

First Christian Church (DOC)

1326 North 1st Street

Grand Junction, CO 81501

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www.gjdisciples.org

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Return Service Requested

Volume 2 - March 24, 2022

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First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Identity Statement





CROSSWORDS

First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

Services each

Sunday

Praising God, Changing Lives for 135 Years!

Sunday Worship 10:50 a.m.

Church Office Hours:

9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Monday, Wednesday ,Thursday

12:00 pm-3:00 pm

Tuesday

Our Ministry Statement

First Christian Church (DOC)

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.

Kevin's Korner

What a blessing we have received, having Joan Bell-Haynes, our Executive Regional Minister of the Central Rocky Mountain Region, join us for worship, Installation service, and meeting with our leaders on Saturday morning! She brings so much wisdom to the church!

It really feels great to be officially installed as pastor of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)! Let me emphasize *Disciples of Christ*! In recent weeks I have talked about our history and traditions as Disciples. We are truly blessed, at First Christian Church of Grand Junction, to carry such a rich tradition and to share it with our neighborhood and wider community. But we are much more than our rich history. Remember back at the beginning of Advent when I invited you to look around our congregation and note the tremendous gifts, talents and leadership that God has gifted us with? Think again of those who have been working hard to get us through some difficult transitions as a church. Think of those who took leadership positions. Think of those who continued to participate in church activities even during the challenging days of the pandemic.

Having just celebrated our Installation Service, I want to mention again, and thank again, the Search Committee and other leaders of First Christian Church who welcomed Shannon and me to Grand Junction and into this congregation. We can't remember experiencing so much love in a church. Of course, the rest of you have just continued that loving welcome since we arrived. Thank you!

And thank all you leaders who have continued to use your gifts, talents and passions to serve this church and help me get started in ministry here in Grand Junction! We may not be the largest church around, but we have a strong core of leaders (and followers) with whom we can build a solid foundation for ministry in the coming days and years.

Let me just say, these leaders can't do this by themselves! They are going to need every one of us to offer our own gifts, talents, passions, and time. We all need to read, listen and learn about our community and the needs (opportunities for ministry) around us. We all need to ask ourselves how our own gifts and talents might be able to meet some of these needs. And as we start blooming in new ways, we all need to be sharing the Good News of what God is doing with us and through us. And this is important. We need to recognize that we can't do this alone. Only God can revitalize and grow a church. But I believe that God wants to do that very thing at First Christian Church and is already at work.

(Continued on Page 3)

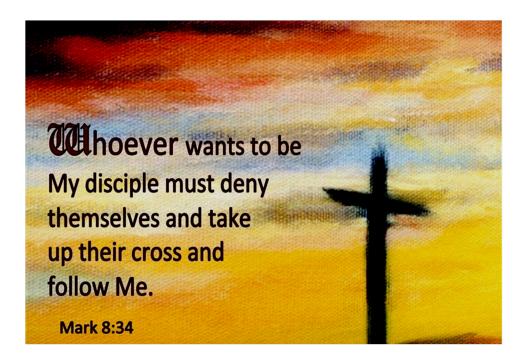
Kevin's Korner Continued...

(Continued from Page 2)

Why am I so confident? Because of the things I've been mentioning in recent sermons. God has already done amazing things through Disciples who were willing to step out and follow Jesus' leading. Disciples were the fastest growing American born denomination in the 1800's because we knew that God's Spirit was sweeping across frontier America and we joined in the effort, building new churches and ministries from coast to coast. Our belief in the centrality of communion in our worship offered a clear way for people to experience a vital relationship with God through Jesus, by gathering weekly around the Table. Our belief in the unity of the entire Body of Christ has, and continues to, enable effective mission and ministry by sharing resources and leadership with our brothers and sisters in other denominations, recognizing that God calls us all to work and share together as one church. Another of our great Disciple strengths is in recognizing the gifts and talents of our lay leaders who can do so much more than the clergy alone can accomplish.

highlight our Disciples heritage because I believe it is one of our great strengths as a church. We know that, with God's help, Disciples can change the world, one neighborhood at a time; because we've done it before.

Joan has helped us to begin the conversation about what the future of Disciple ministry might look like here in Grand Junction. If you haven't yet, I hope you will join in this conversation because God is calling each of us to bring our gifts, talents, time, passions and resources so He can show this community and the world what is possible when ordinary people let God take the lead.



ASH WEDNESDAY OBSERVANCE

2 TIMES on Wednesday, March 2nd:

12:30 p.m., Following our Soup Luncheon at 12:00 p.m. (Fell. Hall).

6:00 p.m. in the Chapel

On March 2nd, we will celebrate Ash Wednesday with a special worship experience at 12:30 p.m., and 6:00 p.m. In front of the Table we will each receive the imposition of ashes on our forehead, or hand, as a sign of our human sin and mortality. In this service we will recognize that we are part of the sin, which has so fragmented our world. Wearing these ashes we are reminded that on our own we would simply be a movement toward death and destruction.



The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, a 40 day journey toward the cross, the death and destruction that we deserve, but that Jesus took for us. It would be a dark and depressing journey if we did not know how the journey ends. Fortunately, we do know how the journey ends. Death is not the end. Nothing can destroy love. And by joining in relationship with God through Jesus our journey is also assured. Death will not be the end for us. So our lives are now free from the fear of death even today. And the love of God will conquer every other danger and fear, if we let it.

I invite you to consider, during the season of Lent, how you are part of the Disciple's movement toward wholeness in this fragmented world. Let's keep this movement going and serving God's purposes. That's why God planted us on First Street, next to Sherwood Park.

Please consider the people that you know, or can get to know, who might be interested in an invitation to these, or any of the other church activities.



(A Note from Charles and Virginia Johnson to CWF's Bereavement Committee)

Thank Ufou

"Thank you so much for providing our dinner on the day of our son's Memorial Service. We enjoyed the lasagna. The relish tray and fruit tray were good also. The chocolate cake was especially good, and the salad was good too. Thank you for all you did for our family."

The Johnsons: Charles, Virginia, Rodney, Charlie, Brielle, Alissa, Grant, Elle & David

The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me. My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise him.

Psalm 28-

IT'S OFFICIAL

Pastor Kevin has been installed as our new minister!!

We were honored on February 20 to have our Regional Minister Joan Bell-Hayes deliver the sermon and also install Kevin. Kevin and Shannon joined the church the on the first day they arrived, October 3, 2021, and now Kevin is officially our minister!!

Kevin and Shannon have always been Disciples of Christ members. She was born in San Diego, CA, to a family with several ministers, including her father. She married, worked as a secretary and lived in southern California until her divorce during her early 30s at which time she moved to Tulsa, OK.

Kevin was born in Denver and at the age of four moved to Michigan where he graduated in 1982 from Michigan State University with a BS in Packaging Engineering and then to Phillips Theological Seminary receiving his Masters in Divinity in 1987. He was ordained that year in Boise. While in seminary, he was in student ministries in Ponca City and Broken Arrow, OK, and a summer position at his mother's home church in Garden City, KS.

After graduation he became Minister of Youth and Education at Central Christian Church in Enid from 1987-2003 with the last ten years as Minister of Evangelism and Membership. He and Shannon were married in 2002 and the following year Kevin's next assignment was to establish a DOC church in Durango, CO where they lived and both held jobs for three years--Shannon for a distribution company and Kevin with Parks and Rec. Their home was on a hillside where Shannon planted a small garden which was, to their delight, savored by the many deer in their neighborhood. The building of a new DOC church in nearby Bayfield did not materialize, and they moved on to Pittsburg, KS, close to the Missouri line. Pittsburg State University, which is well-known for its nursing and engineering technological programs, was a source of educational and cultural activities for them. Kevin served as Senior Minister for six years while Shannon worked for a chiropractor.

Next they headed east to Sayre, Pennsylvania, which is near New York's southern border, about the middle of the state. Sayre is a small town, somewhat smaller than Rifle, and the only place Kevin could work out was with a membership at the Best Western Inn's weight room. Shannon, being from southern California and Kevin from the Midwest's dry weather, longed for blue skies and more cultural activities. Kevin applied and became pastor at Red Rock Christian Church in a southeast Boise, ID. They moved into the home Kevin's parents had lived in for 40 years. Kevin's parents had gone to Salt Lake City to be close to Kevin's sister, and Shannon spent much of her time traveling back and forth to care for her mother back east until her passing. When a position in Grand Junction presented itself, they took the opportunity to move closer to family and check out the marvelous scenery in the Grand Valley.

When Shannon moved from California, she brought her Goffin cockatoo, Cupid, which is 30 years old. Shortly after they were married they were invited to a home where there just happened to be two kittens. Kevin grew up with cats. Both Streaker and Marley are now 15 years old. In Kansas Shannon took in a puppy intending to provide it with veterinary care and then have it adopted, but Sandy wiggled herself into their hearts. They lost Sandy to Cushing's disease this past year.

Kevin bought his brother's guitar when he was 18. He is mostly self-taught and writes his own music, which he says is very therapeutic. He started an Open Mic ministry in Durango, another one in Pittsburg as well as a guitar club. In Sayre they again started a guitar club and added a Coffee House ministry during the winter. Two years before the pandemic, they started a Coffee House in Boise. Now Grand Junction's Guitar Club is in full swing, thanks to Kevin.

Looking back on their assignments, Shannon said they "found joy and love in every place they have served".

WELCOME PASTOR KEVIN AND SHANNON!!!



Rapid Covid Tests at the Church

Thanks to Reicke Claussen, Pastor Kevin was able to order 96 Rapid Covid tests from the State of Colorado. These will be available for anyone who is concerned about Covid infection. It can particularly help people to test before joining in any church activities (just a 15 minute

wait for results). In addition, if you want to take a test home, you can do that (in a box of 2), as long as they last. We'll keep a dozen or so at the church for any needs that we have. If you have other ideas for use, let Pastor Kevin know.





Add a little elegance to your table--day in and day out. Did you know that using a cloth napkin is actually less harmful on the environment than a paper napkin--and maybe even a paper towel? It takes less energy to make a cloth napkin than it does a single paper napkin. Just think of all the single napkins you can eliminate by using a cloth napkin. Man and beast alike, let's all give it a try!!

CWF's Agape group met the 3rd of February, and it became apparent that a lot of Agape (brotherly love) had been experienced by some of the ladies. For instance, while searching the grocery store aisles for polenta (cornmeal mush), one of our ladies just happened to ask a lady walking by if she knew where it was. Directions were given, but before she could get there, the other lady was coming toward her with a package of polenta. Then, a new newspaper delivery person has not only been delivering her *Daily Sentinel* on time, but placing it on



her front porch. Another lady said that she was in line after ordering at a fast-food place and learned that the car in front of her had paid it forward. Another lady in the group said that she was leaving Sam's Club but couldn't find her car. A young lady got out of a big pickup truck and asked if she had lost her car. Well, the answer was "Yes". So the lady said, "Let's take a walk." And they found the car!!

It is better to give than to receive, but it's also nice to receive

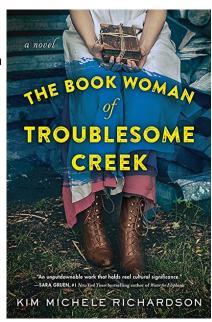


Friend of the Earth say 88 percent of the ocean's surface is contaminated by plastic water. We need the ocean ecosystem to supply food, balance greenhouse gases and regulate the temperature. The biggest polluter is single-use plastic products. Two million single-use plastic bags are used every minute.



"The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek" by Kim Michele Richardson was a donation to the church library by Beverly Dorson, which the FCC Bookworms have just finished reading. In 1820, a French orphan came to Kentucky, met and married a lady. Both of these people had the same blue-blood recessive gene. Of their seven children, four were blue skinned. Methemoglobinemia is extremely rare and treatment was discovered in the 1960s. The book, a novel, is based on this congenital condition along with Roosevelt's New Deal Acts which allowed for the Pack Horse Library Project that brought books into Appalachia. This story found Cussy Mary from the back holler riding a mule to deliver books and face racism head on.

Do YOU, dear FCC member, want to read along with us as we tackle our next book and follow a 100-year-old man who climbs out his nursing home window? You'd never guess what happened next!! The book is "The 100-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out The Window and Disappeared" by Jonas Jonasson.



Next we will read "The News of The World" by Paulette Jiles (a novel). After the Civil War. Captain Jefferson Kyle Kidd, drifting from place to place reads the news of the world to those unable to read. He is asked to deliver a young white girl who has been raised by a band of Kiowa to her white family. How hard can that be?

Let anyone from the book club know you want to join or read along with us--we'll be glad to have you!



Many, many thanks to all of you for the cards, phone calls, and food over the years while Don was at Mantey Heights, during his recent illness and passing. You have been a blessing and great support. God bless all of you.

Don did not want a memorial service, but a family gathering is planned for later this spring on the Grand Mesa where he loved to fish. Don also loved to sing, and one of his favorites was "How Great Thou Art" which was beautifully sung by Pastor Kevin on the 13th with the congregation joining in on the last two verses. Thank you, Kevin, and everyone for paying this beautiful musical tribute to Don.



I love you all, Jeanne Klitzke



Congratulations to Grandpa and Grandma
Ron and Marian Velarde on the birth of their
grandson Colin to their daughter Megan and
Erik Borschel!

Pictorial Directory Updates!

And

Membership List 2022

The most current information on membership is available on the Membership Table in the Fellowship Hall. Be sure to get your copy!

(If you find errors, please let Joyce know.)

Our Sympathies to:

Charles and Virginia Johnson and family

on the loss of their son, Robbie



CWF Dorcas Group Presents...

Spring is just around the corner. On Thursday March 10 at 12:30 pm the **CWF Dorcas Group** will be hosting a salad luncheon followed by a program given by Mona Dyer with Bookcliffs Gardens.

Mona's presentation will be both fun and informative as she shows us some ideas on indoor and outdoor potted plants, along with tips on planting and maintaining colorful flowers for our yards. The Dorcas group will give the worship. Bring a salad to share and your own table service.



- Donna Ham







Memorial Contributions



Unfortunately, our congregation has lost a few members recently. If you are wanting to make a donation in someone's name, please be sure to notate that on your check, and God Bless You.

FCC Anniversaries

March

March 22 Johnny & Marlene Cowan

FCC Birthdays

March 2 Kathy Moore

7 Johnny West

8 Audrey Richardson

10 Melanie Ferron

12 Chip Ferron

13 Gayle Johnson

14 Kevin Arensman

22 Shannon Arensman

31 Daniel Connor





Contact Information for Rev. Kevin and Shannon

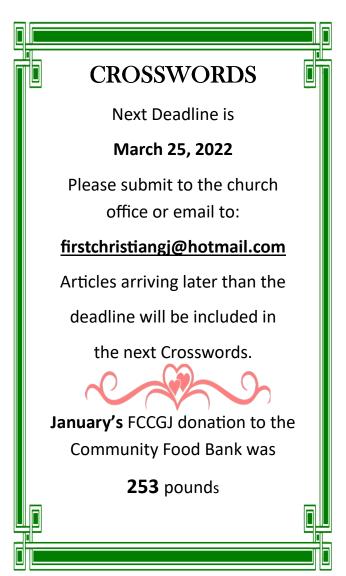
Address:

655 Grand View Dr, Grand Junction, CO 81506

Rev. Kevin's phone #: (970) 778-5473 Shannon's phone # (970) 778-5730

Rev. Kevin's email address: revkevgj@gmail.com

Shannon's email address: sarensmangj21@yahoo.com





WE DID IT AGAIN!!!

24 lbs. recycled



Daylights Savings Time, Ahead one hour later

SUNDAY MARCH 13, 2022

FCC SUNDAY SERVERS' MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS

March 6, 2022	1st Sunday		
Worship Leader	<u>Elder</u>	Coffee Mingle	Collection Team
Pam Baumgartle	Chuck Haigler	Lamar Edwards	Chip Ferron
		Joyce Wittwer	TBD

March 13, 2022	2nd Sunday		
Worship Leader	<u>Elder</u>	Coffee Mingle	Collection Team
Donna Ham	Joyce Wittwer	Norma Lavelett Gloria Jeffrey	Chip Ferron

March 20, 2022	March 20, 2022 3rd Sunday				
Worship Leader	<u>Elder</u>	Coffee Mingle	Collection Team		
Cynthia Grover	Lily Fitch	Gloria Jeffrey	Chip Ferron		
		Norma Lavellet	TBD		

March 27, 2022	4th Sunday		
Worship Leader	<u>Elder</u>	Coffee Mingle	Collection Team
Gloria Jeffery	Jeanice Swank	Donna Ham	Chip Ferron
		Jeanne Klitzke	TBD







FCC Prayer Concerns

"Pray without ceasing."

1 Thessalonians 5:17

Please Pray For: Requested By:

Larry Kurdis (Wayne's cousin in NJ)

Tommy McBride (Tammy's Nephew)

Tammy and Rosencran's Family

Joan, Russ and Deb
Charlie Johnson
Citizens of Ukraine
Shannon
Jeanice
General

Nancy Armbruster

Jerry Laughlin
Mitch Acord

Barbara Brewer

Elders

Ruth Acord

Ruby Eachus

Count and Maria Benjamin

Jerry Laubhan

Jeff Dean

Amanda Kees

Colin Velarde

Lily Fitch

Gloria Jeffery

Lily Fitch

Marian

Dean Erwin

David and Vickie Hagen

Joyce Wittwer

Eleanor Hubbell

Charles and Virginia Johnson & family

Joshua Nancy Armbruster

Jeanne Klitzke and Family

Faye Morosini

Ana Morris and family

Nancy Armbruster

Tammy Ostermiller

Carolyo Bryant

Ginger Morris

Betty Nelson
Linda Rogers

Paul Scanga

Gary Steed
Linda VanDellen

Carolyn Bryant

Carolyn Bryant

Donna Ham

Donna Ham

Paul Vigil

Rebecca Wanner

Wyatt McNeece

Tammy Ostermiller

Tammy Ostermiller

Santiago Rubalcaba

Bolded names are new additions

Church Calendar of Events

Monday, February 28, 2022

6:00 Pm Guitar Club

Tuesday, March 1, 2022

10:00 am Friends Going Forward 6:30 pm Night'ngals

Wednesday, March 2, 2022

12:00 pm Lunch

12:30 Ash Wednesday Service

6:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service

6:00 Peer 180

Thursday, March 3, 2022

10:00 am Ruth Group

12:00 Tai Chi

1:00 pm Dorcas Group

Friday, March 4, 2022

10:00 am FCC Bookworm

6:00 pm NA

Saturday, March 5, 2022

6:00 pm NA

Sunday, March 6, 2022

10:50 am Worship

12:00 pm Coffee Mingle

6:00 pm NA (Men Only)

Monday, March 7, 2022

6:00 pm Guitar Club

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Wednesday, March 9, 2022

10:00 am Lenten Bible Study 6:00 pm Praise Team

Thursday, March 10, 2022

12:30 pm CWF Dorcas Group Salad Luncheon

1:00 pm CWF General Meeting resume

Friday, March 11, 2022

1:00 pm Mexican Train

6:00 pm NA

Saturday, March 12, 2022

8:30 am WCARC

6:00 pm NA

Sunday, March 13, 2022

10:50 am Worship

12:00 pm Coffee Mingle

6:00 pm NA (Men Only)

Monday, March 14, 2022

6:00 pm Guitar Club

Tuesday, March 15, 2022

10:00 am Friends going Forward

Wednesday, March 16, 2022

10:00 am Lenten Bible Study

6:00 pm Praise Team

6:00 pm Peer 180

Thursday, March 17, 2022

Friday, March 18, 2022

10:00 am FCC Bookworm

6:00 pm NA

Saturday, March 19, 2022

8:00 am Monthly Breakfast

11:00 -4:00 pm Memorial Service

6:00 pm NA

Sunday, March 20, 2022

10:50 am Worship

12:00 pm Coffee Mingle

6:00 pm NA (Men Only)

Monday, March 21, 2022

6:00 pm Guitar Club

Tuesday, March 22, 2022

Wednesday, March 23, 2022

10:00 am Lenten Bible Study

6:00 Praise Team

Thursday, March 24, 2022

1:00 pm CWF Executive

Friday, March 25, 2022

8:00 am—5:00 pm +/- Lifeline Screening

(All of North Wing & Hallway)

1:00 pm Mexican Train

6:00 pm NA

Saturday, March 26, 2022

8:30 am Mesa County ARES

6:00 pm NA

Sunday, March 27, 2022

Food bank

10:50 am Worship

12:00 pm Coffee Mingle

6:00 pm (Men Only)

Monday, March 28, 2022

6:00 Guitar Club

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

10:00 am Friends going forward

Wednesday, March 30, 2022

10:00 am Lenten Bible Study

6:00 pm Praise Team

Thursday, March 31, 2022

MARCH 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	28	1	2	3	4	<u>5</u>
	6:00 Pm Guitar Club	10:00 am Friends Going Forward	10:00 am Friends going Forward	10:00 am Ruth Group 12:00 pm Tai Chi	10:00 am FCC Book worm	6:00 pm NA
		6:30 Night'ngals	12:00 pm Lunch	1:00 pm Dorcas Group	6:00 pm NA	
			12:30 Ash Wednesday Service			
			6:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service			
<u>6</u>	7	8	9	10	11	12
10:50 am Worship 12:00 pm Coffee Min-	6:00 pm Guitar Club		10:00 am Lenten Bible Study	12:30 pm CWF Dorcas Group Salad Luncheon	1:00 pm Mexican Train	8:30 am WCARC
gle 6:00 pm NA (Men only)			6:00 pm Praise Team	1:00 pm CWF General Meeting resume	6:00 pm NA	6:00 pm NA
13	14	<u>15</u>	16	<u>17</u>	18	<u>19</u>
10:50 am Worship 12:00 pm Coffee Mingle	6:00 pm Guitar Club	10:00 am Friends going forward	10:00 am Lenten Bible Study		10:00 am FCC Book- worm	8:00 am Monthly Breakfast
6:00 pm NA (Men only)			6:00 pm Praise Team		6:00 pm NA	11:00 am-4:00 pm
Daylight Saving Time Begins			6:00 pm Peer 180			Memorial Service 6:00 pm NA
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
10:50 am Worship 12:00 Coffee Mingle	6:00 pm Guitar Club		10:00 am Lenten Bible Study	1:00 pm CWF Executive	8:00 am-5:00 pm +/- Lifeline Screening	8:30 am Mesa Count ARES
6:00 pm NA (Men only)			6:00 pm Praise Team		(All of North Wing & Hallway)	6:00 pm NA
					1:00 pm Mexican Train	
					6:00 pm NA	
27	28	29	30	31		
FOOD BANK* 10:50 am Worship	6:00 pm Guitar Club	10:00 am Friends going forward	10:00 am Lenten Bible Study			
			6:00 pm Praise Team			
gle 6:00 pm NA (Men only)			oloo piii Tuise Team			

BIBLE QUIZ: WHO'S WHO IN THE NEW TESTAMENT?

1.	Who was the mother of Jesus? (Matthew 1:18) □ Dinah □ Martha □ Anna □ Mary
2.	Who did Jesus raise from the dead? (John 11:43) ☐ James ☐ Mary Magdalene ☐ Lazarus ☐ Peter
3.	Who baptized Jesus? (Matthew 3:13) ☐ Joseph ☐ John ☐ Saul ☐ Peter
4.	Who tried to dispose of baby Jesus by making a decree that all baby boys should be killed? (Matthew 2:16) Pharaoh Tiberius Augustus Herod
5.	Who was Jesus' stepfather? (Luke 1:27) ☐ Peter ☐ James ☐ Zechariah ☐ Joseph
6.	Which apostle led Christ's church after Jesus was killed? (Matthew 16:18) Peter Lazarus Timothy Thomas
7.	Which apostle betrayed Jesus with a kiss for money? (Luke 22:48) Timothy Thomas Judas Luke
8.	Who was converted on the road to Damascus and later became one of the greatest missionaries in the New Testament? (Acts 8:22)
	☐ Saul/Paul ☐ John ☐ Timothy ☐ Lazarus