

Stefanie Wallerstein



Interested in joining as a member of Family of Christ?
Contact the Church Office to figure out the best option.
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October 2021

Please join us in giving a warm welcome
to the New Members who are becoming
part of our church family this month!

We're thrilled to have this wonderful group
worshipping with us at Family of Christ.





Larry, Jamye, CJ & Rogan Harris

We moved to the Springs in April from Denver. Larry is disabled, Jamye works downtown as a Paralegal, CJ (18) recently graduated from Lutheran High School in Parker and now attends Pikes Peak Community College at the Centennial Campus and Rogan (13) is an 8th grader and currently attends classes online through Colorado Connections Academy. Larry has a 25-year-old daughter, Taylor (not pictured), living in Denver and is a Veterinary Technician. Rogan will be confirmed on the 31st through our former church, but is also attending FOC's Confirmation classes, as well and he has really enjoyed the youth group here at FOC. Our family stays quite busy volunteering with National Mill Dog Rescue - fostering, events, transporting, etc. We feel very blessed to have found a new home in the Springs and a new church family here at FOC!



Bill & Brenda Mertens

We are both Colorado natives, Bill born in Colorado Springs, and Brenda in Ft Collins. Bill is retired from Sandia National Labs in Albuquerque, as an IT Manager. Brenda is retired from Lawyers Title in Phoenix AZ, as a branch manager. Our 3 year wedding anniversary will be on October 19th. We have 5 daughters, ages from 21 to 32. We also have 2 Bernese Mountain Dogs. We just moved back to Colorado after many decades away, and we are very excited to be here, with many family and friends, and hope it will be home for our kids someday too. Our new house is in Monument. We enjoy the outdoors, fishing, hiking, the Broncos, games and cards, and the beach. We have visited Family of Christ many times over the last several years with family, and we are excited to part if this wonderful church.



Steve & Christel Dietzius

We moved her from Niceville Florida. Married 32 years. We are a military Family. Steve is retired from Air Force and has been a civil servant since then working for the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the US Air Force and now the US Space Force. I am currently a Realtor with 21 years in the business, Glass Artist and Water Aerobic Instructor. We are building a house in Monument but currently living in an apartment while waiting. We have 3 terrific kids. Barrett (28) Engineer with Raytheon living in Tucson. Ryan (26) Captain in the USSF stationed at Peterson and newly engaged. And our youngest daughter Anna (18) is a freshman at Texas A&M studying to be a Physicians Assistant.



Bob & Jan Tilbury

We have been married 53 years having met at Kansas State University while attending college there. We are both Kansas natives and have resided in the metro areas of St. Louis, Kansas City and Chicago, retiring to Monument in 2009 to enjoy a more pastoral existence from our prior city lifestyle. We have two sons, Mike who lives in Highlands Ranch with his wife Jodi, son Austin (20) and daughter Brooke (17). Our son Luke lives in New Market, MD with his wife Meka and daughter Venette (5). We enjoy spending time with them whenever we are able to fit into their busy schedules. We are enjoying our retirement years taking advantage of opportunities that Colorado provides. We have also enjoyed caring for senior/elderly citizens living in the Monument area which have been referred by Tri-Lakes Cares for those needing assistance with activities of daily living. We look forward to becoming members and worshipping at Family of Christ Church.



John, Marlene & Hannah Strege

John and Marlene Strege and their daughter Hannah moved from Fallbrook, Calif. (north San Diego County) to Monument in August. John is a retired sportswriter (Los Angeles Times, Orange County Register and for the last 25 years Golf Digest). Marlene is a graduate of the University of Southern California and a retired occupational therapist, who worked with patients with spinal cord injuries, strokes and other physical maladies, and for the last 12 years with special needs kids in an elementary school district. Hannah, 22, graduated from Biola University with a degree in sociology in December, 2020, and now is in graduate school at Baylor University, pursuing a Master of Social Work.



Jeff, Lynn & Jess Stringham

I grew up in Michigan and Lynn was an Air Force brat whose dad retired in Colorado Springs when she was in high school. Lynn and I met when I was at the Air Force Academy and we were married in 1978. I was a pilot in the Air Force and with American Airlines and Lynn had a home business for many years. We have three grown children and two grand kids, are retired now and have lived in Black Forest for the past 25 years.



Garry & Karin Rohleder

Garry was born in Wyoming. Karin was born in Texas. We both moved to Colorado at a very young age and have always considered ourselves Coloradans. We both have been raised in the Lutheran faith and enjoy singing our praises to the Lord in traditional choir or praise services. We love to travel and explore new places. We have a strong love of the outdoors and enjoy everything it has to offer including camping, fishing, and hiking. We are thankful to the Lord that He has provided us land and space to raise Bison to help keep the American herd healthy and strong. Garry works as a licensed professional surveyor and has his own private practice. Karin works as a pediatrician caring for the medically underserved. We are thankful to God for guiding us to our new church home at Family of Christ.



Jeff & Misty Hjelmstad

We are Jeff and Misty Hjelmstad, we have been married for 15 years. We have 3 children: Kaelyn, Isaac, and Ian (26, 13 & 10.)

Coincidentally, we both moved here in 1986, so I guess we are Semi-natives!

Jeff is originally from the Bay Area (CA), Misty was born in Wisconsin, but an Air Force brat that moved around for 11 years before settling here.

Jeff is a Systems Engineer for Lockheed Martin and has worked for them for the past 24 years. Misty quit her full-time job in 2015 to become a full-time stay at home mom! We moved from Colorado Springs out to Meridian Ranch (Falcon) in September of 2019 to find a slower, quieter paced life...it is a lot less hectic out there and we enjoy it. A friend introduced us to FOCCS in January and we have been attending ever since, we have discovered we have a few friends who are members here, so it's been a nice welcome. Kaelyn lives in the Springs and works for Lexus Nexus as a content editor, Isaac attends 7th grade at Falcon Middle School and just finished up his first Cross Country season, Ian is a 5th grader at Meridian Ranch Elementary and just started learning to play the drums in band at school. We have one pet, our beloved boxer, Tank!!



Jim & Miriam Fischer

Jim and Miriam have been married for 40 years. Miriam is a native of Colorado Springs. Not many of us around! Jim was born and raised in Mankato, MN. He moved to Colorado Springs in 1979 after transferring to Denver with IRS. Jim and his Dad started a 30 year partnership doing uncome tax preparation which Jim still does along with accounting for small businesses. Miriam is retired from USAA and is enjoying doing daycare for their 5 granchildren ages 3-8. They are so blessed with their 3 children who are married and all live in Colorado Springs. Jennifer and Eric Miller and their two boys, Hayden and Keegan are members here at Family of Christ. Jim and Miriam are transferring from Holy Cross Lutheran Church.



Michelle Martin

I moved to Colorado Springs from Fort Wayne, Indiana 14 years ago and immediately fell in love with the mountains and climate! Soon after moving here, I discovered rock climbing, which is now my passion. Although climbing outdoors is truly a beautiful experience, I am a "gym rat" and climb at CityROCK regularly. I also love watching movies, relaxing on my patio, hiking, walking all around the neighborhoods where I live, and just being outside in the sun every chance I get. I started attending Family of Christ in July, 2021, as I knew it was time to transfer out of my previous church and find something closer to my home. I already feel like FOC is a wonderful fit and am so happy to be here!