



First Christian Church (DOC)

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Grand Junction, CO 81501

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Return Service Requested

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First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Identity Statement

**Pr aising God,
Changing Lives!**



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

Church Office Hours:

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

On Sabbatical

Rev. Melanie Ferron
Associate Minister

Paula Schaffer, Pianist

Tish Key, Secretary

John Moore, Custodian

New Life: Easter and FCCGJ

It's almost time to celebrate resurrection! Easter arrives this Sunday.

It is my hope that our celebration of Easter this year will be MORE than what it has been in the past. I'm not suggesting God's raising of Jesus from the dead, and our celebration of it, is somehow lacking; it is not. What I am suggesting is that God offered more than a one-time resurrection when God raised Jesus from the dead a few thousand years ago. God offered new life to every single person and every single community of faith that has breathed since.

This year, God's offer of new life seems more appropriate than ever:

- The leadership of FCCGJ has been involved in a visioning process, a process to discover God's vision for us, our very reason for being (for life), for almost a year. The process should be completed before the end of 2018, and the resulting vision should provide new life to us and to the community around us (since it will be based on meeting at least one critical need of the community). New life!
- Starting after Easter worship this Sunday, I will begin a 3-month sabbatical, a time to refresh in my ministry, to reconnect with God, to rediscover God's purpose for me as the Senior Pastor of FCCGJ now and into the future. New Life!
- During my sabbatical, a great many leaders and members of the congregation will respond to God's call to lead in ways they never have before or perhaps have not for a while. And all of you will have the opportunity to support them as God guides you to support them. New life!
- Pastor Melanie and Susan will be leading Bible studies on a book I will also be studying, a book that will encourage us as congregation to consider how God is calling us to do something with regard to an issue - environmental stewardship - we haven't discussed much in the past 5+ years. New life!
- And, of course, springtime is here, and WE NEED IT! It feels like so many of our number have been injured or ill during the winter, which can make our space feel a little empty during worship and Wednesday evening fellowship and Bible Study and Youth Group. I would imagine many of you feel what I've been feeling: we need some New Life!

I hope you will agree with me that the promise of Easter, the promise of resurrection, the promise of new life is as welcome now as it has ever been for FCCGJ and that there are great reasons to be hopeful that we will receive and live into God's promise!

- Pastor Brad



Birthdays, Announcements



FCC Birthdays

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
May 3	Don McKelvey
May 7	Pam Baumgartle
May 10	Al Baumgartle
May 10	Alice Else



FCC Anniversaries

April 2	Al & Pam Baumgartle
April 2	Ray & Grace Farrell
April 25	Chip & Melanie Ferron
May 14	Al & Else Ladage
May 18	Brad & Susan Barton



Saturday, @ 8 am

Elders Meeting



Sunday, April 8th @
12:30

Cabinet Meeting



Sunday, April 15th @
4:00



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



Iris Bulbs



Please contact Joyce Wittwer if you would like some

970-243-6214



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.

CROSSWORDS!

next deadline is...

Thursday, April 5

Please submit to the church office or email them to:

firstchristiangj@hotmail.com

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



Announcements & Thanks

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.



Thank You To My Church Family

I would like to thank everyone who contributed to making my 20th anniversary celebration such a wonderful event. You have been my family from the moment I joined this church in 1986 and it is a pleasure and an honor to be in ministry with you.

Thank you so much for the robe and the stole and to everyone who provided the funds to make that happen. I am looking forward to using them often in the next three months and in the future.

Melanie



To my FCC Family,

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



Announcements

Elders On Call During Pastor Brad's Sabbatical

April

Week of April 1	Beth Sherry	970-640-2889
Week of April 8	Beth Sherry	970-640-2889
Week of April 15	Leonard Gardner	970-216-6714
Week of April 22	Suzanne Andrew	970-589-6297
Week of April 29	Chuck Haigler	970-242-5252

May

Week of May 6	Chuck Haigler	970-242-5252
Week of May 13	Kathy Gardner	970-216-6693
Week of May 20	Al Baumgartle	970-243-5891
Week of May 27	Carol Matthews	970-773-4797

June

Week of June 3	Lois Dunning	970-242-5427
Week of June 10	Lily Fitch	970-250-6966
Week of June 17	Jim Matthews	970-773-8280
Week of June 24	Susan Barton	970-250-5547



Preaching During Pastor Brad's Sabbatical

April

April 8 th	Beth Sherry
April 15 th	Brad Krebill
April 22 nd	Hymn Sing- Melanie Ferron
April 29 th	Susan Barton

May

May 6 th	Lily Fitch
May 13 th	Rev. Joan Bell-Haynes
May 20 th	Melanie Ferron
May 27 th	Susan Barton

June

June 3 rd	Melanie Ferron
June 10 th	Al Baumgartle
June 17 th	Cole Barton
June 24 th	Susan Barton

July

July 1st	Josh Barton
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Announcements

From The Bookshelf



“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.



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



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





Announcements

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



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



New Address:

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

Update

Dorothy Mitchell's phone number to
970-314-7775





FCC Prayer Concerns

“Pray without ceasing.”

I Thessalonians 5:17

Scott Allen	Dee Johnson
Brenda Armstrong	Ed Jones
Clara Arroyo	Nora Juette
Lois Braun	Jean Kees
Sandy & Tim Brown	Hailer Kellog
Carolyn Bryant	Peggy Lawler
Tim Burke	Betty Learned
Amy Burns	Mike Loehring
Howard Coltfelter	Blanche Marshall
Chuck Cummings	Cecilia Massey
Carol Jean Daniel	Norma Matteson
Dannielle	Dorothy Mitchell
Dennis	Brian Neukman
Dennis & Family	Scott & Shirley Nider
Helen Dillard	Louise Oliver
Earn Eachus	Carol Perry
Kat Edwards	Peggy Pratt
JoAnne Eggers	Steve Pratt
Larry Eggers	Janice Riches and Family
Vicki Gassman	Oscar Aaron Rodriguez
Ethel Goebel	Diana & Memesio Rodriguez
Bill Graham	Paul Scanga
Kyle Graham	Dr. and Mrs. Schwartz
Tony Gurento and Family	John Sherry
David & Vickie Hagan	Gary Steed
Connie Hawley	Lois Stouffer
Jason Hawley	Terry
JoAnne Hill	Wes & Helen Wade
Ethel Hoffman	David Wing
Eleanor Hubbell	Youth who marched for Life
Thomas Hunn	



FCC SUNDAY SERVERS' 4-Week ASSIGNMENTS

<p><u>April 1, 2018</u></p> <p><u>Elder</u> Lily Fitch</p> <p><u>Deacon</u> Brad Krebill</p> <p><u>Greeter</u> Brad Krebill</p>
<p><u>April 8, 2018</u></p> <p><u>Elder</u> Suzann Andrew</p> <p><u>Deacon</u> Norma Lavelett</p> <p><u>Greeter</u> Norma Lavelett</p> <p><u>Preacher</u> Beth Sherry</p>
<p><u>April 15, 2018</u></p> <p><u>Elder</u> Susan Barton</p> <p><u>Deacon</u> David Hawley</p> <p><u>Greeter</u> David Hawley</p> <p><u>Preacher</u> Brad Krebill</p>
<p><u>April 22, 2018</u></p> <p><u>Elder</u> Al Baumgartle</p> <p><u>Deacon</u> Dennis Edwards</p> <p><u>Greeter</u> Dennis Edwards</p> <p><u>Preacher</u> Hymn Sing– Melanie Ferron</p>

April 1, 2018	1st Sunday
<p><u>Worship Leader</u> Suzanne Andrew</p> <p><u>Offering Elder</u> Jim Matthews</p> <p><u>Communion Elder</u> Carol Matthews</p> <p><u>Greeter</u> Gloria Jeffery Riecke Claussen Nancy Claussen</p>	<p><u>Preparing Diaconate</u> Karen Lehman Wes Wade Jerry Francis Jeanice Swank Yvonne Warner</p> <p><u>Serving Diaconate</u> Lamar Edwards Joyce Wittwer</p>
	<p><u>Van Driver</u> Terry Laughlin Jo Laughlin</p> <p><u>Keyboard</u> Paula Schaffer</p> <p><u>Collection Team</u> Lois Dunning Grace Farrell</p>

April 8, 2018	2nd Sunday
<p><u>Worship Leader</u> Beverly Dorson</p> <p><u>Offering Elder</u> Leonard Gardner</p> <p><u>Communion Elder</u> Kathy Gardner</p> <p><u>Greeter</u> Lamar Edwards Carolyn Bryant Doug Bryant</p>	<p><u>Preparing Diaconate</u> Alice Wieseler Bob Wise Al Ladage Josh Barton Cole Barton</p> <p><u>Serving Diaconate</u> Gloria Jeffery Beverly Dorson</p>
	<p><u>Van Drivers</u> Jerry Francis</p> <p><u>Keyboard</u> Lily Fitch</p> <p><u>Collection Team</u> Lois Dunning Grace Farrell</p> <p><u>Preacher</u> Beth Sherry</p>

April 15, 2018	3rd Sunday
<p><u>Worship Leader</u> Lois Dunning</p> <p><u>Offering Elder</u> Chuck Haigler</p> <p><u>Communion Elder</u> Al Baumgartle</p> <p><u>Greeter</u> Carol Mathews Jim Mathews Pam Baumgartle</p>	<p><u>Preparing Diaconate</u> Riecke Claussen Nancy Claussen</p> <p><u>Serving Diaconate</u> David Morgan Doug Bryant Carolyn Bryant Nancy Claussen</p> <p><u>Coffee Mingle</u> Melanie Ferron</p>
	<p><u>Van Driver</u> Leonard Gardner Kathy Gardner</p> <p><u>Keyboard</u> Beth Sherry</p> <p><u>Collection Team</u> Lois Dunning Grace Farrell</p> <p><u>Preacher</u> Brad Krebill</p>

April 22, 2018	4th Sunday
<p><u>Worship Leader</u> Riecke Claussen</p> <p><u>Offering Elder</u> Beth Sherry</p> <p><u>Communion Elder</u> Lois Dunning</p> <p><u>Greeter</u> Melanie Ferron Chuck Haigler Cole Barton</p>	<p><u>Preparing Diaconate</u> Marian Velarde JoAnne Eggers Jeanne Klitzke Ruth Acord Jodi Gabel</p> <p><u>Serving Diaconate</u> Ruth Acord Jeanice Swank</p>
	<p><u>Van Driver</u> TBD</p> <p><u>Keyboard</u> Ray Farrell</p> <p><u>Collection Team</u> Lois Dunning Grace Farrell</p> <p><u>Preacher</u> Hymn Sing– Melanie Ferron</p>

Church Calendar of Events - March 29, 2018— April 24, 2018

Thursday March 29, 2018

****Crosswords ****

6:00 pm Praise Team

7:00 pm Maundy 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

10:00 am Contemporary Sunday School

10:50 am Celebration of Resurrection Service

11:00 am Jr. Church

12:15 pm Coffee Mingle

Monday April 2, 2018

Pastor Brad's Sabbatical Starts

10:30 am Staff Meeting

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 Praise Team

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

1:30 pm FCC Bookworms

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

Wednesday April 11, 2018

9:30 am Newcomers Group

10:00 am Morning Bible Study

6:00 pm Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal- Pizza

6:30 pm Youth Group

6:30 pm Evening Bible Study

7:00 pm Co. West Quilters Guild

Thursday April 12, 2018

****Crosswords ****

1:30 pm CW(DW) General

5:00 pm Homeward Bound Ministry

6:00 pm Praise Team

Friday April 13,2018

2:00 pm Mexican Train Group

Sunday April 15, 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 El Salvador Fundraiser-
Baked Potato Bar

4:00 pm Cabinet Meeting

Monday April 16, 2018

9:30 am CWU

10:30 am Staff Meeting

7:00 pm M&M Bible Study

Tuesday April 17, 2018

9:00 am Burger King Coffee Group

12:00 pm Lessons at Lunch

5:00 pm Healthy Living

Wednesday April 18, 2018

10:00 am Morning Bible Study

6:00 pm Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal-TBD

6:30 pm Youth Group

6:30 pm Evening Bible Study

Thursday April 19, 2018

****Crosswords Deadline****

6:00 pm Praise Team

Saturday April 21, 2018

8:00 am Men's Breakfast

8:30 am RMCS CPE Group

12:00 pm Territorial Daughters Meeting

Sunday April 22, 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

Monday April 23, 2018

10:30 am Staff Meeting

1:30 pm FCC Bookworms

7:00 pm M&M Bible Study

Tuesday April 24, 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