



First Christian Church (DOC)

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Return Service Requested

Volume 23 • November 23, 2015

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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

Why FCCGJ? - Some Preliminary Results

About a month ago, I sent an email and letter out to the congregation asking you to share with me "why you choose First Christian Church, Grand Junction". In the letter, I stated that I "believe each and every one of you participates in the life of First Christian Church, Grand Junction, for a reason that is worth sharing."

I asked you to share the reason you originally chose and continue to choose FCCGJ as your church home, so I could compile the results and share them in a way that would help members of our church family think about how best to share with others why they might want to get involved with what God is doing here. I am still in the process of preparing that document but would like to provide some preliminary results. Here are some (not all) of the reasons some of our members chose and still choose FCCGJ (in no particular order):

- History with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
- Prior acquaintance with some members of the church family
- Hospitality
- Humor (within the church family)
- Invited by a friend
- Made to feel welcome and comfortable here
- Outreach - this congregation takes what we learn out into the world
- We are welcoming to a diverse group of people
- The people and the pastor
- The pastor's sermons
- The music in worship
- Bible studies
- Social get-togethers
- Friendly people
- Getting closer to God
- Appreciated as a volunteer

As you can see, there's a great variety in the reasons people have chosen and still choose to attend FCCGJ - which is great news! This congregation has much to offer anyone looking for a church home.

If you haven't responded yet but would like to, there is still time; just send me an email or give me a call.

~ 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

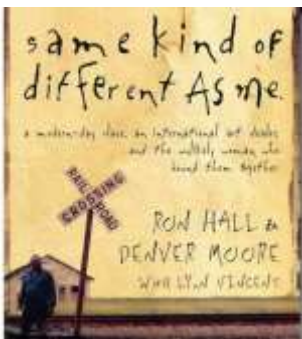
SENT...DELIVERING THE GIFT OF HOPE AT CHRISTMAS.

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



The FCC Bookworms started their Second Year as a Small Group at FCC, and their first book of the year was “Same Kind of Different as Me” by Ron Hall and Denver Moore. It is the story of Ron’s wife

Debbie who had a vision when she saw a soup kitchen and what it could become to help the homeless. Ron and his wife were high in society and Denver came from the south having worked for a sharecropper--two very unlikely friends. This true story started in Texas, and the book is available in our church library. Their friendship did not stop with the writing of the book, and it has become an ongoing mission of helping others. Go to the internet and click on “Ron Hall Art Dealer” to learn more of this amazing undertaking.

Deck the Halls with Boughs of Holly



Please set aside time on November 24(9 am—5 pm) to help decorate the church for Christmas. The youth will fetch the trees and boxes of ornaments from the attic the day before, and everyone is encouraged to stop by anytime on the 24th to decorate. Pick a tree that you like and help decorate it. Spend a couple hours getting into the spirit of Christmas, and God’s house will reflect our love of Christ this Advent. Questions?

Please call Joyce Wittwer 243-6214.

See you on the 24TH.

Anniversaries, Birthdays, & Announcements



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



George Decker, one of our communion preparers, and a real cowboy, has put together his memoirs, which is a fascinating account of his life starting in 1935. Be sure to take time to visit with George and even buy his book which is full of exciting and interesting happenings in "The Old West". George has spent most of his life on the back of a horse, giving him the opportunity to investigate back washes and walls where Indian carvings are known to him and a very few others. Ask him where Toponas, Colorado is!

CROSSWORDS!

next deadline is...

Thursday, November 30

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.

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.

Thank You

- Thank you for your generous contribution of 302lbs of food. 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



International Potluck December 13

Following Christmas Program

It's a potluck with International "flavor". What is your heritage? German, French, English, or another country? Please join us and bring your favorite dish to feed 15. If you have invited family members and friends to the program, be sure to bring table service for all of you and lots of good food to share.

Questions? Call Jeanne Klitzke 243-5668. Jeanice Swank 242-3588 or Joyce Wittwer 243-6214





Announcements & Thanks



FCC CHURCH FAMILY

The Friends, (Church) Family, and Fellowship Event at the Hawleys has been cancelled.

This event was scheduled for Saturday, December 12, 2015 @ 6:00pm

Thank You!

Pastor Brad, Pastor Melanie, and FCC Church Family, Thank you all so much for the well-wishes and prayers. They were, and are, greatly appreciated!! ~Katie Wendland



RUTH GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY

**Thursday, December 3, 2015
10:30am Brunch**

The Ruth Group is having their annual Christmas party at Richalyn Cox's home at 2349 South Rim Drive. We will meet at the church at 10:00am to carpool!



The Giving Tree

Please let Joyce Wittwer (243-6214) know if you, or someone you know, in the congregation, is in need of Christmas help this year.

And, if you are looking to help with The Giving Tree, then you can expect to see it up the first Sunday after Thanksgiving. Make plans now to take an ornament off that tree to help those in need!

Thanks, Thanks, Thanks,

Thanks to all who worked and helped make Grandma's Attic a huge success. There are too many to name; you know who you are! You all made it a successful event. God Bless. ~Grandma's Attic

Greetings to my dear First Christian Church Family!

Now living in Indiana at this time of thanksgiving and celebration of the birth of our Lord, I can't help but reflect over the past twenty years of sharing the joy with you in this Spirit-filled congregation. Serving the Lord and facing the challenges of our church life as we shared joys, disappointments and love helped me grow in my understanding of what it means to be a Christian.

For this experience and your love and support in all phases of my journey, I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

As I continue my life's journey with my daughter, Deborah, I want you to know you will always be in my thoughts and prayers and I will carry you in my heart forever.

I haven't found a new church home yet. I can only hope it will have some of the welcoming, loving spirit of First Christian.

May each of you have a most happy Thanksgiving and blessed Christmas. May God spill forth His blessings on First Christian in the New Year and forever.

In His Name,
~Nancy Scott

I would love to hear from you:
14648 Brahms Drive #2116
Carmel, Indiana 46032
Phone: 317-564-8677
Email: sagecreek332@gmail.com



Announcements

Advent Calendar of Events 2015

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!

Annual Congregational Meeting

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, December 13, after the worship service, and before the International Pot Luck. It will be a meeting with two items on the agenda: (1) vote on the nominations for 2016 from the Nominating Committee, and (2) Vote on the 2016 congregational budget.

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.



CHRISTMAS EVE COOKIE MINGLE

6:00 P.M. TO 6:45 P.M.

Start your evening off with cookies and a drink in the Fellowship Hall. If you can bring cookies to share, please contact

Martha's Ministry (Jeanne Klitzke, Jeanice Swank or Joyce Wittwer)



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

Nancy Armbruster

Brenda Armstrong

David Barnes’ Family

Anna Bilyeu

Jessie Bowen

Lois Braun

Tim Burke

Marianne Chapman

Charlie & Carol

Marlis Clark

Marlene Cowan

Chuck Cummings

Arinda Davis’ Family

Melissa Frankland

Helen Dillard

John Drury

JoAnne Eggers

Larry Eggers

Melanie Ferron & Family

Leon Gardner

Dorothy Griffin

Emily Hauquitz

Jason Hawley

David Herrera

Doris Hicks

Bruce Hines

Kim Hopkins

Robin Jakino

Carol Johnson

Ed Jones

Jordan Jones

Pat Jones

Nora Julette

Harriette & Andy Krall

Gloria Ladehoff

Bette Learned

Anna Lopez

Joyce Lucore

Carla Martin

Jennifer McDaniel

Clare & Ally Morris

Ginger Morris

Larry Petrini

Jeff Rood

Jean Silkey

Greg Stouffer

Lois Stouffer

Jiemon & Tayo Takahashi

Helen Wade

Tammy Wenzinger

D.J. Wilhorn



FCC SUNDAY SERVERS' 4-Week ASSIGNMENTS

November 29, 2015

No First Service

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	<u>Van Driver</u> Jenny Barnes

December 6, 2015

No First Service

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

December 13, 2015

No First Service

December 13, 2015 2nd Sunday

<u>Worship Leader</u> N/A	<u>Serving Diaconate</u> Gary Steed	<u>Coffee Mingle</u> Carol Matthews
<u>Children's Moment</u> N/A	Chuck Haigler	
<u>Offering Elder</u> Les Armbruster	Al Ladage	<u>Greeters</u> TBD
<u>Communion Elder</u> Jim Matthews	Jerry Francis	
	<u>Preparing Diaconate</u> Karen Lehman	<u>Van Driver</u> Jerry Francis
	Lois Stouffer	

December 20, 2015

No First Service

December 20, 2015 3rd Sunday

<u>Worship Leader</u> N/A	<u>Serving Diaconate</u> Larry Eggers	<u>Coffee Mingle</u> Melanie Ferron
<u>Children's Moment</u> N/A	JoAnne Eggers	
<u>Offering Elder</u> Al Baumgartle	Jeanne Klitzke	<u>Greeters</u> TBD
<u>Communion Elder</u> Gene Matteson	David Morgan	
	<u>Preparing Diaconate</u> Riecke Claussen	<u>Van Driver</u> Leonard & Kathy Gardner
	Nancy Claussen	

Church Calendar of Events - November 23, 2015— December 14, 2015

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

9:00am Church Christmas Decorating

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

Friday November 27, 2015

2:00pm Mexican Train Group

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

Tuesday December 1, 2015(.....)

10:00am A New Door Opens

@ Spoons

4:00pm Grandview Worship

4:00pm Disciples Singers

5:00pm Healthy Living

6:15pm Monument View Flute Circle

Wednesday December 2, 2015

Melanie Out of Office

10:00am Bible Study

3:30pm Parkinson's Support Group

4:00pm KFC (Elementary Youth Group)

6:00pm Advent Soup and Carols

6:30pm Bible Study

6:30pm Middle/High School Youth Grp

Thursday December 3, 2015

Melanie Out of Office

10:30am Ruth Group (@ Richalyn's)

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

Monday December 7, 2015

10:30am Staff Meeting

7:00pm M&M Bible Study

Tuesday December 8, 2015

9:00am Burger King Coffee Group

NO MEETING A New Door Opens

@ Spoons

4:00pm Disciples Singers

5:00pm Healthy Living

Tuesday December 8, 2015(.....)

6:00pm Night'n Gals (@ Lily's House)

6:15pm Monument View Flute Circle

Wednesday December 9, 2015

9:30am Newcomers Group

10:00am Bible Study

4:00pm KFC (Elementary Youth Group)

6:00pm Advent Soup and Carols

6:30pm Bible Study

6:30pm Middle/High School Youth Grp

Thursday December 10, 2015

9:30am Young Republican Moms

1:30pm CWF(DW) General & Executive Meetings

5:00pm Homeward Bound Ministry

6:00pm CO West Quilters Guild

7:00pm Caroling @ Mantey Heights

Friday December 11, 2015

2:00pm Mexican Train Group

Saturday December 12, 2015

8:00am RMCS CPE Group

Sunday December 13, 2015

3rd Sunday of Advent

NO First Worship

9:30am Sunday School/ Book of Hebrews

10:00am Sunday School/ "Fearless Conversation"

10:50am Everywhere, Everywhere, Christmas is Here Worship

Service

11:00am Jr. Church

12:15pm Coffee Mingle

12:15pm Congregational Meeting

12:30pm International Potluck

12:30pm Elders Meeting

Monday December 14, 2015

10:30am Staff Meeting

1:30pm FCC Bookworms

5:30pm Youth Education Meeting

7:00pm M&M Bible Study