



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

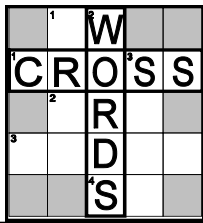
Volume 19● August 6, 2020

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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

Please ACTIVELY WORK to Keep Connected with Your FCCGJ Family

Recently, I read an article about the impact of COVID-19 on faith communities. During the first few months of the pandemic and restrictions - worship gatherings and other gatherings at church buildings - Christians throughout the United States were working diligently to remain connected with their faith communities. However, in the last 1-2 months, a shift has taken place. People who used to attend virtual worship services have begun attending less and less frequently; not being able to maintain in-person relationships with church family members, congregants are also making contact with other church members less and less frequently; and, in general, churched Christians are feeling less and less connected with their church families.

At the July 2020 FCCGJ Cabinet meeting, our congregation's leaders discussed this phenomenon and talked about possible solutions for FCCGJ. We decided to encourage everyone in the congregation to do one simple thing: every week, please call (or otherwise contact) at least 2 members of your FCCGJ family with whom you don't already regularly communicate. If you prefer to communicate via cards, emails, texts, social media, or something else, that's fine. Please just make a commitment to reaching out to 2 (new) people each week. As this unfolds, you will likely also be receiving communication from others, and we will enjoy the coming months re-connecting as a church family!

Also, at our upcoming August Elders Meeting, the elders will discuss a plan for reaching out to those who have not been able to make it back to worship on a regular basis...so, look forward to receiving calls from the elders and pastoral staff in the near future if you're unable to attend worship.

- Pastor Brad



Community Page

About First Christian Church Grand Junction: Information for Visitors and the Greater Grand Junction Community

Welcome to the Crosswords Newsletter of First Christian Church, Grand Junction. We are blessed that you have chosen to read this newsletter, which provides detailed information about the happenings in our faith community.

This page of our newsletter is dedicated to you, someone who has chosen to take a glimpse at what First Christian Church is about. Periodically, the information contained on this page will change, so please come back in the future to wherever you found this newsletter to get another one.

Today, I'd like to share with you the meaning behind one of our congregation's mottos, a motto that has been printed on every one of our bulletins and newsletters for many years: "Praising God, Changing Lives!"

In so many ways, this motto describes the core of what we're about as a congregation.

Praising God. Our first priority is God. Everything else we do stems from what we understand about God; that's why "Praising God" comes first. Even if we chose to do all the same things we do for a reason other than God, we would not be First Christian Church, Grand Junction...because we allow God to direct the whole of what we do. This phrase, "Praising God", also describes our first response to the God we encounter. When we look to God, we are reminded of God's great love for us and all people shown throughout history, and our first response MUST be to praise. That's why we worship every Sunday, to praise God and set a pattern for praising God in our lives.

Changing Lives. Our second response to God is to change lives, which means to help other people. By "other people", we don't mean people within our congregation exclusively; rather, we mean all other people, especially other people in need. That's why so many of our ministries are focused on identifying needs and meeting them. A few examples include our Love-in-Action box, our commitment to Community Food Bank, our service at HomewardBound of the Grand Valley, our collection of school supplies, and our offering of a community garden to feed hungry people.

If you would like to learn more about First Christian Church, Grand Junction, and how you can get involved in "Praising God and Changing Lives", please call the church office at 970-242-7204, and ask for me, Pastor Brad.



Birthdays, Anniversaries & Announcements

FCC Birthday

August

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

September

September 1	Miles Brekke
September 2	Les Armbruster
September 4	Brad Krebill
September 6	Gary Steed
September 9	Curtis Rosencrans

FCC Anniversary

August

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 August

- August 9, 2020 —Pastor Brad
("Living in the Past, Present, and
Future: Future ")
- August 16, 2020 —Pastor Brad
("Living in the Past, Present, and
Future: Present ")
- August 23, 2020 —Pastor Brad
("Pursuing Change for Christ:
Philemon, Part 1 ")
- August 30, 2020 —Pastor Brad
("Pursuing Change for Christ:
Philemon, Part 2 ")

New Address:

Charles & Gaylene Grimsley

838 Walnut Ave.

Hot Springs, SD 57747

CROSSWORDS!

next deadline is...

Thursday, August 13th

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.



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

Judah Baumgartle, US Navy, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii



Announcements



Dear Pastors Barton and Terren and friends of
First Christian Church,

I am very pleased to thank you for the support you have consistently given to Week of Compassion. We celebrate with you the commitment First Christian Church has shown - helping to fulfill the vision of transforming suffering into hope. Your generosity is a joyful affirmation to the mission we share.

We know that all churches are facing challenges in this time of pandemic and unrest and we pray you are able to experience community locally, nationally, and globally. Our prayers join yours for health and wholeness for all.

As a board member I am happy to respond to any thoughts or questions about the Week of Compassion ministry. We are all blessed by your ministries.

With thanks and gratitude,

Judi Frost

We have learned of an organization that takes all sorts of religious material to ship overseas. After you have read your Secret Place or any other devotionals, magazines, etc., please bring them to the Church Library for shipping. We will be able to give all this material a second opportunity to spread the word.

Thanks, Joyce

Betty Nelson has moved again at Larchwood and now has a window where she can watch the birds and comings and goings at the main entrance. Her room number is F-11, and her phone number is 254-7668. She says to tell everyone hello and that she misses seeing everyone. She also misses not hearing from anyone.



Announcements

Guidelines for Church Groups Seeking to Use the Church Building

It seems like the COVID-19 pandemic has been going on for a long time! At the FCCGJ Cabinet meeting on Sunday, July 26, the cabinet members discussed that it also feels like the COVID-19 pandemic will continue to impact our society, our daily lives, and our congregational life for the foreseeable future (likely at least until the end of 2020.)

Given the uncertainty about the future coupled with the desires of our congregational members to find ways to continue to meet and be connected as a congregation, the FCCGJ Cabinet created some guidelines for church members and groups who wish to use the church building for gathering opportunities while the pandemic continues. Here are the guidelines:

#1 - Yes, church members and church groups CAN use the church building outside of Sunday worship, as long as they adhere to the rest of these guidelines.

#2 - While in the church building, people from family groups (people you live with) must maintain social distancing of 6+ feet from people from other family groups.

#3 - While in the church building, masks/face coverings must be worn over the mouth and nose.

#4 - Only one person is allowed in each bathroom at a time.

#5 - All touched surfaces must be cleaned with appropriate cleaning supplies by the members of the group which meets prior to departing the building.

#6 - Please coordinate your gatherings at the church building with Tish in the church office.

#7 - If you're wondering, the Cabinet believes up to 25 people can be accommodated in the Fellowship Hall and up to 50 people in the sanctuary with proper social distancing. Other spaces are limited to 10 or fewer people.

Please call the church office if you have questions or to schedule a gathering.

- Pastor Brad

Elders Meeting

August 9th
@ 1:00 pm
via Zoom



No Men's Breakfast for
August

Cabinet Meeting

August 16th
@ 4:00 pm
Via Zoom



From The Bookshelf

If you are interested in the books read this season by the FCC Bookworms, there is a list on the bulletin board by the library. The group will resume in October. Would like to join us?



Announcements & Congratulations



From The Bookshelf

The final book of the 2019-2020 season for the FCC Bookworms was "The Secret Diary of Hendrick Groen, 83 ¼ Years Old". Goen is from The Netherlands and won a prestigious award for his book, but it turns out that

Hendrick Groen is a fictitious character, and the author was a librarian who didn't show up for his award. However, the book was full of facts about elderly life in The Netherlands, learning how to drive a scooter at 83 ¼, making new friends, seeing new places and being who you are. It gave our group an opportunity to discuss Alzheimer's and assisted suicide, contemplate assisted living and nursing homes, and learn about some known and some not-so-well known people, the politics of The Netherlands, and life in general. You will find Hendrick to be a loveable old curmudgeon. He may even remind you of someone you know!! Check it out.

Did you see it in "The Daily Sentinel"? Sunday, July 5 on the front page of the Lifestyle Section was a full-page article about "The Hill Brothers". Hill Gear is a company owned and operated by Joanne Hill's two sons. They develop, test and sell all sorts of interesting outdoor gear they sell on line and in their store on Main Street here in Grand Junction. It's a great place to buy Christmas and birthday presents for all your grand kids! Be sure to check them out when you're on Main Street, or if you can't get down town, check out Hill Gear on the Internet

39. What does forgiveness mean to you? Have you found it easy or hard to forgive others? Are there still people from whom you need to seek forgiveness? (It's not too late!)

40. What is something that you likely know more about than most people? There's something! (Maybe you know how to organize your tools in the garage, or you know how to make Christmas stockings, or you know how to decorate a house, or you know how to detail a car, or you know how to create an App, or you know how to take care for people.....) What tips can you share with other people?



Our sympathy goes out to the family of Ben White.

Congratulations to Kathy Moore who will become the Kitchen Supervisor at Homeward Bound later this month. The facility on 29 Road for families and single women is almost complete, and when they move in and start preparing meals there, Kathy will take over the responsibility for the kitchen at the old location on North Avenue. In addition to her new kitchen responsibilities, she is also in charge of accepting all donations made to Homeward Bound. Congratulations, Kathy.

Get ready to enjoy and experience
God's wonderful outdoors at
This is Our Father's World



Join us at Adult Vacation Bible School
as we see, hear, and touch what
God has provided for us in the natural world .

This is Our Father's World begins
Monday, September 14 and
continues through Wednesday, September 16
from 6:00 -8:30 pm

Each day will begin with scripture and music and an introduction to the day's topic. The rest of the evening will include a lesson, an activity and craft projects. The activities will include construction and placement of a garden prayer cairn and standing stone, completing a butterfly garden and planting a tree. Crafts will include assembling benches for the side yard, and art projects. For more information call Melanie Ferron at 242-7204



Announcements

Continued from p. 7

To keep everyone safe we will be practicing social distancing, wearing masks and being sure to sanitize the inside surfaces we use. Most of our activities will take place outside on the side yard. Some of the crafts will take place in the narthex with our safety regulations in place. Opening will take place in the Sanctuary with the same requirements as we have in place on Sunday mornings.

We are asking for preregistration for this event so we can set up in a way that ensures social distancing. Please let us know by August 23 if you will be attending.

If you will be attending please enter your name below and return to the office or put this insert in the offering plate.

Registration for September VBS

Name: _____

of people attending: _____

If the September date does not work out would you be interested in coming if we rescheduled the event in the spring of next year?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Maybe



Announcements

News from Disciples Women

CURRENTLY - It is with great sadness that the Disciples Women's Holiday Bazaar will not take place this year. As you have seen, with most larger events in our community, many of them have been cancelled in order to prevent the further spread of COVID19. The logistics of holding such a large event was too overwhelming to accomplish for our small group of organizers. The decision was made after results from group meetings were presented. Two of the ladies groups wanted to cancel and one group did not want to cancel. Based on this information, the executive committee for Disciples Women voted and one said not to cancel and five said to cancel.

IN THE FUTURE - Please continue working on the crafts for the event in 2021 and keep them at your homes if possible till next year when we will need them. We will continue collecting items for grandma's attic and may hold a grandma's attic, book, plant event in the spring followed by the holiday bazaar in the fall so if you haven't become crafty so far you have a little more time to be productive! 😊 Be rested now as next year there will be two fun raising events planned.

If the concern for COVID19 diminishes in the next few months we may still hold a silent auction/spaghetti event for a fundraiser but that is to be determined at a later date as well as a cookie exchange for Christmas but all that depends on what the next few months bring ahead.

Respectfully submitted...

Lily Fitch
President Disciples Women

Did you Know:

Judy Campbell has personally driven in every state in the union. Each vacation, she and her husband would start out one direction or another, and, since he was sight impaired, she drove to and in every one of the lower 48 states. They flew to Hawaii where she rented a car for 14 days, and she drove. Even after her husband had passed away, she took the Inside Passage to Alaska and in Juneau rented a car to see the sights. She has also seen Canada from coast to coast and especially liked Nova Scotia. Those trips have given her many fond memories.

Help! There are a couple trees in the Narthex that are in need of repotting. Does anyone have a very large pot that you would be willing to give the church? Call Joyce 241-6214 or Norma 243-4792. We and the transplanted trees will be grateful!!

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 & Peggy Pratt
Lois Dunning	Dorothy Rhodes
Earn Eachus	Ike Rogers
Sheana Emerson	Kyle Rosencrans
JameyLee Farney	Paul Scanga
David & Vickie Hagan	Angie Tanksley
JoAnne Hill	Tierney
Ethel Hoffman	Tyrone & his Mom
Kitty Hughes	Ron Velarde
Eleanor Hubbell	Alice Weiseler
Dee Johnson	Family of Ben White
Ed Jones	
Nora Juette	
Hailer Kellog	
Jeanne & Don Klitzke	
Jo Laughlin	
Peggy Lawler	
Betty Learned	
Linda (Daughter of Jenny Barnes)	
Adela Matera	
Ken & Judy Maurer	(bolded names are new additions)



FCC SUNDAY SERVERS' 4-Week ASSIGNMENTS

August 9 , 2020

2nd Sunday

Preparing Diaconate

Nancy Armbruster

Kathy Moore

August 16, 2020

3rd Sunday

Preparing Diaconate

Nancy Armbruster

Kathy Moore

August 23, 2020

4th Sunday

Preparing Diaconate

Nancy Armbruster

Kathy Moore

August 30, 2020

5th Sunday

Food Bank Sunday

Preparing Diaconate

Nancy Armbruster

Kathy Moore

Church Calendar of Events

Wednesday August 5, 2020

****Crosswords****

6:30 pm Evening Bible Study
via Zoom

Thursday August 6, 2020

****Office Closed****

9:30 am Ruth Group
1:30 pm Dorcas Group
6:00 pm CO West Quilters Board

Sunday August 9, 2020

NO Conversational Sunday School
10:50 am Worship
NO Coffee Mingle
1:00 pm Elder's Meeting via Zoom

Monday August 10, 2020

10:30 am Staff Meeting
5:30 pm Woman's Bible Study via
Zoom
NO M&M Bible Study

Tuesday August 11, 2020

9:00 am Burger King Coffee Group
5:00 pm Healthy Living@ Church
Building

Wednesday August 12, 2020

6:30 pm Evening Bible Study
via Zoom
7:00 pm CO West Quilters Guild

Thursday August 13, 2020

****Crosswords Deadline****

NO CWF General
NO Homeward Bound

Friday August 14, 2020

NO Mexican Train

Saturday August 15, 2020

NO Men's Breakfast
TBD- Territorial Daughters

Sunday August 16, 2020

NO
Conversational Sunday School
10:50 am Worship

No Coffee Mingle

4:00 pm Cabinet Meeting via Zoom

Monday August 17, 2020

??? CWU Group
10:30 am Staff Meeting
5:30 pm Woman's Bible Study via
Zoom
No M&M Bible Study

Tuesday August 18, 2020

9:00 am Burger King Coffee Group
10:00 am Friends going Forward @
Spoons
5:00 pm Healthy Living@ Church
Building

Wednesday August 19, 2020

6:30 pm Evening Bible Study
via Zoom

Thursday August 20, 2020

****Crosswords****