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### **From the Minister's Mac**

### **The Theology of Baseball**

Friends, as I ponder the end of another dismal Rockies season, and while I recognize that I may be the only baseball fan left in Denver, I still cannot hate the game. Baseball is in my blood and never more so than now, as we approach the World Series (go Dodgers). So, if you will allow me, I would like to share an old blog I wrote in August of 2022, explaining my love of the game and a little bit about the theology of baseball...

There have been many books written about it. Jonathan Fink's trilogy, *The Baseball Gods are Real* is fun, as is John Sexton's *Baseball as a Road to God: Seeing Beyond the Game*. So

much has been written on the theology of baseball that if you google it, you will receive 25,000,000 results. In books, articles and Sunday sermons, the faithful have poetically pondered the similarities between our ideas of religion and our enjoyment of baseball. Whenever I attend a baseball game, I find myself doing the same thing.

Today, after a satisfying Rockies win [remember, I wrote this in August of 2022], I wiped the sweat from my face, pulled my damp shirt away from my body and wondered how the players find it in themselves to play day after day, down there on the hot, breezeless field, in uniforms, with no shade, and no hope of making the playoffs, let alone winning the World Series. Later that evening, I shared my thoughts with my beloved, and he replied, "But they show up, don't they?!"

Yeah they do!

A few clergy colleagues and I have a support group that mixes business with pleasure at Coors Field. The game is our venue for self-care, camaraderie, and wisdom sharing. During the drive to and from the ballpark, and while we are in the "cathedral" on Blake Street, we check in with one another (like greeting time at the beginning of worship), offer one another sage advice (never as long as a sermon), and sing together the hymns of our meeting house: The Star-Spangled Banner and of course, Take Me Out to the Ballgame. And if I may digress just one moment here, friends, the words are "Take me out with the crowd," not "to the crowd," and it is "Crackerjack" not "Crackerjacks." Just sayin'.

Once a month, we show up to root, root, root for the Rockies. We stay for the whole game. We encourage, cheer, chat, and revel in the well-executed double play. We admire the courage of players who dive for the ball, giving over their entire being to the mission of the catch. We cheer wildly for the miraculous throw to the plate, and stand in awe of the home run hit deep into the center field bleachers. It is inspirational at best and, even on the worst days, provides moments of pure joy.

Then when all hope of ultimate success is lost for the season, when attendance is down and the boo-birds (as Vin Scully used to call them) are out in full force, the true fan is revealed. We begin planning for the next season. We fondly remember the joy of seasons past to keep hope alive for the future. We keep our eye on how to improve the team, on what changes need to be made to get 'em next year. And we continue to show up.

Isn't that what every church is going through right now? Trying to keep hope alive for the future and continuing to learn how to improve and shift to better fulfill our mission in these changing times? We could learn a lot from the players on the field and from the faithful who continue to show up, engage, and give their all for a common cause. In baseball, it is to win the game for the team. In faith, it is to win hearts for the love of God. Both require dedication, skill, teamwork and perseverance, and the ability to weather the

bad years without giving up.

I pray we keep showing up, keep our eye on what is important, and keep finding inspiration and joy in the simple pleasures of life. And to continue my homage to Vin Scully and baseball, "Here's wishing you a very pleasant good afternoon — wherever you may be."

See you in church,  
Lin

*"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time  
we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." Galatians 6:9*

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#### ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

**All Saints Sunday is November 3rd.** It is the day when we honor all those who have gone on before us. We will read the name and show a picture of each loved one submitted. Please send a digital picture to Julie in the church office before October 29th and it will be included in the slide show on November 3rd. Please be sure to include the name of your loved one, to be read aloud during that service. If you don't have a picture, we can still read the name of your loved one if you send it to Julie before October 29th. You may also simply bring a picture of your loved one to church that Sunday morning and Eric Presnall will put it on a paper display for all to see that day. Be sure and put your name on the back of the picture if you would like your picture back. This will be a wonderful way to honor the saints who once lived among us.

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#### **Attention Veterans**

The Longmont Quilt Guild has a program to honor all our veterans. If you are a veteran, or you have a family member who is a veteran and would like to be honored with a Quilt of Honor to thank you for your service,  
please contact Janice Bachmann  
(720-272-6947 or email: [bachmann837@msn.com](mailto:bachmann837@msn.com)). Depending on the number of veterans we have in our congregation family it may take some time to get quilts to everyone.

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#### **Collecting for the Backpack Ministry**

Justin is once again collecting items for his backpack ministry to the homeless. If you find good deals on shirts, socks, and hygiene items, please pick them up and leave them in the box in the sanctuary.

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### **Altar Flower Sign-Up**

Help keep Rinn looking beautiful! If you would like to bring flowers for the altar to honor a loved one or a special occasion or just to make the sanctuary a little bit nicer one Sunday, please sign-up on the sheet at the welcome table.

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### **Lifeline Screening at Rinn**



Rinn will once again be hosting  
Lifeline Screening on **January 2, 2025**

Life Line Screening is the nation's leader in stroke and  
cardiovascular disease risk screening.  
Call 888-814-0466 or

Click [here](#) to learn more about it and/or sign up for a time.

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**~ Rinn Worship Service ~**  
***(In-person and livestreamed on Facebook)***

**September October 20• 9:30 a.m.**

***Scripture***  
**Mark 10:46-52**



***Message***

“The Vision of Bartimaeus”

**Livestreamed on Facebook:**

to access our Facebook page, click [HERE](#).

To follow along with the service, the Order of Worship is [HERE](#).

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**Rinn CD Sales**



The Rinn CD, featuring the music from our church, is now on sale for \$15. Enjoy music from Scott, Shelly, Rae Ann and the choir whenever you want. CDs will be available in the front lobby after church, or talk to Wayne Vinson.

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**“Brunch Bunch” Bible Study**

Wednesdays

Breakfast at Maggie’s at 8:45 a.m.

Study at Bev Ramsey's house at 10:30 a.m.  
Join us weekly for breakfast and a discussion of our faith.  
Call the office for location.

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### **Sooper's Cards for Rinn**



Did you know that you can tie your King Sooper's loyalty card to Rinn UMC, and the church will get a contribution every time you use it?  
Please consider signing up! Every little bit helps!

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### **Movie Night at Rinn!**

Join us at Rinn United Methodist Church at 3783 Bella Rosa Parkway in Frederick for our "Movie Night" series! We will gather on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month to watch another episode. We will be watching *The Chosen*, a series about the journey of Jesus as he calls his disciples, heals the sick, and sacrifices himself for humanity. Episodes vary in length from 20 minutes to 90 minutes. It's casual, so bring your popcorn or your snack and drink (no adult beverages please) and enjoy this series with like-minded followers of Jesus. Feel free to bring friends and family, too! We'll meet for about 90 minutes.

We start right at 7:00 p.m. so please be timely and arrive a few minutes early. If you have any questions, contact Shelly Anderson at 720-280-6398 or Mary Stoothoff at 303-875-9488.

**October 24**



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## Buckhorn Camp and Retreat Center



Build lasting friendships and create memories that will last a lifetime in a comfortable and safe outdoor environment. This 320-acre mountain camp just 40 minutes from Fort Collins offers an “unplugged” outdoor experience for any age group. Able to accommodate groups of any size, whether it is a youth group or an entire church congregation. We would love to tell you more about this amazing place that’s so close to us! For information or for volunteer opportunities please go to [www.buckhorncampco.org](http://www.buckhorncampco.org) or call/text us at 970-484-2508.

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### **Adult Bible Study • Sundays at 8:00 a.m.**

We are looking at Christian themes in contemporary novels. Our book is *"The Trial of Fallen Angles."*

Please join us for engaging conversation this Sunday!  
All are welcome!

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### **In Our Prayers**

#### **COMFORT**

- Barry’s daughter Jessica.
  - For Hunter.
- Warren and Linda Napier family who sustained much damage to their house after a fire.
  - For Susan, who had a car accident but is okay.
  - For all who are grieving the loss of a loved one.
    - Travel Mercies for all those on the road.
  - For those seeking meaningful employment.
    - Hurricane Victims

- Annie asks for our prayers as she prepares to move in November.
- Ashley's son Tristin, recovering from successful Achilles tendon surgery, and prayers for Sean who is care-giving.
- Rusty's uncle Warren who has passed away. Please pray for his family and Rusty's Aunt.
- Prayers for Ashley that her interview goes well and she gets the job

#### **HEALING**

- Annie's son-in-law with kidney trouble, that he will find a kidney.
  - Sherry had a stroke and is in rehab now.
  - Jack has brain cancer.
- Aunt Linda has multiple health issues and needs healing..
  - Shelly's Friend who had leg amputation.
- Dan asks prayers for his brother John, who fell, and for John's wife.
- Continued healing for Dan Smith after his surgery and for Donna who is caregiving.
  - Lisa asks prayers for her Granny, who is nearing the end of her life.
  - Prayers for Vi as she recovers at home from her hospital stay.
- Mitch asks prayers for the Sharma family, on the death of his friend, Shivik Sharma.
- Patsy asks prayers for her husband Dave who will have surgery Friday morning.
  - For Debby Perry, who is undergoing tests in the hospital.
  - All those suffering loss or injury from continuing wars

#### **THANKSGIVING**

- Joy of family being together.
- Jodi offers prayers of thanks for healing after surgery
- Mike's successful surgery, and thanks for Deb who was care-giving.
- Paula's friend's husband, Dick, who finally got an appointment with a specialist who hopefully can help him with his seizures.
  - Kaye finding work!
- Annie gives thanks for this church and will miss it when she moves.
- Scott gives thanks for what his doctors are calling a miraculous recovery from cancer!
  - Bill gives thanks for the friendship he has found at this church.

If anyone needs to be taken off or added to this list please fill out the form in your Sunday bulletin or [email the church office](#).

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#### **Refreshments for after Worship sign-up**

- October 27th Mike Carr
  - November 3rd
  - November 10th
  - November 17th
  - November 24th



Please consider signing up for a date. The sign-up board will be in the narthex either at the welcome table or the podium. If you have any questions, or need to change your date, please feel free to call or text Mary Margaret at 573-368-1390 or call the church office at 303-776-1578 (Church Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9am-noon)

If you sign up to help, here are some guidelines:

- Provide around 4 dozen cookies in total (these can be baked at home or store bought)
  - Provide a "non-sugar" option (fruit, cheese, crackers, etc...)
    - Arrange on trays found in the kitchen
- Napkins, small plates, cups, coffee carafes, lemonade pitchers, creamer, sugar, stir stick can all be found in the kitchen
  - Coffee and Lemonade will already be made for you
  - Please take all items to the kitchen and clean up afterward
- you will get a reminder in your email from Mary Margaret about 3 days in advance of your sign-up date.
  - A sign-up sheet will be at the podium in the Narthex each Sunday.

If you have any questions, or need to change your date, please feel free to call or text Mary Margaret at 573-368-1390 or call the church office at 303-776-1578 (Church Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9am-noon)

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***Via Mobility for Life***

Providing rides for residents:  
Seniors 60+, disabled, and income qualified.  
Dacono, Frederick & Firestone  
303-444-3043

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**Cowboy Fellowship at Rinn**

**Wednesday nights at 7pm**

**10/30 - Cowboy Corral**

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**October Birthdays**

1 Danny Martin  
3 Annika Toomey  
9 Ashley Maine  
10 Donna Smith

12 Jenny Goetze  
13 Robbie Alexander  
15 Wayne Wood  
15 Sandy Presnall  
17 Kat Mann  
24 Josilyn Cholas  
25 Rob Alexander  
28 Justin Presnall Jr.  
29 Morgan Riggs  
30 Jenna Riggs  
31 Bella Presnall

**Happy Anniversary to:**

25 Mike & Brenda Carr (1965)

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**TRIP TO BRANSON**

Aleta Purcell is putting together a group tour of Branson, Missouri. If you are interested in going and would like more information about the cost and what is included, please contact Aleta at: (720) 382-3814.

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**Weekly Activity Schedule**

For more upcoming events, view our online calendar [HERE](#).

**Sunday 10/27**

8:00am Adult Bible Study  
8:15am Men's Koffee Klub  
9:30am Worship Service

**Tuesday 10/29**

6:30pm Trustees Meeting

**Wednesday 10/30**

8:45am Breakfast Fellowship at Maggie's  
10:30a Wednesday Brunch Bunch Bible  
Study at Bev Ramsey home  
7:00pm Cowboy Fellowship

**Friday 11/1**

7:00pm New Hope AA

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**Rinn United Methodist Church Leadership**

*The Administrative Council meets on the third Thursday of every month. Everyone is welcome to attend. Our leaders who keep your church running smoothly are listed below.*

President: Shelly Anderson

Lay Leader: Wayne Vinson

Staff Parish Relations (Personnel): Bonnie Clark

United Methodist Women: Sharon Goldade

Trustees: Rusty Goetze

Chair of Finance: Linda Rinn

Treasurer: Sue Mercer

Finance Secretary: Steve Sterkel

Cowboy Fellowship: Mike Shaw

Nominations: Rev. Lin Cheek

Worship Committee: Betsy Foushee



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**Our mailing address is:**

Rinn United Methodist Church  
3783 Bella Rosa Parkway  
Frederick, Colorado 80504