



First Christian Church (DOC)

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Return Service Requested

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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

9:00 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

Your Christian Identity and Politics (Part 2): The Politics of Dissatisfaction vs. The Politics of Hate

*Disclaimer: If, by this title, you **are expecting** that I'm going to tell you who to vote for or even what to think about specific issues, please know that I will do neither. If, as you read this, you **feel** like I'm telling you who to vote for or what to think about a specific issue, please re-read what you just read...because that's not what this article is about.*

In every presidential election cycle I can remember, there's something that creeps into the public conversation and even the debates among candidates: a desire for change stemming from dissatisfaction with something about the present that manifests itself in hateful speech and hateful actions.

This presidential election cycle is no different. Perhaps it's a little more obvious, but it's really not much different.

As people who proclaim ourselves to be followers of Jesus, what are we to do? Certainly, we can't - on our own as individuals - prevent candidates from saying hateful things; however, I would suggest that as a group we could.

We should start by looking to Jesus to learn about the difference between dissatisfaction and hate. Jesus WAS dissatisfied with the conditions of the world he was born into, but Jesus was never hateful. Jesus WAS a champion of change, but did you notice how he tried to change things and how he didn't try to change things? Jesus didn't call people names. Jesus didn't advocate hurting anyone. Rather, he pointed out the problems with the actions of those who perpetuated a bad system, he pointed out a better way, and he left it to everyone else to make an informed choice. And, he told the crowds and his disciples to act out of love, even for those who opposed them. At least, that's the way I read the gospels.

Jesus acted out of dissatisfaction but not out of hate, which is different from what we're seeing and even what we're getting sucked into this election cycle. We see candidates calling each other names and saying mean things to and about each other. We see other candidates and media and other people responding to that hate with more hate: making fun of a candidate's hair or the way a candidate talks, etc.. Folks, these kinds of things, they are the politics of hate.

During this presidential election year, if you are dissatisfied with something about our nation, I do hope you'll let that guide your personal discourse and actions, just as Jesus let dissatisfaction drive his words and actions. It is dissatisfaction with the ways of the world that drives us to usher in God's kingdom. However, it is also my desire that, as a follower of Jesus, you follow his example of doing so in a loving and constructive way, not a hateful way.

Happy presidential election year! - Pastor Brad



Sunday School & Announcements

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

Welcome one and all...first...second and third service attendees

Every Sunday morning after first service...around 10:15 am we have a Fearless Conversation. The next thirteen weeks are based on questions of Why is Grace so amazing? Discussions from Acts, Romans, 1-2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians and 1 Thessalonians. You are encouraged to attend one or as many of these as you would like.

Fearless conversations continue...

March 6 - where do I fit in the body of Christ?

March 13 - how can I get through the hard times in life?

March 20 - why should I be generous when others have more than I do?

March 27 - shouldn't people clean up before they come to God?

See you Sunday at 10:00 after first service!

Lily Fitch – Teacher of Christian Education

First Christian Church Grand Junction

Lenten and Easter Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event/Activity</u>
Every Day		Lenten Daily Devotional Reading
Wednesdays Thru 3/23	12:00pm	Lenten Lunches
Sunday, March 20	10:50am	Combined Palm Sunday Worship and Cantata
	7:00pm	Sunday at Seven Worship
Thursday, March 24	7:00pm	Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service
Sunday, March 20 To Friday, March 25	1:00pm - 8:00pm	Journey to the Cross
Thursday, March 24 To Friday, March 25	8:00pm - 8:00pm	Prayer Vigil
Sunday, March 27	10:00am	Easter Brunch
Sunday, March 27	10:50am	Combined Easter Worship
	7:00pm	Sunday at Seven Worship

*****NEXT WEEK!!!!*****

Easter Prayer Vigil

The 24 Hour Prayer Vigil is coming up on March 24th and 25th. The Vigil starts at 8:00pm following the Maundy Thursday Service and goes until 8:00pm on March 25th. 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. There are numerous times still open. PLEASE SIGN UP AND KEEP THE VIGIL UNBROKEN!



Birthdays, Anniversaries, Thanks, & Announcements



FCC March Birthdays

- March 10 Melanie Ferron
- March 12 Chip Ferron
- March 13 Gayle Johnson
- March 13 Sabrina Meade-Schuman
- March 15 Clara Arroyo
- March 21 Alice Wieseler
- March 23 Jeremy Kuhn
- March 27 Lance Hood
- March 28 Suzanne Daniels
- March 28 Elsie Granere

FCC March Anniversaries

- March 22 Johnny & Marlene Cowan
- March 22 Will & Debbie Eisemann

YOU ARE INVITED – APRIL 2, 2016

Please save the date and plan to come help us celebrate!!!

Al and Pam Baumgartle will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on April 2nd with a vow renewal and reception at First Christian Church. We have been members of FCC for 38 of those 50 years and are so excited to celebrate and share with our church family. The vow renewal will begin at 2:30 in the Sanctuary with a glorious reception will follow in the Fellowship Hall.

****LAST LENTEN LUNCH 3/23!!****

Wednesday, March 23 at 12 noon, this is a great opportunity to have a soup lunch with friends and hear a very meaningful message from one of our church members. This year's messages will have to do with "the cross: how it impacts our lives", so please plan to come! We will look forward to seeing you and any friends you want to bring along! If you have questions, please call Joyce Wittwer at 970-243-6214.

CROSSWORDS!

next deadline is...

Thursday, March 31

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.

Do you want an updated membership list?

The most recent list is located in the file box on the Information table in the Fellowship Hall. Please take one and let Normal Lavelett or Joyce Wittwer know if you have corrections or additions. A non-participating list will be available soon, giving you the addresses of those who are no longer in the area.

The FCC Bookworms have just finished reading "Doc Susie" by Virginia Cornell. Doc Susie earned her medical degree from the University of Michigan in 1897 at the age of 27, and by the time she was 37 she had TB and was on her way to Fraser, CO to either live or die. Her story is that of a woman doctor practicing among the lumberjacks, train engineers and those men building the Moffat tunnel. She lived to be 90 and was greatly respected by Denver doctors of her time. This is a great opportunity to learn more about our state's history. Thanks to Beverly Dorson, who donated this book to the church library.



Announcements

Great News about the El Salvador mission!

There are four people from our church planning on going to El Salvador in August. They are DeeAnn Lowry, Clayton Lowry, Beth Sherry and John Sherry. We are planning on a fundraiser on Palm Sunday after service (March 20). We will have a potato bar, salad and dessert for everyone! Please plan on attending because you know you will be hungry. All proceeds will go toward helping finance the airfare and cost of the trip for Clayton---after all, he is in high school and unable to work to earn his own way.

This is a fabulous way to encourage a member of our youth group, do good for the world and visit with the other people who plan on going with us. Although the El Salvador delegation is planning on doing most of the work, we would welcome anyone who could help with set up and clean up. Please contact Beth Sherry if you can help in anyway. My number is 245-3314 or email me at gnbsherry@bresnan.net.

See you there!

Beth

REMEMBER... all the good feelings we had after our church provided a wonderful Thanksgiving meal for folks in our community? Preparing and serving took a lot of time and expense but, when it was all over, I don't think anyone doubted it was worth it. Now, we have the opportunity to do even more as we have been asked to help provide temporary nightly shelter for several needy individuals for a couple of weeks. Although Spring is just around the corner, you can only imagine not having a place to sleep on the frosty nights that are still to come.

Other churches around the valley have stepped up to help... because that's what Christians do. I'm proud that our church cabinet has agreed to volunteer our assistance. Now we need help from the congregation. If you would be willing to donate a little time or money to the project, please let us know.

Riecke Claussen, Stewardship Committee



Holy Week Announcements

THIS WEEK!!!

Holy Week 2016 (March 20-27) Announcements

Palm Sunday

On Palm Sunday, the Sunday before Easter, we traditionally celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem at the beginning of the last week of his life. This year, we will join our morning worship services into ONE at 10:50a.m., so the combined choirs can lead us in a Cantata called *Come, Touch the Robe*. This moving cantata invites us to consider who Jesus showed himself to be as we remember Jesus' interaction with several people who were with him in his last days.

Journey to the Cross

Holy Week is the time when Christians traditionally re-live the events of Jesus' last week on earth. In recent times, Christians have reduced Holy Week to just a few events and just a few worships services. 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 - anytime after the conclusion of the morning worship service on Palm Sunday (March 20) and 8p.m. Good Friday (March 25).

Maundy Thursday

We will begin our remembrance of Jesus' Last Supper and death by hammering nails into a cross, considering our sins for which Jesus died. We will partake of the communion meal Jesus instituted on that night. And, we will spend the remainder of our time together hearing from some of the people who were with Jesus in those final days and watching together as candles - representing the light of Jesus' life on earth - are extinguished. We will end with the hope of Jesus' prophecy that his death would lead to resurrection.

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 we will gather to pray following our remembrance of that meal in our Maundy Thursday worship service and throughout 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.)

Easter Brunch

Every year, we celebrate Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday with worship and with brunch. Please plan to attend this year's Easter Brunch, which will take place at 10a.m. on Easter Sunday (March 27) and will be followed by one special, combined worship service at 10:50a.m.



Announcements

ARE YOU GOING TO A WEDDING, GRADUATION OR SPECIAL OCCASION?

Is there a “gift” you need for a wedding, a graduation or another occasion, but are not sure what to get the person? Get them a gift card and they can buy whatever they need or want. Just let me know that you are interested and I can give you a list of about 200-300 stores, in our area and throughout the U. S.

You can buy a gift card from me and you will have it in about a week. With this program the gift cards don't cost any more than if you went to the store and you bought them **and our church gets a portion of each card that we can use for our church.**

Anyone who is interested in buying gift cards can see me and I can send them off for you. I have an order to go in now and I can add your order with it. To order your cards, you may call me at 970-773-4797 or see me at church. Buying your cards through the church not only saves you from going to the store, but **our church gets a portion of what you order, which helps our church's bills.**

Thank you, ~Carol Matthews

Help is needed

Do you ever wonder what you can do to help? Do you think – “Oh I'm too old to help”? Or “I can't do that”? Well you are not too old and you CAN do many things. You just have to try.

1. Can you read? Can you push a button?
Then YOU can help run the piano during the 2nd service.
2. Can you read? Can you operate a computer?
Then YOU can help run the video on Sunday morning.
3. Can you walk up the ramp to the chancel? Can you count money?
Then YOU can help collect the offerings on Sunday morning. Each Sunday we need 2 people to collect the offerings, count the money and put it in the safe.
4. Can you stand in the back and assist the young people with the candle lighting?
You might need to stand for 5 to 10 minutes.
5. Can you turn down the lights at the proper time?
If you want to sit in the back – then this is the perfect job for you to help with.

These are small jobs that do not require a lot of technical knowledge or ability. You just have to be willing to say – YES I WILL HELP. We have a few people who do many of these small jobs that need help. When you come to church on Sunday morning do you want to sit with your family and friends? Do you want to enjoy the service and not have to be responsible for seeing that various aspects run smoothly? The lights, the candle lighters, the piano, the video, the sound? Other people would like to do the same thing. If more people were willing to help, the fewer people would have to spend their Sunday mornings making sure you enjoy the service. We are a congregation of older adults – but we are not a congregation of invalids. Please volunteer to help. Training is always provided.

Call Pam, Brad, or Melanie. More hands make lighter work for everyone.



FCC Prayer Concerns

“Pray without ceasing.”

I Thessalonians 5:17

Scott Allen	Pat Jones
Nancy Armbruster	Nora Juette
Brenda Armstrong	Barbara Kinion
Jessie Bowen	Harriette & Andy Krall
Lois Braun	Gloria Ladehoff
Mark Bryant	Bette Learned
Tim Burke	Anna Lopez
Marianne Chapman	Joyce Lucore
Charlie & Carol	Carla Martin
Marlis Clark	Jennifer McDaniel
Johnny & Marlene Cowan	Richard McPeek
Chuck Cummings	Clare & Ally Morris
Helen Dillard	Ginger Morris
John Drury	Larry Petrini
Leon Gardner	Jeff Rood
Dorothy Griffin	Jean Silkey
David & Vickie Hagan	Carol Steed
Emily Hauquitz	Lois Stouffer
Jason Hawley	Jiemon & Tayo Takahashi
David Herrera	Helen Wade
Bruce Hines	Tammy Wenzinger
Shaun Hood	Kenna Jo Wieseler
Kim Hopkins	D.J. Wilhorn
Jamie & Nate	
Robin Jakino	
Ed Jones	
Jordan Jones	



FCC SUNDAY SERVERS' 4-Week ASSIGNMENTS

March 20, 2016

Greeters & Offering

NO FIRST SERVICE

March 27, 2016

Greeters & Offering

NO FIRST SERVICE

April 3, 2016

Greeters & Offering

Norma Lavelett

DeeAnn Lowry

Elder

Grace Farrell

April 10, 2016

Greeters & Offering

Blanche Marshall

David Hawley

Elder

Dennis Edwards

March 20, 2016 3rd Sunday (Palm Sunday)

Worship Leader

Suzanne Daniels

Offering Elder

Jim Matthews

Communion Elder

Les Armbruster

Preparing Diaconate

Riecke Claussen

Nancy Claussen

Serving Diaconate

Larry Eggers

JoAnne Eggers

Ruth Acord

Nancy Armbruster

Coffee Mingle

Melanie Ferron

Greeters

Johnny Cowan

Marlene Cowan

Van Driver

Leonard Gardner

Kathy Gardner

Keyboard

Paula Schaffer

March 27, 2016 4th Sunday (Easter)

Worship Leader

Nancy Armbruster

Offering Elder

Al Baumgartle

Communion Elder

Gene Matteson

Preparing Diaconate

George Decker

Barbara Decker

Serving Diaconate

Beth Sherry

Carol Matthews

Earn Eachus

Ruby Eachus

Coffee Mingle

Lamar Edwards

Joyce Wittwer

Greeters

Walter Meders

Susan Meders

Van Driver

George Decker

Keyboard

Ray Farrell

April 3, 2016 1st Sunday

Worship Leader

Lois Dunning

Offering Elder

Ray Farrell

Communion Elder

Grace Farrell

Preparing Diaconate

Karen Lehman

Serving Diaconate

Wes Wade

Helen Wade

Jeanice Swank

Yvonne Warner

Coffee Mingle

Jeanne Klitzke

Suzanne Daniels

Greeters

Jim Matthews

Carol Matthews

Van Driver

Terry Laughlin

Jo Laughlin

Keyboard

Paula Schaffer

April 10, 2016 2nd Sunday

Worship Leader

Beverly Dorson

Offering Elder

Kathy Gardner

Communion Elder

Leonard Gardner

Preparing Diaconate

Alice Wieseler

Serving Diaconate

Al Ladage

Jerry Francis

Alice Wieseler

Bob Wise

Coffee Mingle

Carol Matthews

Greeters

Donna Ham

Jenny Barnes

Van Driver

Jerry Francis

Keyboard

Pam Baumgartle

Church Calendar of Events - March 17, 2016— March 25, 2016

Thursday March 17, 2016

7:00am School Dist. 51 Meeting
 2:00pm Pinochle
 6:00pm Praise Team

Saturday March 19, 2016

8:00am Men's Breakfast
 8:00am RMCS CPE Group

Sunday March 20, 2016

Palm Sunday

NO Contemporary Worship
 9:30am Sunday School/ Book of Hebrews
 10:50am Combined Palm Sunday Worship
 12:15pm Coffee Mingle
 1:30pm Emergency Shelter Program Training
 12:30pm El Salvador Fundraiser
 1:00pm Journey to the Cross Begins
 7:00pm Sunday at Seven

Monday March 21, 2016

Journey to the Cross (Sanctuary)
 9:00am Church Women United
 10:30am Staff Meeting
 7:00pm M&M Bible Study

Tuesday March 22, 2016

Journey to the Cross (Sanctuary)
 9:00am Burger King Coffee Group
 10:00am A New Door Opens @ Spoons
 12:00pm Lessons at Lunch
 4:00pm Disciples Singers
 5:00pm Healthy Living

Wednesday March 23, 2016

Journey to the Cross (Sanctuary)
 10:00am Bible Study
 12:00pm Lenten Lunches-TBD
 NO KFC (Elementary Youth Group)
 NO Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal
 NO Youth Group
 6:30pm Bible Study

Thursday March 24, 2016

Maundy Thursday

Journey to the Cross (Sanctuary)
 3:00pm CWF(DW) Executive

Thursday March 24, 2016...

6:00pm Praise Team
 7:00pm Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service
 8:00pm Prayer Vigil Begins

Friday March 25, 2016

Good Friday

Journey to the Cross (Sanctuary)
 2:00pm Mexican Train Group
 8:00pm Journey to the Cross/ Prayer Vigil End

Saturday March 26, 2016

All Day Easter Brunch Prep

Sunday March 27, 2016

Easter Sunday

NO Contemporary Worship
 NO Sunday School
 10:00am Easter Brunch
 10:50am Combined Easter Sunday Worship
 6:00pm Emergency Shelter Program
 7:00pm Sunday at Seven

Monday March 28, 2016

Melanie Out Of Office

10:30am Staff Meeting
 1:30pm FCC Bookworms
 6:00pm Emergency Shelter Program
 7:00pm M&M Bible Study

Tuesday March 29, 2016

9:00am Burger King Coffee Group
 12:00pm Lessons at Lunch
 4:00pm Disciples Singers
 5:00pm Healthy Living
 6:00pm Emergency Shelter Program

Wednesday March 30, 2016

10:00am Bible Study
 NO KFC (Elementary Youth Group)
 NO Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal
 6:00pm Emergency Shelter Program
 6:30pm Bible Study
 NO Youth Group

Thursday March 31, 2016

6:00pm Praise Team
 6:00pm Emergency Shelter Program

Friday April 1, 2016

6:00pm Emergency Shelter Program

Saturday April 2, 2016

1:00pm Baumgartle Anniversary Party
 6:00pm Emergency Shelter Program

Sunday April 3, 2016

9:00am Contemporary Worship
 9:30am Sunday School/ Book of Hebrews
 10:00am Sunday School/ "Fearless Conversation"

10:50am Traditional Worship

11:00am Jr. Church

12:15pm Coffee Mingle

12:30pm Cabinet Meeting

6:00pm Emergency Shelter Program

7:00pm Sunday at Seven

Monday April 4, 2016

10:30am Staff Meeting

5:30pm Norwex Meeting

6:00pm Emergency Shelter Program

7:00pm M&M Bible Study

Tuesday April 5, 2016

9:00am Burger King Coffee Group

10:00am A New Door Opens @ Spoons

12:00pm Lessons at Lunch

4:00pm Grandview Worship

4:00pm Disciples Singers

5:00pm Healthy Living

6:00pm Emergency Shelter Program

6:30pm Night'n Gals

Wednesday April 6, 2016

10:00am Bible Study

3:30pm Parkinson's Support Group

4:00pm KFC (Elementary Youth Group)

6:00pm Wednesday Night

Fellowship Meal

(Ray & Grace Farrell)

6:00pm Emergency Shelter Program

6:30pm Bible Study

6:30pm Middle/High School

Youth Group