



First Christian Church (DOC)

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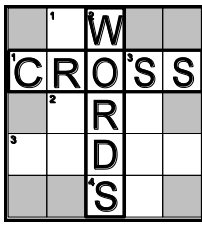
Volume 1 • January 8, 2015

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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  
(On Sabbatical)

**Paula Schaffer**, Pianist

**Norma Matteson**, Pianist

**Susan Barton**, Interim Secretary

**John Moore**, Custodian

## Looking Back and Looking Forward

A little over a week, we (the whole world) celebrated the beginning of a new year, 2015 (I still can't believe it's 2015.). As people the world over stood in the space in between two years, they looked back and reflected upon their lives up to that point and looked forward with new resolutions, new hopes, new dreams for what is to come.

Last Sunday, many within the universal Church celebrated Epiphany Sunday, the Sunday on which we remember that the wise men/magi/kings visited the boy Jesus and recognized him as the Messiah, the New King. (We will have our epiphany celebration this coming Sunday.) And Epiphany Sunday should be just as much - if not more - a time of looking back (reflecting) and looking forward (dreaming or visioning into the future) as the change from one year to the next.

Poet T.S. Eliot wrote as much in his poem, "Journey of the Magi". Reflecting on the journey to and from the Christ child, one of the magi reflects:

Were we led all that way for

Birth or Death? There was a Birth, certainly,

We had evidence and no doubt. I had seen birth and death,

But had thought they were different; this Birth was

Hard and bitter agony for us, like Death, our death.

We returned to our places, these Kingdoms,

But no longer at ease here, on the old dispensation,

With an alien people clutching their gods.

I should be glad of another death.

We have remembered and celebrated the birth of Jesus, the coming of the Messiah, to us. Such remembrance and celebration should change us, individually and as a congregation.

The year 2014 was a good year for us, a GREAT year. We worked as a congregation toward living into this amazing vision/identity God has for us as a congregation to and for adults 50+ in the Grand Valley. Your committees/ministries implemented a number of new, important, and vital ministries.

The year 2014 was the first of our years of implementing new ministries and GROWING into what God desires from us and for us! The year 2015 can and should be an even bigger year in that direction.

Individually, please prayerfully consider how God is calling YOU to be a part of what God is doing HERE.

- Pastor Brad



# Announcements

**Sunday School Class: Fearless Conversation** discussions with coffee and donuts.

These discussions will begin right after first service on January 11 (and following Sundays)

The material comes from Matthew and Luke.

**January's questions will be:**

Why did God come as a baby? Luke 2:1-20

Can we really beat temptation? Matthew 4:1-11

**February's questions will be:**

What does it really mean to follow Jesus? Matthew 4:18-25

How can I tell if Jesus cares enough to act in my situation? Matthew 9:18-26

What does it mean if Jesus really is God's Son? Luke 9:18-36

Why did Jesus tell such confusing stories? Matthew 13:24-45

If you are interested, please come for one or all of our session! Would love to have you.

Lily Fitch - Conversationalist

**Mr. Penumbra's 24-Hour Bookstore** - A novel by Robin Sloan is now available in the library. I'd say that Robin Sloan who wrote this mystery is a computer nerd. He's a guy looking into the future trying to invent new technology, but his book has a lot to do with the beginning of the printed word for the masses.

The ladies in the FCC Bookworms Book Club learned a lot--not about the future, but about the past. Much of the book is based on real people and terminology. You've heard the term "Haste makes waste". Well, Festina lente is Greek which means "make haste slowly". You may have noticed the anchor and dolphin in some of your books with the letters ALDUS which is the first name of Aldus Manutius. Read the book, and you will learn more about the 15th century and printing. Mr. Penumbra's 24 Hour Bookstore is mentioned in Wikipedia when looking up Festina lente. Even without homework to understand the terminology, you will enjoy this book. Check it out! Get into the 21st Century by learning about the past.

-Joyce Wittwer

Many books have been added to the library shelves, and a list is posted on the library bulletin board. Check it out!

While in Alaska this summer, Lamar and I read "Last Letters from Attu" by Mary Breu, published in 2009. (Attu is the last island in the Aleutian Chain.) The letters are from Etta Jones, who lived on Attu at the time it was invaded by Japan during WWII. With the continued interest in "Unbroken" (either the movie or the book), this will give you another perspective of being a P.O.W. --this time as a woman Japanese P.O.W. Also, you will read about her pioneer life and how she came to be on Attu. I found her life most interesting.

-- Joyce Wittwer

# Birthdays & Announcements & Thank You's

## FCC January Birthdays

January 2	Nancy Armbruster
January 4	Lois Dunning
January 5	Angie Drake
January 6	Cole Barton
January 6	Lamar Edwards
January 16	Juanita Davis
January 19	Rogene Behrendsen
January 20	Anna Bilyeu
January 26	Terry Laughlin
January 27	Dorothy Griffin
January 29	Susan Barton
January 29	Tara Everett

### Thank You

Words can't cover how wonderful it was on Sunday when not only some of my family but my extended church family joined in helping to celebrate my birthday.. But I do thank everyone. God has given me a special blessing.. Lois Dunning

### Thank You from the Barton Household

We can not thank you enough for the generous Christmas gifts you gave our family for Christmas. We used our money to buy a recliner, which couldn't have come at a better time as Pastor Brad got sick shortly thereafter! Which reminds me that we also want to thank you for all of your many thoughts and prayers for Brad!



## Don't Forget Epiphany!

We will celebrate the wise men's visit to the Christ Child on Sunday, January 11th at **both** worship services.

Thank you so much for your caring and wonderful gifts. Your prayers and kindness are appreciated so much.

Have a happy new year.

God Bless all of you.

Chris and Joe Chapman

Grandview Apartments

Dear Friends,

You are so gracious, giving to the Angel Tree. The plate of goodies, bag of fruit and the talking watch! It is much appreciated. You knew exactly what was needed!

God Bless You All,

A Friend



# Attendance & Announcements & Thanks

## **PAST 4 WEEKS' ATTENDANCE**

Sunday December 14, 2014

(One Service)

10:50 am Service                      103

Sunday December 21, 2014

(One Service)

10:50 am Service                      98

Sunday December 28, 2014

(One Service)

10:50 am Service                      62

Sunday January 4, 2015

8:45 am Service                      20

10:50 am Service                      72

### **A Diaconate Meeting for Second Service Deacons**

Immediately after church on Sunday, January 11, the deacons will be meeting to make plans for the new year!

Please make plans to attend and be a part of the conversation.

This is an important meeting as calendars will be discussed to determine who will be able to serve when.

Thank you all for your leadership.

Many thanks to all of you who contributed to this year's Giving Tree. The Giving Tree is a combined effort between Membership and Outreach Ministries. The ornaments on the tree represented ten people from within our church family and ten people at Grand View. Many of these people received gift cards, but others had actual presents to open, and it was apparent much thought went into purchasing the gifts. The sweet bread was beautifully prepared, and all the cookies looked delicious and very Christmas--ee. Your sharing the joy of giving to others is God's gift to you. You are blessed, and we thank you so much.                      -- Membership & Outreach

### **Don't Forget:**

**If you are the leader of a group or plan to have a one time event only at the church, please fill out a Calendar Event Request Form. These forms can be filled out in the church office or you can request that a form be emailed to you.**

**Thank you for helping to keep the office calendar updated!**



# FCC Prayer Concerns

*“Pray without ceasing.”*

I Thessalonians 5:17

Brenda Armstrong	Ann Hutton
Nancy Armbruster	Rusty James
Karon Ballard	Carol Johnson
Pastor Brad Barton	Ed “Chicken” Jones
Ed Behrendsen	Nora Juette
Guy Bender	Harriette Krall
Jessie Bowen	Jennifer Lang
Lois Braun	Bette Learned
Tim Burke	Jennifer McDaniel
Carol	Michelle
Joe Cecere	Jamie Miller
Marianne Chapman	Clare & Ally Morris
Marlis Clark	Ginger Morris & Family
Johnny Cowan	Katie Orto
Pat Cress	Sandy Pegg
Chuck Cummings	Larry Petrini
Arinda Davis’s Family	Matt Peterson
Donald Davis	Dennis and Lisa Powers
Helen Dillard	Peter Roeland
Ray Dodson	Wes Schuller
Susie Fisher	Nancy Selbe
Glen Gardner	Fo Seybold
Leon Gardner	John Sherry
Pat Graham	Trish Stepp
Susan Gregory	Greg Stouffer
Vicki Harrington	Jiemon and Tayo Takahashi
Bruce Hine	Rory White
Kim Hopkins	D.J. Wilhorn
Merle Hopper	
Shelby Howard	



# FCC SUNDAY SERVERS' 4-Week ASSIGNMENTS

## First Service Assignments

**January 11, 2015**

**Greeters & Offering**

Gretchen Schlechten

Madi Schlechten

**Elder**

Linda Edwards

**January 18, 2015**

**Greeters & Offering**

Clayton Lowry

Colton Lowry

**Elder**

Dennis Edwards

**January 25, 2015**

**Greeters & Offering**

Josh Barton

Curtis Rosencrans

**Elder**

Brad Krebill

**February 1, 2015**

**Greeters & Offering**

TBD

**Elder**

TBD

**January 11, 2015**

**2nd Sunday**

**Worship Leader**

Josh Barton

**Children's Moment**

Ray Farrell

**Offering Elder**

Kathy Gardner

**Communion Elder**

Leonard Gardner

**Serving Diaconate**

Cole Barton

Carolyn Bryant

Doug Bryant

Walter Meders

**Preparing Diaconate**

Lois Stouffer

Marian Velarde

**Coffee Mingle**

Rogene Behrendsen

Bev Dorson

**Greeters**

TBD

**Van Driver**

Jerry Francis

**January 18, 2015**

**3rd Sunday**

**Worship Leader**

TBD

**Children's Moment**

Al Baumgartle

**Offering Elder**

Al Baumgartle

**Communion Elder**

Les Armbruster

**Serving Diaconate**

Nancy Claussen

Riecke Claussen

Jerry Francis

David Morgan

**Preparing Diaconate**

Joyce Lucore

Wilbur Lucore

**Coffee Mingle**

Nancy Claussen

Riecke Claussen

**Greeters**

Jo Laughlin

Karen Lehman

**Van Driver**

Kathy Gardner

Leonard Gardner

**January 25, 2015**

**4th Sunday**

**Worship Leader**

TBD

**Children's Moment**

Tammy Ostermiller

**Offering Elder**

Jim Matthews

**Communion Elder**

Gene Matteson

**Serving Diaconate**

Jenny Barnes

Church Haigler

Jeanne Klitzke

Gary Steed

**Preparing Diaconate**

Barbara Decker

George Decker

**Coffee Mingle**

Bev Dorson

Gloria Jeffery

**Greeters**

Barbara Decker

George Decker

**Van Driver**

George Decker

**February 1, 2015**

**1st Sunday**

**Worship Leader**

TBD

**Children's Moment**

Lily Fitch

**Offering Elder**

TBD

**Communion Elder**

TBD

**Serving Diaconate**

TBD

**Preparing Diaconate**

TBD

**Coffee Mingle**

TBD

**Greeters**

TBD

**Van Driver**

Jo Laughlin

Terry Laughlin

# Church Calendar of Events - January 8, 2015— January 21, 2015

**Thursday January 8, 2015**

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

**Friday January 9, 2015**

**Office Closed**

10:00am Craft Connection  
1:45 pm Mexican Train Game Group  
(Begin playing at 2:00)

**Saturday January 10, 2015**

**Office Closed**

5:00pm Family Voices Colorado

**Sunday January 11, 2015**

**Epiphany Sunday**

8:45am Contemporary Worship  
9:30am Sunday School  
10:00am Sunday School/ “Fearless Conversation”  
10:50am Traditional Worship  
11:00am Jr. Church  
12:15pm Coffee Mingle  
12:15pm 2nd Service Deacon’s Mtg.  
12:30pm Elders Meeting

**Monday January 12, 2015**

6:45pm M&M Bible Study

**Tuesday January 13, 2015**

1:30pm FCC Bookworms

**Wednesday January 14, 2015**

9:30am Newcomers Club  
10:00am Bible Study  
4:00pm KFC (Elementary) Youth  
6:00pm Wed. Night Fellowship Meal  
6:30pm Bible Study  
6:30pm Middle/High-school Youth  
7:00pm CO West Quilters Guild

**Thursday January 15, 2015**

10:00am Prayer Blanket Group  
2:00pm Pinnacle Group  
6:00pm Praise Team Practice

**Friday January 16, 2015**

**Office Closed**

**Saturday January 17, 2015**

**Office Closed**

8:00am Men’s Breakfast  
5:00pm Family Voices Colorado

**Sunday January 18, 2015**

8:45am Contemporary Worship  
9:30am Sunday School  
10:00am Sunday School/ “Fearless Conversation”  
10:50am Traditional Worship  
11:00am Jr. Church  
12:15pm Coffee Mingle  
6:00pm Cabinet Meeting

**Monday January 19, 2015**

9:30am Church Women United  
10:30am Staff Meeting  
6:45pm M&M Bible Study

**Tuesday January 20, 2015**

10:00am A New Door Opens @  
Spoons  
1:30pm Membership Ministry

**Wednesday January 21, 2015**

10:00am Bible Study  
4:00pm KFC (Elementary) Youth  
6:00pm Wed. Night Fellowship Meal  
6:30pm Bible Study  
6:30pm Middle/High-school Youth

\*\*The calendar looks sparse and I know there is more going on, so I hope you will fill out your Facilities Request Forms and get them into the church office, so I have the information to put on the church calendar.

If you have filled out a form and have turned it into the office and your information still is not included on the calendar, then please call me at the church office and we can work it out together.

Thank you so much for all you do! Make sure to get your group’s information in, so everyone will know what you are doing!