



First Christian Church (DOC)

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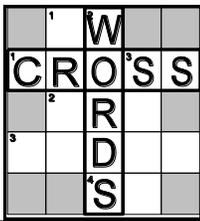
Volume 4 • March 3, 2016

...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

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

Bring a Friend to FCCGJ It's Good for Your Friend It's Good for You/Us

We've done quite a bit together in ministry over the last 3+ years. God is doing amazing things through this congregation with your help! This year, one of my primary foci will be to encourage you to share what God is doing here with your friends (and others) outside of FCCGJ. In the Church, we call these efforts "evangelism".

As we begin this journey of intentionally focusing on evangelism in 2016, I would like to make two claims: getting a friend involved in the ministries of First Christian Church is good for your friend, and getting a friend involved in the ministries of First Christian Church is good for you/us.

Bringing a Friend is good for your friend. Take a moment and think about something: what would your life be like without involvement in this congregation? Certainly, your life would not be as good as it is...or you wouldn't continue to participate in what God is doing through FCCGJ. I know it can be difficult to bring up conversations about Church with your friends because people have opinions about Church, and religion has been made a taboo subject within our society. However, don't you share whatever else it is that enriches your life with your friends: the Broncos, the Rockies, a great hiking spot, a great fishing spot, games, food, etc.? For the same reason you share these things with your friends - they make life better - you should share whatever you enjoy about FCCGJ with your friends. It doesn't have to be worship. It can be Burger King coffee or pinochle or dominoes or CWF or Men's Breakfast or Wednesday night fellowship or an outreach ministry. Whatever enriches your life - share it!

Bringing a Friend is good for you/us. I spent some time looking at the directory and the list of congregational leaders for 2016 this week. I was amazed at what I discovered - a ton of new names and faces! Sometimes it feels like the congregation is the same now as it was five years ago - and we like that - but the reality is the congregation is always changing...and that's a GREAT thing! Consider all the people who have come into your life through FCCGJ. Can you even imagine life before you knew Larry and JoAnne Eggers...or Jim and Carol Matthews...or Earn and Ruby Eachus...or Bob Wise and Alice Wieseler...or Ruth Accord and Harriet Conway...or Wes and Helen Wade...or Melinda...or Clara...or Thea...or Katie...or Faye...or Bill...or countless others you didn't know even five years ago but who now enrich your lives so greatly? Y'all, each and every one of our lives is made better by the relationships made with the new people who enter into ministry with us at First Christian Church. When more new people become involved in ministry with us, it's good for us.

Be on the look-out for more news about evangelism in my newsletter articles this 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

Pope Francis has a book on the New York Times Best-Sellers List, and we have a large print copy of it in our library. “The Name of God is Mercy” contains an interview by Vatican reporter Andrea Tornielli of the Pope. Read and learn of the Pope’s desires in his proclaimed Holy Year of Mercy which began on March 13, 2015 and ended December 8, 2015.

LENTEN LUNCHESES

Easter is fast approaching, and that means LENTEN LUNCHESES—always on Wednesdays at 12 noon starting February 17th. 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! This is also an opportunity for you to share the “soup of your labor” by signing up to bring a soup on Wednesday. Please look for the sign-up sheet on the information table in the Fellowship Hall. 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.



Box top and Education Labels are being readied to send to the Tennyson Center for Children in Denver. Gather up those loose labels and place in the gray box on the Information Table. It takes only a few seconds to cut the labels out of the products you use. Do this for the kids!!!



CROSSWORDS!

next deadline is...

Thursday, March 10

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.

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Thanks, & Announcements



FCC March Birthdays

- March 2 Juanita Davis
- 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

Thank You

Without your gift of \$100.00 on February 12, 2016, we could not provide necessary services to kids who have survived abuse or neglect, or those who face mental health or developmental issues. Your generous support helps continue our vision of changing lives and giving hope to children and families.

(Excerpt from letter from the Tennyson Center for Children, full letter on bulletin board)

~Rod White, CEO



Thank You

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Director of the Community Food Bank, I am honored to recognize you for your continued support. This letter is to acknowledge the receipt of your monetary gift(s) of \$2,120.00 during the 2015 calendar year.

The community Food Bank recently served 18,925 clients in the 2015 calendar year and we have consistently served just under 20,000 each year for the last three years.

As you may or may not be aware, the Community Food Bank will begin moving it's operations from 200 S. Spruce Street to 562 West Crete Circle #102 on March 1, 2016 and will be open for service on March 7, 2016.

The Community Food Bank began operations in 1978 in the basement of a Grand Junction Presbyterian Church. Over the course of 37 years, the locations and partnerships have changed and evolved, but the core mission has remained the same throughout the years: *To provide an emergency supply of nutritious food to Mesa County individuals and families in crisis.* We operate with one employee and over 40 volunteers. Please know your donation makes an impact and helps us to serve those in our community who are hungry and in need.

We truly appreciate your generosity.

~Biff Messinger, VP, Board of Directors



SAVE THE DATE – APRIL 2, 2016

Al and Pam Baumgartle will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on April 2nd.

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



Announcements

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.

Upcoming events for Outreach

- As we are slowly getting older, we are faced with more facts on what our wishes are. I have asked Susan Barton to talk to us about Palliative Care on Sunday March 13, at 1:00pm. Please save this date and come learn what we need to know.
- Also, we will have been asked to help with the ESP, the Emergency Shelter Program from March 27 until April 10. Please consider what you are able to do to help.

Be sure to look at the Bulletin Board next to the kitchen door to learn more about the four generations related to the Farrell’s who have attended Mesa. The article was taken from “The Maverick” 2016 winter issue. Remember, Ray is related to Caroline Peach who was a member for many years.



Holy Week Announcements

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 worship 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

Grief Recovery Support Group

GriefShare is a weekly seminar and support group for people grieving the death of someone close to them. This seminar will be March 8-May 31, Tuesdays 6:30pm-8:30pm at First Presbyterian Church, 3940 27 1/2 Rd, Grand Junction.

To register, or for more information, please contact Cindi Brower at 970-242-1923 ext. 25 or cmlbrower@gmail.com. There is a \$20.00 registration fee (includes workbook). More information on the bulletin board.



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

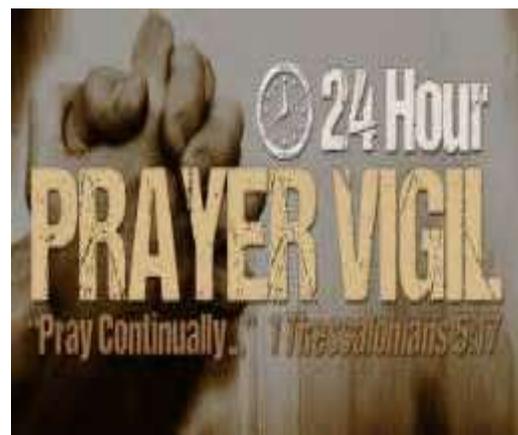


"All are from the dust, and all turn to dust again."

-Ecclesiastes 3:20

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!





FCC Prayer Concerns

“Pray without ceasing.”

I Thessalonians 5:17

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



FCC SUNDAY SERVERS' 4-Week ASSIGNMENTS

March 6, 2016

Greeters & Offering

Norma Lavelett

DeeAnn Lowry

Elder

Les Armbruster

March 13, 2016

Greeters & Offering

David Hawley

Blanche Marshall

Elder

Dennis Edwards

March 20, 2016

Greeters & Offering

NO FIRST SERVICE

Elder

March 27, 2016

Greeters & Offering

NO FIRST SERVICE

Elder

March 6, 2016 1st Sunday

Worship Leader

JoAnne Eggers

Offering Elder

Grace Farrell

Communion Elder

Ray Farrell

Preparing Diaconate

Karen Lehman

Serving Diaconate

Wes Wade

Helen Wade

Jeanice Swank

Yvonne Warner

Coffee Mingle

Ruth Acord

Jeanice Swank

Greeters

George Decker

Barbara Decker

Van Driver

Terry Laughlin

Jo Laughlin

Keyboard

Paula Schaeffer

March 13, 2016 2nd Sunday

Worship Leader

Al Baumgartle

Offering Elder

Leonard Gardner

Communion Elder

Kathy Gardner

Preparing Diaconate

Alice Wieseler

Serving Diaconate

Al Ladage

Jerry Francis

Alice Wieseler

Bob Wise

Coffee Mingle

Marlene Cowan

JoAnne Eggers

Greeters

Lamar Edwards

Joyce Wittwer

Van Driver

Jerry Francis

Keyboard

Pam Baumgartle

March 20, 2016 3rd Sunday (Palm Sunday)

Worship Leader

Nancy Armbruster

Offering Elder

Al Baumgartle

Communion Elder

Gene Matteson

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

Beth Sherry

March 27, 2016 4th Sunday (Easter)

Worship Leader

Suzanne Daniels

Offering Elder

Jim Matthews

Communion Elder

Les Armbruster

Preparing Diaconate

TBD

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

Church Calendar of Events - March 3, 2016— March 25, 2016

Thursday March 3, 2016

9:30am Ruth Group
 1:30pm Agape Group
 1:30pm Esther Group
 6:00pm Praise Team
 6:00pm CO West Quilter's Board
 7:00pm Passions Class

Sunday March 6, 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
 7:00pm Sunday at Seven

Monday March 7, 2016

10:30am Staff Meeting
 7:00pm M&M Bible Study

Tuesday March 8, 2016

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
 6:15pm Monument View Flute Circle

Wednesday March 9, 2016

9:30am Newcomers Group
 10:00am Bible Study
 12:00pm Lenten Lunches- TBD
 4:00pm KFC (Elementary Youth Group)
 6:00pm Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal (Pizza)
 6:30pm Bible Study
 6:30pm Middle/High School Youth Group
 7:00pm CO West Quilter's Guild

Thursday March 10, 2016

9:30am Young Republican Moms
 1:30pm CWF(DW) General
 5:00pm Homeward Bound Ministry
 6:00pm Praise Team

Friday March 11, 2016

2:00pm Mexican Train Group

Sunday March 13, 2016

Daylight Saving Time Begins

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 Elder's Meeting
 7:00pm Sunday at Seven

Monday March 14, 2016

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

Tuesday March 15, 2016

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

Wednesday March 16, 2016

10:00am Bible Study
 12:00pm Lenten Lunches-TBD
 4:00pm KFC (Elementary Youth Group)
 6:00pm Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal (Tammy)
 6:30pm Bible Study
 6:30pm Middle/High School Youth Group

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 RMCSC CPE Group

Sunday March 20, 2016

Palm Sunday
 NO Contemporary Worship

Sunday March 20, 2016...

9:30am Sunday School/ Book of Hebrews
 10:00am Sunday School/ "Fearless Conversation"
 10:50am Combined Palm Sunday Worship
 11:00am Jr. Church
 12:15pm Coffee Mingle
 12:30pm Cabinet Meeting
 1:00pm Journey to the Cross Begins
 7:00pm Sunday at Seven

Monday March 21, 2016

9:00am Church Women United
 10:30am Staff Meeting
 7:00pm M&M Bible Study

Tuesday March 22, 2016

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

10:00am Bible Study
 12:00pm Lenten Lunches-TBD
 4:00pm KFC (Elementary Youth Group)
 6:00pm Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal (Potluck)
 6:30pm Bible Study
 6:30pm Middle/High School Youth Group

Thursday March 24, 2016

Maundy Thursday
 3:00pm CWF(DW) Executive
 6:00pm Praise Team
 7:00pm Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service

Friday March 25, 2016

Good Friday
 2:00pm Mexican Train Group
 8:00pm Journey to the Cross/ Prayer Vigil Ends