



First Christian Church (DOC)

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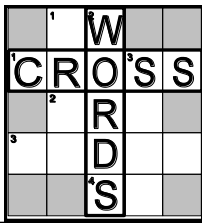
Volume 10● May 14, 2015

...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

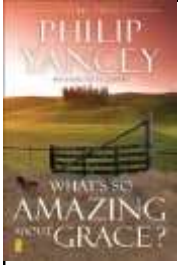
## Something New (Maybe): The Narrative Lectionary

I was hoping to be able to write this article from The Festival of Homiletics (FOH), which is taking place in Denver this week (May 11-15). In fact, you likely noticed on your bulletin calendar from last Sunday that I have been out of the office all this week and you might have been wondering where I am. By the time you read this, I will have spent the week at that very same FOH. Every year, I take about a week to participate in some form of continuing education for ministers. Last year, I attended Group's Future of the Church Summit. This year, I am attending FOH, which, according to the event's website, is "a week-long conference that brings together a wide variety of outstanding preachers and professors of homiletics to inspire a discourse about preaching and worship, as well as issues related to congregations in the 21<sup>st</sup> century." (By the way, the word "homiletics" means "the study of the art of preaching or writing sermons.")

As I mentioned, I was hoping to be able to write this article from the Festival, so I could share with you some of the wisdom gained while I am there. However, as I started looking at my very busy schedule for each day (we start at 8:45am and have scheduled lectures and worship services until 9:30-10:00pm each night), I began to wonder if that was a good idea. Instead, I decided to share with you one of the reasons I decided to attend FOH this year (besides the fact that it's in Denver, while it is usually much further away.) The reason involves something called the "Narrative Lectionary." You might have heard me say before that I typically select the texts upon which I preach from something called a "lectionary", that is, a list of portions of the Bible appointed to be read at a church service for each day or week of the year. You might not know that there are many lectionaries. I have tended to use one called the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL). The RCL is based on the idea that we should hear from the voice of one of the gospel writers roughly every week for a year (with breaks being taken based on the seasons/holidays of the Christian year) instead of hearing discrete texts based on different themes each week.

Well, I've been doing that here at FCCGJ for the past 3 years, and the RCL is on a 3-year cycle, so I've been looking at the possibility of selecting a different lectionary for the next 3-4 years. At FOH this week, I will be attending several lectures and workshops about the Narrative lectionary, a 4-year lectionary that attempts to "follow the sweep of the Biblical story, from Creation through the early Christian church."

Keep watch for a future newsletter article that will provide more information about what I learn about the Narrative Lectionary and whether or not we'll begin using it. If we do, we will likely begin in September, since the Narrative Lectionary is set on a September through May schedule, with a break over the summer months for sermon series. – Pastor Brad



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 okay to complain to God in prayer?

**May 24** - what is God's role 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

# 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 |

The FCC Bookworms are on summer break after reading six very interesting and different books. The last book, "Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker" by Jennifer Chiaverini, is now in the library. Mary Todd Lincoln's dressmaker was Elizabeth Keckley who was self-educated and an excellent seamstress. Keckley had been a slave but was also Mrs. Lincoln's best friend. The book gives us an opportunity to read about happenings within the White House during Lincoln's presidency and his wife's tormented life after his assassination. This book included much information taken from the book written by Elizabeth Keckley herself which is already being circulated and available as well--very informative.

Pastor Brad was invited twice to our FCC Book Club gatherings. While we were reading "Killing Jesus" Pastor Brad was most helpful by reading the book and then giving us his perspective. Secondly, we asked Pastor Brad to give us a tutorial on the use of "The Book of Common Prayer" which may be referenced at various times in one's reading and on other occasions. "The Book of Common Prayer" is also now available in the library. It can be used as a daily devotional and a source of reference for building an appropriate prayer for many instances. If you wish to know more about how to use "The Book of Common Prayer", perhaps one of our book club members can assist you.

## CROSSWORDS!
























**next deadline is...**

Thursday, May 21

Please submit to the church office or email them to:

[firstchristiangj@hotmail.com](mailto: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!

## CWF 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.



Norma Jean Feil who attended our church for awhile has passed away. She was born in 1931 and lived in Grand Junction most of her adult life. She was a dear friend of Mary Wilson who has also attended our church. Norma Jean’s obituary is posed on the bulletin board.

## Visitation Ministry

The new Visitation Ministry focuses primarily on keeping in contact with members of our church family who are homebound or are unable to attend church on a regular basis. Personal visits and phone calls are made to keep in touch and to let our members know we care. Should you be interested in being a part of this ministry, please contact a member of the Visitation Ministry listed below!

Beverly Dorson 970-242-1613  
Gloria Jeffery 970-549-1410  
Donna Ham 970-245-3967  
Jeanne Klitzke 970-243-5668

# Announcements, Thank You's & Changes



I couldn't be prouder of my church and the outpouring of generosity you all demonstrated at the fundraising dinner on Sunday night for El Salvador. Be assured that this money will go a long way toward improving the life of the hard-working, impoverished people of Las Trincheras in rural El Salvador. Last year we were able to build and furnish a house for a young family and had enough left over to start a second one for another family.

We will see what the needs are this year and apply every penny given toward those needs. What a wonderful testament of faith from First Christian!

MUCHAS GRACIAS!

-Beth Sherry



## Member Information Updates:

**\*New Phone Number\***  
 Rogene Behrendsen  
 970-462-1493

## **Outreach News**

A very big THANK YOU to everyone for making the fundraiser for Beth Sherry a big success!! We were able to raise \$2,937.00.

Also, thank to Nancy Armbruster and David Morgan for cooking the meal, the youth for helping to serve, the men who helped serve and clean up, the many who brought items for the silent auction, and those who found just what they wanted! A special thanks also to Pastor Brad for his magic show and to the youth who shared their talents! We have a wonderful caring church to be members of!

We also raised \$258.70 for our Easter offering. Thank you. As many of you know, through our Week of Compassion we can help across the world. If you want to send help to Nepal, just mark your donation and it will be sent on. We do have people working in Nepal.

Thank you again.

-Outreach Ministry



March- \$50.00 and 153lbs of food  
 April- \$100.00 and 107lbs of food

Thank you for your generous contributions. Your support enables Community Food Bank volunteers to provide up to nine, three day meal boxes to Mesa County residents in need.

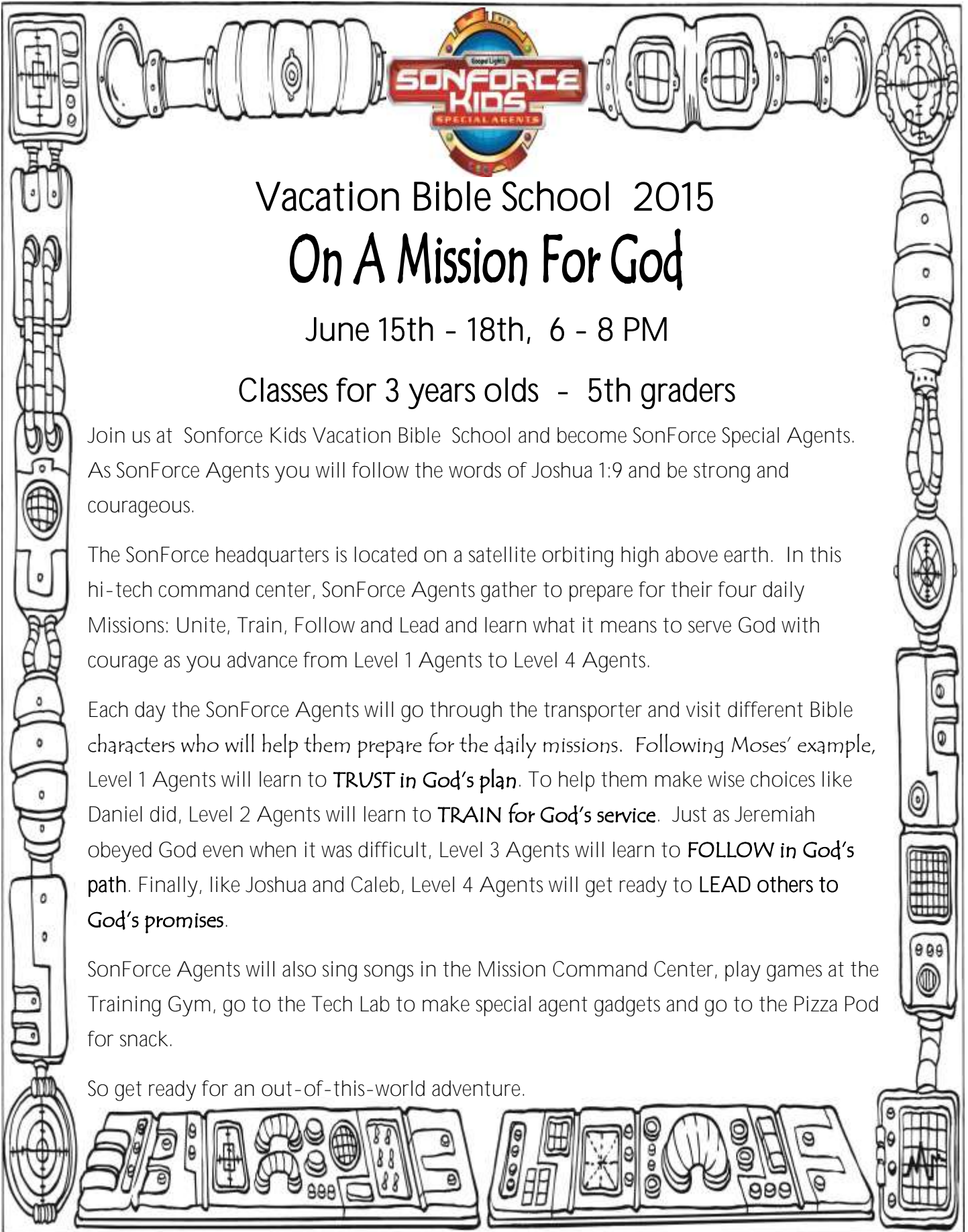
We are grateful for your help.  
 Thanks!



Thank you to Gene Matteson, who is finishing his 9 year term as a trustee on the CRMR Foundation Board! We would like to thank him for his service! Also, congratulations to Pam Baumgartle who is beginning her term as a trustee on the CRMR Foundation Board! We wish her the best!



# Vacation Bible School



## Vacation Bible School 2015 On A Mission For God

June 15th - 18th, 6 - 8 PM

Classes for 3 years olds - 5th graders

Join us at Sonforce Kids Vacation Bible School and become SonForce Special Agents. As SonForce Agents you will follow the words of Joshua 1:9 and be strong and courageous.

The SonForce headquarters is located on a satellite orbiting high above earth. In this hi-tech command center, SonForce Agents gather to prepare for their four daily Missions: Unite, Train, Follow and Lead and learn what it means to serve God with courage as you advance from Level 1 Agents to Level 4 Agents.

Each day the SonForce Agents will go through the transporter and visit different Bible characters who will help them prepare for the daily missions. Following Moses' example, Level 1 Agents will learn to **TRUST in God's plan**. To help them make wise choices like Daniel did, Level 2 Agents will learn to **TRAIN for God's service**. Just as Jeremiah obeyed God even when it was difficult, Level 3 Agents will learn to **FOLLOW in God's path**. Finally, like Joshua and Caleb, Level 4 Agents will get ready to **LEAD others to God's promises**.

SonForce Agents will also sing songs in the Mission Command Center, play games at the Training Gym, go to the Tech Lab to make special agent gadgets and go to the Pizza Pod for snack.

So get ready for an out-of-this-world adventure.



# 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’ Family**

Donald Davis

Helen Dillard

Ray Dodson

John Drury

Don Dyet

Kathy Gardner

Leon Gardner

Isabella Gott

Susan Gregory

Doris Hicks

Bruce Hines

Kim Hopkins

Merle Hopper

Carol Johnson

Gayle Johnson

Ed Jones

**Ed “Chicken” Jones**

Pat Jones

Nora Juette

Harriette Krall

Gloria Ladehoff

Bette Learned

**April Lee’s Extended Family**

**“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 17, 2015**

### Greeters & Offering

Blanche Marshall

Suzanne Daniels

### Elder

Dennis Edwards

**May 24, 2015**

### Greeters & Offering

Colton Lowry

Clayton Lowry

### Elder

Brad Krebill

**May 31, 2015**

### Greeters & Offering

Debbie Eisemann

DeeAnn Lowry

### Elder

Brad Krebill

**June 7, 2015**

### Greeters & Offering

Wayne Ostermiller

Curtis Rosencrans

### Elder

Linda Edwards

**May 17, 2015**

**3rd Sunday**

### Worship Leader

Beth Sherry

### Children's Moment

Lily Fitch

### 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

Alex & Ethan Peters

### Greeters

Doug Bryant

Carolyn Bryant

### Van Driver

Leonard Gardner

Kathy Gardner

**May 24, 2015**

**4th Sunday**

### Worship Leader

JoAnne Eggers

### 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

**May 31, 2015**

**5th Sunday**

### Worship Leader

Carol Matthews

### Children's Moment

TBD

### Offering Elder

TBD

### Communion Elder

TBD

### Serving Diaconate

Junior Diaconates

Cole Barton

Josh Barton

### Preparing Diaconate

Ray Farrell

### Coffee Mingle

Gloria Jeffery

Beverly Dorson

### Greeters

Jim Matthews

Carol Matthews

### Van Driver

Jenny Barnes

**June 7, 2015**

**1st Sunday**

### Worship Leader

Beverly Dorson

### Children's Moment

TBD

### Offering Elder

Ray Farrell

### Communion Elder

Grace Farrell

### Serving Diaconate

Alice Wieseler

Nancy Armbruster

Wes Wade

Helen Wade

### Preparing Diaconate

Alice Wieseler

### Coffee Mingle

TBD

### Greeters

Lois Braun

Donna Ham

### Van Driver

Terry Laughlin

Jo Laughlin

# Church Calendar of Events - May 14, 2015— June 6, 2015

## **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

6:00pm Wednesday Fellowship  
Meal

6:30pm Middle/High School  
Youth Group

6:30pm Bible Study

## **Thursday May 21, 2015**

10:00am Prayer Blanket Group

2:00pm Pinochle Group

6:00pm Praise Team Practice

7:00pm Transitions Group

## **Friday May 22, 2015**

10:00am Crafts Group

2:00pm Mexican Train Game Group

## **Sunday May 24, 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

## **Monday May 25, 2015**

**\*\*\*Memorial Day-Office Closed\*\*\***

8:00am RMCSC CPE Group

## **Tuesday May 26, 2015**

9:00am Burger King Coffee Group

10:00am A New Door Opens at  
Spoons

12:00pm Lessons at Lunch

5:00pm Healthy Living

## **Wednesday May 27, 2015**

10:00am Bible Study

6:30pm Bible Study

## **Thursday May 28, 2015**

9:30am CWF Executive

6:00pm Praise Team Practice

## **Sunday May 31, 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

## **Monday June 1, 2015**

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

10:30am Staff Meeting

7:00pm M&M Bible Study

7:00pm Boy Scouts

## **Tuesday June 2, 2015**

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

9:00am Burger King Coffee Group

12:00pm Lessons at Lunch

4:00pm Grandview Worship

5:00pm Healthy Living

6:30pm Night’n Gals

## **Wednesday June 3, 2015**

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

3:30pm Parkinson’s Group

7:00pm Order of the Arrow

## **Thursday June 4, 2015**

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

9:30am Ruth Group

1:30pm Agape Group

1:30pm Esther Group

6:00pm Praise Team Practice

7:00pm Transitions Group

## **Friday June 5, 2015**

2:00pm Mexican Train Game Group

## **Saturday June 6, 2015**

9:00am RMCSC CPE Group

## **Sunday June 7, 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