



First Christian Church (DOC)

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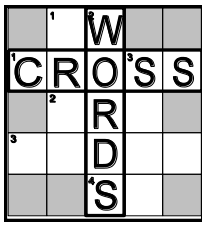
Volume 7 • April 2, 2015

...INSIDE CROSSWORDS:

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

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Identity Statement

God has called us to be a
Congregation TO and FOR adults 50+,
Even as we joyfully welcome
ALL into our church family.



First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)



Services each Sunday...

Praising God, Changing Lives for 127 Years!

Contemporary Worship

8:45 AM

Sunday School

9:30 AM and 10:00 AM

Traditional Worship

10:50 AM

Coffee Mingle

12:15 PM

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
970-314-5540
revbradbarton@gmail.com

Rev. Melanie Ferron

Associate Minister

Paula Schaffer, Pianist

Norma Matteson, Pianist

Katie Wendland, Secretary

John Moore, Custodian

What Are You Going to Do About Easter?

This year, our gospel reading for Easter Sunday is Mark 16:1-8, which tells the story of three women visiting Jesus' tomb on the original Easter Sunday and discovering the tomb to be empty. They also find at the tomb "a young man, dressed in a white robe." This man tells them that Jesus has been raised, and he tells them to go and tell Jesus' disciples (and Peter) that Jesus is alive and will meet up with them in Galilee. The reading then ends with these words: "So [the three women] went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid" (Mark 16:8).

Mark's gospel, as we currently have it, continues from that point, offering a few resurrection appearances by Jesus and a brief telling of Jesus' ascension. However, the earliest manuscripts known to exist of Mark's gospel end at Mark 16:8. There are many theories as to why (and I encourage you to research them), but I want to propose just one today.

I believe Mark wrote his gospel both to persuade readers/hearers that Jesus is the Messiah AND to encourage readers/hearers into action. There are many reasons I believe this to be the case, but I will focus now on the ending of the gospel, Mark 16:8. When we complete our reading of Mark's gospel, we are left to believe that the original witnesses to Jesus resurrection may not have shared what they knew to be true, so...**it's up to us to share what we know to be true (or maybe no one will)!**

It is my belief that we are in a critical time in our nation and as a congregation. If people like us don't share what we know to be true, loudly and boldly, other voices will continue to try to silence Christianity. More specifically, if we in this congregation don't share what we know to be true with friends and neighbors and even acquaintances, God just might decide to hand God's vision for us off to someone who will. **What are YOU going to do about Easter – keep it a secret or share it?**

– Pastor Brad



Sunday School & Announcements

9:30 AM Sunday School Class

“What’s So Amazing About Grace”

Come and join Nancy Armbruster as she guides you through this book written by Philip Yancey. “In What's So Amazing About Grace? award-winning author Philip Yancey explores grace at street level. If grace is God's love for the undeserving, he asks, then what does it look like in action? And if Christians are its sole dispensers, then how are we doing at lavishing grace on a world that knows far more of cruelty and unforgiveness than it does of mercy? Yancey sets grace in the midst of life's stark images, tests its mettle against horrific "ungrace." Can grace survive in the midst of such atrocities as the Nazi holocaust? Can it triumph over the brutality of the Ku Klux Klan? Should any grace at all be shown to the likes of Jeffrey Dahmer, who killed and cannibalized seventeen young men? In his most personal and provocative book ever, Yancey offers compelling, true portraits of grace's life-changing power. He searches for its presence in his own life and in the church. He asks, How can Christians contend graciously with moral issues that threaten all they hold dear?” -Online review

10:00 AM Sunday School Class: Fearless Conversation discussions with coffee and donuts.

Our Fearless Conversation group has been digging into some really interesting stuff...so interesting that our Senior Pastor stops by to get in on the discussion!

We are a fortunate group as our Associate Pastor is in on the action every week and adds wonderful insight to our questions and discussions.

Please feel free to join us for one Sunday or all...your choice. The following are the topics for April:

April 5 - Easter Sunday - breakfast is served, no class but great conversation in the fellowship hall!

April 12 - **Did God really disown Jesus on the cross?** Matthew 27:32-55

April 19 - **Resurrection seems so impossible...how can I believe in a literal "Easter" Story?** Matthew 27:62-28:15

April 26 - **How can I know Jesus is really alive today?** Luke 24:36-53

Future Fearless Conversation will be based primarily on 1 Samuel and 2 Samuel

God Bless!

Lily Fitch - Conversationalist

Dear Christian Friends,

There are two important ideas I would like to introduce to you. Some may be aware of these, but for those who don't know about them, this might benefit you.

- 1.) There is information you can put in your cell phone called “**ICE**”. This stands for “**In Case of Emergency**”. If you have a spouse or someone who you'd call if something happened to you, such as if you were in an accident and couldn't talk, the emergency officials could look in your cell phone and contact them. All you need to do I put the letters “**ICE**” in front of your contact's name.
- 2.) The second item I'd like to bring to your attention is that is you put in your wallet your primary doctor's name and phone number on a piece of paper with a list of your medicines, the strength and the frequency you take them, an emergency department might be able to treat you faster. Put tape over the paper to protect it and put it in the back of where you keep your driver's license, making it a little taller than your license. Jim and I each have a medication list in our wallets and it says, “**In Case of Emergency**” on the very top. And if you are allergic to a medication or anything else, this should go on the paper also.

If you need help making this, we would be happy to help.

-Carol & Jim Matthews



Announcements

If you want an FCC Pictorial Directory and do not have one, please let our church secretary, Katie, know as soon as possible. We will also be adding new picture pages in the very near future for those who have a directory. Included will be a new membership list of church members as not everyone is in the pictorial directory. If you have a question, please ask Katie or Joyce Wittwer!



Outreach Events Coming Up:
 Sharefest Workday at the Grandview Apartments will be on April 18. There is a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall. Help clean apartments, refrigerators, sweep, dust, if needed help hang curtains and drapes, wash cars, etc. This is an opportunity to help our neighbors. Also, if anyone in the church needs some help doing yard work, or cleaning, please let us know. We will give you a helping hand!
 -Outreach Ministry

A current membership list dated March 5, 2015 is available in the Fellowship Hall in the file box on the west end of the Information Table. Please pick up a copy to add to your Pictorial Directory. If you see any errors or updates that need to be made, please notify Katie, our secretary. Thank you



The "Box Tops" and "Labels for Education" will be sent to Tennyson Center for Children in April. If you have any stockpiled, please bring them as soon as possible. The collection box for these labels is on the Information Desk in the Fellowship Hall. A list of products that support these two projects is on the CWF Bulletin Board. It is so easy to support this opportunity to help the Colorado Children's Home.

Attention All Horseshoe Players!!
 Anyone who would be interested in playing in a horseshoe league should contact Al Baumgartle personally, or call him at 243-5891 for details. Make new friends and have a fun outdoor sport!



CROSSWORDS!
next deadline is...
Thursday, April 9
 Please submit to the church office or email them to:
firstchristiangj@hotmail.com
 Articles arriving later than the deadline will not be included until the next published Crosswords.

Come One, Come All!
 Dottie Ruth Presents:
History of PEO
 Presentation will include a video
 Thursday, April 9 at 1:30pm
 Hostess: Esther Group
 Worship: Jeanne Klitzke
 Questions? Contact Gloria Jeffery 549-1410

Announcements, Birthdays & Thank You

FCC April Birthdays

- April 3 Charles Grimsley
- April 6 George Decker
- April 23 Richalyn Cox
- April 24 Curtis Brammer



FCC April Anniversaries

- April 2 Al & Pam Baumgartle
- April 2 Ray & Grace Farrell
- April 4 Wilbur & Joyce Lucore
- April 25 Chip & Melanie Ferron



• Many thanks to all CWF members that
 • have helped with the successful PEO
 • lunch. Without your help, in person and
 • in prayer, we would not have hosted
 • such a wonderful event for PEO. Many
 • thank you's. For those of you interested
 • in finding out what PEO does, please
 • plan on attending the next CWF General
 • meeting.

• God Bless,
 • Lily Fitch, CWF President

El Salvador Mission Trip 2015

“Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot,
 nothing is going to get better, it's not!”

--Dr. Suess

The El Salvador Mission Trip planning is well underway. I will be leaving on July 26, and returning on August 8. Once again, we will be working on the schools in the little town of Las Trincheras and any other needs that God presents to us.

I am asking now if there are any people in our congregation, or who you might know, who are interested in accompanying us.

This two week trip will change you in a way that I can't describe. You will laugh, you will cry, and your heart will move. The work isn't glamorous, and you saw the pictures of me at my most unglamorous self, but I wouldn't change that for a minute. Additionally, I am compelled to return to the sunny, happy, loveable people of El Salvador.

The cost is \$1500 for room, board, translators, and transportation in the country. Airfare is probably around \$800. We book together. If the only thing holding you back from this experience is money, please see me. There may be a scholarship available, or we can work together on a fundraiser.

If you are unable to go, there are many other ways you can contribute to this mission. When it gets a little closer, I will talk about it, but for now please prayerfully consider coming along!

-Beth Sherry

Our Wednesday Lunches journey this Lenten season provided many good soups as well as speakers who shared a little of themselves in their “wilderness temptations”. Many thanks to all of you who shared your stories, to those who brought soups and cookies and to those who attended and shared in this opportunity to fellowship. The monetary donations received have gone toward the purchase of food for the Seder dinner. Blessing to all who participated.

—Membership

From The Bookshelf



Many New Books have been added to the library since last fall. Check out the listing on the bulletin board by the library. More great opportunities to find a great read!



FCC Prayer Concerns

“Pray without ceasing.”

I Thessalonians 5:17

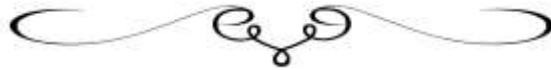
Scott Allen	Carol Johnson
Nancy Armbruster	Gayle Johnson
Brenda Armstrong	Ed “Chicken” Jones
Behrendsen Family	Pat Jones
Guy Bender	Nora Juette
Jessie Bowen	Harriette Krall
Lois Braun	Gloria Ladehoff
Tim Burke	Bette Learned
Marianne Chapman	“Chuck” Lopas
Marlis Clark	Jennifer McDaniel
Chuck Cummings	Gary Meade and Family
Carol Jean Daniel	Clare & Ally Morris
Arinda Davis’s Family	Ginger Morris
Donald Davis	Larry Petrini
Helen Dillard	Dennis and Lisa Powers
Ray Dodson	Peter Roeland
John Drury	Fo Seybold
Don Dyet	Jean Silkey
Glen Gardner	Greg Stouffer
Kathy Gardner	Lois Stouffer
Leon Gardner	Jiemon and Tayo Takahashi
Susan Gregory	Rory White
Bruce Hines	D.J. Wilhorn
Kim Hopkins	Allison Williams
Merle Hopper	



Holy Week Announcements

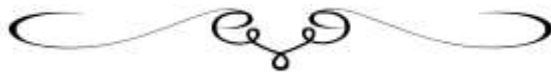
Maundy Thursday Seder Meal

Each Thursday of Holy Week (the week leading up to Easter Sunday), Christians commemorate Jesus' Last Supper when he broke bread and gave the cup to his disciples. Periodically, Christians also gather on that night to partake of a Passover Seder meal, a ritual meal that three of the four gospels strongly suggest was the setting for the Last Supper and a meal that is full of symbolism that helps provide meaning to the events surrounding Jesus' crucifixion. Please plan to join us as we celebrate the Passover Seder this year on Maundy Thursday, April 2, at 6 pm. ***Advance signup is required (so we have enough food.)***



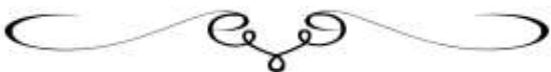
Easter Prayer Vigil

Please make plans to participate in our congregation's annual Easter Prayer Vigil. Just as Jesus' disciples gathered in the Garden of Gethsemane after the Passover meal on Maundy Thursday to pray (as Jesus commanded them), so too will we gather to pray following the Passover meal this Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Please watch for a sign-up sheet on the Sign-Up table in the Fellowship Hall, and find 30 minutes to keep awake and pray (either at the church building or in your home.)



Journey to the Cross

Holy Week is the time when Christians traditionally re-live the events of Jesus' last week (and weeks) on earth. In recent times, Christians have reduced Holy Week to just a few events and worship services (typically Palm Sunday and Maundy Thursday.) If you would like to truly remember and re-live the events leading to the cross, plan to spend 30-60 minutes in the sanctuary between 8 p.m. Maundy Thursday (April 2) and 8 p.m. Good Friday (April 3). While in the sanctuary, you will travel on a self-guided tour of the events of Jesus last week(s), and you will be encouraged to consider how those events impact your life today and into the future. ***No sign-up required.***



Easter Brunch

Every year, we celebrate Jesus' Resurrection on Easter Sunday with worship and brunch. Please plan to attend this year's Easter Brunch and celebrate Jesus' resurrection with your whole church family. The brunch will take place on Easter Sunday, April 5, at 10a.m. (in between our two worship services.)



Holy Week Announcements



Easter Prayer Vigil



The 24 Hour Prayer Vigil is coming up on April 2nd and 3rd. The Vigil starts at 8:00pm following the Maundy Thursday Service and goes until 8:00pm on April 3rd. Prayer times are divided into 30 minute segments. Participants may pray at the church or at home. Please sign up on the Prayer Vigil sheet in Fellowship Hall. If a participant chooses to pray at home and would like to be called at their start time, they should include their phone number.

KEEP THE VIGIL UNBROKEN!



Easter Brunch

Every year, we celebrate Jesus' Resurrection on Easter Sunday with worship and brunch. Please plan to attend this year's Easter Brunch and celebrate Jesus' resurrection with your whole church family. The brunch will take place on Easter Sunday, April 5, at 10am in Fellowship Hall. The brunch will be held between our two regular worship services.





FCC SUNDAY SERVERS' 4-Week ASSIGNMENTS

First Service Assignments

April 5, 2015

Greeters & Offering

Wayne Ostermiller

Curtis Rosencrans

Elder

Linda Edwards

April 12, 2015

Greeters & Offering

Gretchen Schlechten

Madi Schlechten

Elder

Kathy Gardner

April 19, 2015

Greeters & Offering

Blanche Marshall

Suzanne Daniels

Elder

Brad Krebill

April 26, 2015

Greeters & Offering

Colton Lowry

Clayton Lowry

Elder

Dennis Edwards

April 5, 2015

1st Sunday

Worship Leader

Susan Barton

Children's Moment

Lily Fitch

Offering Elder

Gene Matteson

Communion Elder

Al Baumgartle

Serving Diaconate

Alice Wieseler

Nancy Armbruster

Helen Wade

Wes Wade

Preparing Diaconate

Doris Hicks

Coffee Mingle

Lamar Edwards

Joyce Wittwer

Greeters

Donna Ham

Gloria Jeffery

Van Driver

Terry Laughlin

Jo Laughlin

April 12, 2015

2nd Sunday

Worship Leader

Gene Matteson

Children's Moment

Ray Farrell

Offering Elder

Leonard Gardner

Communion Elder

Kathy Gardner

Serving Diaconate

Chuck Haigler

Al Ladage

Jerry Francis

Gary Steed

Preparing Diaconate

Karen Lehman

Coffee Mingle

Riecke Claussen

Nancy Claussen

Greeters

Eleanor Hubbell

Jeanice Swank

Van Driver

Jerry Francis

April 19, 2015

3rd Sunday

Worship Leader

Cole Barton

Children's Moment

Al Baumgartle

Offering Elder

Ray Farrell

Communion Elder

Grace Farrell

Serving Diaconate

Larry Eggers

JoAnne Eggers

Jeanne Klitzke

David Morgan

Preparing Diaconate

Riecke Claussen

Nancy Claussen

Coffee Mingle

Beverly Dorson

Gloria Jeffery

Greeters

George Decker

Barbara Decker

Van Driver

Leonard Gardner

Kathy Gardner

April 26, 2015

4th Sunday

Worship Leader

Al Baumgartle

Children's Moment

Tammy Ostermiller

Offering Elder

Jim Matthews

Communion Elder

Les Armbruster

Serving Diaconate

Beth Sherry

Carol Matthews

Doug Bryant

Carolyn Bryant

Preparing Diaconate

George Decker

Barbara Decker

Coffee Mingle

Donna Ham

Alex Peters

Ethan Peters

Greeters

Lamar Edwards

Joyce Wittwer

Van Driver

George Decker

Church Calendar of Events - April 2, 2015— April 22, 2015

Thursday April 2, 2015

MAUNDY THURSDAY

9:30am Ruth Group
 1:30pm Agape Group
 1:30pm Esther Group
 6:00pm Seder Meal
 8:00pm Journey to the Cross/Prayer Vigil (24 Hours)

Saturday April 4, 2015

9:00am Easter Breakfast Prep

Sunday April 5, 2015

EASTER SUNDAY

8:45am Contemporary Worship
 10:00am Easter Brunch
 10:50am Traditional Worship
 11:00am Jr. Church
 12:15pm Coffee Mingle
 4:00pm Grimsley Dissertation Group

Monday April 6, 2015

*****PASTORS OUT OF OFFICE*****

7:00pm M&M Bible Study
 7:00pm Boy Scouts

Tuesday April 7, 2015

9:00am Burger King Coffee Group
 12:00pm Lessons at Lunch
 4:00pm Grandview Worship
 4:00pm Family Leadership Training
 5:00pm Healthy Living
 6:30pm Night'n Gals

Wednesday April 8, 2015

9:30am Newcomer's Club
 10:00am Bible Study
 4:00pm KFC (Elementary Youth Group)
 6:00pm Wednesday Fellowship Meal
 6:30pm Middle/High School Youth Group
 6:30pm Bible Study
 7:00pm Co West Quilter's Guild

Thursday April 9, 2015

1:30pm CWF General
 6:00pm Praise Team Practice

Friday April 10, 2015

10:00am Craft Group
 2:00pm Mexican Train Game Group

Saturday April 11, 2015

9:00am RMCSC CPE Group

Sunday April 12, 2015

8:45am Contemporary Worship
 9:30am Sunday School/
 “What's So Amazing
 About Grace?”
 10:00am Sunday School/
 “Fearless Conversation”

10:50am Traditional Worship

11:00am Jr. Church

12:15pm Coffee Mingle

12:30pm Elders Meeting

Monday April 13, 2015

10:30am Staff Meeting
 12:00pm Lunch with Brad
 5:30pm Youth Education Meeting
 7:00pm M&M Bible Study
 7:00pm Boy Scouts

Tuesday April 14, 2015

9:00am Burger King Coffee Group
 10:00am A New Door Opens at Spoons
 12:00pm Lessons at Lunch
 1:30pm FCC Bookworms
 4:00pm Family Leadership Training
 5:00pm Healthy Living

Wednesday April 15, 2015

10:00am Bible Study
 4:00pm KFC (Elementary Youth Group)
 6:00pm Wednesday Fellowship Meal
 6:30pm Middle/High School Youth Group
 6:30pm Bible Study

Thursday April 16, 2015

7:00am School Dist. #51
 10:00am Prayer Blanket Group
 2:00pm Pinochle Group

6:00pm Praise Team Practice

7:00pm Transitions Group

Friday April 17, 2015

10:00am Craft Group

Saturday April 18, 2015

8:00am Men's Breakfast

Sunday April 19, 2015

8:45am Contemporary Worship
 9:30am Sunday School/
 “What's So Amazing
 About Grace?”
 10:00am Sunday School/
 “Fearless Conversation”

10:50am Traditional Worship

11:00am Jr. Church

12:15pm Coffee Mingle

4:00pm Cabinet Meeting

Monday April 20, 2015

8:00am RMCSC CPE Group
 9:00am Church Women United
 10:30am Staff Meeting
 12:00pm Lunch with Brad
 7:00pm M&M Bible Study
 7:00pm Boy Scouts

Tuesday April 21, 2015

9:00am Burger King Coffee Group
 12:00pm Lessons at Lunch
 1:30pm Membership Ministry
 4:00pm Family Leadership Training
 5:00pm Healthy Living

Wednesday April 22, 2015

10:00am Bible Study
 4:00pm KFC (Elementary Youth Group)
 6:00pm Wednesday Fellowship Meal
 6:30pm Middle/High School Youth Group
 6:30pm Bible Study