



First Christian Church (DOC)
1326 North 1st Street
Grand Junction, CO 81501
firstchristiangj@hotmail.com
www.gjdisciples.org
970.242.7204—phone

Return Service Requested

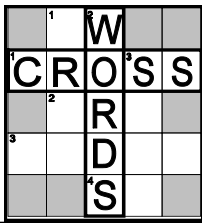
Volume 2 January 17, 2019

... INSIDE CROSSWORDS:

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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

Rev. Melanie Ferron
Associate Minister

Paula Schaffer, Pianist

Tish Key, Secretary

John Moore, Custodian

How Do You Make Jesus' Identity Known?

We're in the midst of the season of/after the Epiphany. During this season, we focus our attention on the ways God made (and still makes) Jesus' identity known.

In my conversations with people outside the institutional Church, one thing is becoming ever more clear to me: the primary means by which a great many people outside the Church identify Jesus is by watching the lives of those of us who are inside the Church. In other words, YOU/WE followers of Jesus are making Jesus' identity known by the way we follow Jesus, by the way we live our lives.

Do you ever wonder who others will understand Jesus to be when they:

- See you driving around town?
- Encounter you at a store?
- Listen to the words you say and how you say them?
- See the things you prioritize in life?
- See the things you purchase?
- Encounter your posts and pictures on social media?

For people who somehow KNOW you're a Christian, a follower of Jesus, every experience they have with you communicates something about Jesus' identity. For a great many people you don't think know you're a Christian, I'm guessing they know more than you think and therefore still receive a message about Jesus' identity from you. And even for the people who absolutely, positively, have no way of knowing you're a Christian, you (and by extension all of us followers of Jesus) communicate something about Jesus' identity by the reality that these folks have no clue who we are. Doesn't it say something about Jesus' identity if Jesus' supposed followers hide this aspect of our identity? Doesn't it say something about Jesus' identity when Jesus' supposed followers don't stand out enough to lend a helping hand to a person in need or to generally pursue the cause of justice? If we are silent or invisible with regard to certain issues, we are communicating that a fundamental part of Jesus' identity is as One who doesn't care about those issues.

My friends, as a follower of Jesus, one of the crucial elements of your choice to follow Jesus is to communicate the identity of the One you follow! I hope and pray you will prayerfully consider what your actions make known about Jesus' identity and that you will then work to make sure what you communicate about Jesus' identity is in synch with who you believe Jesus to be.

-Pastor Brad

Birthdays, Anniversaries & Announcements

FCC Birthdays

January

Jan. 17	Flora Jones
Jan. 24	Terry Laughlin
Jan. 29	Susan Barton
Jan. 29	Tara Stauffer
Jan. 30	Austin Krebill

February

Feb. 2	Ben White
Feb. 8	Harriet Conway
Feb. 11	Bella Han

FCC Anniversary

January

Jan. 29	Joyce Wittwer & Lamar Edwards
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February

Feb.12	Carol & Robert Johnson
Feb. 14	Joanne & Larry Eggers
Feb. 14	Katie & Jason Schuman

A Little Food Bank Comparison



	2018	2019
Jan.	#177	
Feb.	#142	
Mar.	#170	
Apr.	#240	
May	#100	
June	#223	
July	#223	
Aug.	#198	
Sept.	#117	
Oct.	#176	
	2017	2018
Nov.	#298	#76

CROSSWORDS!

next deadline is...

Thursday January 24th

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



Just a little from the Creation Care group

Mesa County Landfill Days are Limited

Did you have an opportunity to read in the November 26, 2018 *Daily Sentinel* which said that 33 percent of the trash entering the Mesa County Landfill is recyclable? A survey was completed in the spring and again this fall to see what was there! It proved that there is a lot more we can do to improve the situation. Almost 60 percent was recyclable or compostable—we can and must do better—not only for the landfill but for the earth’s future.

During the survey, over 600 pounds of trash a day were sorted into 32 different categories, and 60 percent was recyclable or compostable. Apparently cardboard was a big issue. With so many people shopping on line, cardboard boxes are everywhere. Here at FCC we have a tub in the Fellowship Hall by the stage for you to bring those cardboard boxes in to recycle.

The survey showed that another big waste was food. Remember your mother telling you to clean your plate and think of the children in other parts of the world starving to death? Well, that expression holds true today—just think of the starving people in Yemen. All of us can do better by buying only what we can use. You may not be able to help the people in Yemen without making a monetary contribution, but you can help lower the food waste going into our local landfill.

One not so little addition to the landfill are those plastic grocery bags. Worldwide less than a fifth of all plastic gets recycled. In the US it’s less than 10 percent. The European Union is finalizing rules that would ban certain single-use plastic items, such as plastic cutlery, Styrofoam cups and most plastic bags. (Source: Science Friday 12/21/18)

We can do our part even before any of the above becomes a requirement in our city, state, nation. Our great grandchildren will be thankful for all that we can do to correct the problem. A quote from a June 2018 article says, “We made plastic, we depend on it and now we are drowning in it.” Let’s do our best to not go under!

If you have ideas or questions, contact the Creation Care Team: Melanie (Chairman) and Chip Ferron, Brad and Susan Barton, Al and Pam Baumgartle, Lois Dunning, Ella James, Ron and Marion Velarde, or Joyce Wittwer

FYI: A dead whale washed up on the beach in Indonesia had 15 pounds of plastic in its belly: 115 plastic cups, four plastic water bottles, 25 plastic bags, 2 flip-flops, a nylon sack and more than 1,000 other assorted pieces.

Announcements

Writing Your Story

While working with people, near the end of life, it has become increasingly clear to me that people are forgetting how to tell stories and people do not seem to know how to listen to stories. I want to change that! I thought that, we as a church, could begin writing our own stories. What I plan to do is include 2 questions per newsletter (which would equate to one question per week for a year) that invite you to talk about yourself and your life. Take time to write down your answers in a journal (I don't really care that your handwriting doesn't look like it used to.....if we all used that excuse then none of us would be writing!) or type out your stories or ask someone from church to help you record your stories if you have no other way to express them! The important thing is that you take time to share your answers, your stories! It is my hope that we will have opportunities throughout the year to gather together and share our stories with one another, and in the end we can determine the best way to compile your stories into a book that can be shared with your friends and family! The truth is that we all have a story to tell.

God wants to use each of us, regardless of our age, and maybe just maybe by sharing our stories we will once again listen and learn how God is calling us and we will be able to encourage others as they share their stories!

Week 1: What is your birth story? (What stories were you told about your birth or what did you have to piece together through the years?)

What was the town/state in which you were born? What type of building were you born in?)

Week 2: Who are your birth and/or adoptive parents? (Do you know much about them or were they quiet and didn't speak much? Do you know anything about how they decided upon having children? What type of work did they do?)

Thank you,
Susan



Announcements

From The Bookshelf



The FCC Bookworms purchased three books from Barnes & Noble, as their Service Project for 2018, to give to CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate). This is the second year we have sponsored CASA which provides a voice to children in court cases. The books purchased were: "Dear Girl". "Watch the Cookie" and "Wish Upon a Dream".

Have you noticed the cup rack at the end of the kitchen counter? If you'd like to bring your own mug for coffee mingle, please find a hook and hang your cup for use anytime you have coffee at the church. We will test various ways for washing them as we go along so that this opportunity to save a little on disposable cups will not inconvenience others and we will also be saving the environment. Let's give this a try! Thanks

UPDATES READY

The latest **Membership List** is available in the Fellowship Hall on the Membership table. Be sure to pick up a copy as well as the sheet that updates your Pictorial Directory. If you are aware of any errors or updates that were missed, please let the office know.

Thank you. Membership



Our sympathy goes out to Gene and Norma Matteson on the loss of their 30-year-old Grandson Bryson. Norma and Gene want us to know he committed suicide. Bryson had recently moved to Denver. He had served in the military and suffered PTSD as well as CTE (chronic traumatic encephalopathy) from his tour of duty in Afghanistan.



Saturday,
January 19th @ 8 am



Judy Campbell
2465 Wellington Ave.
GJ 81501.
Phone is 243-0519

Cabinet Meeting
Sunday, January 20th
@ 4:00 pm

Elders Meeting
Sunday, February 10th
@ 12:30 pm

Announcements



FOR UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN.
UNTO US A SON IS GIVEN.

Luke tells of the baby born in Bethlehem
and shepherds who heard the angels sing,
Matthew tells of majestic Magi who followed a star
to bow and worship the infant King,
John tells us the Word became flesh
and dwelt among us, lighting everything.
Now, it's our turn to tell the story
and let Christmas bells ring:
Jesus Christ is Lord!

We have experienced a wonderful year. It all started with family talk of our 60th wedding anniversary, and in April our sons and their wives hosted a big Texas barbecue as friends and family gathered with us on our ranch to celebrate the sixty years God has so graciously given us. Of course, we had to navigate the year with our share of health issues, but with the help of skilled and caring physicians and the Great Physician we are both much better. In September, we made a trip to the northwest where the Snake River joins the Columbia River to see Matt and Lisa. Along the way, we had to show Buddy the beauty of Rocky Mountain National Park and the wonders of Yellowstone. Fall came and with it hunting season, and Curt and Tim and their families came to share in some memories of what has for generations been a special part of our family life. It's been a good year!

Now, it's Advent and our prayer is that the joy and peace of Christmas will bless your lives.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Barbara and Curtis

Our address:
707 Grape Creek Road
Fredericksburg, Texas 78624

curtislkeithjr@aol.com
936-674-7505
bjkeith39@aol.com
830-992-8555

Announcements & Thanks

Starting in February, the first Sunday of each month we will have cake to celebrate all the birthdays of that month.



A warm and much deserved "Thank You" to the Praise Team for the music you provided during the Advent Season. Your contribution increased our jubilation.

Sharon Armstrong's solo Christmas Eve was beautiful. Thanks to all.

Joyce

I deeply appreciate my church family and the cards, calls and Christmas caroling I've received.

Lois Stouffer

Did You Know: That the First Christian Church (DOC) of Paradise, CA was spared during the Camp Fire. A blessing, but the homes of many of the parishioners were lost.

After Juanita Davis passed away, I was able to go through the books her family donated to the library. As many of you may know, she loved to cook, and her cook books were chucked full of recipes cut out of magazines. Apparently in their younger years they had pets, as there were some interesting articles on the unusual circumstances of some dogs. It was an insight into Juanita and John's younger years. I thought it would be fun to share a few of these with everyone and will have "Juanita's Corner" on the library bulletin board periodically for you to check out and sometimes get a good chuckle or a feeling of nostalgia. I hope you will take time to look at them. Thanks, Joyce



Dear Church Family,

Once again thank you for the beautiful Christmas baskets. We appreciate all the blessings you give to us throughout the year!

Vicki

Dear FCC,

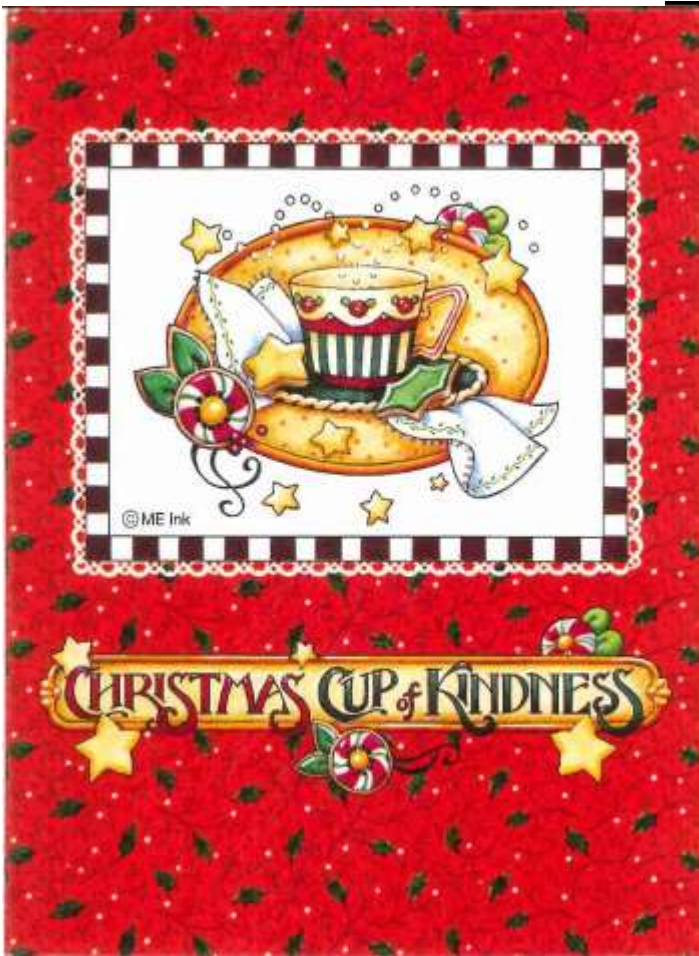
Thank you for your compassion for youth without homes in the valley.



May your holiday be filled with light & love.

John

Thanks



January 1, 2019
Dear First Christian Church Family,
many, many thank you's to you for your very loving caroling visit to my mother, Lois Stuffer, on Dec. 16. She was delighted to see you and moved to emotional tears of joy over the love she felt from you. Your visit was a high point of her Christmas!

Thank you, too, to each of you who has helped her so much, and to those of you who stop by for a hug and much welcome companionship. You truly share God's love.

Blessings.

Cynthia Stuffer Grover



Thank you to all the ladies for handling the food after the funeral and to the entire congregation for their love and support this past year.

-The Wade Family

The family of
Wes Wade

thanks you for your
kind expression of
sympathy

Thanks



A life of possibilities for people
with intellectual disabilities.

4980 S. 118th Street | Omaha, NE 68137-2200 | info@mosaicinfo.org | 877.366.7242

December 18, 2018

First Christian Church
1326 N 1st St
Grand Junction, CO 81501-2107

Dear friends,

Greetings and gratitude!

In this season of thanks and giving, my heart is filled with gratitude because of donors like you – donors who give so that those served by Mosaic can know better lives.

We received your recent gift of \$700.00 to Mosaic in Western Colorado (Grand Junction) in support of Partners in Possibilities. Thank you for your generosity.

Mosaic was founded in the Church, and our work is a ministry of service. We value your partnership.

I pray the Advent season brings you peace and joy!

Blessings!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David deFreese".

Pastor David deFreese

A handwritten note in blue ink that says "Thank you for your generous partnership. Blessed Christmas!" with a decorative flourish at the end.

All gifts to Mosaic are receipted through a personalized annual statement mailed in January of the following year. Mosaic is a 501(c)(3) and gifts are tax-deductible as allowed by law

To learn more about how Mosaic serves in partnership with the Church, such as Rejoicing Spirits, please visit the Mosaic blog at www.mosaicpossible.org.



a campaign for Mosaic

BOLD LEADERS • BOLD PARTNERS • BOLD FRIENDS

Sharon and Max Miller | Cheryl and Conrad T. Swanson *National Co-Chairs*
Ramona and Deryl Hamann | Judy and Paul Tamisiea *Honorary Co-Chairs*

Thanks



Dear Revs. Susan and Brad and Parish -
Just a little remembrance for
your Church Library in gratitude for
your ongoing friendships and
hospitality to CSCPF and our
student chaplains. Many blessings
for the New Year!

Merry Christmas
Καλά Χριστούγεννα

Wendy Jones, President
Scott Hoque, Vice President
Dee Jezus, Spiritual Director
and all of
CSCPF.

FCC Prayer Concerns

“Pray without ceasing.”

I Thessalonians 5:17

Clara Arroyo	Faye Morosini
Jim Bennett	Matteson Family
Amy Burns	Brian Neukman
Gale Carper	Louise Oliver
Howard Coltfelter	Dennis Parks
Chuck Cummings	Judy Parks
Judy Dalton	Carol Perry
Carol Jean Daniel	Steve Pratt
Barbara Dunning	Ike Rogers
Earn Eachus	Paul Scanga
Kat Edwards	John Sherry
JoAnne Eggers	Gary Steed
Larry Eggers	Lois Stouffer
Sheana Emerson	Terry
Vicki Gassman	Angie Tanksley
David & Vickie Hagan	Ron Velarde
Connie Hawley	
JoAnne Hill	
Ethel Hoffman	
Eleanor Hubbell	
Dee Johnson	
Ed Jones	
Nora Juette	
Hailer Kellog	
Barbara Kinion	
Jean Krenzer	
Peggy Lawler	
Betty Learned	

FCC SUNDAY SERVERS' 4-Week ASSIGNMENTS

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>January 20, 2019</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Elder</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lily Fitch</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Deacon</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Audrey Richardson</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Greeter</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Audrey Richardson</p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr style="background-color: #e0e0e0;"> <th colspan="2" style="text-align: left; padding: 2px;">January 20, 2019</th> <th style="text-align: right; padding: 2px;">3rd Sunday</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; padding: 2px;"><u>Worship Leader</u></td> <td style="width: 33%; padding: 2px;"><u>Preparing Diaconate</u></td> <td style="width: 33%; padding: 2px;"><u>Van Driver</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Lois Dunning</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Riecke Claussen</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">TBD</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;"><u>Offering Elder</u></td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Nancy Claussen</td> <td style="padding: 2px;"><u>Keyboard</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Ray Farrell</td> <td style="padding: 2px;"><u>Serving Diaconate</u></td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Lily Fitch</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;"><u>Communion Elder</u></td> <td style="padding: 2px;">David Morgan</td> <td style="padding: 2px;"><u>Collection Team</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Riecke Claussen</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Doug Bryant</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Lois Dunning</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;"><u>Greeter</u></td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Carolyn Bryant</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Grace Farrell</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Jeanne Klitzke</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Nancy Claussen</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Joyce Wittwer</td> <td style="padding: 2px;"><u>Coffee Mingle</u></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Lamar Edwards</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Melanie Ferron</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	January 20, 2019		3rd Sunday	<u>Worship Leader</u>	<u>Preparing Diaconate</u>	<u>Van Driver</u>	Lois Dunning	Riecke Claussen	TBD	<u>Offering Elder</u>	Nancy Claussen	<u>Keyboard</u>	Ray Farrell	<u>Serving Diaconate</u>	Lily Fitch	<u>Communion Elder</u>	David Morgan	<u>Collection Team</u>	Riecke Claussen	Doug Bryant	Lois Dunning	<u>Greeter</u>	Carolyn Bryant	Grace Farrell	Jeanne Klitzke	Nancy Claussen		Joyce Wittwer	<u>Coffee Mingle</u>		Lamar Edwards	Melanie Ferron	
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Church Calendar of Events - January 17, 2019— February 13, 2019

Thursday January 17, 2019

****Crosswords ****

1:30 pm Monthly Mission Day

6:00 pm Praise Team

Saturday January 19, 2019

8:00 am Men's Breakfast

8:30 am RMCS CPE Group

Sunday January 20, 2019

Celebration and Commissioning of 2019 Leaders*

9:00 am Contemporary Worship Service

9:30 am Traditional Sunday School

10:00 am Contemporary Sunday School

10:15 am Deacon's Meeting

10:50 am Traditional Worship Service

12:15 pm Coffee Mingle

4:00 pm Cabinet Meeting

Monday January 21, 2019

****Pastor Brad Puerto Rico****

9:30 am CWU Group

NO Staff Meeting

1:30 pm FCC Bookworms

7:00 pm M&M Bible Study

Tuesday January 22, 2019

****Pastor Brad Puerto Rico****

9:00 am Burger King Coffee Group

5:00 pm Healthy Living

6:00 pm Creation Care Group

Wednesday January 23, 2019

****Pastor Brad Puerto Rico****

NO Morning Bible Study

NO Evening Bible Study

Thursday January 24, 2019

****Pastor Brad Puerto Rico****

****Crosswords Deadline****

1:00 pm CWF Executive Meeting

6:00 pm Praise Team

Friday January 25, 2019

****Pastor Brad Puerto Rico****

2:00 pm Mexican Train Group

Saturday January 26, 2019

****Pastor Brad Puerto Rico****

9:00 am Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)

Sunday January 27, 2019

****Pastor Brad Puerto Rico****

****Food Bank Sunday****

9:00 am Contemporary Worship Service

9:30 am Traditional Sunday School

10:00 am Contemporary Sunday School

10:50 am Traditional Worship Service

12:15 pm Coffee Mingle

Monday January 28, 2019

10:30 Staff Meeting

6:30 pm Craft Group

7:00 pm M&M Bible Study

Tuesday January 29, 2019

9:00 am Burger King Coffee Group

10:00 am Friends Going Forward

5:00 pm Healthy Living

Wednesday January 30, 2019

10:00 am Morning Bible Study

6:30 pm Evening Bible Study

Thursday January 31, 2019

****Crosswords ****

6:00 pm Praise Team

Sunday February 3, 2019

9:00 am Contemporary Worship Service

9:30 am Traditional Sunday School

10:00 am Contemporary Sunday School

10:50 am Traditional Worship Service

12:15 pm Coffee Mingle

Monday February 4, 2019

10:30 Staff Meeting

1:30 pm FCC Bookworms

7:00 pm M&M Bible Study

Tuesday February 5, 2019

9:00 am Burger King Coffee Group

5:00 pm Healthy Living

6:00 pm Night'ngals

Wednesday February 6, 2019

10:00 am Morning Bible Study

3:30 pm Parkinson Support Group

6:30 pm Evening Bible Study

Thursday February 7, 2019

****Crosswords Deadline****

9:30 am Ruth Group

1:30 pm Dorcas Group

6:00 pm Praise Team

6:00 pm Co. Quilters Board

Friday February 8, 2019

2:00 pm Mexican Train Group

Sunday February 10, 2019

9:00 am Contemporary Worship Service

9:30 am Traditional Sunday School

10:00 am Contemporary Sunday School

10:50 am Traditional Worship Service

12:15 pm Coffee Mingle

12:30 pm Elder's Meeting

Monday February 11, 2019

10:30 Staff Meeting

6:30 pm Craft Group

7:00 pm M&M Bible Study

Tuesday February 12, 2019

9:00 am Burger King Coffee Group

10:00 am Friends Going Forward

1:30 pm PEO Chapter Meeting

5:00 pm Healthy Living

Wednesday February 13, 2019

6:30 am Newcomers Group

10:00 am Morning Bible Study

6:30 pm Evening Bible Study

7:00 pm Co/ West Quilters Guild