



First Christian Church (DOC)  
 1326 North 1<sup>st</sup> Street  
 Grand Junction, CO 81501  
 firstchristiangj@hotmail.com  
[www.gjdisciples.org](http://www.gjdisciples.org)  
 970.242.7204—phone

Return Service Requested

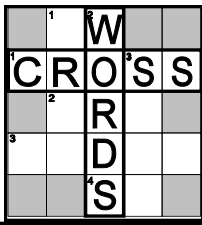
Volume 8 • April 11, 2019

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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

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

## Crucifixion:

### What Does it Mean to You that Jesus Died?

“Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last.”  
- Matthew 27:50

Jesus died. You know. I know it. We all know it, right?

When I was in a theology class in seminary, a professor made the claim that modern Western Christianity has emphasized resurrection over crucifixion, Easter over Good Friday, and he suggested we, as people studying to be pastors, consider whether or not that emphasis is problematic.

When I heard his suggestion, I disagreed internally. The image of a cross, the very symbol of modern Western Christian faith, flashed before my mind's eye, and I resisted the notion that we emphasize resurrection over crucifixion. Even so, the more I thought about it, and the more I have lived as a member of multiple Christian congregations since seminary, I've come to notice some things:

- Easter worship services are big deals, with an Easter worship service typically being one of the best attended worship services of the year. At the same time, crucifixion services (Good Friday or tenebrae worship) are attended so poorly that many congregations, ours included, don't even offer them anymore.
- I hear a great many people proclaim that resurrection is what saves us, that God's victory over death through Jesus on Easter Sunday provides our victory over death. However, the Bible reveals something quite different; Jesus' righteousness took the place of our (lack of) righteousness when Jesus died on that cross, so we can stand as righteous before God.
- I even hear some modern Christians lament that we talk about Jesus' death as necessary or important at all. They question what kind of God would require a death to make us righteous, and they don't want to know such a God. But this is nothing new; Docetism, a heresy dating back to the first century, denies Jesus' crucifixion. Still other groups claim one of Jesus' brothers was actually crucified and that Jesus escaped (apparently to Japan.)

OK. On to my point. Jesus died. When Jesus died, something important happened. While we may gloss over it from time to time because crucifixion is painful to spend time thinking about, even because we're inclined to think we'd prefer a God who didn't require crucifixion, Jesus' crucifixion matters. Over the coming week (through Good Friday), I encourage you to spend some extra time considering (and even talking with members of your church family about) what Jesus' crucifixion means to you.

- Pastor Brad





# Announcements

## **Lent is Here:**

### **Journey through Lent with Your FCCGJ Church Family!**

**Lenten Lunches Are Changing This Year**

**Experience Something Both Familiar and NEW**

**Wednesdays, March 13-April 17**

Come to Lenten lunches this Lenten season for something both familiar and new:

Familiar:

- Lunch/Soup
- A Cross-Focused Talk
- Fellowship with your FCCGJ Family

New:

- Some “catered” food along with the soup
- More DISCUSSION than being talked at
- Discussion guided by a symbol
- A “Stations of the Cross” feel
- Service of Diminishing Lights

Please stop by for lunch beginning March 13 and discover if the revised Lenten Lunches can help you focus more on God this Lenten season.

## **Lenten Daily Devotionals**

*Daily throughout Lent*

This year’s Lenten Daily Devotional guide, prepared by the Society of St. Andrew, is entitled, *Seasons of Joy and Gladness*. Based on Zechariah 8:18-20, the devotional considers “the renewal of joy following a time of trial... 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 a copy at the beginning of Lent, and follow the daily devotional guide to help you get closer to God and prepare yourself for the joy of resurrection on Easter Sunday!





# Announcements

## Lent & Easter 2019 First Christian Church, GJ Focusing on the Cross!

Lenten Lunches  
Eat and join in Cross focused Conversations.  
Wednesdays  
March 13 - April 17  
12:00 p.m.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and Celebration  
Tuesday, March 5  
Eat pancakes, have a party,  
and learn why we do these things  
the day before Lent begins.

Ash Wednesday Worship Service  
Wednesday, March 6  
Share a potluck 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, April 14  
**Celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry**  
Into Jerusalem @ both services.  
9:00 a.m. & 10:50 a.m.

Maundy Thursday  
Thursday, April 18  
Sign up to participate in Christian sider as a way to remember  
**Jesus' last supper.**  
7:00 p.m.

Easter Prayer Vigil  
Thursday, April 18 - Friday, April 19  
Participate in 24 hours of continuous prayer.  
8:00 p.m. Thurs. - 8:00 p.m. Fri.

Easter Sunday  
Sunday, April 21  
**Proclaim "Christ is Risen!" in two distinct styles,**  
and enjoy an Easter brunch with your Church family!  
Easter Sunrise Service @ 9:00 a.m.



# Announcements

## From you Elder Chair:

Hi church family. We have a great group of elders this year, who are working alongside the pastoral staff to make sure that we meet the growing needs of our congregation. As many of you know, but probably not all, the Bible sets forth why the church has elders and deacons and it was because there needed to be a division of responsibility in the church. There was too much work falling upon a particular group of people, so tasks were divvied up and the goal was to try to help ministry become more effective. Fast forward to today and we also are supposed to have some division of responsibility, but sometimes people, being people, want the pastor to do everything. (This mind set has existed in every church I've ever been a part of and actually the disciples argued over who would get to sit at Jesus' side. We want to be noticed. We want to be recognized. We want to be remembered.) Your pastors; however, can not do all the tasks of the church. They do not have crystal balls and they do not know when you need to be called or visited etc. They can not lead every ministry you want them to lead. They can not attend every committee meeting. Our pastors are professionals who have been called to ministry.....a prophetic task. All that said, please know that we (your elders) are working hard to try to meet the various spiritual needs that we are aware of; however, we can only do what we are aware of, so please call an elder if you have an elder request. If you have a pastor request, then please call a pastor. (And, just to clarify, telling me is not the same as telling Brad.) Pastor Brad's cell phone is on every bulletin, and he will return calls as soon as possible. (Sometimes he intentionally does not answer his phone because his wife enforces cell phone sabbath.) Pastor Melanie is also very accessible. We are all in this together. If we truly want to follow in the way of Jesus, then we need to place Jesus at the center of our thoughts and prayers and conversations. I have found that when I truly listen to Jesus then my words are more moderated and I act in more grace toward others, because as Pastor Brad said in his sermon this past week, "God is a God of grace. He extends grace to all who will receive it." Are you open to receiving God's grace? Does your life represent a life of grace? If not, then come speak to me or another elder or to one of your pastors because we want you to enjoy the grace that God offers to you, today and every day.

"As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Joshua 24:15

-Susan Barton

970-250-5547

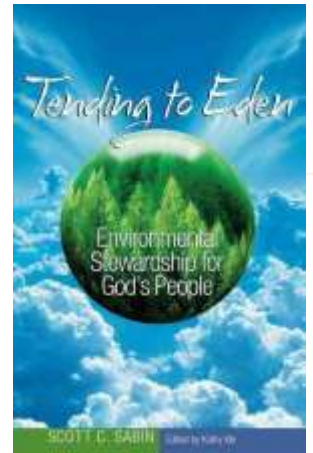
# Announcements



Just a little from the Creation Care group

Taken from:

*Take Action—  
Make an Impact*



## **As an Individual**

- Spend some quiet time outside in God's creation.
- Learn about your local environment. What plants grow there? What creatures thrive there? How is it unique?
- Turn off the faucet when brushing your teeth.
- Turn off the lights when leaving the room.
- Buy secondhand clothes and furniture.
- Bike, walk, or carpool to work or the store.
- Combine errands into one trip.
- Carry a travel mug or water bottle for beverages throughout the day.
- Eat less meat.
- Volunteer to help people less fortunate than you.
- Carry a handkerchief instead of disposable tissues.
- Pray about and consider adopting a simpler lifestyle.



**CHURCH WOMEN UNITED  
2019 May Friendship Day**

**THE  
TIME IS  
NOW!**  
“Agree to Differ”

**You Are Invited**

<b>WHERE</b>	<b>FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH 1326 N 1ST STREET</b>
<b>WHEN</b>	<b>MAY 10, 2019 AT 11:30 A.M. SALAD LUNCHEON</b>
<b>BRING A FRIEND.</b>	
<b>PROGRAM</b>	<b>HOMeward BOUND JESSE REDMOND.</b>





# Announcements

**SeaSide ESCAPE**  
WHERE WOMEN BASK IN GOD'S PRESENCE

## Wish you were at the beach?

Longing for time to **slow down, wiggle your toes** in the sand, and **bask in the warmth of God's presence**? Join us at SeaSide Escape. It's a **beach-themed retreat** where you'll experience meaningful Bible study and worship, connect with other women, and have time for **quiet reflection and plenty of laughter!**

**Location:** First Christian Church  
1326 N 1st Street  
Grand Junction, Co.

**Date:** August 24, 2019

**Cost:** \$10.00

8:30am - 4:30pm  
All women invited

**For more information, contact:**  
Lily Fitch  
970-250-6966

Photo: iStockphoto.com/George H. White, iStockphoto.com/Scotty Murray, iStockphoto.com/Steve Delaney, iStockphoto.com/Chris Pappalardo, iStockphoto.com/Janet K. CO



# Announcements

## Sharefest is Coming.

Save the Date - May 4, 2019

We will be helping the residents at Grandview Apartments with spring clean up..

From 9am to 2 pm . David Morgan will also be doing a Bar-B- Q lunch..

Please sign up to help..

Thanks you,

Outreach Ministry

### Passover

### Seder

- For those of you who are coming to the Seder dinner you need to bring your own table service

(plate and silverware)



There will NOT be Men's Breakfast in April

Elders Meeting

Sunday, April 14th

@ 12:30 pm

Cabinet Meeting

Sunday, April 28th

@ 4:00 pm



# Announcements & Thanks

**Did You See?** Susan Barton was recognized by St. Mary's Hospital, where she is a chaplain, for her participation in last summer's mission in El Salvador. "Congratulations, Susan." The article is on the bulletin board.

Thanks to all of you who bring egg cartons for Suzanne Andrew. Currently, though, she has plenty!! But if you have the cardboard egg cartons, please continue to bring them for recycle. Otherwise, they are thrown away until Suzanne is in need of more. Thanks for your compliance.

**WOW!** Another 9 pounds of batteries were saved from the landfill thanks to all of you! Please note, though, that the container for the batteries has been moved to the fellowship hall near Pastor Brad's office under the Creation Care bulletin board. Thanks for bringing in all your batteries, and be sure to check out the information on that bulletin board.



■ An Ohio man has given up all food and drink except beer for Lent. Del Hall, who works at a brewery in Cincinnati, said he was inspired to the unusual 40-day fast by 17th-century Bavarian monks who also fasted on "liquid bread" during Lent. "I've run a full marathon before, 26.2 miles, I've done big challenges, but this seems very daunting," said Hall. "So, I'm just curious if I'm up to the challenge."

- 7. Who is your earliest childhood friend that you remember spending time with? What did you like to do together? Are you still in touch with this person?
- 8. What was your favorite season when you were young? Describe that season and where you lived. (ie Fall in Texas) Why do you think it was your favorite season?



## From The Bookshelf



FCC Bookworms have done it again! We read another book!! "Their Eyes Were Watching God" by Lora Neale Hurston was written in 1937 but not appreciated until brought to the public's attention by Alice Walker who wrote "The Color Purple". Hurston's book is a classic black novel about the struggles of a fair-skinned black woman who learned to live for herself. It was a compelling read and available in our library.





# Announcements

March 19, 2019



**Community  
Food Bank**

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

Dear Donor:

We are very grateful for your recent gift of 150 pounds to help us fulfill our mission. It is generous donors like you who make it possible for us to be here when our neighbors need assistance.

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.

Whether you have donated food (or other consumable items) 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



**HOMEBOWND**  
*of the grand valley.*

February 25, 2019

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 \$83.32 received on 02/01/2019. 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,

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

*Thank you for your  
generous contribution  
and your continued  
support!*

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	Ginger Morris
Jim Bennett	Brian Neukman
Amy Burns	Dennis Parks
Gale Carper	Carol Perry
Howard Coltfelter	Steve Pratt
Chuck Cummings	Ike Rogers
Judy Dalton	Kyle Rosencrans
Carol Jean Daniel	Paul Scanga
Annabelle Decker	John Sherry
Maia Dibble	Carol Steed
Barbara Dunning	Gary Steed
Earn Eachus	Gary Stubbs
Kat Edwards	Brian Stouffer
JoAnne Eggers	Lois Stouffer
Larry Eggers	Terry
Sheana Emerson	Angie Tanksley
David & Vickie Hagan	Ron Velarde
Connie Hawley	Joan White
JoAnne Hill	
Ethel Hoffman	
Eleanor Hubbell	
Dee Johnson	
Ed Jones	
Nora Juette	
Hailer Kellog	
Peggy Lawler	
Betty Learned	
Faye Morosini	



# FCC SUNDAY SERVERS' 4-Week ASSIGNMENTS

<p><b><u>April 14, 2019</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Elder</u></b> Lily Fitch</p> <p><b><u>Deacon</u></b> Norma Lavelett</p> <p><b><u>Greeter</u></b> Norma Lavelett</p>	<p><b>April 14, 2019</b>                      <b>2nd Sunday</b></p> <table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td><b><u>Worship Leader</u></b> Lily Fitch</td> <td><b><u>Preparing Diaconate</u></b> Alice Wieseler</td> <td><b><u>Coffee Mingle</u></b> Jeanice Swank</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b><u>Elders</u></b> Chuck Haigler Ray Farrell</td> <td><b><u>Serving Diaconate</u></b> Bob Wise Al Ladage</td> <td><b><u>Keyboard</u></b> Ruth Acord Pam Baumgartle</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b><u>Greeter</u></b> Melanie Ferron Jeanne Klitzke Pam Baumgartle</td> <td><b><u>Jeanette West</u></b> Cole Barton</td> <td><b><u>Collection Team</u></b> Al Baumgartle Ray Farrell</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><b><u>Van Driver</u></b> If you need a ride, call the office by Tuesday</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b><u>Worship Leader</u></b> Lily Fitch	<b><u>Preparing Diaconate</u></b> Alice Wieseler	<b><u>Coffee Mingle</u></b> Jeanice Swank	<b><u>Elders</u></b> Chuck Haigler Ray Farrell	<b><u>Serving Diaconate</u></b> Bob Wise Al Ladage	<b><u>Keyboard</u></b> Ruth Acord Pam Baumgartle	<b><u>Greeter</u></b> Melanie Ferron Jeanne Klitzke Pam Baumgartle	<b><u>Jeanette West</u></b> Cole Barton	<b><u>Collection Team</u></b> Al Baumgartle Ray Farrell		<b><u>Van Driver</u></b> If you need a ride, call the office by Tuesday	
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# Church Calendar of Events - April 11, 2019— May 7, 2019

## Thursday April 11, 2019

\*\*\*\*Crosswords\*\*\*\*

1:00 pm CWF General

5:00 pm Homeward Bound Ministries

6:00 pm Praise Team

## Friday April 12, 2019

2:00 pm Mexican Train Group

## Saturday April 13, 2019

12:00 pm Territorial Daughters Group

## Sunday April 14, 2019

\*\*\*\*Palm Sunday\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*Holy Week Begins\*\*\*\*

9:00 am Contemporary Worship

Service

10:50 am Traditional Worship

Service

12:15 pm Coffee Mingle

12:30 pm Elders Meeting

## Monday April 15, 2019

8:00 am CAPA Meeting

9:30 am CWU Group

10:30 Staff Meeting

1:30 pm FCC Bookworms

7:00 pm M&M Bible Study

## Tuesday April 16, 2019

9:00 am Burger King Coffee Group

5:00 pm Healthy Living

## Wednesday April 17, 2019

10:00 am Morning Bible Study

12:00 am Lenten Lunches

6:30 pm Evening Bible Study @ the Armbruster's house (615 Pioneer Rd).

## Thursday April 18, 2019

\*\*\*\*Maundy Thursday\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*Crosswords Deadline\*\*\*\*

1:30 pm Monthly Mission Day

6:00 pm Passover Seder

8:00 pm Easter Prayer Vigil Begins

## Friday April 19, 2019

8:00 pm Easter Prayer Vigil Ends

## Saturday April 20, 2019

NO Men's Breakfast for April

8:30 am RMCS CPE Group

## Sunday April 21, 2019

\*\*\*\*Easter Sunday \*\*\*\*

9:00 am Contemporary Worship

Service

10:00 am Easter Brunch

10:50 am Traditional Worship

Service

12:15 pm Coffee Mingle

## Monday April 22, 2019

\*\*\*\*Pastor Brad Off\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*Pastor Melanie Off\*\*

NO Staff Meeting

6:00 pm Craft Group

7:00 pm M&M Bible Study

## Tuesday April 23, 2019

\*\*\*\*Pastor Brad @ Conference\*\*\*\*

9:00 am Burger King Coffee Group

10:00 am Friends Going Forward

5:00 pm Healthy Living

## Wednesday April 24, 2019

\*\*\*\*Pastor Brad @ Conference\*\*\*\*

NO Morning Bible Study

NO Evening Bible Study

## Thursday April 25, 2019

\*\*\*\*Pastor Brad @ Conference\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*Crosswords\*\*\*\*

1:00 pm CWF Executive Meeting

6:00 pm Praise Team

## Friday April 26, 2019

2:00 pm Mexican Train Group

## Saturday April 27, 2019

9:00 am Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES)

## Sunday April 28, 2019

\*\*\*\*Food Bank Sunday\*\*\*\*

9:00 am Contemporary Worship

Service

10:50 am Traditional Worship

Service

12:15 pm Coffee Mingle

4:00 pm Cabinet Meeting

## Monday April 29, 2019

10:30 Staff Meeting

7:00 pm M&M Bible Study

## Tuesday April 30, 2019

9:00 am Burger King Coffee Group

5:00 pm Healthy Living

## Wednesday May 1, 2019

10:00 am Morning Bible Study

3:30 pm Parkinson Support Group

6:30 pm Evening Bible Study @ the Armbruster's house (615 Pioneer Rd).

## Thursday May 2, 2019

\*\*\*\*Crosswords Deadline\*\*\*\*

9:30 am Ruth Group

1:00 pm Dorcas Group

6:00 pm Co. West Quilters Group

6:00 pm Praise Team

## Saturday May 4, 2019

9:00 am Sharefest @ Gandview Apartments

## Sunday May 5, 2019

9:00 am Contemporary Worship

Service

10:50 am Traditional Worship

Service

12:15 pm Coffee Mingle

## Monday May 6, 2019

10:30 Staff Meeting

7:00 pm M&M Bible Study

## Tuesday May 7, 2019

9:00 am Burger King Coffee Group

10:00 am Friends Going Forward

5:00 pm Healthy Living

6:30 pm Night'ngals