



First Christian Church (DOC)  
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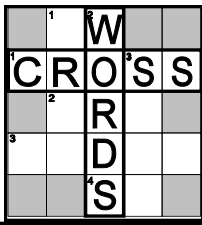
Volume 21 • October 10, 2019

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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 135 Years!

Summer Hours

One Worship

10:50 AM

Coffee Mingle

12:15 PM

### Church Office Hours:

9:15 am-1:30 pm

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

## Halloween: Should We Celebrate It?

Every year as Halloween nears, two things happen simultaneously:

1. We in this congregation prepare for our annual Trunk-or-Treat celebration;
2. I receive many (in the hundreds throughout my years of ministry) emails and flyers and comments about how and why Christians should most definitely NOT celebrate or participate in Halloween.

As the Spiritual leader/guide of this congregation, I should speak to this topic, as I am certain there are some among us on each side of the Halloween vs. No Halloween issue. Note: With Americans spending over \$5 billion annually to celebrate Halloween, Halloween is the nation's second largest commercial holiday...so this is an issue worthy of consideration.

**First: Why NOT celebrate Halloween?** There are so many reasons. One reason has to do with the holiday's pagan roots. Halloween (called Samhain at the time) started as a harvest celebration approximately 1900 years ago among Celtic druids. It was considered a night when the dead could co-mingle with the living. Some Christians don't believe it's appropriate to celebrate holidays with pagan roots. Another reason has to do with devil worship; many Christian leaders (and others) suggest Halloween is a holiday for worshipping the devil and that celebrating Halloween brings a curse upon Christians who do so (seriously, look it up.) And there's the reason that the meaning behind this night is a celebration of the coming season of witches and demons and other anti-Christian beings...so celebrating the day is akin to celebrating those beings.

**Second: Why celebrate Halloween?** (Again, there are so many reasons.) I'm not going to respond to all the arguments against such a celebration; rather, I'll provide several categorical responses. Response #1: This is less a response than a reality; Halloween is not addressed in scripture (it wasn't around...yet), so we must consider other options than a scriptural ban or permission. Response #2: If we couldn't celebrate holidays with pagan roots/ties, we in the West would have a difficult time celebrating any holidays, even "Christian" ones (see Christmas, Easter, etc.) Response #3: It doesn't make sense to abstain from things because devil-worshippers choose to do them. If we made that the criteria by which we decided what's allowed, we would give devil-worshippers control over what we can/cannot do...instead of giving control to God. Response #4: It really comes down to why/what you're celebrating. Halloween can be so many good things: preparation for remembering the saints who have passed on (this Christian purpose is how the modern name "Halloween" came to be); a night to selflessly give; a night to relationally enjoy God's gift of other people, etc.

Like so many things, Halloween is not what others make of it; it's what YOU make of it. If you celebrate Halloween as a way to be giving to others, to be in good relationship with others, and even to begin your remembrance of those with whom you've had relationship but who have passed on, Halloween can be a good thing, a Christian thing. It all depends on who/what you worship, not who/what someone else worships.

- Pastor Brad

# Birthdays, Anniversaries & Announcements

## FCC Birthday

### October

October 15	Ray Farrell
October 17	Seth Krebill
October 19	Jerry Francis
October 20	Keden Everett
October 21	DeeAnn Lowry
October 22	Ruth Acord
October 25	Johnny West
October 26	Gloria Jeffery
October 28	Joyce Wittwer

### November

November 2	Elsie Ladage
November 8	Karen Lehman
November 9	David Morgan

## FCC Anniversary

### October

October 22	Jeanette & Johnny West
October 27	Dennis & Linda Edwards

## Thank-You

I want to send out a heart felt thank- you to my Church Family for all the Calls, Cards and Visits after my surgery.

Nancy Armbruster

## Here's the Preaching schedule for Oct.– Nov.

- October 13 - Pastor Brad (Series: Back to Basics)
- October 20 - Pastor Brad (Series: Back to Basics)
- October 27 - Pastor Melanie
- November 3 - Pastor Brad (Series: Back to Basics)
- November 10 - Pastor Brad (Series: Psalm of Thanksgiving)
- November 17 - Pastor Brad (Series: Psalm of Thanksgiving)
- November 24 - Pastor Brad (Series: Psalm of Thanksgiving)

### Cabinet Meeting

Sunday, October 13th

@6:00 pm



Saturday October 19th

@ 8 am

### Elders Meeting

Sunday, October 20th

@ 12:30 pm



# Announcements



## Creation Care

The Sierra Club recently had a flyer in their literature for members explaining “The Truth About Plastic”. Here are some of their figures:

10 Billion plastic bags are used each week. Only 1% is recycled.

2,500,000 plastic bottles are used hourly by Americans.

7,000 years pass before plastic is degraded in landfills.

100,000 mammals & 1 million sea birds are killed by ocean debris each year.

They also had some suggestions on how to use less plastic:

1. Carry a reusable bag to the store. (Plastic bags are choking marine life and there is no reason to ever use them!)
2. Don't buy what you don't need. (It may seem obvious, but asking yourself, “Do I really need this?” can save both money and plastic.)
3. Use a reusable water bottle, every time. (Instead of plastic, use an environmentally friendly alternative, such as stainless steel, glass, or a wooden refillable bottle.)
4. Don't use a disposable razor. (Your planet isn't disposable, so why should your razor be?)
5. Carry a travel mug. (If you drive, keep it in your car so you won't forget. Even when coffee cups are made of paper, the lids are usually plastic. And say no to plastic stirrers!)
6. Reuse your plastics. (Have plastic bottles? Find new purposes for them, like watering your plants. Have a plastic margarine tub? It's perfect for leftovers.)
7. Choose natural fibers. (Synthetics include plastic and other microfibers that may not break down for thousands of years. Instead choose cotton, wool, hemp, and silk.)
8. Buy powdered laundry detergent. (It comes in boxes instead of liquid detergent, which comes in plastic bottles.)
9. Stop chewing gum. (Or at least make sure it's all natural. Believe it or not, most gums are now made with plastic—chew on that for a minute...and then don't!)
10. Buy in bulk. (The larger portions you buy, the less packaging you use. Buying in bulk also means fewer trips to the store, which helps cut your carbon footprint.)

Their (Sierra Club) flyer was printed with vegetable-based ink on recycled paper and, of course, is recyclable. Hope you see some new ideas in here to help save our planet.



# Announcement

## Little Free Library and Love in Action Box Update

We have two boxes out by the gardens, in the church lawn.

The box closest to the church, when walking down the sidewalk, is the Love in Action Box. This box is to hold items such as: seasonal clothing (socks, coats, gloves and mittens), toiletry items (soap, deodorant, toothpaste, women's pads etc.), shelf stable food (trail mix, peanut butter, water bottles, beef jerky etc) and other things that seem appropriate like school supplies.

The box further down the sidewalk, closest to 1st street, is the Little Free Library. This is the box where all books are to be placed.

If you stop by to drop off items in either box and the box is full then you can drop off the items in the church's Outreach Room, which is outside of Pastor Brad's office. These items can then be used to fill the boxes when they are getting empty.

If you notice something that does not seem "right" when you stop to drop off items or get items from either of the boxes, then please fix what you see if you feel that you can do so. (These boxes do not have an owner. They are there for all of us to use, and to keep an eye on.) For example:

The Love in Action box has been being filled with books. Books go in the Little Free Library. Move the books to the appropriate place, if you are able. (However, I am placing a new sign up that I hope will communicate better the purpose of the Love in Action Box.)

If you find something inappropriate in either of the boxes like a needle or pornography, then please dispose of those things if you feel safe to do so. Otherwise let someone on the ministry staff know immediately because we do not want to risk someone getting hurt.

We are very fortunate that our boxes, so far, are being used for the purposes for which they've been placed in our yard. They seem to be being used to help our neighbors in need. I just said to Josh the other day, "I don't think I've ever seen a Little Free Library used this much!" The Love in Action box is also very well utilized. I do not have as much experience with them, but I can tell you that everything we place in the box is taken.

Our biggest need is for people to bring shelf stable food and other items for the Love in Action Box. Please help as you are able.

May we continue to love our neighbors as Jesus called us to!

Susan Barton, Outreach Chairperson, Member of Creation Care Ministry



# Announcements



On **November 3, 2019**, we will celebrate during the morning Worship services the lives of family members and friends we lost this past year. As part of the service their names will be called out and a chime will ring. If you have someone you would like honored in this way, either call the office or place their name and your relationship in the offering plate.

Deadline to contact the church is Monday, October 28, 2019.

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Loved One's Name \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



# Announcements



## A New Cross on the East Lawn

Hopefully, you have seen the new 20' cross installed on our east lawn! It's a gift from Christian Cross Ministries (christiancrossministries.org). Kerry Davis, the son of John and Juanita Davis, is a supporter of Christian Cross Ministries and connected our

congregation with the organization. Please share this new cross with your friends and help support the vision of "declaring the glory of God" by this cross!

- Pastor Brad

- : 19. Do you have a favorite movie or genre of movies? What is the name of the movie and/or genre? Or, maybe movies lull you to sleep, tell that story. That's OK too! It's your story!
- : 20. Did you have a least favorite grade in school growing up or a least Favorite age? Why did you not like it? (If you liked all ages and stages, explain why!)



### CROSSWORDS!

**next deadline is...**

**Thursday October 17rd**

Please submit to the church office or  
email them to:

[firstchristiangj@hotmail.com](mailto:firstchristiangj@hotmail.com)

Articles arriving later than the deadline will  
not be included until the next published  
Crosswords.



## Announcements



# Need Something Fixed?

On Saturday, October 26, 2019, FCCGJ will be launching Grand Junction's inaugural Repair Cafe!

We will have people ready to fix all kinds of things:

- jewelry
- bicycles
- furniture
- small appliances/electrical
- clothing/sewing
- even a table with glue, string, and tape

Mark your calendars, look for stuff you need repaired, and please, TELL YOUR FRIENDS!

Repair Cafe  
October 26, 2019  
9am-2pm  
1st Christian Church  
1326 N. 1st Street  
Grand Junction 81501





# Announcements



**Thursday, October 31 @ 6:00 PM**

West side of the parking lot

Trunk or treating is a safe, fun alternative to door-to-door "trick or treating"! Cars that have been decorated for Halloween will be lined up in our parking lot with trunks full of goodies. Children go trunk to trunk in their costumes to collect their treats. Please help us reach out to the children and their parents in our neighborhood by decorating your car trunk and spending a couple hours meeting them. Tammy Ostermiller will provide a chili supper for those who are working this event.

**We will be collecting candy to hand out to the kids. The collection box will be in the Narthex.**

If you will be decorating your car trunk for this event please let us know on the **sign up sheet** on in the Fellowship Hall.

For further information contact

**Tammy Ostermiller @ 462-6120**



# Halloween Candy Collection

We will be **collecting candy** to hand out to the kids on Halloween. The collection box will be in the Narthex.

# Thank You!!



# A Little Food Bank Comparison

## 2018

## 2019

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

#210 food & \$20.00  
 #150 food & \$215.00  
 #192 food & \$170.00  
 #160 food & \$80.00  
 #153 food & \$30.00  
 #210 food & \$230.00  
 # 125 food  
 N/A  
 #180 food

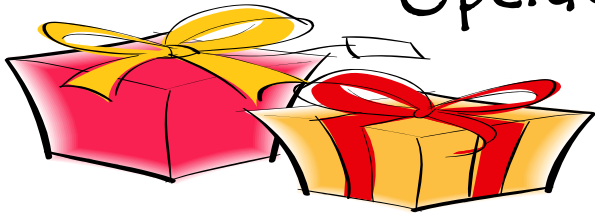


Please  
 remember to  
 pick up you  
 Operation  
 Christmas Child  
 shoebox in the  
 Fellowship Hall



# Announcements

## Operation Christmas Child



Imagine the childlike joy of boys and girls as they open their presents on Christmas morning. Now imagine that joy manifested tenfold as a child who never received a present, a child who has suffered because of war, natural disaster, poverty, illness or neglect, receives a shoebox

overflowing with gifts. That's the impact that Operation Christmas Child has on needy children around the world.

**As a reminder, Christmas Boxes are due at the church by November 10, 2019.**

There are shoe boxes wrapped in Christmas paper in the Fellowship Hall. Inside the boxes, there are instructions on what to do.

I would like to also thank you all for your generosity. I know the children will be so excited!

\*\*\*Please add \$9.00 for Shipping\*\*\*

### Things to Bring for the Christmas Boxes

- Stocking caps
- Gloves
- Barbie Dolls
- Soccer Balls
- Tennis Balls
- Yo Yo's
- Toy Cars
- Underwear
- Socks
- Clothes
- Shoes
- Toys
- Books
- Bibles
- Balloons
- Hair brushes

- Combs
- Hair Barrettes
- Hair Ribbons
- Dolls of any kind
- Stuffed toys
- Color Books
- Crayons
- School supplies
- Calculators
- Plastic Water Bottles
- Plastic Cups
- Soap tied in a Washcloth

### Things NOT to bring

- No Candy (not even hard candy)
- No Toothpaste
- No War figurines

- No War toys
- No lotion
- No liquid of any kind

**The children will LOVE anything you are able to give them!**

**Thank You**

# FCC Prayer Concerns

*“Pray without ceasing.”*

I Thessalonians 5:17

Clara Arroyo	Dennis Parks
Kimberly Barton	Carol Perry
Pam Baumgartle	Steve Pratt
Jim Bennett	Scott Rienks & Family
Bill Brown	Ike Rogers
Amy Burns	Kyle Rosencrans
Gale Carper	Paul Scanga
Howard Coltfelter	John Sherry
Robert Chandler	Lois Stouffer
Chuck Cummings	Angie Tanksley
Annabelle Decker	Tierney
Barbara Dunning	Ron Velarde
Earn Eachus	
Sheana Emerson	
Rutha Hart	
David & Vickie Hagan	
JoAnne Hill	
Ethel Hoffman	
Eleanor Hubbell	
Dee Johnson	
Ed Jones	
Nora Julette	
Hailer Kellog	
Don Klitzke	
Peggy Lawler	
Betty Learned	
Ken & Judy Maurer	
Faye Morosini	
Ginger Morris	
Brian Neukman	



# FCC SUNDAY SERVERS' 4-Week ASSIGNMENTS

## October 13, 2019 2nd Sunday

### Worship Leader

Lily Fitch

### Elders

Chuck Haigler

Al Baumgartle

### Greeter

Doug Bryant

Carolyn Bryant

Jeanice Swank

### Preparing Diaconate

Alice Wieseler

### Serving Diaconate

Bob Wise

Al Ladage

Josh Barton

Cole Barton

### Van Driver

If you need a ride, call the office by Tuesday

### Coffee Mingle

TBD

### Keyboard

Paula Schaffer

### Collection Team

Al Baumgartle

Ray Farrell

## October 20, 2019 3rd Sunday

### Worship Leader

Susan Barton

### Elders

Ray Farrell

Riecke Claussen

### Greeter

Jim Matthews

Carol Matthews

Cole Barton

### Preparing Diaconate

Riecke Claussen

Nancy Claussen

### Serving Diaconate

David Morgan

Doug Bryant

Carolyn Bryant

Nancy Claussen

### Van Driver

If you need a ride, call the office by Tuesday

### Coffee Mingle

TBD

### Keyboard

Paula Schaffer

### Collection Team

Al Baumgartle

Ray Farrell

## October 27, 2019 4th Sunday

### Worship Leader

Al Baumgartle

### Elders

Jeanice Swank

Lois Dunning

### Greeter

Gloria Jeffery

David Mogan

Adele Matera

### Preparing Diaconate

Marian Velarde

### Serving Diaconate

Marian Velarde

Dennis Edwards

Ruth Acord

Jodi Gabel

### Van Driver

If you need a ride, call the office by Tuesday

### Coffee Mingle

TBD

### Keyboard

Paula Schaffer

### Collection Team

Al Baumgartle

Ray Farrell

## November 3, 2019 1st Sunday

### Worship Leader

Joyce Wittwer

### Elders

Jim Matthews

Carol Matthews

### Greeter

Melanie Ferron

Jeanice Swank

Lamar Edwards

### Preparing Diaconate

Karen Lehman

### Serving Diaconate

Kathy Moore

Jerry Francis

Jeanice Swank

Yvonne Warner

### Van Driver

If you need a ride, call the office by Tuesday

### Coffee Mingle

November Birthday Cake

### Keyboard

Paula Schaffer

### Collection Team

Chip Ferron

Riecke Claussen

# Church Calendar of Events - October 10, 2019– November 9 , 2019

## Thursday October 10, 2019

\*\*\*\*Pastor Brad out of Office\*\*\*\*

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

1:00 pm CWF General Meeting  
(Pastor Brad's Magic Show)

5:00 pm Homeward Bound Ministries

6:00 pm Praise Team

## Friday October 11, 2019

2:00 pm Mexican Train Group

## Sunday October 13, 2019

9:30 am Sunday School

10:50 am One Worship Service

12:15 pm Coffee Mingle

6:00 pm Cabinet Meeting

## Monday October 14, 2019

10:30 am Staff Meeting

6:30 pm Craft Group

NO M&M Bible Study

## Tuesday October 15, 2019

9:00 am Burger King Coffee Group

5:00 pm Healthy Living

6:00 pm Photography Club

## Wednesday October 16, 2019

10:00 am Morning Bible Study

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

## Thursday October 17, 2019

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

1:30 pm Monthly Mission Day

2:00 pm PEO Special Meeting

6:00 pm Praise Team

## Saturday October 19, 2019

8:00 am Men's Breakfast

8:30 am RMCSC CPE Group

12:00 pm Territorial Daughters Group

## Sunday October 20, 2019

NO Sunday School Class

10:50 am One Worship Service

12:15 pm Coffee Mingle

12:30 pm Elders Meeting

## Monday October 21, 2019

9:30 am CWU Group

10:30 am Staff Meeting

1:30 pm FCC Bookworms

7:00 pm M&M Bible Study

## Tuesday October 22, 2019

9:00 am Burger King Coffee Group

10:00 am Friends Going Forward

5:00 pm Healthy Living

## Wednesday October 23, 2019

10:00 am Morning Bible Study

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

## Thursday October 24, 2019

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

1:00 pm CWF Executive Meeting

6:00 pm Praise Team

## Friday October 25, 2019

2:00 pm Mexican Train Group

6:00 pm Repair Café set-up

## Saturday October 26, 2019

9:00 am Repair Café

## Sunday October 27, 2019

\*\*\*\*Pastor Melanie Preaching\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*Pastor Brad out of Town\*\*\*\*

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

NO Sunday School Class

10:50 am One Worship Service

12:15 pm Coffee Mingle

## Monday October 28, 2019

\*\*\*\*Pastor Brad out of Town\*\*\*\*

10:30 am Staff Meeting

6:30 pm Craft Group

7:00 pm M&M Bible Study

## Tuesday October 29, 2019

\*\*\*\*Pastor Brad out of Town\*\*\*\*

9:00 am Burger King Coffee Group

5:00 pm Healthy Living

## Wednesday October 30, 2019

\*\*\*\*Pastor Brad out of Town\*\*\*\*

NO Morning Bible Study

NO Evening Bible Study

## Thursday October 31, 2019

\*\*\*\*Pastor Brad out of Town\*\*\*\*

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

6:00 pm Praise Team

6:00 pm Trunk or Treat

## Saturday November 2, 2019

\*\*\*\*Pastor Brad out of Town\*\*\*\*

8:30 am Babysitter Class/ CPR First  
Aid Training

## Sunday November 3, 2019

NO Sunday School Class

10:50 am One Worship Service

12:15 pm Coffee Mingle

## Monday November 4, 2019

10:30 am Staff Meeting

1:30 pm FCC Bookworms

7:00 pm M&M Bible Study

## Tuesday November 5, 2019

9:00 am Burger King Coffee Group

10:00 am Friends Going Forward

5:00 pm Healthy Living

6:30 pm Night'ngals

## Wednesday November 6, 2019

\*\*\*Pastor Brad @ Regional Board\*\*\*

NO Morning Bible Study

3:30 pm Parkinson Support Group

NO Evening Bible Study

## Thursday November 7, 2019

\*\*\*Pastor Brad @ Regional Board\*\*\*

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

9:30 am Ruth Group

1:30 pm Dorcas Group

6:00 pm CO. West Quilters Board

6:00 pm Praise Team

## Friday November 8, 2019

\*\*\*Pastor Brad @ Regional Board\*\*\*

2:00 pm Mexican Train Group

## Saturday November 9, 2019

\*\*\*Pastor Brad @ Regional Board\*\*\*

8:30 am Babysitter Class/ CPR First  
Aid Training