

# THE KIRK of Bonnie Brae

October 2025

## From Your Pastor

Dear Kirk,

We have just concluded a two-month sermon series about the things we say to children that adults should remember and also take seriously. It was during this time that we began planning our Stewardship Campaign for 2026. In so much of this moment, we find ourselves in challenging and complex circumstances. As a parent, working with the youth group and talking with parents of little ones – I know and I hear that there is a significant divide between the simplicity of family life and the perilous state of our collective existence. I think the reason I stayed so long in the “Back to School for Adults” series is out of a desire for grounding. No matter the political circumstances, we must first know who we are and who God is and respond from this wisdom and knowledge. It is both difficult and beautiful to really take seriously the same values we hope to instill in our children; to truly ask that they do what we do more than what we say. At the same time, our children have their own wisdom to teach us, especially about generosity and joy.

And so, our 2026 Stewardship Campaign invites us to **Give Like a Child**. We will consider the instincts that God gave all of us to delight in opportunities to give and to share. This month, you will receive materials about the impact the Kirk is making in our lives and in our community. Later in the month, you will hear stories from some of our young folks of the opportunities they have had to give and how it made them feel. This Campaign will be a time for us all to delight in our opportunities to share who we are and what we have, and to rejoice in the ways God uses these gifts beyond our imaginations. If you have any questions about giving to the Kirk, please reach out to me or Rev. John Davidson, our Minister of Stewardship.

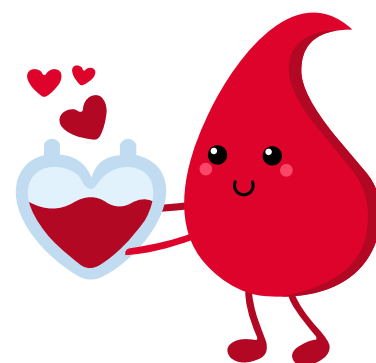


With Gratitude,

Selena

## Vitalant Blood Drive

We are hosting our next Blood Drive on Wednesday, October 1, from Noon to 4:00 p.m. in the Narthex. To schedule an appointment, call 303.363.2300. Or you can click [HERE](#) to go straight to the schedule!



# Worship at the Kirk in October

**October 5:** World Communion Sunday  
We will hear stories from our Global Partners around the world. Through story and prayer, we will indeed break bread around the world.

**October 12:** "In The Beginning(s)"  
Genesis 1:1-5, Genesis 2:1-9, John 1:1-5  
Rev. Corbin Tobey-Davis will be preaching.

**October 19:** Give Like a Child, John 6:1-14  
We will kick off our stewardship campaign for 2026, tapping into the wisdom (as we have this Fall) of children.

**October 26:** Stewarding our lives, the story of Miriam, Exodus 2:4-10  
Sometimes, what we have to give is our voice. Miriam used her voice to advocate and to care. There are times God calls us to steward as individuals, and likewise times we are called to steward our energy and passion as community.

**November 2:** All Saints Worship and Pledge Sunday, Luke 2:41-47  
We will gather our pledges on this Sunday as we hear the story of the boy Jesus in the temple. As a child, he was already giving his life. How are we called to follow?



## ♥ Tentatively Scheduled Loving Servants

DATE	HOSTS <small>For changes, contact Ellen Campos</small>	COFFEE <small>For changes, contact Lisa Kipp</small>	LAY READER <small>For changes, contact the office</small>
October 5	Greg Sherry & Robert Bowles	(available)	Susan Howard
October 12	Don Zimmerman & Patty Hummert	Beth Sherry	Riss Kostelnick
October 19	Lee Trujillo-Lopez & Ashley Lopez	Beth Sherry	Ann Karlberg
October 26	Jeannie Mitchell & Sharon Snyder	Patty Hummert	Eva Gebel



## Neighbors in Need UCC Special Offering

This annual offering supports ministries of justice and compassion, with one-third of the offering given to the Council for American Indian Ministries and the remaining two-thirds supporting UCC justice ministries. In 2025, the Neighbors in Need Offering supported 26 grant recipients across the UCC who were engaged in projects of direct service and advocacy. We will have this offering on **October 5<sup>th</sup>**, which is World Communion Sunday. You can give in-person during the offering time, or on our website in the **Donate** section. Thank you for your generosity!



All teenagers (and friends) in grades 6-12 are invited to join us on Sunday nights from 6-7:30 p.m. for Youth Group! We share a meal together, play games, check in about our weeks and engage in discussion on issues of life and faith! We use the GroupMe app to communicate. You can join the group [HERE](#).

**October 5:** Follow Your Arrow

**October 12:** Why Give? Led by Rev. John Davidson

**October 19:** RMC Fall Retreat Weekend, No Youth Group.

**October 26:** Corn Maze with Lakewood UCC at 3 p.m. **Must RSVP on the App by October 12!**

## Youth Group Meals

This year, we are looking for volunteers to provide dinner for our weekly youth group! We usually feed 20 people and need an option for three vegetarians, two who don't eat red meat, and one who is dairy-free. (All meals don't need to meet these dietary requirements; we just need an option for these.) The kids so appreciate the food, and it will give you a chance to get to know our youth and see what happens on Sunday nights. We ask those providing the meal to stay, eat with us, and after the kids bus their own tables, to help clean up so the kids can engage in their meeting. We eat promptly at 6:00 p.m. and cleanup is at 6:30 p.m. To volunteer, please sign up [HERE](#)!



## Confirmation



Our Confirmation journey begins on Friday, October 10, from 6-8 p.m. as our Confirmands meet their mentors and we learn more about what this year will be about! Upcoming Confirmation Dates:

**Friday, October 10,** 6-8 p.m. with Mentors. Session 1: Beginning

**Sunday, November 2,** 11:30-12:30 p.m. Session 2: Prayer Lab

**Friday, November 14,** 6:00 p.m. Visit to Temple Emmanuel

**Sunday, November 16,** 6-7:30 p.m. Session 3: History of God @ Youth Group

**Sunday, November 30,** 11:30-1 p.m. with Mentors. Session 4: Bible @ Barnes & Noble

## Fall Youth Retreat, October 17-19

All youth from grades 6 through 12 are invited to the Rocky Mountain Conference UCC annual Fall Retreat at La Foret. This retreat will explore the theme: **(I'm)permanence**, acknowledging the ways our world and future seem impermanent while acknowledging our power to cultivate spiritually grounded practices and leave a lasting mark on the world. We will also have time to relax and enjoy nature in the beauty of our beloved La Foret with friends both new and old...all while having plenty of fun!

Our Saturday night dance will be a Halloween dress rehearsal, so bring your costume!

Registration closes on **Monday, October 6**, you can register [HERE](#).





# New Kirk Group for Seniors: Organizational Meeting Oct. 12

Are you chronologically gifted? Have you been around the block a few times? Is this not your first rodeo? So old you remember when the Dead Sea was merely sick? However you describe it, if you're a senior, there's a new group at the Kirk for you! One of the ideas that emerged from our all-Kirk survey last year was the creation of a seniors' group, much like our youth group. We'll have an organizational meeting on Sunday, October 12, immediately after worship. During this meeting, we will (1) gauge interest and (2) talk about what you'd like to see the group do. Would you like informal get-togethers? Field trips to plays, concerts, etc.? Learning? Service or activism opportunities? A spiritual focus? Maybe a combination of these, or something else?

There's no formal age requirement – if you think you qualify, then you do! If you can't make the meeting but you're interested, please contact Donna Furman. Additionally, if you're interested in leading the group or organizing activities, please let Donna know. See you there!



## All Church Birthday Party!

On Sunday, October 19, we will gather in the lower level after worship for a time of celebrating all the lives of our Kirk family! We will decorate cupcakes, sit with those who share our birth months and enjoy a time of joy, fun and celebration!

## Soles for Souls

We are collecting used shoes in our Narthex. This is part of an Eagle Scout Project for Stellan Ursten-Hobbs (who is part of Troop 376 at Salem United Church of Christ, Calvin and Lyle's troop). The shoes collected will be sent to several Central American and African countries! You can donate until Sunday, October 19th. If you have any questions, please reach out to Rev. John Davidson.



## Children's Ministry Update

We invite all of the Kirk to be in prayer for our volunteers and children as we continue to step into our new Volunteer Model for the StoryRoom. Here's our Volunteer Schedule this month:

- October 5:** Wyndol Furman & Patty Hummert – Creation Story
- October 12:** Lisa Kipp – Story of Noah
- October 19:** Lisa Kipp – Story of Abram and Sarai
- October 26:** Lisa Kipp – Story of the Exodus







## Kirk's Bell Choir!

Our Kirk bell choir is regathering as we prepare for the holidays. We will gather after worship on the following days. All are welcome regardless of experience!

- October 26
- November 9 and 30
- December 7 and 21

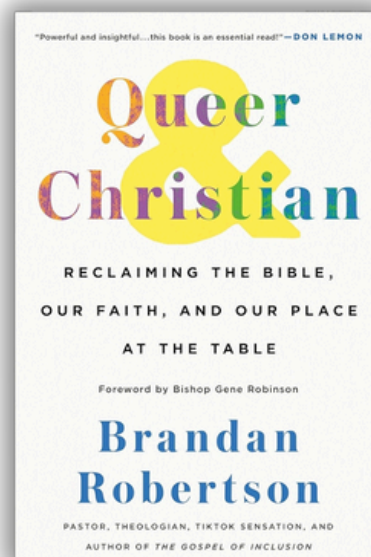
## Coffee and Community

Each Sunday, a volunteer comes early and makes coffee (following a set of instructions found in the basement kitchen) and brings a treat for after church, and then cleans up. Thank you so much to all who volunteer to create this space for us to visit and build community! You can sign up [HERE](#).



## Faith as Holy Resistance: October 22, 2025 Reclaiming Queerness, Reimagining Christianity A Conversation with Author Rev. Brandan Robertson

The Kirk has been invited to an event hosted by Highlands Church, located at **1700 S. Grant St., Denver, CO 80210**, on October 22, from 6:00-7:15 p.m. In a time when faith is too often weaponized against the marginalized, this gathering invites us to reclaim it as a force for liberation and belonging. Rev. Brandan Robertson will lead an evening of deep reflection, spirited dialogue, and radical hope—exploring how queerness can be a sacred lens through which to reimagine Christianity itself. The evening will begin with a **30-minute fireside conversation** between Brandan and a local conversation partner, followed by a **45-minute open discussion** with the broader community. Together, we'll reflect on how faith communities can become more courageous in their allyship, and how queer people of faith can help cultivate deeper connection, dismantle division, and embody a love that builds bridges rather than walls. This is a space for both celebration and challenge—for allies ready to do more than just affirm, and for queer folks who carry the prophetic vision of a church made new. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. with free beverages & light refreshments. The program starts at 6:00 p.m. and runs until 7:15 p.m. Free childcare is available. Please let us know how many children you will have so we can plan accordingly. Copies of Brandan's latest book "**Queer and Christian**" will be available for purchase before and after the program. Brandan will sign books until 7:45 p.m. Register [HERE](#).



# Theology On Tap, October 19, 4 p.m. at Sixth Avenue UCC

Weddings, funerals, baptisms – our faith has always marked significant moments of transition in our lives with sacred rituals that welcome God and community to accompany us from one way of being into another. While some of these rituals are falling away (fewer people have a funeral or memorial services, for example, and the number of church weddings has significantly decreased), other rituals of transition are bringing meaning to varied life experiences, such as divorce rituals, house blessings, and name change blessings. This month at Theology on Tap, we will consider the role of ritual in our faith and in our community. All are welcome to be a part of this casual conversation!



## DIG Deeper

Faith Formation Hour



Sunday mornings from 9:00 – 9:40 a.m., adults will gather in the Lower Level and on **Zoom** to DIG deeper into a book, faith and relationship with each other. We are currently reading “**The Return of the Prodigal Son**” by Henri Nouwen: a book that explores this well-known parable through the lens of Rembrandt’s painting of this story. All are welcome!

**October 5:** *No Gathering due to Women’s Retreat*

**October 12:** Chapter 3: The Younger Son’s Return

**October 19:** Chapter 4 Rembrandt & the Elder Son & Chapter 5 The Elder Son Leaves

**October 26:** Chapter 6 The Elder Son’s Return

## BIBLE STUDY EVERY TUESDAY @ 1.00 PM

IN THE KIRK’S OFFICE & ON ZOOM

### Conversations with Scripture

- Casual atmosphere
- Join in or just listen
- Share insights and questions!



# Take a Sack, Bring it Back!

On the third Sunday of every month, the Kirk Mission Team puts out grocery bags with a list of Metro Caring needs. We ask that you bring these back the last week of the month when people especially need food. Will you help us keep up the good work and donate 100 pounds of food per month? We can do it the Kirk way—together!



## Connect Online!



- Click [HERE](#) for Worship livestreams.
- Click [HERE](#) for DIG, Conversations with Scripture and other ZOOM meetings.

Did you know you can connect to the Kirk anytime through our social media presence? Follow the Kirk on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube and share what inspires you with your friends and followers!



## Would You Like to be a Lay Reader?

If you enjoy scripture and storytelling, we invite you to become a Sunday Lay Reader. Don't let any fear of public speaking hold you back; the welcoming smiles from the congregation at the Kirk make it an incredibly rewarding experience! You will receive the scripture in advance (as well as a guide for preparing a brief Stewardship Moment). To sign up, please add your name to the sheet in the Narthex or contact the office to secure your spot.



## Free Ways to Give



Remember for every King Soopers reward purchase you make, if you have selected the Kirk as your option, a portion comes to the church. Setting this up is easy!

**Step 1** Log in to your online King Soopers account

**Step 2** Search "Community Rewards"

**Step 3** If you are not currently enrolled, search for Kirk of Bonnie Brae, and when you see it click enroll. Then log in to your account as much as you want to see how much of your grocery bill is coming to the Kirk. For more detailed King Soopers instructions, click [HERE](#).



## Back by Popular Demand!

Our first Repair Café was so successful that we are hosting another one on Saturday, **November 1**, from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m.! Many of our repair coaches will be back to help people fix lamps, small appliances, torn clothing, and broken jewelry. There will also be a knife sharpener, a bike mechanic and our very own Riss Kostelnick to fix sewing machines! The repair is free, and you can enjoy a snack while learning how to bring your item back to its original useful condition. Kids are also welcome to participate in easy “how-to” activities at the Children’s Table. The event will be held at First Plymouth Church, **3501 S. Colorado Blvd.** Click [HERE](#) for an information flyer and [HERE](#) to sign up for a repair. The Helping Hands Repair Café is a collaborative effort of green justice teams from the Kirk, First Plymouth, and Most Precious Blood Catholic Church.



## Volunteer Day!

As we gather food each month for Metro Caring, we are pursuing depth in relationship in caring for our neighbors who are food insecure. On Monday, **November 3**, some Kirk folks will be volunteering at Metro Caring as a group. If you would like to join us, please get in touch with Leigh Plue. We need a minimum of six people to register as a group.

# Kirk Birthdays

- |                       |                             |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1st Dave Howard       | 13th Janette Marlene-Breaux |
| 4th Suzanne Hefty     | 18th Kevin Jenkyns          |
| 5th Rachel Kriescher  | 22nd Claire Ulrickson       |
| 7th Cam Short-Camilli | 29th Bonnie Carmean         |
| 7th Johnny Brindle    | 31st Amanda Trudel          |
| 12th Linda Davis      |                             |



If we have missed your birthday, please let us know by emailing [kobb@kirkofbonniebrae.org](mailto:kobb@kirkofbonniebrae.org).