

First Christian Church (DOC)

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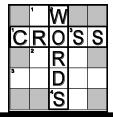
Return Service Requested

Volume 6 • March 15, 2018

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First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Identity Statement

Praising God, Changing Lives!



First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

Services each Sunday...

Praising God, Changing Lives for 127 Years!

9:00 AM
Sunday School
9:30 AM and 10:00 AM
Traditional Worship
10:50 AM

12:15 PM Church Office Hours:

Coffee Mingle

8:30am-1:30pm Monday-Thursday

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 970-644-2274 revbradbarton@gmail.com

> **Rev. Melanie Ferron** Associate Minister

Paula Schaffer, Pianist Tish Key, Secretary John Moore, Custodian

Holy Week Approaches - March 25 - April 1

Throughout my life, Holy Week has been a different kind of time, a special time, a sacred time:

- When I was a child, I spent the week in eager anticipation of Easter. I likely anticipated the Easter egg hunts, the Sunday brunch, and the basket full of candy from my parents as much or more than I anticipated resurrection, but Holy Week was most definitely a time of anticipation. And somehow I emerged from childhood knowing about things like Maundy Thursday and Good Friday and crucifixion and resurrection.
- When I was a teen, I spent the week seeking out new ways to get closer to God. Given the relationship between Holy Week and the Jewish Passover, I remember watching *The Ten Commandments* just about every year (back when it aired on network television every year.) I even "gave up" stuff for Lent as a way of getting closer to God.
- As a young adult, I continued my tradition of watching *The Ten Commandments*, and I started getting ever more into the weekly offerings of the Church. I attended worship as many nights of the week as I could.
- As a minister, well, you know, EVERYTHING has changed. My whole week is about journeying to the cross with Jesus and helping guide others there, as well.

But why do I share with you my life-long Holy Week journey?

I've noticed a change in recent years that's worth mentioning: it seems that fewer and fewer people (even regular Sunday morning worshippers in Christian congregations) attend Holy Week services. Maybe more attractive options exist (like the basket of candy that took my attention from the true meaning of Easter as a child). Maybe getting out of the house for an evening worship service isn't as easy as it used to be. Maybe, after a long Lent (the length of Lent hasn't changed, by the way), people are just too tired. But, here's the thing: looking back on my life, I can tell you that the more I invested in Holy Week, the more I GOT from Holy Week.

So, when Holy Week arrives this March 25 through April 1, please take a look at the offerings of FCCGJ: Palm Sunday worship, Maundy Thursday Worship, Prayer Vigil, Easter Sunday Worship (2 completely different worship services), and Easter Brunch (in between the worship services), and make plans to spend some extra time with God in the company of your church family.

- Pastor Brad



Birthdays, Announcements

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FCC Birthdays

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Clara Arroyo March 15 March 21 Alice Wieseler

March 27 Lance Hood

March 28 Suzanne Andrew

April 3 **Charles Grimsley**

🔍 April 7 Mary Ann Bogani

April 9 **Larry Eggers**

April 23 Richalyn Cox

🔍 April 27 **Betty Nelson**

April 28 Katie Han April 28 JoAnn Hill

FCC Anniversaries



March 22 Will & Debbie

Eisemann

Johnny & Marlene March 22

Cowan

April 2 Al & Pam

Baumgartle

April 2 Ray & Grace Farrell

April 25 Chip & Melanie

Ferron



Saturday, March 17@8 am

Board Meeting

4:00

Elders Meeting



Sunday, March 18@ Sunday, April 8th @ 12:30

What a lot of Batteries. 20 lbs of batteries saved from the landfill. Mother Earth thanks you.







new email address:

CRMROffice@crmrdoc.org

CROSSWORDS!

next deadline is...

Thursday, March 22 Please submit to the church office or email them to:

firstchristiangi@hotmail.com

Articles arriving later than the deadline included until the next published Crosswords.

It's Tax Season again. A reminder that you can shred important papers using the church shredder. It's also a great way to recycle your paper.





Easter Prayer Vigil



The 24 Hour Prayer Vigil is coming up on March 29th and 30th. The Vigil starts at 8:00pm following the Maundy Thursday Service and goes until 8:00pm on March 30th. 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!



Lent is Here:

Spend Lent with Your FCCGJ Church Family

Lenten Lunches

Wednesdays in Lent, February 22-March 28, 2018 @ 12:00 p.m.

Be sure to take time out of your busy week to stop and focus on God during this Lenten season. A great way to do that is to come by the church building on Wednesdays at noon, eat lunch and share stories with your church family, and listen to a talk about "focusing on the cross." If you're so inclined, you could even bring a soup to share. Please look for the sign-up sheet on the information table in the Fellowship Hall. And PLEASE BRING FRIENDS.

Lenten Daily Devotionals

Daily throughout Lent

This year's Lenten Daily Devotional guide, prepared by the Society of St. Andrew, is entitled, *Walking in Newness of Life*. "In the devotional booklet, you will find daily meditations and prayers that show how renewal begins or is refreshed, through life's circumstances. These devotionals are written by people of deep and abiding faith: pastors, missionaries, and laypersons from many Christian traditions." Be sure to pick up at copy at the beginning of Lent, and follow the daily devotional guide to help you get closer to guide and prepare yourself for the joy of resurrection on Easter Sunday!

MAD 1

Announcements

Lent & Easter 2018 First Christian Church, GJ

Focusing on the Cross!

Lenten Lunches

Eat and Listen to Cross-focused talks
Wednesdays
Feb 21 - March 28
12:00 p.m.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper And Celebration

Tuesday, February 13
Eat pancakes, have a party,
and learn why we do these things
The day before Lent begins.

Ash Wednesday Worship Service

Wednesday, February 14
Share a meal with your Church family, and receive the imposition of ashes.

Dinner at 6:00 p.m.

Worship at 6:45 p.m.

Palm Sunday

Sunday, March 25
Celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry
Into Jerusalem @ both services.
9:00 a.m. & 10:50 a.m.

Maundy Thursday

Thursday, March 29
Worship around tables to recall Jesus' final evening with his disciples.
7:00 p.m.

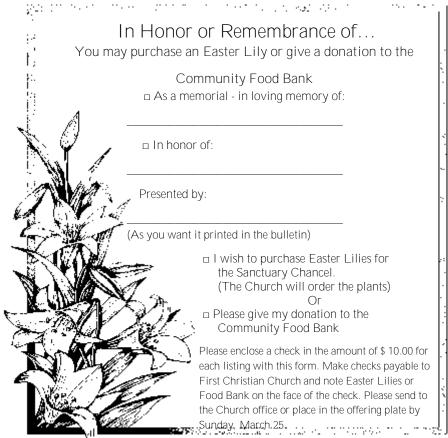
Easter Prayer Vigil

Thursday, March 29 - Friday, March 30 Participate in 24 hours of continuous prayer. 8:00 p.m. Thurs. - 8:00 p.m. Fri.

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 1
Proclaim "Christ is Risen"! In two distinct styles, and enjoy an Easter brunch with your Church family!
Easter Sunrise Service @ 9:00 a.m.
Easter Brunch @ 9:45 a.m.
Celebration of Resurrection @ 10:50 a.m.







Congratulations! Melinda



A recent *Crosswords* had a picture of Melina Mitchell proudly holding her doctoral degree from the Christian Leadership University. Since then, she has been asked to give a little background on how she reached this goal. Here is her reply:

Dear Church,

Thank you for the expressions of congratulations upon the completion of my Doctorate in Ministry from Christian Leadership University. God and my parents have given me a desire to be a life-long learner and have provided me with wonderful opportunities. I went to beautiful new public schools in southeast Denver. I then graduated from Wheaton College in Illinois. I received a Master's Degree in Social Work from Florida State University and then a Master's degree in Public Administration from the University of Oklahoma. While teaching at the U.S. Air Force Academy, I did a doctoral study at the University of Denver in Educational Leadership. I received Principal Licensure from the University of Colorado.

I thank God for all of these wonderful opportunities! I am not exactly sure how God will use my recent degree; I am open to his leading. I continue to enjoy my work at the Veteran's Administration and to fund my daughter's education in a graduate program in health services administration.

Thank you for the love and encouragement as I press on toward the calling!

Melinda Mitchell

Stay Informed:

Pastor Brad is Taking a 3-Month Sabbatical

What is a Sabbatical?

Based on the biblical spirit of sabbatical rest, a pastoral sabbatical is an opportunity for a pastor to take time away from the 24/7 responsibilities of pastoral ministry. It's not a vacation. It's not sick leave. It's something else; it's a time to rest, further connect with God, and emerge refreshed for ministry.

When?

Pastor Brad's Sabbatical will begin the day after Easter, April 2, 2018 and conclude July 2, 2018.

Why 3 Months, and Why Now?

The straightforward answer to both of these questions is that it's in our pastors' Letters of Call and contracts with FCCGJ to receive 3 months of sabbatical time after 5 years of service.

Who Will be Leading While pastor Brad is Away?

There's no short answer to this question. Each of Pastor Brad's responsibilities will be assumed by different leaders, a combination of Pastor Melanie, the Elders, the Cabinet, and other leaders

Watch for more information in upcoming bulletin announcements, newsletter articles, and Moments for Ministry.

Homeward Bound

Last Thursday we had another successful night of serving a delicious dinner to the grateful folks at Homeward Bound shelter. Thank you all for your wonderful support in this ministry.

Did you know we have been serving them for 10 years? I didn't! I found a sign up sheet in an old purse. From receipts in the same old purse I could tell it was from the year 2008. Congratulations to all of you who have so faithfully put together potato casseroles, donated money, time, lettuce, candy, fruit and milk over the years.

If you are interested in helping sometime, please call me!

Beth Sherry 245-3314



Save the Date-

April 28, 2018

We will be doing our Annual Sharefest project again at the Grand View Apartments. Helping the residences with some cleaning, repair work, and maybe wash a few cars.. Sign up sheets will be on the information desk in the Fellowship Hall.. Please come and join us showing Christ Love to our neighbors..



Outreach Ministry





In January the FCC Bookworms were busy reading Candice Millard's "Destiny of the Republic" -- A tale of the madness, medicine and the murder of a president. This book was recommended to the book club by Carol Clowes who was one of Elsie Granere's caregivers who brought Elsie to book club many times. The book is about our 20th president, James A. Garfield. Garfield grew up in the Disciples of Christ church, became a minister and, so far, is the only minister who has also been a president. He didn't run for president and served reluctantly. Within four months he was assassinated and lived several more months while doctors tried to save him. This is an excellent, well written book that gives insight into one of our more well-read and compassionate presidents. He started the movement for the establishment of Civil Service and worked to improve conditions for blacks. His wife established the first Presidential Library. On the western slope we have Mt. Garfield named a year after his death, Garfield County just to the east of us, Garfield Hall at CMU. There was a Garfield University established in his name in Wichita, Kansas.

FCC Bookworms found that "Dinner with the Smileys" included lots of people. Sarah Smiley, the author, is the mother of three boys and during the deployment of her husband, she invited guests to their home each of the 52 weeks he was gone. Living in Bangor, Maine, their first guest was Senator Susan Collins, and thereafter they had notables from the governor to an Olympic medal winner, to firefighters, and an illustrator. Some of their dinners were held elsewhere, such as the hospital and a nursing home. Read about this unique way one mother filled her husband's chair for a year.

"The Encyclopedia of the Stone-Campbell Movement", edited by: Douglas A. Foster, Paul M. Blowers, Anthony L. Dunnavant and D. Newell Williams has been purchased for the church library. It is shelved along with the other Disciples of Christ material on the north wall. Incidentally, Brad and Susan say that they know Newell Williams.

El Salvador Fundraiser



Please plan on staying after Church on Sunday, April 15 for a baked potato bar dinner. This is a fundraiser for the projects of our mission group going to El Salvador this summer.

This year we are hoping to build two houses for two families in desperate need. We also try to furnish the houses with beds, a stove and a sink if needed.

In addition, both groups from Grand Junction are hoping to collaborate on building a basketball/soccer playground for the school in "our" town.

No need to bring anything but a donation.

Beth

P.S. Save coffee cans for me. We're having a Chinese auction later for the same Cause. XOXO

El Salvador

Once again we are planning a mission trip to El Salvador. So far I have nine people going in my group. Four people who are going are from our church! Yay! Dates for this year are July 22- August 4. If you have any inkling you would like to go, please contact me for details.

We will be having a few fundraisers before we leave. It is so rewarding to see something our church built when I go back every year, and how much love we receive in return. Prayerfully consider if God may be calling you to be a part of this amazing ministry.

I am trying to organize a meeting for those who have never been before. Watch this space for details.

Beth Sherry 245-3314 bethlucoresherry@gmail.com



Announcements & Thanks

First Christian Church,

I would like to thank everyone for the prayers, cards, flowers, visits and love shown to me during my stay at Larchwood, I'm doing so good & have date set to go home, Feb. 26th, See you back in Church.

Thanks to everyone, see you soon.

Dorothy Mitchell



Thank you so much for all the prayers, cards, visits, calls & flowers that I received due to my surgery. I love you all very much!

Thank you again,

Beverly Dorson



Iris Bulbs

Please contact Joyce Wittwer if you would like some

970-243-6214



Tan colored FCC logo caps are available for \$15 from Lamar Edwards or Joyce Wittwer 243-6214

New Address:

Jean & James Krenzer PO Box 8013 Missoula, Mt 59807

Please add the current address for Pat and Jeannie Mitchell to your non-participating list:
1421 S Eagle Way
Aurora, CO 80014-2429
Thank you!

New Address:

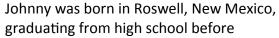
SR Ripa, Nicholas, E Ship 12 Div. 150 Recruit Training Command 3515 Sailor Drive Great Lakes, III 60088-3515



Welcome

Welcome

Johnny and Jeanette West joined our church on the 5th of November last year. They come from Dumas, Texas, to be closer to family.





moving with his family to Stratford, Texas, while Jeannette grew up near Stratford, which is about 90 miles north of Amarillo where she was born. When Jeannette was a senior in high school she met Johnny at a party in Stratford. At that time Johnny was a student at Oklahoma Panhandle State University in Goodwell, just about 30 miles north of Stratford. They married in 1966 at First Christian Church in Stratford and have been married 52 years.

Jeanette attended West Texas A&M University in Canyon, Texas.

Johnny served in the Navy spending some of his time in Vietnam. When they were first married they lived in Taos, New Mexico, in an apartment of a 300-year-old home owned by the Couse family, early pioneers and artists in Taos. That home is now a Historical Site.

They lived 38 years in Dumas, a small Texas town, where Johnny, until his retirement, was employed by BP (British Petroleum) for 31 years. Jeannette, meanwhile, was a bookkeeper, where approximately 12 years of that time she worked for an auto parts company.

After living much of their life around the Oklahoma/Texas Panhandle, they are enjoying the small town atmosphere of Fruita and being closer to family.

They have two sons: Jack and Jonathan. Jack and his wife Kasey live in Boulder with their son Ethan who is now 4 ½. Jack has a PhD in computer science engineering. Their younger son Jonathan and wife Nina are here in Grand Junction with their two daughters, Rylan, who is almost 5 and her younger sister Wren just 18 months. Jonathan is an architect with Chamberlin Architects, and Nina is a physician's assistant at Community Hospital.

They have traveled extensively throughout the United States visiting many of our National Parks and other public lands. Of course their favorites are out here in the west including our own Colorado National Monument.

We welcome them into our membership at First Christian Church, Grand Junction.



FCC Prayer Concerns

"Pray without ceasing."

L Thessalonians 5:17

Scott Allen

Brenda Armstrong

Clara Arroyo

Lois Braun

Sandy & Tim Brown

Tim Burke

Amy Burns

Helen Clotfelter

Chuck Cummings

Carol Jean Daniel

Dannielle

Dennis

Dennis & Family

Helen Dillard

Kat Edwards

JoAnne Eggers

Larry Eggers

Vicki Gassman

Ethel Goebel

Bill Graham

Kyle Graham

David & Vickie Hagan

Connie Hawley

Jason Hawley

JoAnne Hill

Ethel Hoffman

Eleanor Hubbell

Thomas Hunn

Dee Johnson

Ed Jones

Nora Juette

Jean Kees

Hailer Kellog

Peggy Lawler

Betty Learned

Mike Loehring

Blanche Marshall

Cecilia Massey

Norma Matteson

Dorothy Mitchell

Brian Neukman

Scott & Shirley Nider

Louise Oliver

Carol Perry

Peggy Pratt

Steve Pratt

Janice Riches and Family

Oscar Aaron Rodriguez

Diana & Memesio Rodriguez

Paul Scanga

Dr. and Mrs. Schwartz

John Sherry

Gary Steed

Lois Stouffer

Terry

Helen Wade

Wes Wade

David Wing

FCC SUNDAY SERVERS' 4-Week ASSIGNMENTS

March 18,2018	March 18, 2018	3rd Sunday	
<u>Elder</u>	Worship Leader	Preparing Diaconate	Van Driver
Susan Barton	Lily Fitch	Riecke Claussen	TBD
<u>Deacon</u>	Offering Elder	Nancy Claussen	<u>Keyboard</u>
David Hawley	Al Baumgartle	Serving Diaconate	Beth Sherry
<u>Greeter</u>	Communion Elder	David Morgan	Collection Team
David Hawley	Chuck Haigler	Doug Bryant	Al Baumgartle
	Greeter	Carolyn Bryant	Ray Farrell
	David Hawley	Nancy Claussen	
	JoAnn/Larry Eggers	Coffee Mingle	
	Ruth Acord	Melanie Ferron	
March 25, 2018	March 25, 2018	4th Sunday	
<u>Elder</u>	-	,	
Susan Barton	Worship Leader	Preparing Diaconate	Van Drivan
Deacon	Al Baumgartle	Marian Velarde	<u>Van Driver</u>
Dennis Edwards	Offering Elder	Serving Diaconate	TBD
Greeter	Lois Dunning	JoAnne Eggers	<u>Keyboard</u>
Dennis Edwards	Communion Elder	Jeanne Klitzke	Ray Farrell
Dellill's Lawarus	Beth Sherry	Ruth Acord	Collection Team
	<u>Greeter</u>	Jodi Gabel	Al Baumgartle
	Jeanne litzke	Coffee Mingle	Ray Farrell
	Leonard Gardner	Lamar Edwards	
	Carol Steed	Joyce Wittwer	
April 1, 2018	April 1, 2018	1st Sunday	
<u>Elder</u>	Worship Leader	Preparing Diaconate	Van Driver
Lily Fitch	Suzanne Andrew	Karen Lehman	Terry Laughlin
<u>Deacon</u>	Offering Elder	Serving Diaconate	Jo Laughlin
Brad Krebill	Jim Matthews	Wes Wade	<u>Keyboard</u>
<u>Greeter</u>	Communion Elder	Jerry Francis	Paula Schaffer
Bad Krebill	Carol Matthews	Jeanice Swank	Collection Team
	<u>Greeter</u>	Yvonne Warner	Lois Dunning
	Gloria Jeffery	Coffee Mingle	Grace Farrell
	Riecke Claussen	Ruth Acord	
	Nancy Claussen	Jeanice Swank	
April 8, 2018	April 8, 2018	2nd Sunday	
<u>Elder</u>	Worship Leader	Preparing Diaconate	Van Drivers
Suzanne Andrew	Beverly Dorson	Alice Wieseler	Jerry Francis
	Offering Elder	Serving Diaconate	<u>Keyboard</u>
<u>Deacon</u>	Kathy Gardner	Bob Wise	Lily Fitch
Norma Lavelett	Communion Elder	Al Ladage	Collection Team
<u>Greeter</u>	Leonard Gardner	Josh Barton	Lois Dunning
Norma Lavelett	Greeter	Cole Barton	Grace Farrell
	Lamar Edwards	Coffee Mingle	
	Carolyn Bryant	Gloria Jeffery	
	Doug Bryant	Beverly Dorson	
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Church Calendar of Events - March 15, 2018 — April 10, 2018

Thursday March 15, 2018

****Crosswords***

6:00 pm Praise Team

Friday March 16, 2018

9:00 am Life Line Screening

Saturday March 17, 2018

8:00 am Men's Breakfast

8:30 am RMCSC CPE Group

12:00 pm Territorial Daughters

Meeting

Sunday March 18, 2018

9:00 am Contemporary Worship

9:30 am Traditional Sunday School

10:00 am Contemporary Sunday

School

10:50 am Traditional Worship

11:00 am Jr. Church

12:15 pm Coffee Mingle

4:00 pm Cabinet Meeting

Monday March 19, 2018

9:30 am CWU Meeting

10:30 am Staff Meeting

1:00 pm FCC Bookworms

7:00 pm M&M Bible Study

Tuesday March 20, 2018

9:00 am Burger King Coffee Group

12:00 pm Lessons at Lunch

5:00 pm Healthy Living

Wednesday March 21, 2018

10:00 am Morning Bible Study

12:00 am Lenten Lunches

6:00pm Wednesday Night Fellowship

Meal-TBD

6:30 pm Youth Group

6:30 pm Evening Bible Study

Thursday March 22, 2018

****Crosswords Deadline****

1:30 pm CWF(DW) Executive Meeting 10:00 am Contemporary Sunday

6:00 pm Praise Team

Friday March 23, 2018

2:00 pm Mexican Train Group

Sunday March 25, 2018

****Palm Sunday****

**** Food Bank Sunday****

9:00 am Contemporary Worship

9:30 am Traditional Sunday School

10:00 am Contemporary Sunday

School

10:50 am Traditional Worship

11:00 am Jr. Church

12:15 pm Coffee Mingle

Monday March 26, 2018

10:30 am Staff Meeting

7:00 pm M&M Bible Study

Tuesday March 27, 2018

9:00 am Burger King Coffee Group

10:00 am Friends Going Forward

12:00 pm Lessons at Lunch

5:00 pm Healthy Living

Wednesday March 28, 2018

10:00 am Morning Bible Study

12:00 am Lenten Lunches

6:00 pm Wednesday Night Fellowship 6:00 pm Praise Team

Meal-Potluck

6:30 pm Youth Group

6:30 pm Evening Bible Study

Thursday March 29, 2018

****Crosswords ****

6:00 pm Praise Team

7:00 pm Maunday Thursday Worship

8:00 pm Easter Prayer Vigil(24 Hrs)

Friday March 30, 2018

8:00 pm End Easter Prayer Vigil

Sunday April 1, 2018

****Easter Sunday****

9:00 am Easter Sunrise Service

9:30 am Traditional Sunday School

9:45 am Easter Brunch

School

10:50 am Celebration of Resurrection

Service

11:00 am Jr. Church

12:15 pm Coffee Mingle

Monday April 2, 2018

10:30 am Staff Meeting

1:30 pm FCC Bookworms

7:00 pm M&M Bible Study

Tuesday April 3, 2018

9:00 am Burger King Coffee Group

12:00 pm Lessons at Lunch

5:00 pm Healthy Living

6:00 pm Night'ngals

Wednesday April 4, 2018

10:00 am Morning Bible Study

3:30 pm Parkinson's Support Group

6:00 pm Wednesday Night Fellowship

Meal-Tammy

6:30 pm Youth Group

6:30 pm Evening Bible Study

Thursday April 5, 2018

****Crosswords Deadline****

9:30 am Ruth Group

1:30 pm Dorcas Group

6:00 pm Co. West Quilters Board

Sunday April 8, 2018

9:00 am Contemporary Worship

9:30 am Traditional Sunday School

10:00 am Contemporary Sunday

School

10:50 am Traditional Worship

11:00 am Jr. Church

12:15 pm Coffee Mingle

12:30 pm Elders Meeting

Monday April 9, 2018

10:30 am Staff Meeting

7:00 pm M&M Bible Study

Tuesday April 10, 2018

9:00 am Burger King Coffee Group

10:00 am Friends Going Forward

12:00 pm Lessons at Lunch

1:30 pm PEO Chapter Meeting

5:00 pm Healthy Living