



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

Advent is Coming

Mark Your Calendars and Prepare to Re-Discover Christmas

Advent, our season of preparation for Christmas, begins November 29; it's only 3 weeks away! Are you ready? This Advent season, our theme will be "Re-Discovering **Christmas**". As I've journeyed through the Advent season the past few years and have witnessed the transformation of Christmas from being a Christ-centered celebration to being a generic wintery holiday, I have discerned that it would be good as Christians, as a congregation, to re-focus on the symbols and traditions and songs that help prepare us for what Christmas is really all about...and that's what we'll do this Advent season at First Christian Church. Here are some ways you can participate and re-discover **Christmas**.

- **Decorating the Church Building**, November 22-24 - There's something about decorating the church building for Christmas that refocuses us on Christ. Come help decorate and consider the meaning of the symbols.
- **Advent Soup and Carols**, Wednesday Evenings, Dec. 2-23 @ 6pm - We'll gather to sing songs, eat soup, and study "Not So Silent Night", considering the miracle of Jesus through the viewpoint of Mary.
- **Lighting the Advent Wreath Candles**, Sunday worship Nov. 29, Dec. 6, 13 & 20 - One of the prominent biblical themes of Christmas, light shining in the darkness, will guide our Advent Wreath candle lighting this year. Unlike past years, the song we sing will change each Sunday.
- **Christmas Caroling** - Plans to go Christmas caroling and spread holiday cheer at Grandview Apartments and elsewhere are in the works. Dec. 6 @ 1:30 p.m. @ Eagle Ridge; Dec. 10 @ 7:30 p.m. @ Manty Heights; Dec. 20 @ 1:30 p.m. @ Larchwood.
- **Hanging of the Greens**, November 29 @ 10:50 a.m. - This year, we'll enter with the sanctuary fully decorated. I'll spend the worship service moving from symbol to symbol, explaining the significance of many of them. Of course, we'll sing the songs of Advent and Christmas, as well.
- **Re-Discovering Christmas Through The Songs of Christmas**, December 6 @ 10:50 a.m. - On the second Sunday of Advent, we'll sing and explore the history and significance of some of the most well known songs of the season.
- **Christmas Program**, December 13 @ 10:50 a.m. - This year's intergenerational Christmas program is entitled "Everywhere, Everywhere, Christmas is Here" and will explore Christmas as celebrated around the world.
- **Re-Discovering Christmas Through Holiday Traditions**, December 20 @ 10:50 a.m. - On the final Sunday of Advent, we'll consider the connection (or lack thereof) between holiday traditions and the true meaning of Christmas.

I look forward to preparing for Christmas with you this Advent season!

~Pastor Brad



Sunday School & Announcements

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!

Two more weeks of Fearless Conversation and a new Advent Study begins!

November 15 – Why does God’s plan seem so complicated?

November 22 – How does my sin impact others?

Starting November 29th the first Sunday of Advent, we begin a study called

SENT...DELIVERING THE GIFT OF HOPE AT CHRISTMAS.

This is a video/book study on Jesus Reconciling, Setting Us Free, Bringing New Life and Changing Everything!

We hope you will take this Christmas Advent Season to prepare for the Coming of our Lord!

Join us on Sunday in the library after first service (around 10:05)...note: we adjust part of our discussion to accommodate those that would like to join us but go to second service, so that is not a problem to attend. All are welcome!

Lily Fitch – Teacher of Christian Education

Have you heard about the Transitions group? If you have, did you wonder what it is? Maybe you have heard about a new class coming in January called the “Passions Class.”

We would like to give you a little preview of what we are planning! Marian Velarde and Debbie Eisemann are planning on facilitating a class or group activity inspired by the Transitions Group that met this summer and explored ways to get more people -- especially Baby Boomers -- into the church.

Over the last few months or so, a number of people in the church have been talking about the common life transitions of Baby Boomers in our church and our community.

We plan to facilitate an exploration of the gifts, talents and interests God has given us and the possibilities and plans He has for us in midlife and beyond. The group will look at the book of Ruth from the perspective of Naomi and her midlife experiences of transition and faith as well as doing a spiritual gifts inventory. We will use other exercise and journaling experiences to seek understanding to explore what our “passion” or “second calling” might be.

The plan is for the group to only meet 4 or 5 times but the expectation is that there will be homework assignments and time for self-reflection in order to get the most out of the class. For more information about this class watch future crosswords or talk to *Pastor Melanie, Marian, or Debbie.*

Anniversaries, Birthdays, & Thanks



FCC November Birthdays

- November 2 Elsie Ladage
- November 8 Karen Lehman
- November 9 David Morgan
- November 13 Ruby Eachus
- November 18 Dennis Edwards
- Walter Meders
- November 20 Colton Lowry
- November 27 Kyle Rosencrans
- November 30 Leonard Gardner



FCC November Anniversaries

- November 22 Ron & Marian Velarde

Have you completed your will?
Remember that one of the most valuable gifts you can make is to remember the church in your will. Please remember to update your will and include First Christian Church, Grand Junction, CO. Your gift will be a lasting memory to your generosity and devotion.

Thanks!!
The Crock Pot Cook-Off was a great success! Many thanks to Tammy Ostermiller for organizing the event and the youth who assisted her. A special thanks to those doing the cooking and those doing the eating! \$347 was raised to assist Beth Sherry in her next trip to El Salvador.

Thank you!!
What a tremendous blessing it is to have such a wonderful church family!! I want to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, food, visits, and the beautiful prayer shawl during my recent hospitalization. You are an awesome family!!!!
Jo Anne and Larry



Thank You
Thank you for your generous contribution of \$325.00 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.
Community Food Bank



THANK YOU
We offer a great big "Thank You" to our First Christian Church family for the cards, gifts, reception and well-wishes offered on the celebration of Pastor Appreciation Day this year! Your encouragement is a great help to our respective ministries!
Pastor Brad, Pastor Melanie, and Susan

To my friends at F.C.C.-
What a pleasant surprise-
-the visit from you
-the brownie's
-the beautiful red roses
-the cards
My apologies for being so tardy with my thank you. I certainly appreciated it all- almost ready for another "go"
Love, Pat Cress

NEW ADDRESS & PHONE

Nancy Scott
14648 Brahms Dr, #2116
Carmel, IN 46032
317-564-8677



Announcements

You Are Invited to: A Friends,
(Church) Family, and Fellowship
Event at the Hawleys

What: A Christmas-Themed Party

When: December 12, 2015
6:00 p.m.

Who: Church Family and Friends

Bring: Pot Luck Dish
(Brisket to be provided)

RSVP: by December 6, 2015
970-257-9216

Ten for Ten (Thousand)
Progress Update: Week 6

Tune in and keep your eyes on the
cross below to watch our
congregation's progress to increase
pledges for 2016 by about
\$10,000. Each tick mark on the cross
represents one family's commitment of
an additional \$20/week
(or \$1,040 per year.)



NOTE: "Ten for ten" is an effort to
raise an additional (approximately)
\$10,000 for the 2016 budget, so we as
a congregation can take our minds off
of finances and focus our
energy on ministry.

Coffee and Donuts—has been a great way to
start Sunday mornings before the early
Contemporary Service. However, the increased
price of donuts has made it necessary for
Membership Ministry to seek help in off-setting
the cost. In order to continue, we are asking for
free-will donations. We are so fortunate that Jo
Laughlin has volunteered to pick up donuts
every Sunday for the past ten years for our
enjoyment, and we want to continue this. If
you are in a position to contribute toward their
cost, please drop your donation in the basket
on the counter. Membership appreciates your
help. If you have questions, please see Joyce
Wittwer or Jo.



CROSSWORDS!

next deadline is...

Thursday, November 19

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.



Announcements

YOU ARE INVITED TO A
FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH FAMILY
THANKSGIVING DINNER SUNDAY,
NOVEMBER 22, 2015, AT 12:30PM

The following foods are furnished by the
Membership Committee:

- Turkey & Dressing
- Mashed Potatoes &
- Gravy
- Rolls
- Drinks



Please bring a side dish to share. What
you bring is what we eat!

Also, Please bring your own table service.

Advent Calendar of Events 2015

Re-discover Christmas!

Advent Soup and Carols
Wednesdays in December
(except December 30)
6:00 p.m.

Nursing Home Caroling
Dec. 6, Eagle Ridge—1:30 p.m.
Dec. 10, Mantey Heights—7:30 p.m.
Dec. 20, Larchwood—1:30 p.m.

First Sunday of Advent
November 29
Hanging of the Greens
10:50 a.m.

Second Sunday of Advent
December 6
*The Songs of Christmas:
Their History and Meaning*
10:50 a.m.

Third Sunday of Advent
December 13
*Everywhere, Everywhere,
Christmas is Here*
An Intergenerational
Christmas Program
10:50 a.m.

Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 20
*Re-discovering Christmas
Through Holiday Traditions*
10:50 a.m.

Christmas Eve
December 24
Christmas Eve by Candlelight
7:00 p.m.

First Sunday of Christmas
December 27
Christmas Carol Sing
10:50 a.m.

Annual FREE Thanksgiving Day Meal

- WHEN:** Thanksgiving Day
Thursday, November 26, 2015
11:00am to 2:00pm
- WHERE:** 1326 North 1st Street, Grand Junction, CO
Hosted by the First Christian Church
- WHO:** Everybody...especially those who don't
want to eat Thanksgiving Dinner alone!
- NEEDED:** Workers, Monetary Donations, & Pies

*Contact Les Armbruster for more
information.

Invite People In!





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, money, and 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?

We need people to participate in this committee and also in purchasing scrip. If we don't have enough interest, we will be unable to offer this! Please sign-up!!

*****Don't forget, the holidays are coming!! Shopping with Scrip can help with your holiday list AND help out our congregation!*****

Please contact Carol Matthews if interested! 970-773-4797



FCC Prayer Concerns

“Pray without ceasing.”

I Thessalonians 5:17

Scott Allen	Bruce Hines
Nancy Armbruster	Kim Hopkins
Brenda Armstrong	Robin Jakino
David Barnes	Carol Johnson
Anna Bilyeu	Ed Jones
Jessie Bowen	Jordan Jones
Lois Braun	Pat Jones
Tim Burke	Nora Juette
Marianne Chapman	Gloria Ladehoff
Charlie & Carol	Bette Learned
Marlis Clark	Anna Lopez
Marlene Cowan	Joyce Lucore
Chuck Cummings	Carla Martin
Arinda Davis' Family	Jennifer McDaniel
Melissa Frankland	Clare & Ally Morris
Helen Dillard	Ginger Morris
John Drury	Larry Petrini
JoAnne Eggers	Jeff Rood
Larry Eggers	Jean Silkey
Leon Gardner	Greg Stouffer
Dorothy Griffin	Lois Stouffer
Emily Hauquitz	Jiemon & Tayo Takahashi
Jason Hawley	Helen Wade
David Herrera	Katie Wendland
Doris Hicks	D.J. Wilhorn



FCC SUNDAY SERVERS' 4-Week ASSIGNMENTS

November 15, 2015

Greeters & Offering

Debbie Eisemann

DeeAnn Lowry

Elder

Dennis Edwards

November 22, 2015

Greeters & Offering

Blanche Marshall

Curtis Rosencrans

Elder

Brad Krebill

November 29, 2015

No First Service

December 6, 2015

No First Service

November 15, 2015 3rd Sunday

<u>Worship Leader</u> Suzanne Daniels	<u>Serving Diaconate</u> Larry Eggers	<u>Coffee Mingle</u> Donna Ham
<u>Children's Moment</u> N/A	JoAnne Eggers	Alex & Ethan Peters
<u>Offering Elder</u> Eleanor Hubbell	Jeanne Klitzke	<u>Greeters</u> Jeanne Klitzke
<u>Communion Elder</u> Gene Matteson	David Morgan	Janice Swank
	<u>Preparing Diaconate</u> Riecke Claussen	<u>Van Driver</u> Leonard Gardner
	Nancy Claussen	Kathy Gardner

November 22, 2015 4th Sunday

<u>Worship Leader</u> Beverly Dorson	<u>Serving Diaconate</u> Beth Sherry	<u>Coffee Mingle</u> Beverly Dorson
<u>Children's Moment</u> Tammy Ostermiller	Carol Matthews	Gloria Jeffery
<u>Offering Elder</u> Les Armbruster	Doug Bryant	<u>Greeters</u> Doug Bryant
<u>Communion Elder</u> Leonard Gardner	Carolyn Bryant	Carolyn Bryant
	<u>Preparing Diaconate</u> George Decker	<u>Van Driver</u> George Decker
	Barbara Decker	

November 29, 2015 5th Sunday

<u>Worship Leader</u> N/A	<u>Serving Diaconate</u> Cole Barton	<u>Coffee Mingle</u> Lamar Edwards
<u>Children's Moment</u> N/A	Josh Barton	Joyce Wittwer
<u>Offering Elder</u> Al Baumgartle		<u>Greeters</u> Leonard Gardner
<u>Communion Elder</u> Ray Farrell	<u>Preparing Diaconate</u> Ray Farrell	Kathy Gardner
		<u>Van Driver</u> Jenny Barnes

December 6, 2015 1st Sunday

<u>Worship Leader</u> N/A	<u>Serving Diaconate</u> Alice Wieseler	<u>Coffee Mingle</u> Beverly Dorson
<u>Children's Moment</u> N/A	Nancy Armbruster	Gloria Jeffery
<u>Offering Elder</u> Ray Farrell	Wes Wade	<u>Greeters</u> TBD
<u>Communion Elder</u> Grace Farrell	Helen Wade	
	<u>Preparing Diaconate</u> Alice Wieseler	<u>Van Driver</u> Terry & Jo Laughlin

Church Calendar of Events - November 5, 2015— December 6, 2015

Thursday November 12, 2015

9:30am Young Republican Moms
1:30pm CWF(DW) General
6:00pm Praise Team Practice

Friday November 13, 2015

2:00pm Mexican Train Group

Saturday November 14, 2015

2:00pm Renteria Vow Renewal

Sunday November 15, 2015

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

4:00pm Board & Cabinet Meeting

Monday November 16, 2015

9:30am Church Women United

10:30am Staff Meeting

7:00pm M&M Bible Study

Tuesday November 17, 2015

9:00am Burger King Coffee Group

12:00pm Lessons at Lunch

4:00pm Disciples Singers

5:00pm Healthy Living

6:15pm Monument View Flute Circle

Wednesday November 18, 2015

10:00am Bible Study

4:00pm KFC (Elementary Youth Group)

6:00pm Wednesday Fellowship Meal
(Lily Fitch)

6:30pm Bible Study

6:30pm Middle/High School Youth Grp

Thursday November 19, 2015

7:00am School Dist. 51

10:00am Prayer Blanket Group

2:00pm Pinochle Group

3:00pm CWF(DW) Executive

6:00pm Praise Team Practice

Saturday November 21, 2015

8:00am Men's Breakfast

8:00am RMCSC CPE Group

Sunday November 22, 2015

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 Thanksgiving Dinner

Monday November 23, 2015

Brad Out of Office

10:30am Staff Meeting

1:30pm Bookworms

7:00pm M&M Bible Study

Tuesday November 24, 2015

Brad Out of Office

9:00am Burger King Coffee Group

NO MEETING A New Door Opens
@ Spoons

12:00pm Lessons at Lunch

4:00pm Disciples Singers

5:00pm Healthy Living

Wednesday November 25, 2015

Brad Out of Office

NO BIBLE STUDY

NO KFC/YOUTH GROUP

NO FELLOWSHIP MEAL

NO BIBLE STUDY

Thursday November 26, 2015

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

11:00am-2:00pm Thanksgiving Dinner

Sunday November 29, 2015

1st Sunday of Advent

NO First Worship

9:30am Sunday School/ Book of
Hebrews

10:00am Sunday School/
"Fearless Conversation"

10:50am Hanging of the Green's
Worship Service

11:00am Jr. Church

12:15pm Coffee Mingle

Monday November 30, 2015

Melanie Out of Office

10:30am Staff Meeting

7:00pm M&M Bible Study

Tuesday December 1, 2015

Melanie Out of Office

9:00am Burger King Coffee Group

9:00am Church Christmas Decorating

10:00am A New Door Opens
@ Spoons

4:00pm Grandview Worship

4:00pm Disciples Singers

5:00pm Healthy Living

Wednesday December 2, 2015

Melanie Out of Office

10:00am Bible Study

3:30pm Parkinson's Support Group

4:00pm KFC (Elementary Youth Grp)

6:00pm Wednesday Fellowship Meal
(Lily Fitch)

6:30pm Bible Study

6:30pm Middle/High School Youth Grp

Thursday December 3, 2015

Melanie Out of Office

9:30am Ruth Group

1:30pm Agape Group

1:30pm Esther Group

6:00pm Praise Team Practice

Friday December 4, 2015

6:00pm Advent Memorial Dinner

Sunday December 6, 2015

2nd Sunday of Advent

NO First Service

9:30am Sunday School/ Book of
Hebrews

10:00am Sunday School/
"Fearless Conversation"

10:50am Re-discovering Christmas
Through Songs Worship Service

11:00am Jr. Church

12:15pm Coffee Mingle

1:30pm Caroling at Eagle Ridge ¹⁰