



First Christian Church (DOC)
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 Grand Junction, CO 81501
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Return Service Requested

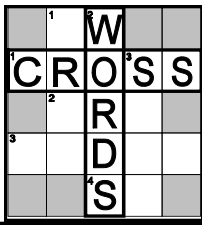
Volume 17 • July 9, 2020

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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!

Sunday Worship

10:50 am

Coffee Mingle— Post-poned
due to COVID -19

Church Office Hours:

8:30 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

Living in the Past, Present, and Future

As I've watched events unfold around us these past few months - COVID, protests, violence, new/changed political movements - I've been thinking quite a bit about how God calls us to live, particularly as our living relates to the past, present, and future.

- **Past** - I recall God's ancient people erecting monuments for future people to look upon and remember, which suggests some level of living by looking back to the past. I also recall the great festivals of God's people being bound up in remembrance of things past. Does this mean we're supposed to spend most of our time dwelling on the past and allowing our past-focus be our primary input for how we live in the here and now? And of whatever time we're supposed to spend focusing on the past, what types of things from our past should we focus upon most: terrible things like slavery or amazing things like God's gift of Jesus or some other type of things?
- **Present** - I recall Jesus telling his followers to live in the present, trusting God to provide and not worrying about tomorrow. Does this mean we're supposed to spend most of our time living in the present moment? If so, what are we supposed to be doing with this present-focus: living for ourselves and those close to us, trying to meet the needs of people we've never met on the other side of the world, or meeting the needs of people right in front of us?
- **Future** - I recall the Apostle Paul writing about hope for what God will do in the future being a primary input regarding how to live in the here and now. It seems like Paul lived predominantly out of his future hope. Does this mean we're supposed to spend most of the focus of our time contemplating this future hope as a means of deciding how to live today?

I hope you can see that many of the conflicts in our time have to do with different answers to the basic question of which period - past, present, or future - should be the primary input for how we live right now. Some people are dwelling on the distant past as their primary input; most of these folks are outraged at events and attitudes from the past. Some other people are focusing quite a bit on the future - a desire to re-shape society into something completely different than what it is. And still some other people are focusing predominantly on the here and now, with much less regard for either past or future.

Obviously, God calls us to consider all three - past, present, and future - as we make choices today. But, which should have priority? And how could God's desired balance for focus on past, present, and future help guide us - and society - through these difficult times? This will be the premise of my next sermon series that begins August 2.

- Pastor Brad

Birthdays, Anniversaries & Announcements

FCC Birthday

July

July 12 Maridel Andres
July 19 Doug Bryant
July 24 Dorothy Mitchell

August

August 4 Virginia Johnson
August 6 Chuck Haigler
August 9 Bob Wise
August 10 Earn Eachus
August 10 Tony Guarente
August 12 Ryder Stauffer
August 14 Riecke Claussen
August 14 Ebany James
August 15 Paula Schaffer
August 18 Bonnie Watts
August 28 Mason Stauffer
August 29 Donald Prouty

FCC Anniversary

July

July 19 Charles & Virginia
Johnson

August

August 4 Gene & Norma
Matteson
August 14 Don & Jeanne Klitzke
August 15 Doug & Carolyn
Bryant
August 16 Mason & Tara
Stauffer
August 16 Mervin & Paula
Schaffer

Here's the Preaching schedule for July

- July 12, 2020 —Pastor Brad
("Living the Christian Faith: Friends
of God")
- July 19, 2020 —Pastor Brad
("Living the Christian Faith: Live for
Today")
- July 26, 2020 —Pastor Brad
(Living the Christian Faith: Pray in
All Circumstances)



Our sympathy goes out to the family of
Lois Stouffer.

Cynthia & Ralph's address:

Grover
960 Celestite Dr.

CROSSWORDS!

next deadline is...

Thursday, July 30th

Please submit to the church office or
email them to:

firstchristiangj@hotmail.com

Articles arriving later than the
deadline will not be included until



Congratulations



Congratulations Grads!

Goal Academy High School

Josh Barton
Son of Rev. Brad and Rev. Susan Barton

Grand Junction High School

Gabriella James
Granddaughter of Paula Schaffer

Caprock Academy

Alex Peters
Grandson of Jerry Francis and Nephew of Karen Lehman

Central High School

Eddie Godfrey
Grandson of Phyllis Godfrey

Ferndale High School, Washington

Aaron Cruse
Grandson of Lamar Edwards and Joyce Wittwer

Thompson Valley High School

Miles Armbruster
Great Grandson of Les and Nancy Armbruster

Campbell County High School

Seth Iken
Great Grandson of Les and Nancy Armbruster

Colorado School of Mines

Colton Lowry
Mechanical Engineering Degree
Son of DeeAnn Lowry

Front Range Community College

Ashlyn Davis
Associates Degree of the Arts
Granddaughter of Bill and Lily Fitch

Colorado Mesa University

Lilli McCarty
Radiology Technician Degree
Granddaughter of Doug and Carolyn Bryant

University of Wyoming

Jordan McCracken
Agricultural Business Degree
Nephew of Dennis and Linda Edwards

Waldorf University

Matthew Green
Bachelors of Psychology Degree
Grandson of Al & Pam Baumgartle

Boise State University

Bret Nelson
Bachelors of Science in Biology with Honors
Grandson of Betty Nelson

Electrician Training

Taylor Lucero
Electrician
Nephew of Karen Lehman



May God bless your life and may you go forth to fulfill His special purpose for this generation.



Announcements

The Outreach Ministry is Honoring Lois Dunning

A School Supply Collection

Lois Dunning was the chairperson for the Outreach Ministry for years. I learned a great deal from her. At some point along the way she wanted to step back from leadership, but she never stepped back from being an Outreach champion. Lois sees need and she helps. She always said “yes” when it involved helping others. So, I want to honor Lois.

At this time of year, the Outreach Ministry usually begins collecting school supplies. This year I’d like to have the church collect school supplies in Lois’s honor. The school supplies, this year, will be given to a new teacher who is moving into town who will be starting from scratch setting up her 2nd grade classroom at Nisly Elementary.

Please consider collecting the supplies listed below (in Lois’s honor) and drop them off in the church office (by August 1). If you can not shop, then you can send money to the church and make it known that your money is going to support this Outreach Ministry effort. Once money is collected I will go purchase the supplies. Before the school year begins I plan to help this teacher set up her classroom and at that time I will give her everything that we have collected. Most importantly, I will tell her about Lois! And she will tell her students about Lois!

School supplies: markers, crayons, dry erase markers, pencils, folders, scissors, kleenex, hand sanitizer, stickers, post it notes, pens (red,blue,black)

Thank you for your consideration,

Susan Barton, Outreach Ministry Chairperson



Announcements

Donna Ham has recently donated several books to the church library. One of the books is "One World, One Heart" by Susan Polis Schutz. You may know that she with her husband own Blue Mountain Arts in Boulder. They sell greeting cards and email cards. You may have received or purchased some of their merchandise. After 9/11 she wrote a book of poems illustrated by her husband encouraging people to put aside their differences and come together in peace, understanding and tolerance. Consider this:

We must talk until there are no more words

We must explain until everything is understood

We must be honest until nothing is hidden

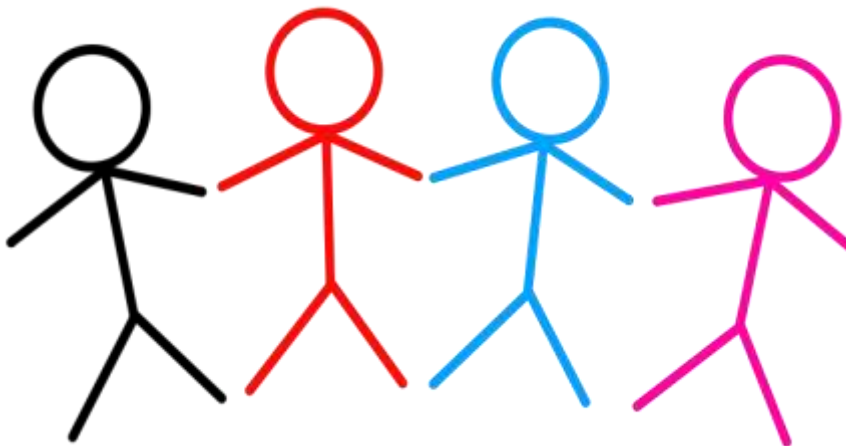
We must listen until everything has been said

We must question so that we know why

We must be fair so that everyone's basic needs are met

If there is no communication, there will be no bond

If there is no bond, there will be no friendship



Plants in the Narthex

Be sure to check out the new plants in the Narthex. Thanks to a friend of Susan Barton who has donated them to the church. Also take time to look at the flowers on the hoyo plant next to the little cottage front on the north side of the Narthex. The flowers are quite pungent. It doesn't bloom that often, so it's a real treat.



Announcements

.....
 : 37. What has given you the most strength to get
 : through hard times throughout your life? Tell me
 : more. How did it help? Can you give a real life
 : example?
 : 38. How do you want people to remember
 : you? What stories do you think people will tell
 : about you after you are gone? Do these
 : thoughts make you happy? If not,
 : there's time change!
 : You can start writing a different story
 : today!
 :



Elders Meeting
 July 12th
 @ 1:00 pm
 via Zoom

Cabinet Meeting
 July 26, 2020
 @ 4:00 pm
 Via Zoom


 July 18th
 Cancelled

Would you like a few iris this color?
 Please let me know, and I can
 deliver them to the church or to
 your residence.
 Thanks, Joyce



Good News

1.65 million

Wiping out medical debt in Georgia.

As reported by Gracie Benninghoff, Dillon Dodson,
Kathleen McCleary and Kaylan Ralph

Parade Magazine June 28 – July 5, 2020

In mid-April, the nondenominational Freedom Church in Acworth, GA., donated more than 1.65 million to cover at least 1,043 families' medical debts in the Atlanta area by partnering with RIP Medical Debt, an organization that uses donor contributions to forgive the debts of individuals and families in need and help repair their credit ratings.

Submitted by Susan E. Brown



Announcements

FRONT LINE RESPONDERS

We all are praying for the front line responders all over the world, whether they are doctors and nurses, in law enforcement, preparing take-out or whatever. But we also are worrying about own family members who are performing their front-line duties. Do you want to share the names of your family members who are on the front lines? Call Tish in the office and ask her to add those names to our list.

Amanda Sundstrand, doctor's office in Denver area – niece of Joyce & Lamar

Doug and Lissah Norcross, police and sheriff's office in Grand Junction – cousins of Joyce & Lamar

Karen Edwards, dentist's office in Ferndale, WA – daughter in law of Lamar & Joyce

Wes Cruse, participating in Covid-19 vaccine study in Seattle – grandson of Lamar & Joyce

Bryan Dyat, DEA, Grand Junction -- Son-in-law of Gary and Carol Steed

Mark Wright, Dentist, Colorado Springs-- Nephew of Jeanice Swank

Fletcher Drogas, Doctor in Chicago Hospital -- 2nd Cousin of Jeanice Swank

Rebecca Prim, P.A. Tinker Air Force Base Oklahoma -- Daughter of Sharron Armstrong & Granddaughter of Gene & Norma Matteson

Lance Hood, sheriff's deputy for Montrose County. -- Son of Suzanne Andrew

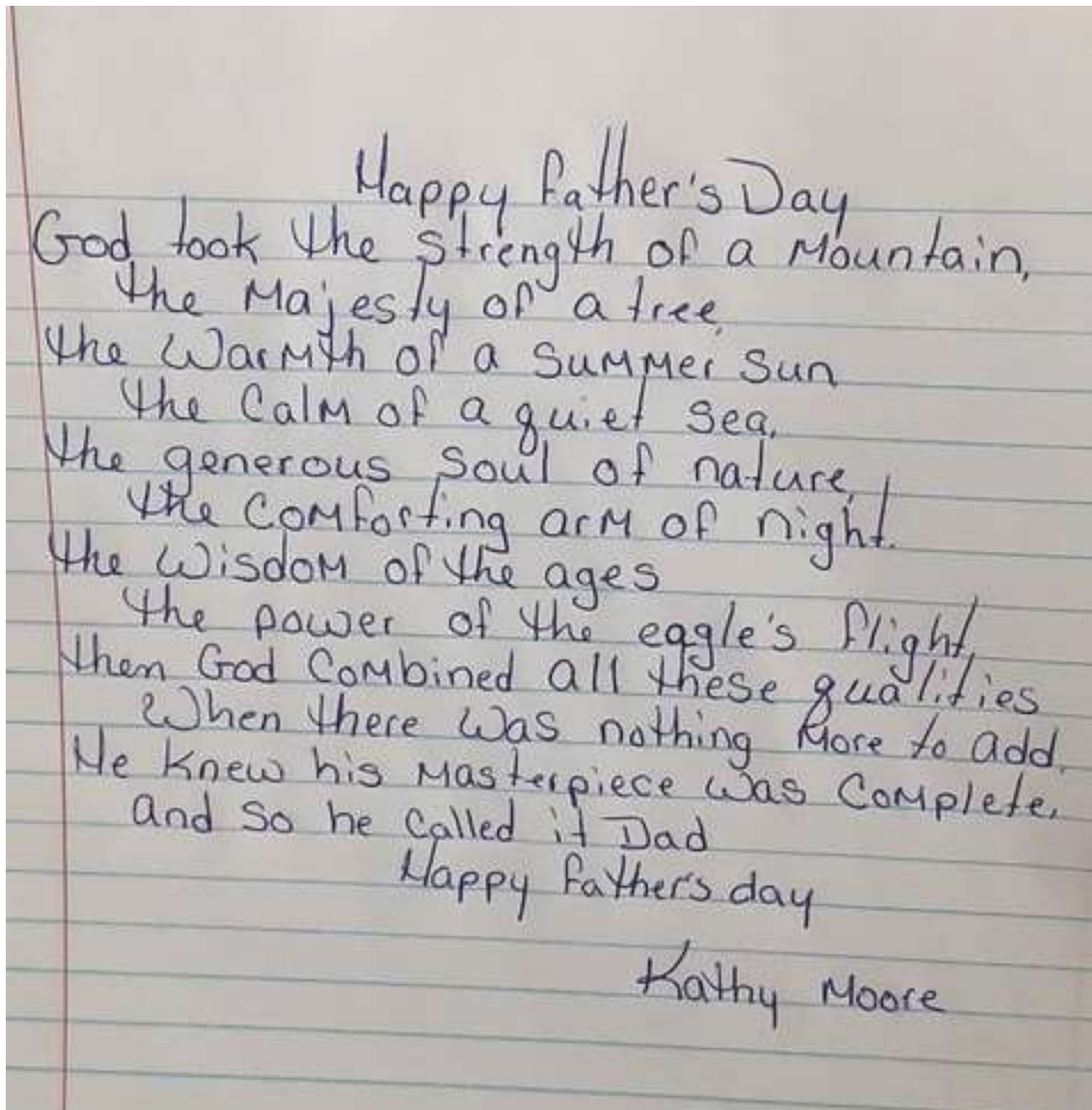
Daniel Connor, Utah National Guard and Rangely Police Department

Found in the parking lot next to the north wing (in the handicap parking) a black wool glove—the kind that go either right or left!!





Announcements



Dorothy Rhodes could use some uplifting cards to help her during this time of isolation due to COVID— Please consider sending cards to anyone that might be feeling isolated.

Dorothy Rhodes

815 26 1/2 Road

Grand Junction, CO 81506



Announcements

Subject: God and the Lawn Care

Submitted by Ann Hutton

GOD

Frank, you know all about gardens and nature. What in the world is going on down there on the planet? What happened to the dandelions, violets, milkweeds and stuff I started eons ago? I had a perfect no-maintenance garden plan. Those plants grow in any type of soil, withstand drought and multiply with abandon. The nectar from the long-lasting blossoms attracts butterflies, honey bees and flocks of songbirds. I expected to see a vast garden of colors by now. But, all I see are these green rectangles.

ST. FRANCIS

It's the tribes that settled there, Lord. The Suburbanites. They started calling your flowers 'weeds' and went to great lengths to kill them and replace them with grass.

GOD

Grass? But, it's so boring. It's not colorful. It doesn't attract butterflies, birds and bees; only grubs and sod worms. It's sensitive to temperatures. Do these Suburbanites really want all that grass growing there?

ST. FRANCIS

Apparently so, Lord. They go to great pains to grow it and keep it green. They begin each spring by fertilizing grass and poisoning any other plant that crops up in the lawn.

GOD

The spring rains and warm weather probably make grass grow really fast. That must make the Suburbanites happy.

ST. FRANCIS

Apparently not, Lord. As soon as it grows a little, they cut it-sometimes twice a week.

GOD

They cut it? Do they then bale it like hay?

ST. FRANCIS

Not exactly, Lord. Most of them rake it up and put it in bags.

GOD

They bag it? Why? Is it a cash crop? Do they sell it?

ST. FRANCIS

No, Sir, just the opposite. They pay to throw it away.

GOD

Now, let me get this straight. They fertilize grass so it will grow. And, when it does grow, they cut it off and pay to throw it away?

Continued on p.11



Announcements

Continued from p.10

ST. FRANCIS

Yes, Sir.

GOD

These Suburbanites must be relieved in the summer when we cut back on the rain and turn up the heat. That surely slows the growth and saves them a lot of work.

ST. FRANCIS

You aren't going to believe this, Lord. When the grass stops growing so fast, they drag out hoses and pay more money to water it, so they can continue to mow it and pay to get rid of it.

GOD

What nonsense. At least they kept some of the trees. That was a sheer stroke of genius, if I do say so myself. The trees grow leaves in the spring to provide beauty and shade in the summer. In the autumn, they fall to the ground and form a natural blanket to keep moisture in the soil and protect the trees and bushes. It's a natural cycle of life.

ST. FRANCIS

You better sit down, Lord. The Suburbanites have drawn a new circle. As soon as the leaves fall, they rake them into great piles and pay to have them hauled away.

GOD

No!? What do they do to protect the shrub and tree roots in the winter to keep the soil moist and loose?

ST. FRANCIS

After throwing away the leaves, they go out and buy something which they call mulch. They haul it home and spread it around in place of the leaves.

GOD

And where do they get this mulch?

ST. FRANCIS

They cut down trees and grind them up to make the mulch.

GOD

Enough! I don't want to think about this anymore. St. Catherine, you're in charge of the arts. What movie have you scheduled for us tonight?

ST. CATHERINE

'Dumb and Dumber', Lord. It's a story about....

GOD

Never mind, I think I just heard the whole story from St. Francis.



Dear First Christian Church members,
Thank you so much for your generous contribution in support of our mission. Your gift will help us remain strong & continue to provide food to those in our community who need it most during these uncertain times. We truly could not do it without you! This support is a blessing & warms our hearts.

Thank You!

Alisha & the Community
Food Bank team



Announcements


Community Food Bank
PO Box 3614
Grand Junction, Co 81502

Donation

Date	Donation No.
4/2/2020	3423

Donor
First Christian Church 1326 N First St Grand Junction, CO 81501

Check No.	Payment Method
14848	Check

Description	Amount
<p>With sincere appreciation for your generous contribution and ongoing support on behalf of the Community Food Bank-Thank You. It is through people, such as yourself, that the food bank is able to meet the demand of those Mesa County individuals and families in need of food.</p> <p>Gratefully,  Alisha Wenger Executive Director</p> <p>In order to qualify for the Colorado Enterprise Zone Tax Credit, donors are requested to provide the last four digits of the Social Security Number or EIN on the check or enclosed information. Community Food Bank will obtain certificates for donations of \$250 or more in a calendar year. For assistance and more information, please contact Pete Kunisch at pkunisch@eaglestrategies.com.</p> <p>No goods or services of any value were transferred in connection with this 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.</p> <p><i>Thanks so much for your support!</i></p>	450.00
Total	\$450.00

FCC Prayer Concerns

“Pray without ceasing.”

I Thessalonians 5:17

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



FCC SUNDAY SERVERS' 4-Week ASSIGNMENTS

July 12, 2020

2nd Sunday

Graduation Sunday

Preparing Diaconate

Nancy Armbruster

Kathy Moore

July 19, 2020

3rd Sunday

Preparing Diaconate

Nancy Armbruster

Kathy Moore

July 26, 20120

4th Sunday

Food Bank Sunday

Preparing Diaconate

Nancy Armbruster

Kathy Moore

August 4, 2020

1st Sunday

Preparing Diaconate

Nancy Armbruster

Kathy Moore

Church Calendar of Events

Thursday July 9, 2020

****Crosswords****

No CWF General

No Homeward Bound
Ministries

9:00 am Burger King Coffee Group

10:00 am Friends going Forward @
Spoons

5:00 pm Healthy Living@ Church
Building

6:30 pm Night'ngals

Friday July 10, 2020

No Mexican Train Group

Sunday July 12, 2020

****Graduation Sunday****

No Conversational Sunday School

10:50 am Worship

No Coffee Mingle

1:00 pm Elders Meeting via Zoom

Wednesday July 22, 2020

****Pastor Brad Vacation****

No Evening Bible Study
via Zoom

Thursday July 23, 2020

****Pastor Brad Vacation****

****Crosswords****

1:00 pm CWF Executive

Monday July 13, 2020

10:30 am Staff Meeting

5:30 pm Woman's Bible Study via
Zoom

No M&M Bible Study

Tuesday July 14 2020

9:00 am Burger King Coffee Group

5:00 pm Healthy Living@ Church
Building

Wednesday July 15, 2020

6:30 pm Evening Bible Study
via Zoom

Thursday July 16, 2020

****Crosswords Deadline****

Sunday July 19, 2020

No Conversational Sunday School

10:50 am Worship

No Coffee Mingle

Monday July 20, 2020

****Pastor Brad Vacation****

NO CWU Group

10:30 am Staff Meeting

5:30 pm Woman's Bible Study via
Zoom

No M&M Bible Study

Tuesday July 21 , 2020

****Pastor Brad Vacation****