



First Christian Church (DOC)

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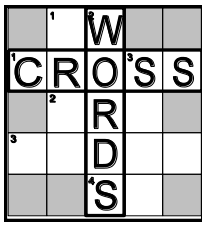
Volume 9 • April 30, 2015

...INSIDE CROSSWORDS:

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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

An Abundant Day: The Dedication and Blessing of Grand Valley Catholic Outreach's St. Martin Place II

On Thursday, April 23, 2015, I spent some time over at St. Martin's Place for the dedication and blessing of Phase II. I was honored to be asked to bless one of the apartments, and I was honored to represent First Christian Church, which had raised so much money through its Outreach efforts to decorate one of the new apartments.

As I stood there waiting for the program (which could be labeled a "worship service" and included readings from scripture, prayers, responsive readings, hymn singing, and talks from various people who related their experiences on the project to life in a God-focused way) to start, many thoughts went through my head. For some reason, I felt led to wander around the grounds and try to talk to as many of the residents (and various people who provided support services to the residents) as possible. It was so rewarding to hear their stories, even more rewarding than it was to hear the stories of those who were helping them. In those 30 minutes, I felt like the Church was really making a difference in the lives of people who had real needs. It felt good to KNOW this. Too often, I feel like we in the Church focus a little too much of our resources on people whose needs are already met.

After the ceremony, I went to bless the apartment assigned to me. I spent quite a bit of time there, first with a crowd of people gathered around for the blessing ceremony and later with the tenant of the apartment (and others who popped in quite frequently to see the apartment.) As I sat and talked with this tenant and enjoyed the hospitality of the glass of hot tea she offered me, I was once again reminded of the great needs abounding in our community. In this case, the need was both a physical need (that led her to be in St. Martin Place) and a spiritual need (that was quite evident from the conversation.) I was reminded that there are people out there (even now, in Grand Junction) who hunger and thirst for God and to hear from those of us who have knowledge and experiences of God to share. It's all too easy to tell ourselves that everybody who might want to know God's love made known through Jesus already knows, but my experience on this day reminded me that there are STILL people who need us to make Jesus known to them. At the same time, I was reminded that it doesn't really take much on our part. Mostly, it takes listening without judgment and letting other people know that God loves them. God will take care of the rest.

After a couple of hours that absolutely flew by, my time at St. Martin's Place II came to end...for that day, but my memories and the abundance of my experience of God in those hours will last a lifetime.

– 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.

Fearless conversations begin in May with a new study taken from 1 Samuel, 2 Samuel and Psalms

May 3 - What does it mean that "the Lord looks at the heart"?

May 10 -What do I do when God's people are enemies of each other?

May 17 - is it ok to complain to God in prayer?

May 24 - what is God's roll in war and politics?

May 31 - Why is God so violent?

As always, plan to attend one or all sessions.

God Bless!

Lily Fitch - Conversationalist

-A Note from Stewardship-

Displayed on the back wall of the sanctuary is a frame holding two "Widow's Mites". Actually, the correct name of this Greek coin is a lepton which was the smallest denomination coin ever in circulation in Judea. Although minted long before Jesus was born, because of its huge mintage, the lepton was still a common coin during His lifetime. Many numismatists believe the bronze lepton is the smallest denomination coin ever minted.

At the time Jesus observed the widow make her offering in the temple, the two Greek lepta (plural of lepton) just barely had the value of even the smallest Roman coin. Even had the widow kept the coins they wouldn't have bought much but, as the gospel tells us, they were all she had to live on.

When you have an opportunity, take a look at the two small coins on display in the sanctuary and imagine the magnitude of the widow's offering and what message they might have for us.

Announcements & Birthdays



FCC May Birthdays

May 1	Charles Johnson
May 3	Don McKelvey
May 6	James Fitch
May 7	Pam Baumgartle
May 10	Al Baumgartle
May 10	Alice Else
May 13	Norma Lavelett
May 13	Jamie Ripa
May 15	Addie Meders
May 16	Josh Barton
May 17	Jeanne Klitzke
May 18	Beth Sherry
May 21	Carol Matthews
May 22	Bill Fitch
May 23	Wayne Ostermiller
May 23	Sharyl Peterson
May 27	Brian Schlechten
May 27	William Eisenmann
May 30	Yvonne Warner
May 31	Harold Moss



FCC May Anniversaries

May 14	Al & Elsie Ladage
May 18	Brad & Susan Barton

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

CROSSWORDS!

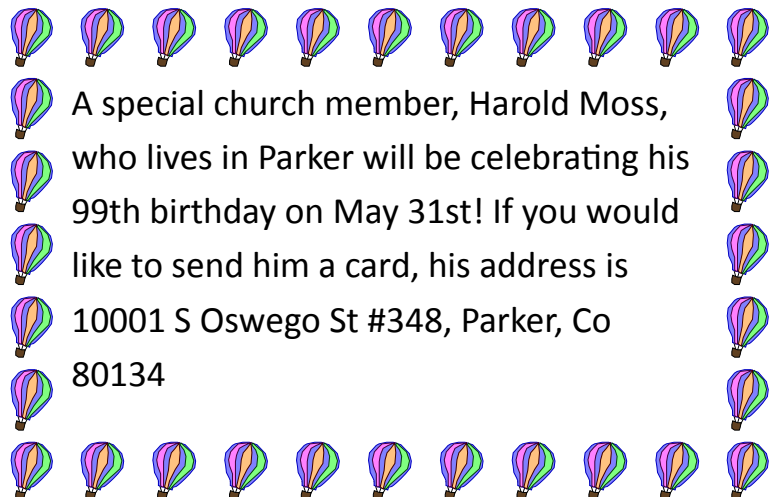
next deadline is...

Thursday, May 7

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.



A special church member, Harold Moss, who lives in Parker will be celebrating his 99th birthday on May 31st! If you would like to send him a card, his address is 10001 S Oswego St #348, Parker, Co 80134



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, Norma Lavelett, or Joyce Wittwer!



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

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!

CFW May Meeting

(Remembering Earth Day— April 22)

Have you ever thought what Mother Earth would say to her children if she could speak? Gloria Jeffery will be reading “dear Children of the Earth” by Schim Schimmel at our next CWF meeting on May 14 at 1:30pm. Please plan to attend and listen to this heart-warming message to adults and children alike. Following the reading, Amber Swasey from Mesa County’s Solid Waste Department will give us some guidelines on how each of us can do our part to care for Mother Earth. Agape group will be our hostesses and JoAnne Eggers will give the worship. Everyone is invited.



On April 5th, *The Daily Sentinel* carried Margaret Smith’s obituary with date of death March 24, 2015. Margaret was 93 and passed away in Denver. She and Merlin were members for several years until his passing when she then moved to Denver to be closer to family. Her obituary is on the bulletin board for those who knew and loved them. Submitted by Joyce Wittwer

DID YOU SEE in the “Museum Times” from the Museum of Western Colorado that our own George Decker was the first recipient of the Archeological Award, which recognized his long-time and distinguished contributions to increasing knowledge of the archeological treasures in our area. Congratulations, George!

- Submitted by Joyce Wittwer

Recently someone mentioned the fact that Della Corbett was a poet. It reminded me of the connection Lamar and I had with her. You will find in the church library the booklet that in 1997 celebrated the lives of several church members who were over 90 years of age. Della was one of those individuals, and she wrote poems that were included in the ‘Celebration of Life’ program. Please take a minute to stop by the library and remember her during April—Poetry Month.

—Joyce Wittwer, Church Library

Coming Soon.....

Vacation Bible School 2015

“On A Mission For God”

Coming June 15th-18th, 6-8pm
Classes for 3 year olds-5th Graders

Announcements, Thank You's & Changes

THANK YOU!

A big Thank you to everyone who helped with the ShareFest Weekend. I know everyone at Grandview appreciates all that is done for them, and the luncheon afterwards. I appreciate that so many are willing to reach out and do this.

Thank you!

Outreach Ministry



Member Information Updates:

New Members

Earnest and Ruby Eachus

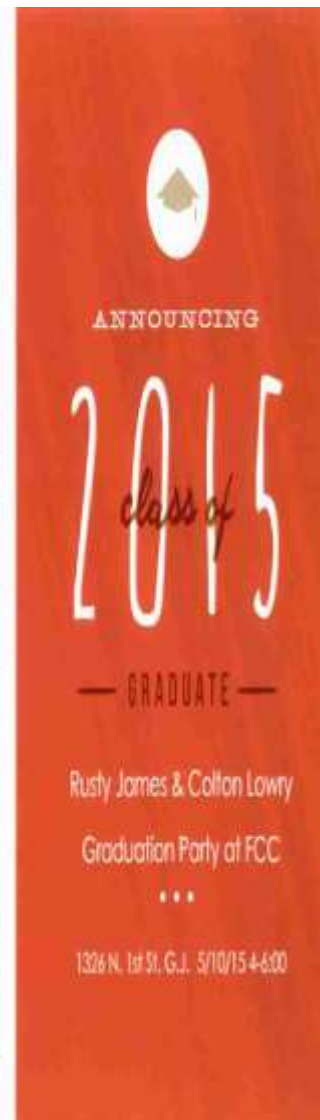
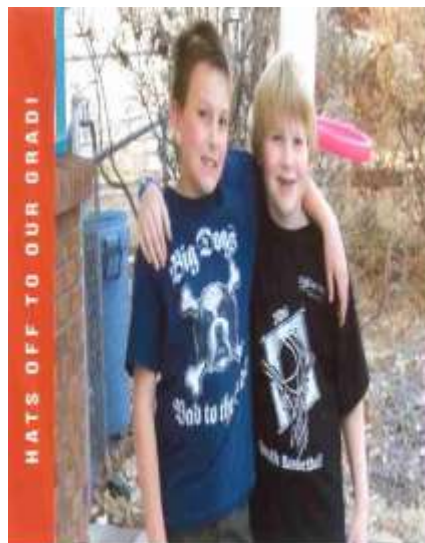
Fruita, Co 81521

970-858-1872

Carolyn Bryant is making pillow case dresses for El Salvador. She has made over 50 so far, but is in need of further materials. Also, if anyone used to sew and doesn't anymore, if you would like to donate your leftovers, that would be great. She is in need of cute pillow cases, old are just fine. She also needs thread, extra wide double fold bias tape, 1/4" elastic, and lace. Thank you!

CMF APRIL 18, 2015 BREAKFAST

DMF men's breakfast on April 18th was another success. Ray Farrell gave a very uplifting devotional for the 27 men in attendance that was worth the time spent, not to mention the delicious breakfast that was prepared by Lamar Edwards and David Morgan. We agreed to join with the Youth and CWF to participate in a Mother's Day Lasagna dinner as a fund raiser for Beth Sherry's upcoming mission trip to El Salvador. We all need to spread the word and invite as many guests as we can so we can have a successful event. We have five volunteers to help with clean up for the PEO event that will be held on May 2nd. Finally, we need program suggestions from anyone- men, woman, or youth, for our monthly breakfasts. Earnest Eachus, a new member, has agreed to give his Biography for next month's breakfast. Please plan on attending as it will prove to be very interesting and give you a chance to get more acquainted with Earn. We are open to all suggestions and there will be a sheet for suggestions on the sign up table or you can contact Leonard Gardner or David Hawley. Thank you for your support.



To Our Wonderful Church Family:

Please join us to celebrate the graduation of Colton Lowry and Rusty James!
Sunday, May 10, 2015 from 4:00pm-6:00pm
1326 N 1st Street, Grand Junction, CO 81501
Come help us celebrate their graduation from Central High School!



Announcements

PEO High Tea



You are invited to attend an old fashion tea May 2nd from 2:00pm-4:00pm at First Christian Church. Live entertainment, fashion show, and food will be provided at a cost of \$20.00 per ticket. There will be a silent auction. Tickets can be purchased from Linda Edwards, Jo Laughlin, or Dottie Ruth, who are the members of the PEO group hosting the even. CWF will be providing the food and service. So put on your Victorian hat and come to have some fun!

Fundraiser to Benefit Beth Sherry's Trip to El Salvador
Sponsored By: Youth and Men of FCC
Sunday, May 3 at 5:00pm
Fellowship Hall at First Christian Church

Cost: Love Offering (Remember that this is 2 fundraisers wrapped into one. The men and youth are combining their efforts to help Beth, so please be generous!)

*Lasagna Dinner

*Youth Talent Show and Pastor Brad's Magic

*Silent Auction



This year the CWF ladies, with the help from others in the congregation, sent 272 Labels For Education and 344 Box Top Labels to the Colorado Christian Home at the Tennyson Center. These are used to get free items for the school, and they are so appreciative of our help. The box to collect the labels is on the Information table in the Fellowship Hall. It takes just a few minutes to cut the labels from the items you buy--so watch for them and help this worthwhile cause.





FCC Prayer Concerns

“Pray without ceasing.”

I Thessalonians 5:17

Scott Allen

Nancy Armbruster

Brenda Armstrong

Guy Bender

Jessie Bowen

Lois Braun

Tim Burke

Marianne Chapman

Marlis Clark

Chuck Cummings

Carol Jean Daniel

Arinda Davis's Family

Donald Davis

Helen Dillard

Ray Dodson

John Drury

Don Dyet

Kathy Gardner

Leon Gardner

Isbella Gott

Susan Gregory

Doris Hicks

Bruce Hines

Kim Hopkins

Merle Hopper

Carol Johnson

Gayle Johnson

Ed “Chicken” Jones

Pat Jones

Nora Juette

Harriette Krall

Gloria Ladehoff

Bette Learned

“Chuck” Lopas

Anna Lopez

Jennifer McDaniel

Gary Meade and Family

Clare & Ally Morris

Ginger Morris

Larry Petrini

Peter Roeland

Fo Seybold

Jean Silkey

Greg Stouffer

Lois Stouffer

Jiemon and Tayo Takahashi

Rory White

D.J. Wilhorn

Allison Williams



FCC SUNDAY SERVERS' 4-Week ASSIGNMENTS

First Service Assignments

May 3, 2015

Greeters & Offering

Wayne Ostermiller

Curtis Rosencrans

Elder

Linda Edwards

May 10, 2015

Greeters & Offering

Gretchen Schlechten

Madi Schlechten

Elder

Leonard Gardner

May 17, 2015

Greeters & Offering

Blanche Marshall

Suzanne Daniels

Elder

Dennis Edwards

May 24, 2015

Greeters & Offering

Colton Lowry

Clayton Lowry

Elder

Brad Krebill

May 3, 2015

1st Sunday

Worship Leader

Lily Fitch

Children's Moment

Lily Fitch

Offering Elder

Grace Farrell

Communion Elder

Ray Farrell

Serving Diaconate

Alice Wieseler

Nancy Armbruster

Wes Wade

Helen Wade

Preparing Diaconate

Alice Wieseler

Coffee Mingle

Jeanice Swank

Ruth Acord

Greeters

Bob Wise

Dorothy Rhodes

Van Driver

Terry Laughlin

Jo Laughlin

May 10, 2015

2nd Sunday

Worship Leader

Riecke Claussen

Children's Moment

Ray Farrell

Offering Elder

Kathy Gardner

Communion Elder

Leonard Gardner

Serving Diaconate

Gary Steed

Chuck Haigler

Al Ladage

Jerry Francis

Preparing Diaconate

Karen Lehman

Lois Stouffer

Coffee Mingle

Rogene Behrendsen

Marlene Cowan

Greeters

Wilbur Lucore

Joyce Lucore

Van Driver

Jerry Francis

May 17, 2015

3rd Sunday

Worship Leader

Beth Sherry

Children's Moment

Al Baumgartle

Offering Elder

Al Baumgartle

Communion Elder

Gene Matteson

Serving Diaconate

Larry Eggers

JoAnne Eggers

Jeanne Klitzke

David Morgan

Preparing Diaconate

Riecke Claussen

Nancy Claussen

Coffee Mingle

Donna Ham

Greeters

Doug Bryant

Carolyn Bryant

Van Driver

Leonard Gardner

Kathy Gardner

May 24, 2015

4th Sunday

Worship Leader

Jeanne Klitzke

Children's Moment

Tammy Ostermiller

Offering Elder

Les Armbruster

Communion Elder

Jim Matthews

Serving Diaconate

Beth Sherry

Carol Matthews

Doug Bryant

Carolyn Bryant

Preparing Diaconate

George Decker

Barbara Decker

Coffee Mingle

Jeanne Klitzke

Greeters

Rogene Behrendsen

Marlene Cowan

Van Driver

George Decker

Church Calendar of Events - April 30, 2015— May 20, 2015

Thursday April 30, 2015

6:00pm Praise Team Practice
7:00pm Transitions Group

Friday May 1, 2015

10:00am Crafts Group
1:00pm PEO Set-Up

Saturday May 2, 2015

2:00pm PEO High Tea

Sunday May 3, 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 Grimsley Dissertation
5:00pm Fundraiser for Beth
Sherry's Trip to El Salvador

Monday May 4, 2015

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

Tuesday May 5, 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 May 6, 2015

10:00am Bible Study
3:30pm Parkinson's Group
4:00pm KFC (Elementary Youth
Group)
6:00pm Wednesday Fellowship
Meal
6:30pm Middle/High School
Youth Group
6:30pm Bible Study
7:00pm Order of The Arrow

Thursday May 7, 2015

9:30am Ruth Group
1:30pm Agape Group
1:30pm Esther Group
6:00pm Praise Team Practice
7:00pm Transitions Group

Friday May 8, 2015

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

Saturday May 9, 2015

9:00am RMCSC CPE Group
11:00am Regional Committee
Meeting

Sunday May 10, 2015

Mother's Day & Graduation Sunday

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
12:15pm Graduation Sunday
4:00pm Graduation party for Colton
& Rusty
4:00pm Grimsley Dissertation

Monday May 11, 2015

****PASTOR BRAD OUT OF OFFICE****
10:30am Staff Meeting
7:00pm M&M Bible Study
7:00pm Boy Scouts

Tuesday May 12, 2015

****PASTOR BRAD OUT OF OFFICE****
9:00am Burger King Coffee Group
10:00am A New Door Opens at
Spoons
12:00pm Lessons at Lunch
4:00pm Family Leadership Training
5:00pm Healthy Living

Wednesday May 13, 2015

****PASTOR BRAD OUT OF OFFICE****
NO BIBLE STUDY
9:30am Newcomer's Group
4:00pm KFC (Elementary Youth
Group)

Wednesday May 13, 2015(...)

6:00pm Wednesday Fellowship
Meal
6:30pm Middle/High School
Youth Group
7:00pm Co West Quilters Guild

Thursday May 14, 2015

****PASTOR BRAD OUT OF OFFICE****

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

Friday May 15, 2015

10:00am Crafts Group

Saturday May 16, 2015

8:00am Men's Breakfast

Sunday May 17, 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
4:00pm Grimsley Dissertation

Monday May 18, 2015

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

Tuesday May 19, 2015

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

Wednesday May 20, 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