacks for 100 people for a high school outdoor event, Wednesday, August 1, 6 to 9 p.m. Requires background check. To volunteer contact Allen at ahunter@first-pres.org or 884-6221.

Cook/Griller – Cook and serve burgers and hot dogs for the high school weekly outdoor Bible Study. Wednesdays, May 30 through August 8, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Requires background check. To volunteer, contact Allen at ahunter@first-pres.org or 884-6221.

Photographer – Creatively capture the moments of Crud Wars, our outdoor high school event, in images that can be used for future promotions, Wednesday, August 1, 3 to 6 p.m. Requires background check. To volunteer, contact Allen at ahunter@first-pres.org or 884-6221.

CHILDREN'S MUSIC VOLUNTEER NEEDS

Upbeat Music & Drama Day Camp Counselor – High school students are needed to serve as camp counselors for Upbeat Camp, June 18 to 22, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Background check required. To volunteer, contact Bethany at bhanson@first-pres.org or 884-6122.

Wednesday Night GTW Helpers – Help lead children in music, games and learning Scripture during Fall 2018 and Winter 2019 GTW, 6 to 8 p.m. Requires background check. To volunteer contact Bethany at bhanson@first-pres.org or 884-6122.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC MINISTRIES VOLUNTEER NEEDS

Musician Hosts/Setup – Help host the Cowboys for Jesus (formerly the Flying W Wranglers) while they are at First Pres for our Sunday, July 1, *Of Thee I Sing* concert, making them feel welcome and extra special. Two volunteers are needed. To volunteer, contact Scott at sbarbier@first-pres.org or 884-6172.

Two to three people are needed to host entertainers (to be determined) and assist with band set-up for our All Church Picnic on Wednesday, August 22. To volunteer, contact Scott at sbarbier@first-pres.org or 884-6172.

DISCIPLESHIP VOLUNTEER NEEDS

Alpha Leadership Team – Do you have a passion for hospitality? For welcoming people exactly as they are? For creating space for honest, safe conversation about God and faith? We are building our team to run a future Alpha course. Alpha is for those who are outside of the church and have questions about God, life and faith. For each of the 8-10 weeks of the course, we share a meal together, hear a talk on an aspect of the Christian faith and enter into conversation in small groups. There are a variety of ways to serve on the Alpha team. For more information visit alphausa.org. To volunteer, contact Katie at kfowler@first-pres.org or 884-6147.

Life Group Leaders – There is great joy in finding your circle, your people, your community—in big church becoming small. And there is great joy in helping others find their circle by leading a Life Group. Leaders are needed for groups for a variety of demographics, starting with an eleven week commitment, with the option of continuing long-term. To volunteer, contact Katie at kfowler@first-pres.org or 884-6147.

FOOD MINISTRY

Help provide excellent hospitality and build community through shared meals and snacks. Food Ministry volunteers prepare rooms for events, set tables, serve food and clean up. To volunteer, contact Caren at cclarke@first-pres.org or 884-6157.

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities, Dates & Times

- › Friday, June 1, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Set up for Four Score and More party
- › Wednesday, June 20, 1 to 4 p.m. Set up for Connecting Ministries Dinner
- › Wednesday, June 21, 4 to 9 p.m. Serve for Connecting Ministries Dinner
- › Thursday August 9, and Friday, August 10, Global Leadership Summit
 - 8 to 11 a.m. Serve drinks during snack time and box lunches during lunch break
 - 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Serve lunch and snacks
- › Wednesday, August 22 – All Church Picnic
 - 1 to 4 p.m. Set up on Weber Street Center lawn
 - 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. Serve drinks and food, cleanup
- › Friday September 14, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Set up for Choir Banquet



CARING MINISTRIES VOLUNTEER NEEDS

Cookie Baking – Be a blessing to families who remember and celebrate loved ones through memorial services here at the church. Bake cookies for our memorial service receptions at your convenience, then drop off at our Caring Ministries desk. To volunteer, contact Gladeen at gragland@first-pres.org or 884-6145.

Monday Prayer Team – Join a dedicated team at the church on Monday mornings from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. to pray for requests submitted by our congregation. Those who serve in this way must maintain confidentiality. To volunteer, contact Gladeen at gragland@first-pres.org or 884-6145.

Knitting Prayer Shawls – Join our Thursday afternoon Knit and Chat group for a time of fellowship and the creation of prayer shawls that will become a tangible touch for someone of their church's and God's love for them. To volunteer, contact Kim Kuck at kkuck@first-pres.org or 884-6144.

Men's Mentor – One-to-one mentoring of men at Springs Rescue Mission. Currently five men serve in this capacity, but many more SRM men need a mentor. To volunteer, contact Pat at phartsock@first-pres.org or 884-6119.

COMMUNICATION VOLUNTEER NEEDS

On-Call Bulletin and Mailing Assembly – Help from time to time when bulletins need to be stuffed with inserts or a large mailing needs to be assembled. To volunteer, contact Lindy at lkeffer@first-pres.org or 884-6161.

Photographer – Experienced hobbyists or better are needed to use their own equipment to capture First Pres events for storytelling and promotional purposes. Volunteers should be prepared to submit samples of their work. To volunteer, contact Lindy at lkeffer@first-pres.org or 884-6161.

Writer – Experienced hobbyists or better are needed to contribute articles for *First Pres Magazine* and the *First Pres Blog*, and to assist with the preparation of sermon discussion guides. Volunteers should be prepared to submit samples of their work. To volunteer, contact Lindy at lkeffer@first-pres.org or 884-6161.

HOSPITALITY VOLUNTEER NEEDS

Receptionist – Answer telephones, cover the front desk when staff receptionists are in meetings or on vacation, direct people through the church and interact with community members who enter the church building. To volunteer, contact Nancy Bass at nbass@first-pres.org or 884-6190.

Host – Welcome worshipers and help visitors make their way through our large church. Thirty-minute shift, one Sunday a month or more. To volunteer, contact Mary at mfrieg@first-pres.org or 884-6189.

Usher – Arrive 30 minutes early for worship. Greet and seat worshipers, take the offering and provide a presence for safety. Serve once a month or every Sunday. To volunteer, contact Mary at mfrieg@first-pres.org or 884-6189.

Parking team – Greet worshipers and direct people to available parking. Maintain a presence for the safety of all worshipers. Serve once a month, in shifts. To volunteer, contact Mary at mfrieg@first-pres.org or 884-6189.

Communion preparation – prepare communion and assist in properly cleaning and organizing items after worship. Serve for some or all communion services. To volunteer, contact Mary at mfrieg@first-pres.org or 884-6189.

MISCELLANEOUS VOLUNTEER NEEDS

Library – Volunteers are needed for two-hour shifts during the week, 1.5 hour shifts once a month on Sunday mornings and help with book fairs. To volunteer, contact Kim at kkuck@first-pres.org or 884-6144.

Pew Pocket Stuffer – Help to refill the friendship folders and pew pockets with items that are needed. To volunteer, contact Kim at kkuck@first-pres.org or 884-6144.

SERVE WITH LOCAL MISSION PARTNERS

To learn more contact Laura Mueller at lmuel@first-pres.org or 884-6233.

Family friendly opportunities 

MARIAN HOUSE – A ministry of Catholic Charities, Marian House offers hot, nutritious meals 365 days a year to anyone who comes to their door, free of charge. To volunteer contact Laura at lmuel@first-pres.org or 884-6233.


Serve Meals – A team from First Pres has been serving the Tuesday meal at Marian House for 30 years. Join the team and help by preparing meals or serving guests.


DALE HOUSE – Reaches out to at-risk youth through community living, building healthy relationships and taking steps towards living independently. To volunteer contact Laura at lmuel@first-pres.org or 884-6233.

Care for Primary Care Workers – Help the Primary Care Workers at Dale House avoid burnout by having lunch or coffee with them, supporting one-to-one activities with Dale House youth, or providing other opportunities for self-care.


Hiring a Dale House Youth – Help youth at the Dale House take steps towards a stable future by help supplying a job opportunity.

Donate a Bike – Have a good quality, working bike? Dale House can use it!

Give Blankets – Every new resident receives a fleece blanket when they come to the Dale House. Help provide a blanket for future residents. 

Bake Cookies – Dale House has many activities during the week where the whole Dale House family gets together. Help bring extra comfort to their times together with some fresh-baked cookies! 

ESM – Assists with emergency social service needs, promotes self-sufficiency and restores dignity to those who are in need. Contact Laura at lmuel@first-pres.org or 884-6233.


Bring Items for ESM Donation Sunday to First Pres – Donate items to stock the ESM pantry when you come to worship the first Sunday of every month. Look for the most needed items in Happenings and on the First Pres website. 

Help out at ESM's facility - Serve in Guest Services or as a pantry, laundry or administrative volunteer.


FAMILY LIFE SERVICES – Focuses on rebuilding the lives of single moms and their children through a

faith-based community. To volunteer contact Laura at lmuel@first-pres.org or 884-6233.

Gardener – Help make the Family Life Services campus more beautiful by tending to the grounds.

Supply a Meal – Help provide a meal for monthly life-skills training for the moms who are part of Family Life Services. 

Childcare – Help with childcare on Tuesdays and Saturdays during different activities for Family Life Services.

Campus Clean Up – Family Life Services is hosting the Colorado Springs Community Roundtable Luncheon on Thursday, July 19. Help clean their building and grounds to prepare for this event. 

FAMILY MENTOR ALLIANCE – A service of Catholic Charities at the Family Connections Center. Provides mentoring services and practical life skills to families experiencing homelessness, so that they can move to stable housing and an improved quality of life. To volunteer contact Laura at lmuel@first-pres.org or 884-6233.

IT Support – Have knowledge in the IT area? Help Family Mentor Alliance with various IT needs.

Administrative Support – Help Family Mentor Alliance send out newsletters, keep their database up to date and perform other administrative tasks throughout the month.

Haircuts – Have skills in cutting hair? Help families who are part of Family Mentor Alliance by giving them a fresh hairdo.

Clothing Closet – Help organize the clothing closet at Family Mentor Alliance.

Birthday Box – Help create Birthday Boxes full of cake mix, a toy, a clothing item, book and a stuffed animal that kids can receive during their birthday week.

FAMILY PROMISE / INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK – Seeks to end family homelessness in Colorado Springs one family at a time with short-term temporary shelter, case management and assistance into transitional housing. To volunteer contact Laura at lmuel@first-pres.org or 884-6233.

Vehicle/Automotive Repair – Help repair any issues the Family Promise vehicles have.

Office help/Administration – Help with a variety of administrative tasks to assist the Family Promise staff.

Facility Help – Help keep the Hope Homes up to date with the repairs and cleanings that they need.

First Pres Family Promise/IHN Host Week – Be part of our next IHN host week at First Pres, July 22 to August 5, by supplying part of an evening meal, buying groceries, hosting a meal or activity or staying overnight with the families. Background check required (**urgent need**).

FOSTERING HOPE – Works to create an extended family to surround and support foster families, as well as supporting teens and young adults as they age out of foster care and begin to establish their independence. To volunteer contact Laura at Imueller@first-pres.org or 884-6233.

Volunteer Team – Become a part of a foster family's "extended family" by being on a support volunteer team with others from First Pres.

GRECCIO – Owns or manages properties throughout Colorado Springs that provide housing for 1,150 residents annually by helping to reduce the housing expense burden. Contact Laura at Imueller@first-pres.org or 884-6233.

Resident Resources Team – Assist with building maintenance, help in the garden program, work with the Grab and Go Library or simply help copy forms and documents.

HOPE & HOME – A nondenominational Christian charity that trains and actively supports foster families across the Front Range who feel compelled by Christ's command to take care of the "least of these." To volunteer contact Laura at Imueller@first-pres.org or 884-6233.

Program Nights – Be part of Hope & Home's Program nights that allow the kids to participate in a variety of activities while their foster parents get support and training.

LIFE NETWORK – Works to cultivate a community that values life through the love of Christ by providing life-affirming alternatives to abortion, promoting sexual integrity and healthy decisions and empowering parents to be healthy and hopeful. To volunteer contact Laura at Imueller@first-pres.org or 884-6233.

Life Steps Coach – Walk with parents for up to two

years as they grow as parents and as their children grow.

Client Services Advocate – Help provide Life Network clients support, education and guidance as they make decisions for themselves and their children.

Volunteer Medical Staff – Looking for volunteer RNs, LPNs and PAs to help with pregnancy tests, facilitate medical referrals and help with medical questions. Also looking for sonographers and physicians to perform ultrasounds and provide medical support to clients.

Baby Boutique Sorter – Help sort donations of baby clothes and maternity items.

LUTHERAN FAMILY SERVICES – Lutheran Family Services has a variety of programs that work to support refugees, adoptive families and kids, kids in foster care and families needing help with respite care for children in Colorado Springs. To volunteer contact Laura at Imueller@first-pres.org or 884-6233.

KPC Respite Center – Help clean, serve a meal, provide childcare or provide house repairs for the KPC respite center. 

ESL Teacher – First Pres hosts the ESL classes provided by D11 and LFS. ESL teachers are needed to plan lessons and teach.

Refugee Mentor Family – Be a part of a Refugee Mentor Family and help our new neighbors assimilate to their new home.

MISSION MEDICAL CENTER – A faith based non-profit that provides free healthcare to uninsured, under-insured and low income members of the Pikes Peak Region. To volunteer contact Laura at Imueller@first-pres.org or 884-6233.

Administrative Support – Help with various administrative tasks, including clerical work and assisting with preparation for health fairs.

Yard Work – Help the Mission Medical Center facility to look beautiful through yard work.

PIKES PEAK ACADEMY – A private alternative high school that provides a quality education within a faith-based environment. To volunteer contact Laura at Imueller@first-pres.org or 884-6233.

Tutor – Help Pikes Peak Academy students with school subjects in which they need assistance.

Life Skills Class – Able to teach a life-skill such as cooking, personal finance or basic car care? Help PPA students by widening their skillset.

Hospitality Team – Help everyone see the warm, inviting space that is Pikes Peak Academy.

Mentor – Interested in walking with a Pikes Peak Academy student one-on-one? Become a mentor!

SPRINGS RESCUE MISSION – Works to see lives transformed and filled with hope as our community works together to fight homelessness, poverty and addiction. To volunteer contact Laura at lmuel@first-pres.org or 884-6233.

Reception Desks – Assist SRM clients by being a welcoming presence at the reception desk in their Day Center.

Saturday Cleaning – Help deep clean areas of SRM. (Ages 12 and older with an adult.) 🧑🧑🧑

Shower Attendant – Assist in the use of the showers in the SRM Day Center.

Serve a Meal – Help serve a meal to the clients of SRM. (Ages 12 and older with an adult.) 🧑🧑🧑

URBAN PEAK – Ignites the potential in youth to exit homelessness and create self-determined, fulfilled lives. To volunteer contact Laura at lmuel@first-pres.org or 884-6233.

Make a Meal – Help prepare the meal for the clients at Urban Peak.

Cleaning and Gardening – Help keep the Urban Peak location tidy and clean by cleaning, gardening, landscaping and performing maintenance.

Tutoring – Help teach Urban Peak clients a variety of topics and skills.

YOUNGLIVES – A ministry of Young Life. Introduces young moms and their kids to Jesus Christ and help them grow in their faith. To volunteer contact Laura at lmuel@first-pres.org or 884-6233.

Volunteer Leader – Give support and love to teen moms by becoming a volunteer YoungLives leader.

Nanny – Watch kids during YoungLives club meetings and gatherings.

SERVE WITH GLOBAL MISSION PARTNERS



Want to be involved with our Global partners in Cuba, Egypt, Mongolia, India or Guatemala? Here are some ways to get started:

- Read *Western Christians in Global Mission: What's the Role of the North American Church?* by Paul Borthwick or another book about Global Mission.
- Take the Perspectives on the World Christian Movement class (Fall 2018). Information at www.perspectives.org
- Subscribe to the Missions e-blast at www.first-pres.org/myfirstpres.
- Call the Mission Engagement office at 884-6233 to talk about opportunities to serve and ways to be involved.
- Attend an informational meeting for a Mission Engagement Trip. (Upcoming 2018 trips are to Mongolia, Guatemala, and Egypt).
- Read blog stories at www.first-pres.org/india; www.first-pres.org/egypt; www.first-pres.org/guatemala; www.first-pres.org/cuba; www.first-pres.org/mongolia.
- Watch Happenings in your worship bulletin for prayer groups and other opportunities

Hard Questions Welcomed

An Interview
with Kim Lee

Senior Sundays is a six-week apologetics class, beginning the Sunday after the Super Bowl and ending just before Spring Break. First Pres is able to offer this course to high school seniors because Kim Lee and her husband, Joe, answered a call from God four years ago, when their eldest son was a senior. In this interview, Kim describes what God has brought about as a result of their “yes.”

FPM: How did God place the call on your heart to start Senior Sundays?

Kim: We were motivated by the following thought from Vince Vitale of Ravi Zacharias International Ministries: “Seventy percent of Christian children in America stop going to church between the ages of 18 and 23. **We have fled from our children’s questions and, in turn, they have fled from the church. This has to change.**” In addition to our senior, we also had a freshman in high school, and we wanted to do everything possible to prepare them for the challenges they would face from a secular society after they left home.

FPM: How does the class work?

Kim: We eat dinner together, followed by small group discussions on an important question such as *If there’s a God, why is there suffering? Can I be a Christian and a scientist? How do we know that the Bible is true? Did Jesus even exist? If so, did He really rise from the dead? And who made God?* These are all topics that students are likely to encounter in college, or in their post-high school lives. After the discussion I give a brief lecture followed by a video. The video series we use is entertaining and prepared for college-aged students. Each year we assemble a small team of high school senior parents to help us facilitate this course.

FPM: What fruit have you seen in the students’ lives over the course of the class each year?

Kim: High school kids vote with their feet. The fact that they keep coming back each week and engaging in the discussion is encouraging. Last winter we had 31 total students attend, with an average of 15 per evening. Of those, about half were not affiliated with First Pres. This year, we had a student write his senior paper on a topic we covered in class. Now that we’ve been offering Senior Sundays for several years, we are beginning to see siblings attend the class when they become seniors.

FPM: What fruit has God produced in your life through leading it?

Kim: In leading this class, I’ve explored questions that people have about Christianity. What I have discovered is that our faith is evidence-based. You don’t have to leave your mind at the door to be a follower of Christ. You can be a Christian and a scientist. There is good evidence for the Resurrection. We have biblical and extra-biblical sources that support the authenticity of the Bible. I love that! We live in a culture that no longer believes in the existence of God or the Truth of the Bible. But that doesn’t mean we have to be afraid of questions. There are good answers to the questions skeptics raise about our faith. The fruit of studying apologetics is the evidence I have found for Christianity and the increased confidence I have to engage in difficult conversations with others.

Wish You Were a High School Senior?

Kim will facilitate a modified Senior Sundays course for adults during the Winter 2019 session of Growing Together Wednesdays. She looks forward to addressing the questions listed here and more with an intergenerational class.

LEARNING TO LEAD

By Todd Naevestad



2017 Junior Counselors Grace Murray, Natalie Inazu, Lexi Sharp and Isaac Eilmes

The Church is an amazing place for teens to grow into responsible leaders. It should be a place where students can find opportunities outside their comfort zones, but still have a safety net—a place where those who want to answer God's call to serve can receive support and mentorship. These ideas are foundational principles for the new First Pres Counselor-in-Training program. They're the reason why Director of Children's Ministries Danny Shaw and longtime volunteer Dave Patton will soon round up a dozen 7th through 9th grade volunteers and head to Camp Elim. During Upward Bound Overnight Camp for elementary campers, the teens will have daily class sessions with the rest of the adult staff. They'll learn skills and ideas for leadership, put them into practice and receive feedback from the senior counselors on what they did well and how they can improve.

Having partnered in similar training of older teens for many years, both Danny and Dave can see why the training has succeeded and why students want to be a part of it. "I've been working with young leaders from our church at Camp Elim for over 30 years," Dave says. "Most of them love the opportunity to be a positive example to younger kids and to 'give back' some of the love they have experienced as they have grown in their personal faith as campers."

Both men applaud the teens' desire to lend a hand to kids in a stage of life they've only recently passed. Danny explains, "There's a very unique ownership of an event that they participated in as a child. Now they've grown up and want to

There's a very unique ownership of an event that they participated in as a child.

help the next generation of kids in the program have the same great experience."

The personal history makes those trained as counselors all the more invested in the camp's success, and it helps inspire younger campers to eventually take the training. Dave notes, "During their interviews, all of these students told about their experience living in an outdoor setting for a week, seeing God present 24/7 for that week, and—for many—taking that opportunity to dedicate their life to Christ while they were there. When their past at camp has been that kind of experience, it's not hard for them to see this as a God-given opportunity."

What's the key ingredient to effective teen leadership development? "A willingness to learn, and a desire to grow as a leader," says Danny.

Dave's assessment is similar: "The best tool is just having the desire to learn and serve. I'm really impressed with the attitude each of these kids has shown through this year's selection process. I've seen in them a desire to learn more about Jesus and how to actually put what they learn about God's love into practice in day-to-day circumstances." The program thrives because our young people have such an active heart for God and their fellow young believers.

The effect of training these young leaders reaches far beyond the trainees themselves. Danny recognizes the influence junior counselors have on campers and even on the adult staff. "Younger leaders can relate to kids in a whole different way. Little eyes are always watching these cool older kids. They bring an energy and excitement that is contagious when they lead. There's nothing more energizing to older leaders



than young leaders with a desire to serve."

An important component of the program is giving trainees hands-on experience in a variety of tasks. "One of the biggest challenges is for them to gain confidence in themselves in leadership," says Dave. "That is the beauty of the program we are designing for this summer. They will have the opportunity to put together and lead Bible studies, facilitate team-building activities with the younger cabin groups, lead in large



all-camp games and supervise various recreational activities that happen during a typical day at camp."

At the end of their week as Counselors in Training, teens will have experience that's foundational to leading for a lifetime. "I love that so many of our youth know that they're not the church of the future. They are the church *now*, and they have gifts to bring to the table—their faith in Christ, the hope that they can share with young kids," says Dave. "As they learn to be better leaders, our congregation and community will benefit. Ultimately, if we can just show them that they should look for ways to help others and get them to be less focused on themselves, I think we have given them a very important lifelong skill."

When Upward Bound is over for the year, it's important for these teens to find additional outlets for the things they have learned. Danny shares, "The church can support our young leaders by continually ensuring that there are places for them to serve. I love seeing some of our young leaders serving the church as ushers. I love seeing our young leaders lead our congregation in worship."

SUMMER

AT FIRST PRES

Summer is a time for fun—a time to try something different. At First Pres, summer is also a time to serve. As you note the many opportunities coming up during the summer months, check out pages 7-14 to find out how you can contribute! View the church calendar and share event information with your friends at first-pres.org/calendar.

JUNE

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 HSM DR Trip Four Score and More Party
3 WORSHIP	4	5	6	7	8	9
HSM Dominican Republic Trip						
Upward Bound Overnight Camp						
Doorways New Members Class	Women's Life/ MOPS Summer Bible Study			Women's Life/ MOPS Summer Bible Study		
10 WORSHIP	11	12	13	14	15	16
HSM DR Trip						
Doorways New Members Class	Living Water Trip					
	Women's Life/ MOPS Summer Bible Study	Refugee Women's Sewing Group	Prime Time Lunch	Women's Life/ MOPS Summer Bible Study		Men's Breakfast
17 WORSHIP	18	19	20	21	22	23
Doorways New Members Class	HSM Student Life Missions Camp					
	Upbeat Music and Drama Camp					
	Women's Life/ MOPS Summer Bible Study			Women's Life/ MOPS Summer Bible Study		
24 WORSHIP	25	26	27	28	29	30
The Great Escape Summer Camp						
Doorways New Members Class	Women's Life/ MOPS Summer Bible Study	Men's José Muldoon's Monthly Lunch Service of Hope and Restoration		Women's Life/ MOPS Summer Bible Study		

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 WORSHIP Of Thee I Sing Concert	2 Women's Life/ MOPS Summer Bible Study	3	4 Independence Day First Pres Closed	5 Mongolia Teacher Trip Women's Life/ MOPS Summer Bible Study	6	7 Men's Life/ Skysox Baseball
8 WORSHIP	9 Women's Life/MOPS Summer Bible Study	10 Refugee Women's Sewing Group	11 Mongolia Trip	12 Serving Springs	13 Handbell Camp	14
					VBS & Mini Camp for 2s and 3s	
15 WORSHIP Mongolia Trip	16	17	18 Fine Arts Workshop	19 String Camp	20 Women's Life/ MOPS Summer Bible Study	21
22 WORSHIP	23	24	25	26 Women's Life/ MOPS Summer Bible Study	27	28
29 WORSHIP	30	31 Men's José Muldoon's Monthly Lunch				

JULY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 HSM Crud Wars	2 MOPS Summer Bible Study	3	4
5 WORSHIP FP/IHN	6	7	8 Prime Time Lunch	9 Global Leadership Summit	10	11
12 WORSHIP	13	14 Refugee Women's Sewing Group	15	16	17	18
19 WORSHIP Kickoff Sunday	20	21	22 All-Church Picnic	23	24	25
26 WORSHIP	27	28 Men's José Muldoon's Monthly Lunch	29 GTW Begins Doorways New Members Class	30	31	

AUGUST

from metowe

A STUDY IN EPHESIANS

New sermon series starting June 3.

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