



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

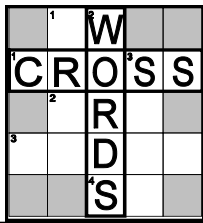
Volume 3● January 31, 2019

...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

The Need in Puerto Rico

Last week, Susan and I traveled to Puerto Rico with Rev. Ruben Rodriguez of Mountair Christian Church in Lakewood, Colorado. We traveled to survey the need in Puerto Rico following the devastation caused by Hurricane Maria in September of 2017. Our hope was to discern if there are needs that could be met by the Central Rocky Mountain Region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the form of a mission/work trip (or, perhaps, something else -whatever the need dictates.) Following are some of the things we discovered.

- A significant number of Puerto Ricans left the island without returning. While we traveled, we heard estimates of population loss as high as 500,000. December 2018 census data puts the net migration loss at 130,000. Even the lower number represents 3.9 percent of the island's population (which is significant, considering no US state lost even 1% of its population during this time, and most saw increases.)
- The island looks pretty good, but looks can be deceiving. Significant resources have been invested in rebuilding after the devastation, which is great. In fact, to an outsider like me who has never traveled to Puerto Rico before, the island looks great: buildings have been repainted, and tourism business looks brisk (which is very helpful to the local economy.) Yet, upon closer inspection, need remains.
- Barring an extension, I've been told FEMA assistance for individual homeowners will end this summer. With the island looking so good, it makes sense. However, closer inspection reveals that a great number of people have not yet received the help they need, and access to help in the form of FEMA funds will (likely) end soon.
- A number of homes still use tarps as roofs, or at least to cover their leaky roofs. One person with whom we talked said most visitors imagine no one lives in the homes that have tarps or, worse, no roof at all, but that's not the case. Most of the homes that look uninhabitable are, in fact, still the dwelling places of families.
- The need is greatest in the areas most tourists will never see on a visit. I saw the most need in the mountain villages and in small, out of the way, places where the hurricane struck hardest. (Thanks to Ruben for taking us to these out-of-the-way places!)
- There are still piles of rubble that used to be homes and businesses. Will they ever be rebuilt? I don't know. Likely, they are owned by some of the 130,000 who fled. While we were there, we talked to some residents who had just returned from a 16-month exodus to begin the process of rebuilding.

The greatest need today can be fund in repairing, rather than rebuilding. Water damage is just about everywhere. Even repainted houses often have cracks in their roofs that yield water damage whenever the rain comes, which is every day.

I left Puerto Rico with a strong sense that a group of people who want to help will have no difficulty finding opportunities to help in Puerto Rico for a very long time. We *can* do something to help. Now, the question is: *will* we do something to help?

-Pastor Brad

Birthdays, Anniversaries & Announcements

FCC Birthdays

February

Feb. 2	Ben White
Feb. 8	Harriet Conway
Feb. 11	Bella Han
Feb. 20	Jim Matthews
Feb. 22	Dorothy Rhodes
Feb. 27	Billy Fitch

FCC Anniversary

February

Feb. 14	Joanne & Larry Eggers
Feb. 14	Katie & Jason Schuman
Feb. 23	Bill & Lily Fitch
Feb. 27	Gary & Carol Steed



A Little Food Bank Comparison



	2018	2019
Jan.	#177	#210
Feb.	#142	
Mar.	#170	
Apr.	#240	
May	#100	
June	#223	
July	#223	
Aug.	#198	
Sept.	#117	
Oct.	#176	
	2017	2018
Nov.	#298	#76
Dec.	#210	#285



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

CROSSWORDS!

next deadline is...

Thursday January February 7th

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.

Welcome

Welcome, Adele Matera

Adele was born in Steger, IL, just south of Chicago where she lived for two years until, during WWII, her father joined the military and started his military career in the Air Force. During her childhood Adele's father's career took them to Cheyenne, WY; Colorado Springs, CO; Riverside, CA; Wiesbaden, Germany; Suitland, MD and Belton, MO. While in Colorado Springs, her parents bought a small chicken farm and Adele spent many Saturdays cleaning and prepping chickens for sale with her family. Chicken is not her favorite food to this day! After moving to Belton, MO, she met Larry Matera on a blind date.

Larry and Adele were married in Belton and six months later moved to Chicago where Larry worked for the Social Security Administration. Adele had graduated from Business School in Kansas City, MO, and worked for a Credit Union. After moving to Chicago Adele worked as the assistant to the Comptroller for the Central Accounting Office of Sears. After one and a half years they relocated to Suitland, MD, and Larry took a job for the Department of Defense at Andrews Air Force Base where their daughter Cindy was born. While in Maryland Larry accepted a position in the Foreign Service with the Department of State in Washington, DC, and Larry and Adele served overseas for 14 years. Their second daughter Dawn was born at their first posting in Paris, France, then their son Kevin was born at their second posting in Bangkok, Thailand before they went to the little country of Dohomey in West Africa which is now called Benin. (Dahomey means "Home of Dan" their first king—it's just west of Nigeria.) They were at Tehran, Iran, leaving there just before the Shah was deposed and the Embassy was taken hostage in the 1970s; their next assignment was La Paz, Bolivia; and their final assignment was San Jose, Costa Rica; before returning to the Department of State in Washington, DC, where Larry continued his service as a security and communications officer. She and her husband brought their children up in a Christian home and were especially involved with the missionaries in Thailand and West Africa (where they helped establish a church that Adele says had 30 members by the time they left), and Costa Rica.

After returning to the states Adele earned her degree as a registered nurse and worked in nursing for two years but due to health issues she returned to work in the business world.

After Larry retired he continued to work as a contractor for the State Department for two years until 1989 when they moved to Denver and began retirement life. In 2000 Larry became ill with myelodysplasia of the bone marrow. While on vacation in British Columbia, Larry felt so much better that they decided to move to Blaine, Washington, near the Canadian border where they lived for three years. During a 2004 visit to Adele's sister in Florida, Larry's disease turned into Acute Leukemia, and he passed away there in February 9, 2005.

While living in Denver before Larry's illness, Adele worked for the Colorado Chapter of the National MS Society for seven years as their director of finance and administration. Longing for a smaller city, Adele found Grand Junction to her liking and had a home built for her here. She arrived last August, came to church and transferred her membership in December. She is eager to get involved and has already joined two CWF groups, FCC Bookworms, helped with Christmas Eve services and plays Mexican Train.

Welcome, Adele. We are so excited to have you join us.

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?)

3. How did you get your name? Are you named after someone? Do you like your name? Did you ever want a different name? If so, what/why?

4. Do you have siblings? If so, where do you fall into the birth order? Are you close to any/all of your siblings? How are you alike/different?

Thank you,
Susan



Announcements

Outreach Team in Formation!

There are several people who I assume are on the Outreach team/committee because you help with all of the activities; however, I have been remiss in having meetings and it has been asked of all team leaders, by the pastor, to have team meetings, so I need to form a team! If you would like to be on the Outreach team, then please let me know. After I hear from several of you, I will schedule a meeting! Outreach is an exciting team. We plan outreach events, manage the outreach Room (just off of Brad's office), organize mission trips (and it looks like this year we'll be focusing our efforts on Puerto Rico) and encourage people to help where they see need! Let us come together to love as Jesus loved!

Susan Barton

revsusanbarton@gmail.com



Cabinet Meeting

Sunday, February 17th

@ 4:00 pm

Elders Meeting

Sunday, February 10th

@ 12:30 pm



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.

The FCC Bookworms will read "America's First Daughter" by Stephanie Dray & Laura Komoie during the month of April, and the discussions will be led by Pam Baumgartle. Our meeting days are Monday April 1 and 15 at 1:30 p.m. If anyone would like to join our group for this book, please let Joyce Wittwer know by March 1 so that a used book can be ordered for you. The cost will run about \$8. Questions???? Ask Joyce 243-6214

Announcements

2019

Elders

Phone Numbers

E-mail

Susan Barton: (ElderChair)	250-5547	revsusanbarton@gmail.com
Al Baumgartle	243-5891	abaumgartl@aol.com
Ray Farrell	986-9128	ray.farrell@lm.doe.gov
Jim Mathews	773-8280	jim2001@charter.net
Lois Dunning	242-5427	lad16@juno.com
Chuck Haigler	242-5252	chaigler6@bresnan.net
Carol Matthews	773-4797	carol47@charter.net
Lily Fitch	250-6966	lfitch50@gmail.com
Riecke Claussen	245-3787	nocsra@bresnan.net
Jeanice Swank	242-3588	jaswank36@msn.com

These are your elders for 2019. If you, or someone you know, would benefit from a visitation or receiving communion from an elder, please contact any of the above elders. This will enable the elders to fulfill these requests. If you would prefer, you could also contact the members of the Visitation Committee and they will relay these requests to one of the Elders.

Announcements & Thanks



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



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
(Grandview Apartments)

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.

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



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 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

January 5, 2019



Community
Food Bank

First Christian Church, Disciples of Christ
1326 N First Street
Grand Junction CO 81501

Dear Food Bank Supporter:

We are very grateful for your gift of 666 pounds of food to date in the last months of 2018. It is generous donors like you who make it possible for us to be here when our neighbors need food.

We use our donated food before food that we purchase. We also stretch donations through food drives, wise purchases and help from other food agencies. With your help and other friends like you, the Community Food Bank has been the Mesa County emergency food resource for those in need for 40 years.

Together, we can provide hunger relief for those Mesa County residents going through a hard time. The Community Food Bank and loyal supporters like you make someone's life a bit brighter through donations such as the one(s) you have made to date in 2018.

Whether you have donated food or provided a monetary gift on behalf of the Community Food Bank toward supporting hunger relief in the past, or if this is your first time making a food donation, we thank you. Please contact us for more information about the food bank or how we can support your efforts going forward with hosting a food drive or another project.

Gratefully,

Marsha Kosteva
Executive Director
marsha.kosteva@foodbankgj.org
970-640-0336 ext. 3

No goods or services of any value were transferred in connection with this in-kind donation. The Community Food Bank is a non-profit organization recognized as tax-exempt as described in Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code; EIN #84-0817696.

Thanks



December 31, 2018

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
1326 N. First Street
Grand Junction, CO 81501

RE: Thank You

Dear First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ),

On behalf of all of us at HomewardBound of the Grand Valley, I want to thank you for your gift of \$124.98 received on 12/08/2018. This donation benefits families, veterans and singles by giving them access to vital food, shelter and other programs they need to move from surviving to thriving in our community.

HomewardBound is an Enterprise Zone, which means you are entitled to a 25% tax credit in the state of Colorado for donations totaling \$50 or more in a year. To receive this credit and have a certificate issued, you will need to provide HomewardBound your organization's Federal Employer Identification Number (EIN). If you have donated to us, and **have not yet provided us with this information**, please call our Administrative Director, Ashley Giese, at (970) 985-7430.

Your kindness is more than a contribution, it ensures the safety and well-being of everyone in our community, and - most importantly - helps those without a place to go break the cycle of homelessness.

Thank you for your support!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jesse Redmond", is written over a horizontal line.

Jesse Redmond
Development Director
970-985-7422
jredmond@hbgv.org

No goods or services were provided in exchange for this contribution. HomewardBound of the Grand Valley is an exempt organization as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code; EIN 26-0052916

HomewardBound 2853 North Avenue Grand Junction, CO 81501
970-256-9424

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	Carol Steed
Larry Eggers	Gary Steed
Sheana Emerson	Lois Stouffer
Vicki Gassman	Terry
David & Vickie Hagan	Angie Tanksley
Connie Hawley	Ron Velarde
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

<u>February 3, 2019</u> <u>Elder</u> Lily Fitch <u>Deacon</u> Brad Krebill <u>Greeter</u> Brad Krebill	<table><tr><th colspan="3"><u>February 3, 2019</u> <u>1st Sunday</u></th></tr><tr><td><u>Worship Leader</u> Susan Barton</td><td><u>Preparing Diaconate</u> Karen Lehman</td><td><u>Coffee Mingle</u> Birthday Cake</td></tr><tr><td><u>Offering Elder</u> Jim Matthews</td><td><u>Serving Diaconate</u> Kathy Moore</td><td>Joyce Witwer Lamar Edwards</td></tr><tr><td><u>Communion Elder</u> Carol Matthews</td><td>Jerry Francis Jeanice Swank</td><td><u>Keyboard</u> Paula Schaffer</td></tr><tr><td><u>Greeter</u> Earn Eachus</td><td>Yvonne Warner <u>Van Driver</u></td><td><u>Collection Team</u> Chip Ferron</td></tr><tr><td>Ruby Eachus</td><td>Terry Laughlin</td><td>Riecke Claussen</td></tr><tr><td>Cole Barton</td><td>Jo Laughlin</td><td></td></tr></table>	<u>February 3, 2019</u> <u>1st Sunday</u>			<u>Worship Leader</u> Susan Barton	<u>Preparing Diaconate</u> Karen Lehman	<u>Coffee Mingle</u> Birthday Cake	<u>Offering Elder</u> Jim Matthews	<u>Serving Diaconate</u> Kathy Moore	Joyce Witwer Lamar Edwards	<u>Communion Elder</u> Carol Matthews	Jerry Francis Jeanice Swank	<u>Keyboard</u> Paula Schaffer	<u>Greeter</u> Earn Eachus	Yvonne Warner <u>Van Driver</u>	<u>Collection Team</u> Chip Ferron	Ruby Eachus	Terry Laughlin	Riecke Claussen	Cole Barton	Jo Laughlin	
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<u>Worship Leader</u> Al Baumgartle	<u>Preparing Diaconate</u> Marian Velarde	<u>Coffee Mingle</u> Jeanice Swnk																				
<u>Offering Elder</u> Jeanice Swank	<u>Serving Diaconate</u> Marian Velarde	Ruth Acord																				
<u>Communion Elder</u> Lois Dunning	Jeanne Klitzke	<u>Keyboard</u> Ray Farrell																				
<u>Greeter</u> Carol Steed	Ruth Acord	<u>Collection Team</u> Chip Ferron																				
Adele Matera	Jodi Gabel <u>Van Driver</u>	Riecke Claussen																				
Karen Lehman	TBD																					

Church Calendar of Events - January 31, 2019— March 3, 2019

Thursday January 31, 2019

****Crosswords ****

6:00 pm Praise Team

Sunday February 3, 2019

9:00 am Contemporary Worship
Service

NO Traditional Sunday School

NO 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

1:00 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

NO Traditional Sunday School

NO 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

Thursday February 14, 2019

****Crosswords****

1:00 pm CWF General

5:00 pm Homeward Bound Ministries

6:00 pm Praise Team

Saturday February 16, 2019

8:00 am Men's Breakfast

8:30 am RMCSC CPE Group

12:00pm Territorial Daughters
Meeting

Sunday February 17, 2019

****Week of Compassion****

9:00 am Contemporary Worship
Service

NO Traditional Sunday School

NO Contemporary Sunday School

10:50 am Traditional Worship Service

12:15 pm Coffee Mingle

4:00 pm Cabinet Meeting

Monday February 18, 2019

9:30 am CWU Group

10:30 Staff Meeting

1:30 pm FCC Bookworms

7:00 pm M&M Bible Study

Tuesday February 19, 2019

9:00 am Burger King Coffee Group

5:00 pm Healthy Living

Wednesday February 20, 2019

10:00 am Morning Bible Study

6:30 pm Evening Bible Study

Thursday February 21, 2019

****Crosswords Deadline****

1:30 pm Monthly Mission Day

6:00 pm Praise Team

Friday February 22, 2019

2:00 pm Mexican Train Group

Saturday February 23, 2019

9:00 am Amateur Radio Emergency
Services (ARES)

Sunday February 24, 2019

****Week of Compassion****

9:00 am Contemporary Worship
Service

NO Traditional Sunday School

NO Contemporary Sunday School

10:50 am Traditional Worship Service

12:15 pm Coffee Mingle

12:30 pm Puerto Rico Presentation

Monday February 25, 2019

10:30 Staff Meeting

6:30 pm Craft Group

7:00 pm M&M Bible Study

Tuesday February 26, 2019

9:00 am Burger King Coffee Group

10:00 am Friends Going Forward

5:00 pm Healthy Living

Wednesday February 27, 2019

10:00 am Morning Bible Study

6:30 pm Evening Bible Study

Thursday February 28, 2019

****Crosswords****

Pastor Brad in Denver

1:00 pm CWF Executive Meeting

6:00 pm Praise Team

Sunday March 3, 2019

9:00 am Contemporary Worship
Service

NO Traditional Sunday School

NO Contemporary Sunday School

10:50 am Traditional Worship Service

12:15 pm Coffee Mingle