



First Christian Church (DOC)

1326 North 1st Street

Grand Junction, CO 81501

firstchristiangj@hotmail.com

www.gjdisciples.org

970.242.7204—phone

970.242.8872—fax

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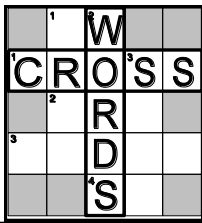
Volume 11 • May 28, 2015

...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: The Narrative Lectionary, continued

In my last newsletter article, I wrote a brief introduction to the Narrative Lectionary (NL). It represents a change from the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL), which I have been using for the past three years to guide my planning for our Sunday morning worship services.

Upon returning from the Festival of Homiletics (FOH) in Denver, I was quite torn about whether or not to switch from the RCL to the NL...because a third option presented itself at the Festival. I won't go into too much detail, since I decide I will at least give the NL a try this coming September through May (the duration of an NL "year").

Here's what you can expect:

- September 6 thru December 13 - Old Testament Narrative and Prophets
- December 20 thru Christmas - Births of John the Baptist and Jesus
- December 27 thru March 27 (Easter) - Gospel narrative from Mark
- April 3 thru April 24 - Stories from Acts
- May 1 thru May 15 - 1 Corinthians

Hopefully, in the above you can see that the driving force behind the structure of the Sunday lessons is a narrative, a story. It's about telling the story from the very beginning in Genesis all the way through the forming of the Church after Jesus ascended into Heaven. Hopefully, telling the story in this way will help us all better learn the big picture of what God was doing in the stories of scripture and therefore how God still works even today.

Before we dive into the Narrative Lectionary in September, I will also begin doing something different this summer. Beginning June 7, I will preach a sermon series on the book of Psalms. A little later in the summer, I will offer 1-2 more sermon series, but I have't decided for certain what they will be (just yet.) It is my desire to use those series to address topics that are of importance to our congregation - to you - discerning what God has to say about those topics through scripture. If there are topics upon which you would like to hear a sermon series preached, please let me know by sending me an email at revbradbarton@gmail.com or by calling me at the church office (242-7204.)

– 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 continue...

In the month of June, we will be covering the following topics:

June 7 - David was a liar, adulterer, and murderer...so why is he a hero of our faith (2 Samuel 11:1-27)

June 14 - If God forgives me, then why do I still get punished for my sins? (Psalm 51)

June 21 - What do I do with my sorrow? (2 Samuel 18:9-9-19:8)

June 28 - How do I handle betrayal? (Psalm 41)

Thanks to Melanie for leading the discussion May 31st and June 7th. Also some good news! Fearless Conversations will continue all summer long...something for you to look forward to! I know I do as the conversations are incredible!

See you in the Library!

Lily Fitch - Conversationalist

Announcements & Birthdays

This is My Life

Have you ever wondered where other members of our church family were from? Where they were born? What career they were in? How many children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren they have? What their hobbies/interests are? What their religious background is? Now is your chance to write your life history and share what you want our family to know.

On June 21, JoAnne Eggers, Lily Fitch, Melanie Ferron, Jim Matthews and their spouses will each have a display in the Fellowship Hall. When telling your story, you can use items such as medals, pictures or anything else that emphasizes your life.

Soon to follow will be a July 19 volunteer signup sheet for "This is My Life". We would like church family members whose last names start with "A", "B" or "C" to volunteer. We are looking forward to learning more about us.

The May CWF program had Gloria Jeffery reading "Dear Children of the Earth" by Shim Shimmel, a book that is available in the church nursery. Beautifully illustrated, Mother Earth asks us to care for all animals as well as Mother Earth herself. Then Amber Swasey from Solid Waste Management provided information about recycling, reusing and reducing. With plenty of suggestions on ways each of us can help the environment, she had everyone's attention when she told us that over 25 billion Styrofoam cups are thrown away in the United States each year and that Styrofoam never does decompose. A few prizes were given out and everyone received pens and pencils. Amber also brought from the Landfill little bags of compost which were quickly grabbed to take home. She provided us with a Recycling Guide and other information sheets which are available on the Information Table until they are gone. Thanks to both Gloria and Amber for an excellent program. We finished the day with an inspirational reading by JoAnne Eggers.

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 10 | Johnny Cowan |
| 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 19 | Marlene Cowan |
| May 21 | Carol Matthews |
| May 22 | Bill Fitch |
| May 23 | Wayne Ostermiller |
| May 23 | Sharyl Peterson |
| May 27 | Brian Schlechten |
| May 27 | William Eisemann |
| May 30 | Yvonne Warner |
| May 31 | Harold Moss |

FCC May Anniversaries

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

CROSSWORDS!

next deadline is...

Thursday, June 4

Please submit to the church office or email them to:

firstchristianj@hotmail.com

Articles arriving later than the deadline will not be included until the next published Crosswords.



Announcements, Thank You's & Changes

Dear Church Family,
 Thank you for the nice graduation card and generous gift. I greatly appreciated the graduation reception and cake. Thank you for thinking of me on such a special day.
 Love,
 Seth Krebill

Hey Folks!
 I Just wanted to say thanks for all the prayers you have been sending my way throughout my trip here. I have had so much fun and have learned a lot as well. I'll be back in the states by June.
 Thanks!
 Becca (Rebecca Farrell)

FCCGJ Family
 Thank you so much for the pillowcases, thread, and trim for the dresses! It is very much appreciated!
 -Carolyn Bryant

CWF

CWF Meets Thursday, June 11 at 12:30pm for a salad potluck luncheon. Melanie Ferron will install new officers!
 Hostess: Ruth Group

Newsletter Finances

Total pledges and general offerings thru April 2015: \$60,085
 Total expenses thru April 2015: \$61,673
 Net loss for the first four months: \$(1,588)
 Special offerings thru April 2015: \$1,446
 Cash in bank April 30, 2015: \$20,690
 Cash in CDs: \$50,555



Member Information Updates:

New Phone Number
 Rogene Behrendsen
 970-462-1493

Address Change
 Alice Else
 3032 N 15th Street, Apt 904
 Grand Junction, CO 81506
 970-245-2168

Address Change
 Harold Moss
 Lincoln Meadows
 10001 S Oswego St, #101
 Parker, CO 80134

New Phone Numbers
 Tammy Ostermiller
 970-462-6120
 Work: 970-243-7908
 Wayne Ostermiller
 970-778-2166

New Phone Number
 Kerm Shade
 970-242-0713

New Address at Basic Training
 E-1 Connor-Daniel
 E CO, 3rd BN, 13th Inf Regt, 4th Plt
 4420 Jackson Blvd
 Fort Jackson, SC 29207-5022
 (Must be written exactly this way)



Announcements

Shop With Scrip

Why buy your gift cards (**scrip**) at stores when you have to get in your car, go to the stores and pick them up when you can buy them at our church and give our church a rebate on the cards? The gift cards (scrip) are the same price you'd pay in the stores. The difference is that when you buy scrip through this company, our church gets a "rebate" that stores don't give. This is one way to support our church.

"Scrip" is gift **cards you can buy at stores** such as clothing stores (Herberger's, Kohl's, Macy's,), restaurants, (Chili's, Applebee's,) grocery stores, home improvement stores, just to mention a few.

Shop with Scrip is a **program for non-profit organizations**, such as churches, The Red Cross, McDonald House Charities, World Food Program USA and many more organizations.

The program, Shop with Scrip, works with only non-profit organizations and sells gift cards directly to the non-organizations. If you buy from Shop with Scrip, the company gives these non-profit organizations a "rebate" on each card that is purchased. The "rebate" can be anywhere from 3% up to 14% depending on which cards you buy. The "rebate" is sent back to our church in check form to be used for church projects.

This "rebate" would go into a "floating fund" at our church to help with projects that need funding at the time, such as a new roof, air conditioning repair, general fund, etc.

To get started, we need a committee to help man the table. The volunteers would get the orders of which cards people want, take their name and money how many cards they want. Then the next Sunday, the cards will be in and someone from the committee would give them to the people who ordered them. If we can get enough people on the committee, each would only have to man the table once a month or less.

How this works is that if you are interested in buy scrip, you'd come to our table in the Vestibule, tell us what card(s) you want, give us the money for them and usually by the next week we would have your scrip ready for you. On the table, will be information about this program along with the list of companies that participate in this.

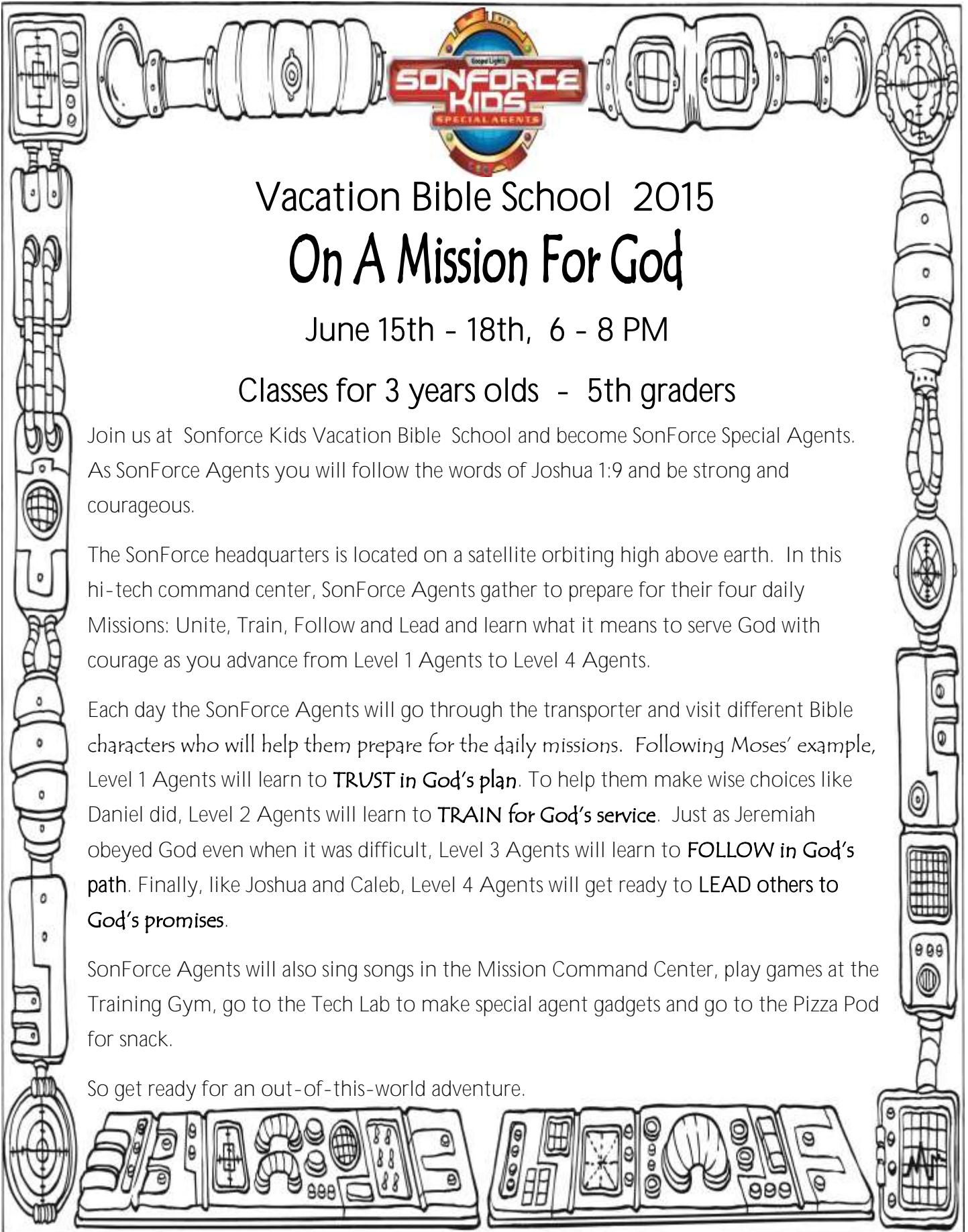
If you are interested in getting a gift card for an anniversary, wedding, graduation, birthday, etc. you can buy your scrip at our table and help our church out at the same time.

Why spend your gas and time going to the store to get a gift card when you can purchase them while you are at our church and be helping our church at the same time?

-Submitted by Jim and Carol Matthews



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

Anna Bilyeu

Jessie Bowen

Lois Braun

Tim Burke

Marianne Chapman

Marlis Clark

Daneil Connor

Laurie Crook

Chuck Cummings

Carol Jean Daniel

Arinda Davis' Family

Donald Davis

Helen Dillard

Ray Dodson

John Drury

Don Dyet

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

“Chuck” Lopas

Anna Lopez

Jennifer McDaniel

Gary Meade and Family

Clare & Ally Morris

Ginger Morris

Larry Petrini

Peter Roeland

Schlechten Family Move

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 31, 2015

Greeters & Offering

Debbie Eisemann

DeeAnn Lowry

Elder

Brad Krebill

June 7, 2015

Greeters & Offering

Wayne Ostermiller

Curtis Rosencrans

Elder

Linda Edwards

June 14, 2015

Greeters & Offering

Blanche Marshall

Suzanne Daniels

Elder

Kathy Gardner

June 21, 2015

Greeters & Offering

Colton Lowry

Clayton Lowry

Elder

Dennis Edwards

May 31, 2015 5th Sunday

Worship Leader

Carol Matthews

Children's Moment

Al Baumgartle

Offering Elder

Les Armbruster

Communion Elder

Eleanor Hubbell

Serving Diaconate

Doug Bryant

Carolyn Bryant

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

Ray Farrell

Offering Elder

Ray Farrell

Communion Elder

Grace Farrell

Serving Diaconate

Alice Wieseler

Nancy Armbruster

Wes Wade

Helen Wade

Preparing Diaconate

Alice Wieseler

Coffee Mingle

Wes Wade

Helen Wade

Greeters

Lois Braun

Donna Ham

Van Driver

Terry Laughlin

June 14, 2015 2nd Sunday

Worship Leader

Lois Dunning

Children's Moment

Ray Farrell

Offering Elder

Leonard Gardner

Communion Elder

Kathy Gardner

Serving Diaconate

Gary Steed

Chuck Haigler

Al Ladage

Jerry Francis

Preparing Diaconate

Karen Lehman

Lois Stouffer

Coffee Mingle

Rogene Behrendsen

JoAnne Eggers

Greeters

Earnest Eachus

Ruby Eachus

Van Driver

Jerry Francis

June 21, 2015 3rd Sunday

Worship Leader

Suzanne Daniels

Children's Moment

Al Baumgartle

Offering Elder

Gene Matteson

Communion Elder

Al Baumgartle

Serving Diaconate

Larry Eggers

JoAnne Eggers

Jeanne Klitzke

David Morgan

Preparing Diaconate

Riecke Claussen

Nancy Claussen

Coffee Mingle

Nancy Armbruster

David Morgan

Greeters

Jeanice Swank

JoAnne Hill

Van Driver

Leonard Gardner

Kathy Gardner

Church Calendar of Events - May 28, 2015— June 20, 2015

Thursday May 28, 2015

9:30am CWF Executive
6:00pm Praise Team Practice

Sunday May 31, 2015

****PASTOR BRAD OUT OF TOWN****

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 Quilters Guild Board
7:00pm Transitions Group

Friday June 5, 2015

****PASTOR BRAD OUT OF TOWN****

2:00pm Pinochle Group

Saturday June 6, 2015

****PASTOR BRAD OUT OF TOWN****

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

Monday June 8, 2015

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

Tuesday June 9, 2015

9:00am Burger King Coffee Group
10:00am A New Door Opens @
Spoons

12:00pm Lessons at Lunch
5:00pm Healthy Living

Wednesday June 10, 2015

9:30am Newcomers Group
10:00am Bible Study
6:30pm Bible Study
7:00pm Quilter's Guild

Thursday June 11, 2015

12:30pm CWF General
6:00pm Praise Team Practice

Friday June 12, 2015

2:00pm Mexican Train Game Group

Saturday June 13, 2015

8:00am Men's Breakfast

Sunday June 14, 2015

8:45am Contemporary Worship
9:30am Sunday School/
"What's So Amazing
About Grace?"

Sunday June 14, 2015(...)

10:00am Sunday School/
"Fearless Conversation"
10:50am Traditional Worship
11:00am Jr. Church
12:15pm Coffee Mingle
12:30pm Elders Meeting
4:00pm Grimsley Dissertation
4:00pm Board Meeting

Monday June 15, 2015

9:30am Church Women United
10:30am Staff Meeting
12:00pm Lunch with Brad
6:00pm Vacation Bible School
7:00pm M&M Bible Study

Tuesday June 16, 2015

9:00am Burger King Coffee Group
12:00pm Lessons at Lunch
5:00pm Healthy Living
6:00pm Vacation Bible School

Wednesday June 17, 2015

****NO BIBLE STUDY****

6:00pm Vacation Bible School

Thursday June 18, 2015

10:00am Prayer Blanket Group
2:00pm Pinochle Group
6:00pm Vacation Bible School
7:00pm Transitions Group

Friday June 19, 2015

****PASTOR BRAD OUT OF TOWN****

1:00pm Prep for Territorial
Daughters of CO Meeting

Saturday June 20, 2015

****PASTOR BRAD OUT OF TOWN****
8:00am Territorial Daughters of CO
State Meeting