



# Friendship Force Utah

JULY - AUGUST 2026

*Building Global Unity One Friendship At A Time*

## Calendar

**July 14 (Tues), 5:30pm**

**Summer Picnic**

Washington Park lower pavilion  
in Mt. Dell, up Parley's Canyon.  
(bring your plate, utensils & cup)

*RSVP to Judy*

**August** (watch for an alternating  
month activity)

**Sept 8-15**

**INBOUND FF Florida Sun Coast**

*More helping hands needed.*

*Contact Judy or Betsy*

**Oct 19-22**

Rocky Mountain Rendezvous in  
Estes Park, Colorado

**November 17:** Potluck meeting

**December:** Holiday party at a  
restaurant

**Our fun lunch get-together at  
Mi La-Cai Noodle House  
(Vietnamese) on June 17th**



## FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

This issue of our club newsletter covers the remaining half of 2026. Our annual picnic is July 14<sup>th</sup>, ambassadors from the FF Florida Suncoast Club will be arriving September 8<sup>th</sup>, a regional conference of the Friendship Force clubs of Colorado, Wyoming, New Mexico, and Utah will begin October 19<sup>th</sup> in Estes Park, our club Christmas party in December. And, looking forward to 2027 information on incoming and outgoing journeys for next year. Check it out.

Our summer picnic will be held on Tues. July 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm at Washington Park in the lower pavilion. Washington Park is up Parley's Canyon. The entrance to the park is east of the Mt. Dell golf course.

The club will provide a meat entrée, and we are asking members to **RSVP to Judy Cohen** at [judycohen@xmission.com](mailto:judycohen@xmission.com). We need a head count so that we know how much to buy. As usual, please bring a dish to share.



## SEPTEMBER INCOMING JOURNEY

In September our club will welcome the Suncoast FF Club from the Tampa/Clearwater area of Florida.

Ambassadors will arrive on September 8<sup>th</sup> and depart on September 15<sup>th</sup>. There will be eight ambassadors spending seven days with us.

Thanks go out to those members of our club who have stepped up to be one of the following hosts.

Home Hosts: Jeanne and Marvin Goldstein, Annie and Dan Eastmond, Judy and Rick Cohen, Betsy Heath, Margret Boes-Ingraham, and Susan Worley.

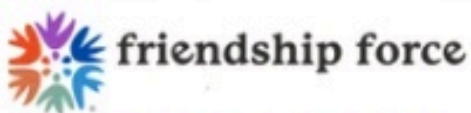
Day Hosts: Jim Allred, Donna Mirabelli, Carol Milliken, Falene Loveland, Jeff Driggs, and our regional representative Nancy Wood.

Dinner Hosts: Donna Mirabelli, Jeff Driggs, Anne Lemon. We could use some more dinner hosts.

The program for this incoming journey is being developed and will be shared closer to September.

## ROCKY MOUNTAIN RENDEZVOUS - OCTOBER

Rocky Mountain Rendezvous will be held at Estes Park, Colorado from October 19th to the 22<sup>nd</sup>. There is still time to sign up for this regional get-together. It's a great way to get to know members of clubs in our region. For more information see this invitation sent by Colorado. Final Applications will be coming our way soon.



**October 19th - 22nd 2026**

Estes Park, Colorado  
YMCA of the Rockies

### **SHARE IDEAS, EXPERIENCES & STORIES**

- Morning session topics to include: Member Recruitment, Club Development, Accessing FFI Resources & Creating Community Partnerships
- Afternoons free - to visit Estes Park & Rocky Mountain National Park, or to join group activities



## JOURNEYS FOR 2027

**Inbound Journey** – Utah will host the Baton Rouge club. Date to be determined. A journey coordinator is needed for this incoming journey.

**Outbound Journeys** – Utah received an international and a domestic match.

**Our International Outbound journey** is to Fukuoka, Japan in March or April 2027. Journey coordinators are Dan and Annie Eastmond.

**Our domestic Outbound journey** is to the Greater Atlanta, Ga. Area. The suggested date is for September 2027. A journey coordinator is needed for this journey.

Friendship Force International is in the process of finalizing the location for the **next World Conference**. The most likely site is Porto, Portugal. The date will be late September or early October.



Dan and Annie Eastmond and Jeff Driggs, had the opportunity to meet for lunch in Cedar City with our FF Regional Rep Nancy Wood, (2<sup>nd</sup> from right).

Nancy is a delightful person who works hard to help the FF clubs in Colorado (4 clubs), New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming.

## CLUB NEWS

This past April Donna and Rose Mirabelli returned to Iringa, Tanzania to visit the friends they made during the club's journey to Tanzania. Donna and Rose delivered a donation made by our club to two residential schools serving underserved students. We recently received **thank you messages** from the directors of the schools. Here they are.

*Dear Judy,*

*I am writing to confirm that we have safely received the \$100 donation from the UT FF club, which was kindly delivered to us by Donna.*

*Please accept our sincere gratitude for this generous gift. I am pleased to inform you that these funds have already been put to good use for the benefit of Mount Calvary Open School. Your support means a great deal to our school community and directly helps us fulfill our mission.*

*Thank you once again to you and the entire club for your kindness and thoughtfulness. In friendship,*

*Tito Yared Kilale*

Dear Judy,

On behalf of Wendyrayna Secondary School in Iringa, Tanzania, I would like to express our deepest and most sincere gratitude to you and the Friendship Force Club of Utah for your generous donation and kind support toward our students.

Your contribution came at a very important time and greatly assisted us in purchasing food for the students. Because of your kindness and compassion, many students were able to receive meals that supported their health, well-being, and ability to continue learning comfortably at school.

We are truly touched by your generosity and your willingness to extend a helping hand across continents to support education and the welfare of young people in Tanzania. **the donation might sound small to you but it is** not only a donation to the school, but also a message of hope, love, and encouragement to our students and staff.

Please convey our heartfelt appreciation to all members of the Friendship Force Club of Utah. We highly value this friendship and partnership, and we pray that your kindness returns to you abundantly.

Thank you once again for making a meaningful difference in the lives of our students.

With sincere appreciation and warm regards,



Winston Mdegela  
Director  
Wendyrayna Secondary School  
Iringa, Tanzania

Go on some travel adventures  
and spread peace and goodwill!

If our club doesn't get matches one year or the timing of one conflicts with your schedule, you can always go online to FFI <https://friendshipforce.myshopify.com/pages/all-group-journeys-for-members> to find available openings for traveling with other clubs.

Annie and Dan Eastmond just got back from visiting Oita Japan with the Kiel German club.



If you are not getting emails from FFI (Friendship Force International), it may be that you have not created an online account and marked that you want to receive their emails. But if you have and still don't receive FFI emails, please contact them to find out why, or let us know and we will try, so you don't miss updates and opportunities.



**Leadership Team 2026**  
To contact an officer below (if you don't have their direct email), put their name in the subject line at [UtahFriendshipForce@gmail.com](mailto:UtahFriendshipForce@gmail.com)  
Team Leader -- Judy Cohen  
Secretary -- TBA (any volunteers?)  
Treasurer -- Judy  
Membership -- Susan Worley  
Social Chair -- Jeanne Leigh-Goldstein  
Member-at-Large -- Carol Milliken  
Newsletter Editor - Annie Eastmond

**TREASURER'S REPORT**  
The balance in our club bank account is \$3,999. There have been no expenses the past two months.

Technical Support -- Betsy Heath

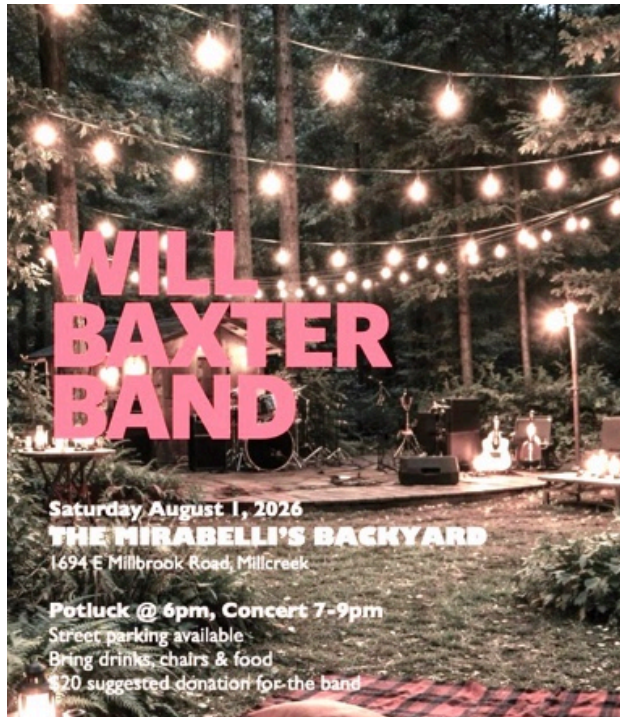


## Enjoy music?

Donna Mirabelli's family is hosting the Will Baxter Band on Saturday, August 1, in the Mirabelli's backyard on 1694 East Millbrook Rd., Millcreek. It is potluck. Bring a chair and food to share.

There is a suggested \$20 donation.

The Will Baxter Band has recently performed at the Utah Arts Festival. This is an opportunity to enjoy their music in a smaller venue.



*See you at the July 14<sup>th</sup>  
picnic potluck.  
Don't forget to RSVP to Judy.*