



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

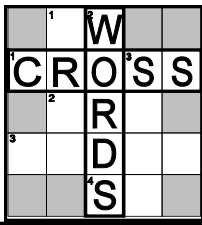
Volume 11 • April 30, 2020

...INSIDE CROSSWORDS:

|  |      |  |       |
|--|------|--|-------|
| A Word form Rev. Brad Barton   | p.2  | Announcements & Thanks– Elders List, Sunday School, To put things in perspective, Thank-you Pastor Melanie & Pam Baumgartle, Thank you from Audrey Richardson, HomewardBound wish list | p. 9  |
| Birthdays, Anniversaries, Preaching Schedule, Deepest Sympathy to Dorothy Rhodes, Community Food Bank Donations, Found Earrings, Sandra Egan, Joy of Birds | p. 3 | FCC Prayer Concerns  | p. 10 |
| Announcements– A Word form Rev. Brad Barton continued form p-2, God Sighting   | p.4  | 4-week server schedule   | p. 11 |
| Announcements– God Sighting  | p.5  | FCC Calendar of Events   | p. 12 |
| Announcements– Happy Birthday, A funny form Betty Nelson, A funny from Joyce Wittwer & Lamar Edwards, From the Bookshelf                                   | p.6  |  |       |
| Announcements– Missing your Secret Place, Your Story, Crosswords Deadline, Men’s Breakfast, Elders Meeting, Cabinet Meeting                                | p.7  |  |       |
| Announcements– What Norma Lavelett has been doing, What Lamar Edwards has been doing, What the Baumgartles have been doing, AARP                           | p.8  |  |       |

**First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Identity Statement**

Praising God,  
 Changing Lives!



# First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

## Services each Sunday...

**Praising God, Changing  
Lives for 135 Years!**

### Sunday Worship

At Home due to COVID-19

Coffee Mingle— Post-poned  
due to COVID -19

### Church Office Hours:

By phone only

Due to COVID-19

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

## Transitioning Out of “Stay at Home” For First Christian Church, Grand Junction

By now, you've probably heard that the governor of Colorado, Jared Polis, has implemented a transition phase out of Colorado's "Stay at Home" order (which expired this past Monday.) You're likely wondering what these changes mean for FCCGJ. I'd like to address this question as best I can.

First, some background. Last week, I, along with thousands of others, attended a Faith Leaders' phone call with Governor Polis to hear his explanation of what this transition means specifically for congregations, to ask questions and listen to his answers, and to hear directly from Governor Polis what he anticipates will happen moving forward. What I heard from Governor Polis on this call - along with an ensuing meeting with the FCCGJ Executive Committee on Sunday - provides the knowledge that undergirds what I am about to explain.

Here's what I understand from Governor Polis that most pertains to FCCGJ:

- Through at least the month of May, no gatherings of more than 10 people, including worship gatherings.
- Governor Polis will evaluate the impact of this transition on the healthcare system at the end of May to determine whether to move to the next phase of the transition (which would allow gatherings of >10 people with certain limitations), to stay in the current phase (called "Safer at Home"), or even to move back to "Stay at Home".
- Throughout the current phase and the planned next phase (called "Protect Your Neighbors"), Governor Polis strongly encourages people in high risk categories, including everyone age 70+, to stay at home.

And here is what I understand from the FCCGJ Executive Committee:

- Corporate worship at the church building has been suspended through the end of May.
- The Committee is willing to allow small gatherings of people within the church building, as long as social distancing within these

Continued on p.4

# Birthdays, Anniversaries & Announcements

## FCC Birthday

### May

|        |                   |
|--------|-------------------|
| May 1  | Charles Johnson   |
| May 7  | Pam Baumgartle    |
| May 10 | Al Baumgartle     |
| May 10 | Johnny Cowan      |
| May 13 | Norma Lavelett    |
| May 16 | Josh Barton       |
| May 17 | Phil Oliver       |
| May 17 | Jeannie Klitzke   |
| May 18 | Beth Sherry       |
| May 19 | Marlene Cowan     |
| May 21 | Carol Matthews    |
| May 22 | Bill Fitch        |
| May 23 | Wayne Ostermiller |
| May 25 | Alex Everett      |
| May 30 | Yvonne Warner     |

## FCC Anniversary

### May

|        |                        |
|--------|------------------------|
| May 14 | Al & Else Ladage       |
| May 18 | Brad & Susan<br>Barton |

## Here's the Preaching schedule for May

- May 3, 2020 —Pastor Brad  
("From 11 Frightened Disciples: The Holy Spirit")
- May 10, 2020 —Pastor Brad  
("From 11 Frightened Disciples: Proof to Overcome Doubt")
- May 17, 2020 —Pastor Brad  
("From 11 Frightened Disciples: Jesus Gave Some Marching Orders")
- May 24, 2020 —Pastor Brad  
("From 11 Frightened Disciples: Why Are You Looking to Heaven?")

## **FOUND EARRINGS**

**Please call the church office or Joyce Wittwer if they are yours.**

For those of you who knew Sandra Egan, her death notice was in Sunday's Daily Sentinel. She was 76 and died April 15 at Mosaic.

Joy of Birds is a great way to enjoy your time alone. Go to [www.audubon.org/joy-of-birds](http://www.audubon.org/joy-of-birds). It will put a smile on your face and a song (bird song??) in your heart.

Our monthly donations to the Community Food Bank can be continued even though we cannot give food. Make your monetary donation through their web site: Community Food Bank of Grand Junction or mail a check to PO Box 3614, Grand Junction, CO 81502. Of course, if you donate through the church, it will be included in our Crosswords Chart. The need is great



Our sympathy goes out to Dorothy Rhodes and Family.



# Announcements

Continued from p.2

gatherings as well as proper cleaning can be ensured. Look for more information to follow about specific options.

- The Committee is not willing at this point to allow outside groups back into the church building to use the space at this time. We will review this weekly.
- The Committee is encouraging the pastoral staff to provide more opportunities to stay connected and to feel like we're worshipping together (even if/when we're not.) In keeping with this effort, we will be working on a way to allow <=10 people to sign up for a gathering to watch a video of each Sunday's sermon at the church building. This option is intended for people who will not be able to watch sermons via YouTube (something that will be made available beginning this Sunday) or who live alone and are in the greatest need of social contact (even while "distancing".) Look for more information coming soon.

Things are looking up. We will be able to do more in the coming month than we've been able to do in the past 1-½ months. Be hopeful, and be safe!

- Pastor Brad

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## -God Sighting in Stressful Times-

As we continue to live within this Covid-19 stay-at-home story, I have been reading a little about WW2 and some of the folks who were there. It's interesting to contrast the current crisis with the impact a world war had on the country and how people tend to react in stressful times such as we experience today.

As I was reading (and thinking about "God sightings"), I was reminded of a story Ben Carnes once told me. For those who have never met him, Ben and his wife were very active members of our church around the time our current church building was constructed. In looking through old church documents it is apparent he and Harold Moss were some of the primary movers and shakers of church financial activities.

For background, just a few weeks after his 18th birthday, Ben enlisted in the Army Air Corps. and was assigned to the 15th Army Air Force, 2nd Bomb Group, 20th Squadron in

Continued on p.5



# Announcements

Continued from p.4

Italy. The primary objective of the 15th was to turn off the supply of oil to the Axis forces by bombing refineries and factories in Axis occupied countries. Before he celebrated his next birthday, Ben had flown 19 bombing missions.

As part of this undertaking, the B17 bomber in which Ben was a bombardier was assigned to participate in a bombing mission to destroy a refinery south of Berlin that manufactured fuel for the Messerschmitt 262, the first German jet powered aircraft.

A story I read in the Senior Beacon quoted Ben "Before we left, our commander said, 'Gentlemen, we don't expect any of you to come back'" "But the good God gave us a strong tailwind as we flew up the Adriatic Sea."

This then was Ben's story as I remember it. A few years ago, Ben attended a reunion of veterans who served with the 15th Army Air Corps. during the war. While there, he was approached by a man who asked if Ben had participated in the bombing of a specific refinery. Ben told him that he had, in fact, flown that very mission. The man went on to tell him that, at the time of the bombing, he was a prisoner of war in a POW camp located just beside the refinery. The Germans had the idea that locating the camp there might deter Allied forces from bombing the refinery and fuel dumps.

The man related that the prisoners in the camp knew the refinery was a primary bombing target. The day they heard the thunder of the bombers approaching, he said, they knew they would likely die when bombs fell. He went on to recount that, as the bombs began to explode, prisoners went out into the yard and joined together in prayer. He said, as the bombing continued, the explosions sent flames and smoke soaring thousand of feet into the sky. Although the prisoners definitely experienced the terrible intense heat and the tremendous concussion of the explosions, the prevailing winds blew the flames away from the camp and the prisoners were miraculously saved.

What a story of true God sightings on so many levels. A young man in a B17 bomber flying a mission from which he was not expected to return and a young man in a German prisoner of war camp expecting to die in the holocaust of a burning fuel refinery, both praying for themselves and their comrades, and then ... meeting each other, for the first time, more than 50 years later.

Thinking about this story and the impact WW 2 had on this country, and the whole world, puts our current situation into a different perspective. We emerged from the war a stronger and more faithful people, let us pray that this current crisis has the same effect.

Riecke Claussen

# Announcements



## Happy Birthday to all you April babies!

Remember that Mary Ann, whose birthday is April 7, always requests a spice or carrot cake! It's worth the wait! Stay well, all of you Your April cake, compliments of Miles Brekke, will arrive a bit later this year. In the meantime, here is a sample of what's in store when we get together again. .

Many of you know Betty Nelson is at Larchwood, and I spoke with her on the 31st of March. She had been to Bingo that day, something they are now playing while sitting 6 feet apart. After the caller called out the first number, Number 10, Betty yelled out "BINGO". Everyone was bewildered, and the caller said, "Betty you can't have Bingo on one number." And Betty responded, "April Fools!" Only problem, Betty said, was that she was a day early. But, she was going to try it again on April 1.

Lamar and I had been on the east end of town delivering cat litter to a friend, and I said I wished I had thought of stopping by the cemetery while we were out that way. He wondered if it would be open, and I said, "I'm sure it is as everyone is six feet--under." May they all forgive me, but we got a good laugh out of it.



## From The Bookshelf

The FCC Bookworms had an unusual adventure with the selection for March. Member Adele Matera recommended our book and led the lively discussion, but it wasn't all conducted at the church library as usual. The last two sessions going into April were held via Zoom! Some (Yvonne Warner) were very clever in staging their appearance in front of the Golden Gate Bridge. The rest of us joined from home!

"Upstairs at the White House" by J B West was a wonderfully written book about the wives of Presidents Franklin Roosevelt, Harry Truman, Dwight Eisenhower, John Kennedy, Lyndon Johnson and Richard Nixon. Eleanor, Bess, Mamie, Jacqueline, Lady Bird and Pat all had their unique ways in the White House which was reflected in its décor and the comings and goings of all who lived there plus their invited guests. Each First Lady had her own way of doing things which required much juggling on the part of the White House Chief Usher and his staff. You will enjoy learning about life inside the White House for these first ladies and their individual accomplishments and imprints on the White House itself. Available in the church library.





# Announcements



Missing your Secret Place Devotional? Leave a message with the church office and they will forward one to you. Please specify large or small print.

Disciples Women

31. How would you describe your sense of humor? What kinds of things make you laugh? Do you have a favorite comedian/sit-com/joke/cartoon?

32. What is your favorite food to eat? Is it something you make or does someone make it for you? Do you know the recipe? If you can, include the recipe here to share!



## **CROSSWORDS!**

**next deadline is...**

**Thursday, May 7th**

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.



**CANCELLED**

Due to COVID-19

Cabinet Meeting

**CANCELLED**

Due to COVID-19

Elders Meeting

**CANCELLED**

Due to COVID-19



# Announcements



My time, I have enjoyed my computer, as am not a tech person but have heard from many old friends, with cute sayings, etc.

Normal Lavelett

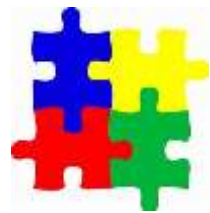


## Lamar's Latest Project

It covers our irrigation pump and will be part of our "Whale Way" garden later this fall.



Pam and Al Baumgartle are working on puzzles and gardening.



How many of you receive the AARP magazine? In the February/March 2020 issue is an article entitled "5 Great Comebacks." In addition to stories about George Foreman and his grill, Jane Pauley from "Dateline" and the "Today Show" was a story about Jill Bolte Taylor. She was a brain scientist at Harvard and the age of 37 had a stroke. Being in the field of brain research, she knew instantly what was happening to her. She wrote "Stroke of Insight" relating her illness and eventual recovery. It is an amazing story of perseverance, and is available in our library in the "Self Help" section on the south wall. She also did a TED Talk which can be accessed on TED Talk Speakers.





# Announcements & Thanks

## Elders List

|                 |          |
|-----------------|----------|
| Chuck Haigler   | 242-5252 |
| Lily Fitch      | 250-6966 |
| Al Baumgartle   | 243-5891 |
| Susan Barton    | 250-5547 |
| Riecke Claussen | 245-3787 |
| Jeanice Swank   | 242-3588 |

**Sunday School  
Has been indefinitely  
suspended due to the State  
Public Health Department  
COVID- 19 Restrictions.**

To put things in perspective for those of us feeling a bit stir crazy already – Anne Frank and 7 other people hid in a 450 sq. ft. attic for 761 days, quietly trying to remain undiscovered to stay alive. We can all do our part to keep everyone safe and spend a few weeks at home.

## THANK YOU!!

Thank you to Pastor Melanie and Pam Baumgartle for making masks for our congregation. If you still need in a mask let Pastor Melanie or Pam know.

I would like to express my appreciation to my church family and I would like to thank you all for the prayers, the beautiful cards and the calls that I have received while I was sick.

God Bless you all,  
Audrey Richardson



### WISH LIST

Toilet paper

Paper towels

Tissues

Diapers

Tampons

Cough drops

Tylenol/Ibuprofen/Advil

Non-perishable food items

Donations accepted Mon-Fri 9-4  
2853 North Ave | (970) 256-9424

# FCC Prayer Concerns

*"Pray without ceasing."*

I Thessalonians 5:17

|                                  |                       |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Family of Ken Baumgartle         | Dorothy Rhodes        |
| Jim Bennett                      | Ike Rogers            |
| Bill Brown                       | Kyle Rosencrans       |
| Amy Burns                        | Paul Scanga           |
| Howard Coltfelter                | Lois Stouffer         |
| Johnny Cowan                     | Sue & Allen           |
| Chuck Cummings                   | Angie Tanksley        |
| Jeff Dean                        | Tierney               |
| Maurice Drake                    | Ron Velarde           |
| Barbara Dunning                  | Alice Weiseler        |
| Earn Eachus                      | Kemitt White & Family |
| Sheana Emerson                   |                       |
| JameyLee Farney                  |                       |
| David & Vickie Hagan             |                       |
| JoAnne Hill                      |                       |
| Ethel Hoffman                    |                       |
| Kitty Hughes                     |                       |
| Eleanor Hubbell                  |                       |
| Dee Johnson                      |                       |
| Ed Jones                         |                       |
| Nora Julette                     |                       |
| Hailer Kellog                    |                       |
| Jeanne & Don Klitzke             |                       |
| Peggy Lawler                     |                       |
| Betty Learned                    |                       |
| Linda (Daughter of Jenny Barnes) |                       |
| Ken & Judy Maurer                |                       |
| Faye Morosini                    |                       |
| Ginger Morris                    |                       |
| Betty Nelson                     |                       |
| Ron & Virginia Nelson            |                       |
| Brian Neukman                    |                       |
| Dennis Parks                     |                       |
| Carol Perry                      |                       |
| Steve Pratt                      |                       |



|             |            |
|-------------|------------|
| May 3, 2020 | 1st Sunday |
|-------------|------------|

**Worship at home**  
**No servers required**

|              |            |
|--------------|------------|
| May 10, 2020 | 2nd Sunday |
|--------------|------------|

**Worship at home**  
**No servers required**

|              |            |
|--------------|------------|
| May 17, 2020 | 3rd Sunday |
|--------------|------------|

**Worship at home**  
**No servers required**

|               |            |                  |
|---------------|------------|------------------|
| May 24, 20120 | 4th Sunday | Food Bank Sunday |
|---------------|------------|------------------|

**Worship at home**  
**No servers required**

## Church Calendar of Events

Due to the COVID –19 Safer at Home Policy  
All gatherings of > than 10 people at the Church  
Building have been temporally  
suspended.

(If you would like to schedule a meeting of < than 10 members  
please call the office 242-7204)

### Sunday

10:50 am Worship - at home

**(Worship materials**

**Available on our website.**

**Worship service & Sermon  
on you tube)**

11:00 am Executive Committee

Meeting **(Church building)**

### Monday

10:30 am Staff Meeting - via Zoom

**(invitation sent by email)**

5:00 pm Woman's Bible Study -via

**Zoom (invitation sent by  
email)**

### Tuesday

5:00 pm Healthy Living -via Zoom

**(invitation sent by email)**

### Wednesday

6:30 pm Evening Bible Study -via

**Zoom and in Classroom A at  
the Church building.**

**(invitation sent by email)**

### Thursday

\*Crosswords/Crosswords Deadline\*

9:00 to 11:00 am Sanctuary open

for Prayer( **Call office to  
schedule 242-7204)**