



First Christian Church (DOC)

1326 North 1<sup>st</sup> Street

Grand Junction, CO 81501

firstchristiangj@hotmail.com

[www.gjdisciples.org](http://www.gjdisciples.org)

970.242.7204—phone

970.242.8872—fax

Return Service Requested

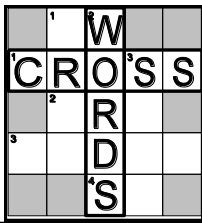
Volume 1 • January 4, 2018

A Word from Rev. Brad Barton	p. 2	FCC Prayer Concerns	p. 8
Birthdays & Announcements	p. 3	4-week server schedule	p. 9
Thanks	p. 4	FCC Calendar of Events	p.10
Announcements	p. 5		
Announcements & Welcome	p. 6		
Announcements	p. 7		

...INSIDE CROSSWORDS

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Identity Statement

**Pr aising God,  
Ch anging Lives!**



# First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

## Services each Sunday...

### Praising God, Changing Lives for 127 Years!

Contemporary Worship  
9:00 AM

Sunday School  
9:30 AM and 10:00 AM

Traditional Worship  
10:50 AM

Coffee Mingle  
12:15 PM

**Church Office Hours:**  
8:30am-1:30pm  
Monday-Thursday

## Our Ministry Statement

**First Christian Church**  
exists to:

**Reach Up** to worship God,

**Reach In** to grow in  
Christ-like maturity,

**Reach Out** to serve others in  
Christ's name, to share the  
Good News of Jesus Christ  
with others and to invite  
them to become members of  
His family.

## The Staff

### Welcomes You...

**Rev. Brad Barton**  
Sr. Minister  
970-644-2274

[revbradbarton@gmail.com](mailto:revbradbarton@gmail.com)

**Rev. Melanie Ferron**  
Associate Minister

**Paula Schaffer**, Pianist

**Tish Key**, Secretary

**John Moore**, Custodian

## Jesus Said What???

The Epiphany of Jesus Christ takes place this Saturday, January 6, and with it the Church ushers in a season during which we remember and celebrate the ways Jesus' identity was made known in scripture. Our acts of remembering how Jesus' identity was made known should lead each of us to consider how Jesus' identity *is still* being made known (by God, by the Church, and by our individual lives.)

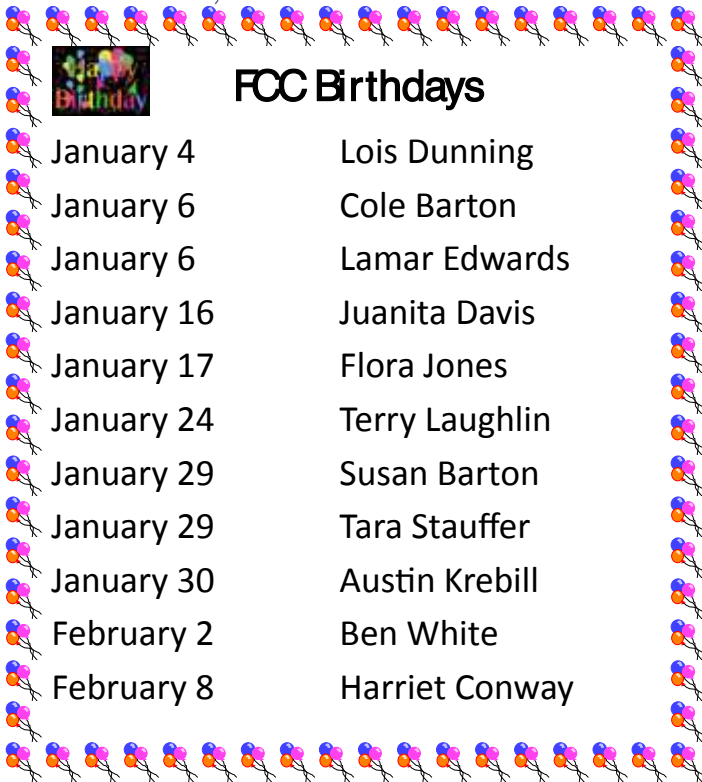
As we prepare to celebrate the Epiphany, I want to share with you some of the surprising and difficult teachings of Jesus. (By the way, we'll spend this month studying Jesus' scriptural teachings in my Wednesday Bible Study...if you'd like to learn about these and other teachings in more detail.) Here are some of Jesus' teachings that just might surprise and challenge you:

- “You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’ But I say to you, Do not resist an evildoer.” (Matthew 5:38-39a) Did Jesus really tell us to NOT resist evil doers? If so, what exactly are we supposed to do with them?
- “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.” (Matthew 5:28-30) Is there anyone who wants to start cutting off/out body parts that have sinned?
- “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” (Matthew 6:19-21) How do Jesus' words about storing treasures impact our savings accounts and retirement accounts? What about collections?
- But to the one who had told him this, Jesus replied, “Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?” And pointing to his disciples, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.” (Matthew 12:48-50) How would Jesus respond to our preference for our biological families over everyone else?

These are just a few of the sayings of Jesus. During the coming season of Epiphany, I encourage you to consider in-depth the identity of the One you follow, and the identity He calls you to adopt.

- Pastor Brad

# Birthdays, Announcements



## FCC Birthdays

- January 4 Lois Dunning
- January 6 Cole Barton
- January 6 Lamar Edwards
- January 16 Juanita Davis
- January 17 Flora Jones
- January 24 Terry Laughlin
- January 29 Susan Barton
- January 29 Tara Stauffer
- January 30 Austin Krebill
- February 2 Ben White
- February 8 Harriet Conway

## Calendar Request Forms

The beginning of the new year is upon us! Please submit your 2018 calendar request forms as soon as possible! Even if you filled one out in 2017, please fill out a new form! You can pick up a calendar request form in the church office, email your information, or call the church office!

Thank you!!

Kudos to Leonard Gardner's employer! Winwater, where Leonard works, collects Toys for Tots. This year their customers brought in 795 toys. Winwater and their employees then match that number and this year gave a total of 1590 toys to Toys for Tots. What a neat story—thanks, Leonard, for sharing it.

## Undecorating the Sanctuary

January 7th

After Deacon Meeting following Second Service

Your help is appreciated

## Undecorating the Church

January 8 and 9  
9am-5pm

Please come anytime on Monday or Tuesday from 9 am-5pm, January 8 & 9 to help "undecorate" the church.

Your help will be greatly appreciated.



## 2017 Annual Congregational Meeting Results

### Budget

49 approved  
7 against  
1 no vote

### Slate of Officers

56 approved  
1 against

For those that voted "no" or did not vote  
If you have concerns Please contact:

Nancy Armbruster  
or  
Bill Fitch

# Thanks



# Thank you!!!

## Thank You!

Thank you to all who participated in Operation Christmas Child, We can only imagine how wonderful it will be for these Children when they open their boxes! What a rewarding outreach project! You may bring empty shoe boxes all year. Then, they can be wrapped and ready to fill next year when the time comes.

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you,  
Carolyn

## Thank You

With sincere appreciation for your continued support on behalf of the Community Food Bank– Thank You. It is through people, such as yourself, that we are able to meet the ongoing demand of those in need in Mesa County. You donated 315 pounds in November!

Gratefully,  
Community Food Bank



First Christian Church Woman’s Group,  
Thank you for the s’more supplies & stocking stuffers you donated for children & families at our Christmas celebration for foster families.

MCDHS



*First Christian Church Family,*

*Your Staff would like to Thank you for your generous gift to each to us!*

*Please accept our heartfelt thanks to all of you!*

Dear Friends at First Christian Church,  
This December marks my last month as Clinical Director of the Rocky Mtn. Center for Spiritual Caregivers. I am retiring to a small limited practice as a Spiritual Director seeing pastors or former students, as I have done in the past, I am happy to say thank you with this small gift for your library for hosting our Chaplain Training and Certification classes in you library for almost 30 years now! Your parish is an extremely giving resource to the GJ community and full of wonderful kind & friendly people.

Thank you from RMCSC and Blessed Christmas! Dee Jaquet



# Announcements

## Vision Committee Meeting/ Luncheon

### January, 14 2018

From the Moderator

On Sunday January 14, 2018, we as a congregation have the opportunity to come together to have a conversation concerning God's vision for our church and it's future. We will be having lunch immediately after second service and then discuss what it is that God has in mind for us. We will also be having a time for first service to meet right after their service or they can come and participate with the second service lunch. This is every ones opportunity to voice what they think God is telling them as to the direction and vision for our church. The vision committee would request that everyone be in prayer before the meeting so that we can truly discern God's will for our church. If for some reason you can't make the meeting please contact one of the committee members or write down your thoughts so you can be included in the discussion. Remember we are discerning God's will and not just our own opinions and desires for the church. Please take the time to pray and think about what God wants us to do to carry out His words of going out into the world to spread the good news of His Son Jesus Christ! See you there.

Nancy Armbruster, Moderator

Vision Committee Members

Suzanne Andrew, chair

Riecke Claussen

Leonard Gardner

Lilly Fitch

Nancy Armbruster

**CROSSWORDS!**  
**next deadline is...**  
**Thursday, January 11**  
 Please submit to the church office or  
 email them to:  
[firstchristiangj@hotmail.com](mailto:firstchristiangj@hotmail.com)  
 Articles arriving later than the deadline includ-  
 ed until the next published  
 Crosswords.

**2018 Membership Updates are available in the file on the Membership Table.**

You will find a new 2018 Membership List, and attached to this list is the 2018 update of the non-participating list as well as members who have businesses.

Also, there is a list of corrections to the Pictorial Directory and three new membership sheets that need to be added to your Directory.

If you see errors or additional corrections that need to be made, please let Joyce Wittwer know at 243-6214. Thank you.



## Announcements & Welcome

As a Service Project the FCC Bookworms donated, through Barnes & Noble, two books to CASA during December. CASA: Court Appointed Special Advocates provide a voice for children in court. There are 150 children in Mesa County with a CASA volunteer and 175 children waiting for an advocate.

### Commissioning of Congregational Leaders

January 28, 2018

It's a new year...which means it's almost time to commission a new group of congregational leaders. Please mark your calendars for and plan to attend a special worship service on January 28, 2018 (both worship services), during which we will commission for 2018:

- All Board Officers
- All Committee Chairpeople
- Elders and Deacons (with new terms beginning 2018) Please come to show your support for these leaders and to celebrate God's gifts given to these leaders!
- Pastor Brad



Last summer Kat Edwards became a member of First Christian Church (DOC). We welcome Kat. She has lived in Grand Junction since 1998 moving here from the eastern slope where she started school in Evergreen but graduated from

Central High School here in the valley.

Kat was raised by her grandparents and was especially close to her grandfather who passed away three years ago this past December.

Kat has had several jobs, but most recently she was a flagger during the building of the bridge in Glenwood Springs. Since that project is mostly completed, she has been laid off and is currently looking for employment.

Her son William George, who is 18 months old and named after Kat's grandfather, was dedicated on Oct 1<sup>st</sup> here at the church with many of Kat's family and friends in attendance. William will be welcoming a new sister, Lena Rose, into the world around March 20. We all welcome Kat into our church family.

# Announcements



## Christmas Poinsettia 2017



### In Memory of:

George Dorson  
Jeremy Fink  
James Jeffery  
Randy Johnson  
Richard D. McPeck  
Gregory S touffer  
Leo Wittwer

### In Honor of:

Les Ambruster  
Lois Braun  
Anna Bilyeu  
Beverly Dorson &  
The Van Ministry Drivers  
The Krebs Family  
Lost Soldiers & those not  
with their Families  
Parents  
The Peach Family

### Presented by:

Beverly Dorson & Family  
Melissa McKay & Tim Fink  
Gloria Jeffery  
Charles & Virginia Johnson  
Wayne & Tammy Ostermiller  
Lois E. S touffer  
Melissa McKay & Tim Fink

### Presented by:

Nancy Ambruster  
David Morgan  
Sharon Emsweller

Gloria Jeffery  
Betty

Melissa McKay & Tim Fink  
Johnny & Jeanette West  
Betty

## Food Bank Donations 2017

### In Memory of:

Jeremy Fink  
Carol Johnson  
Pamela Mitchell Krebill  
Leo Wittwer

### In Honor of:

Lost Soldiers & those not  
With their Families  
The Krebs Family  
The Peach Family

### Presented by:

Melissa McKay & Tim Fink  
Gayle Johnson  
The Krebill Family  
Melissa McKay & Tim Fink

### Presented by:

Melissa McKay & Tim Fink  
Betty  
Betty







# FCC Prayer Concerns

*"Pray without ceasing."*

I Thessalonians 5:17

Scott Allen	Jean Kees
Brenda Armstrong	Betty Learned
The Arnold Family	Mike Loehring
Clara Arroyo	Blanche Marshall
Jack Barton	Cecilia Massey
Lois Braun	Norma Matteson
Sandy & Tim Brown	Jennifer McDaniel
Tim Burke	Brian Neukman
Amy Burns	Scott & Shirley Nider
Randy Cass	Phil Oliver
Chuck Cummings	Carol Perry
Dannielle	Janice Riches and Family
Dennis	Oscar Aaron Rodriguez
Dennis & Family	Diana & Memesio Rodriguez
Helen Dillard	Dr. and Mrs. Schwartz
Kat Edwards	John Sherry
JoAnne Eggers	Lois Stouffer
Larry Eggers	Alysia Tannery
Vicki Gassman	Terry
Ethel Goebel	Joan White
Kyle Graham	The Worrell Family
David & Vickie Hagan	
Connie Hawley	
Jason Hawley	
JoAnne Hill	
Ethel Hoffman	
Eleanor Hubbell	
Thomas Hunn	
Dee Johnson	
Family of BettyAnn Jones	
Ed Jones	
Nora Juette	





# FCC SUNDAY SERVERS' 4-Week ASSIGNMENTS

## January 7, 2018

### Elder

Lily Fitch

### Deacon

Brad Krebill

### Greeter

Brad Krebill

## January 14, 2018

### Elder

Suzanne Andrew

### Deacon

Norma Lavelett

### Greeter

Norma Lavelett

## January 21, 2018

### Elder

Susan Barton

### Deacon

David Hawley

### Greeter

David Hawley

## January 28, 2018

### Elder

Leonard Gardner

### Deacon

Tammy Maxwell

### Greeter

Tammy Maxwell

## January 7, 2018

## 1st Sunday

### Worship Leader

Susan Barton

### Offering Elder

Jim Matthews

### Communion Elder

Carol Matthews

### Greeter

Janice Swank

Gloria Jeffery

Dorothy Rhodes

### Preparing Diaconate

Karen Lehman

### Serving Diaconate

Jerry Francis

Wes Wade

Jeanice Swank

Yvonne Warner

### Coffee Mingle

Nancy Claussen

Riecke Claussen

### Van Driver

Terry Laughlin

Jo Laughlin

### Keyboard

Paula Schaffer

### Collection Team

Lois Dunning

Grace Farrell

## January 14, 2018

## 2nd Sunday

### Worship Leader

Joyce Wittwer

### Offering Elder

Chuck Haigler

### Communion Elder

Al Baumgartle

### Greeter

Bob Wise

Alice Wiesler

Josh Barton

### Preparing Diaconate

Alice Wiesler

### Serving Diaconate

Al Ladage

Bob Wise

Carolyn Bryant

Doug Bryant

### Coffee Mingle

Beverly Dorson

Gloria Jeffery

### Van Drivers

Jerry Francis

### Keyboard

Lily Fitch

### Collection Team

Lois Dunning

Grace Farrell

## January 21, 2018

## 3rd Sunday

### Worship Leader

TBD

### Offering Elder

Beth Sherry

### Communion Elder

Lois Dunning

### Greeter

David Hawley

Ruth Acord

Joanne/ Larry Eggers

### Preparing Diaconate

Riecke Claussen

Nancy Claussen

### Serving Diaconate

Josh Barton

JoAnne Eggers

Ruth Acord

Nancy Armbruster

### Coffee Mingle

Melanie Ferron

### Van Driver

Leonard Gardner

Kathy Gardner

### Keyboard

Beth Sherry

### Collection Team

Lois Dunning

Grace Farrell

## January 28, 2018

## 4th Sunday

### Worship Leader

TBD

### Offering Elder

Kathy Gardner

### Communion Elder

Leonard Gardner

### Greeter

Leonard Gardner

Carol Steed

Jeanne Klitzke

### Preparing Diaconate

Marian Velarde

### Serving Diaconate

Marian Valarde

Moly Lewis

Earn Eachus

Ruby Eachus

### Coffee Mingle

TBD

### Van Driver

TBD

### Keyboard

Ray Farrell

### Collection Team

Lois Dunning

Grace Farrell

# Church Calendar of Events - January 4, 2018— January 31, 2018

## Thursday January 4, 2018

9:30 am Ruth Group  
1:30 pm Agape/Esther Group  
6:00 pm Praise Team  
6:00 pm Co. West Quilters Board

## Sunday January 7, 2018

\*\*\* \*Epiphany Sunday\*\*\*\*\*  
9:00 am Contemporary Worship  
9:30 am Traditional Sunday School  
10:00 am Contemporary Sunday School  
10:05 am First Service Deacon Meeting  
10:50 am Traditional Worship  
11:00 am Jr. Church  
12:15 pm Coffee Mingle  
12:15 am Second Service Deacon Meeting  
12:30 pm Sanctuary undecorating

## Monday January 8, 2018

9:00 am Undecorating Church  
10:30 am Staff Meeting  
1:30 pm FCC Bookworms  
7:00 pm M&M Bible Study

## Tuesday January 9, 2018

9:00 am Burger King Coffee Group  
9:00 am Undecorating Church  
12:00 pm Lessons at Lunch  
1:30 pm PEO Chapter Meeting  
5:00 pm Healthy Living  
6:00pm Vision Committee Meeting

## Wednesday January 10, 2018

9:30 am Newcomers Group  
10:00 am Morning Bible Study  
6:00 pm Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal-Pizza  
6:30 pm Youth Group  
6:30 pm Evening Bible Study  
7:00 pm Co. West Quilters Guild

## Thursday January 11, 2018

1:30 pm Homeward Bound Ministry  
1:30 pm CWF General  
6:00 pm Praise Team

## Friday January 12, 2018

2:00 pm Mexican Train Group

## Sunday January 14, 2018

9:00 am Contemporary Worship  
9:30 am Traditional Sunday School  
10:00 am Contemporary Sunday School  
10:05 am First Service Vision Meeting  
10:50 am Traditional Worship  
11:00 am Jr. Church  
12:15 pm Coffee Mingle  
12:15 pm Vision Luncheon

## Monday January 15, 2018

\*\*\*\*\* Office Closed\*\*\*\*\*

7:00 pm M&M Bible Study

## Tuesday January 16, 2018

9:00 am Burger King Coffee Group  
10:00 am Friends going Forward  
12:00 pm Lessons at Lunch  
5:00 pm Healthy Living

## Wednesday January 17, 2018

10:00 am Morning Bible Study  
6:00 pm Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal  
6:30 pm Youth Group  
6:30 pm Evening Bible Study

## Thursday January 18, 2018

6:00 pm Praise Team

## Saturday January 20, 2018

8:00 am Men's Breakfast  
8:30 am RMCS CPE Group

## Sunday January 21, 2018

9:00 am Contemporary Worship  
9:30 am Traditional Sunday School  
10:00 am Contemporary Sunday School  
10:50 am Traditional Worship  
11:00 am Jr. Church  
12:15 pm Coffee Mingle  
12:30 Pm Elders Meeting

## Monday January 22, 2018

10:30 am Staff Meeting  
1:30 FCC Bookworms  
7:00 pm M&M Bible Study

## Tuesday January 23, 2018

9:00 am Burger King Coffee Group  
12:00 pm Lessons at Lunch  
5:00 pm Healthy Living

## Wednesday January 24, 2018

10:00 am Morning Bible Study  
6:00 pm Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal  
6:30 pm Youth Group  
6:30 pm Evening Bible Study

## Thursday January 25, 2018

3:00 pm CWF Executive Meeting  
6:00 pm Praise Team

## Friday January 26, 2018

2:00 pm Mexican Train Group

## Sunday January 28, 2018

\*\*\*\*\* Food Bank Sunday\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*Commissioning of 2018 Leaders\*\*

9:00 am Contemporary Worship  
9:30 am Traditional Sunday School  
10:00 am Contemporary Sunday School  
10:50 am Traditional Worship

11:00 am Jr. Church

12:15 pm Coffee Mingle

4:00 pm Cabinet Meeting

6:00 pm Co. West Quilters Board

## Monday January 29, 2018

10:30 am Staff Meeting

7:00 pm M&M Bible Study

## Tuesday January 30, 2018

9:00 am Burger King Coffee Group  
12:00 pm Lessons at Lunch  
5:00 pm Healthy Living

5:00 pm Healthy Living

## Wednesday January 31, 2018

10:00 am Morning Bible Study  
6:00 pm Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal

6:30 pm Youth Group

6:30 pm Evening Bible Study