



First Christian Church (DOC)

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Return Service Requested

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



**PRAISING GOD  
CHANGING LIVES!**



# 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:

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday:

9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Tuesday:

12:00 pm–3:00 pm

Friday: Close

#### Pastor Kevin Church hours:

Monday - Wednesday: 10 AM—3 PM

THURSDAY: OFF

FRIDAY: 10 AM—3 PM

### 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

How many believe that our nation and our world can be saved by people sharing warm, sentimental feelings toward each other, especially one's enemies? Jesus did say "Love your enemies." But he also said, "do good to those who hate you." That's different. How many believe that our nation and our world can be saved by people "doing good to those who hate you"? This seems more realistic to me; doing good things for other people, whether they like you or not, whether you like them or not.

On Sunday morning I gave you a definition of the love I think Jesus was talking about. Love is a "commitment to will the good of another." I heard this definition in an internet podcast interview with economist, Arthur Brooks, called "Redeeming a Culture of Contempt." As an economist, Brooks studies interactions between people, institutions and nations. As a Christian economist, he is interested in how interactions between people can work for the good. Often interactions work for the good of one party or the other, but when interactions work for the good of both parties, it is much more likely that an ongoing relationship will result. Whether a financial interaction or a simple personal interaction, if both parties benefit, a relationship of trust is likely to build.

Jesus spent his life on earth interacting with people in ways that offered a better life for them. He healed, he taught, he modeled, he persuaded. Arthur Brooks makes the claim that we, as Christians are called to persuade people "for their own good." We have Good News to share with people that offers them a life filled with hope, joy, peace and love. We have been persuaded to believe this is true. And we can testify that we have experienced this life, in relationship with Jesus. Our testimony can persuade other people to believe this truth, if we can convince them that we are "committed to will their good," that we "love" them, not just through warm, sentimental feelings, but through a decision to act for their good, rather than just our own.

(Continued on Page 3)

This just makes sense. We have Good News to share. News that can help people to live more wholesome, joy-filled lives. We don't need to worry about our own challenges of growing the church or paying the bills. Just share the Good News for the good of others, not ourselves. I'll bet it will be good for us too. Jesus says so.

God bless you! Pastor Kevin

We do not draw people to Christ by loudly discrediting what they believe, by telling them how wrong they are and how right we are, but by showing them a light that is so lovely that they want with all their hearts to know the source of it.

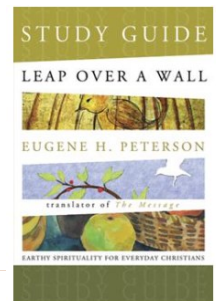
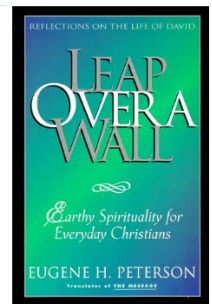
- Madeleine L'Engle

## LENTEN BIBLE STUDY: David Shepherd Boy/King Begins February 22, 10:00 to 12:00 (also, Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.)

Pastor Kevin will be beginning a new Bible Study for Lent on February 22<sup>nd</sup>; "David: Shepherd Boy/King," based on Eugene H. Peterson's (author of the Message Bible) book, Leap Over a Wall: Earthy Spirituality for everyday Christians. David - man after God's own heart - wasn't perfect; he was just a person who had an intimate relationship with his Creator." This study will be an opportunity to get to know David and how he knew that he needed God's presence through all of his life.

A participant book is available for \$10.00 (Used. Please let Pastor Kevin know if you want to order one. Or you can order your own, new, Kindle, etc.). This will provide a weekly reading, to help you connect with David's life, challenges and triumphs.

Please sign up at the church or contact Pastor Kevin if you want to participate, and if you need a book.



## SINGERS NEEDED FOR LENT

The Praise Team invites singers who would like to join the Praise Team for Lent, as each week, they sing from the Cantata; "Come, Touch the Robe." Lent begins February 22 with Ash Wednesday. The Cantata will begin the following Sunday, February 26. Praise practice is Wednesday evenings from 6 to 7:30 P.M. Contact Melanie Ferron with questions.

## HISTORY OF THE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

In frontier America, the desire for freedom which led to the American Revolution was also felt in religion. Life was hard and people lived by their own ingenuity. They wanted a practical, down-to-earth religion to help them cope and understand their lives. They felt they could read and interpret the Bible themselves and build a faith based on reason. Next to the family, church was the most important social structure. The religions they brought from the old country did not meet their needs in this new life. These new settlers were self-reliant, unbound by tradition, and free of England and its authority. The simple, practical and independent religious movements captured the spirit of these pioneers. When the tiny groups that became the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) sprang up, there was no intention to start another denomination. That was the last thing the founders wanted. They thought of themselves as a movement to restore Christian unity on the basis of the New Testament rather than the old.

To be continued....

Yvonne Warner



### Personal Hygiene Kits for Migrants!

Church Women United (CWU) is an organization that includes women from various denominations who do good works! The local CWU meets at our church monthly, and Jeanice Swank is FCC's representative. Currently they are collecting items for the spring and summer migrants who will be here to help with the various crops grown in our valley. These kits will be assembled in **March** and donations of the following are needed: **wash cloths, socks, deodorant, bars of soap, tooth brushes, single-use razors, shampoo, conditioner, hand lotion.** A tub for these items is in the Fellowship Hall next to the Information Table. Your help in providing items will be greatly appreciated by CWU and the migrants.

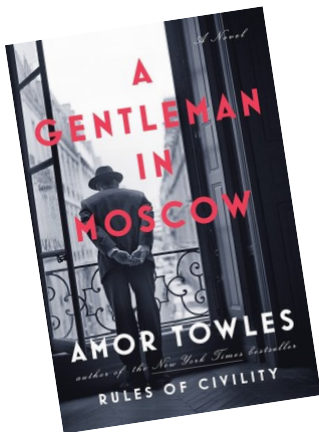
Thank You.



## Happy New Year, FCC

Many members attending our first church service of the new year were able to stay for potluck and play Mexican Train, other games, or start a puzzle of the Grand Canyon. That puzzle is still up in the Fellowship Hall, and you are encouraged to stop by and find a piece. We want it completed before 2024 rolls around!

*Blessings to All!*



Can you imagine living your entire life in a hotel? The Communist Party in 1922 condemned Count Alexander Ilyich Rostov, age 30, to spend the rest of his life in the Metropol Hotel. It was a lavish hotel, his room was lavish, but they moved him to the attic, restricting his possessions. What did he have to look forward to? His life as an elite was over, what next? You need to grab this book and find out how he manages, who touches his life, and what events unfolded. You won't want to put down **A Gentleman in Moscow** by Amor Towles.

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Membership Ministry is showing the production *Arctic Daughter* on February 26 with a spaghetti dinner thrown in!! Jean Aspen is the daughter of parents, Connie and Bud Helmericks, who took her as a young child when they explored the arctic wilds. She in turn has spent many years in Alaska's Brooks Range. This film is about time spent there, building a cabin, losing her son, and the many lessons she has learned about life. The scenery is beautiful, the story uplifting, and maybe the food will be worth it! You will need to sign the sheet on the Information Table in the Fellowship Hall so there will be plenty of food for everyone. Movie starts at 12:45 with the meal thrown in there somewhere. GET WILD!!

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Be sure to read Beth and Greg Sherry's Christmas letter on the Fellowship Bulletin Board!

Would you like to make a contribution to the First Christian Church without it costing you anything? Well, you can do that! If you or your family or your friends are Amazon shoppers, keep reading.



AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. To shop at AmazonSmile, simply go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) on your web browser. When you shop with AmazonSmile, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added benefit that AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.

On your first visit to AmazonSmile, you will be prompted to select a charitable organization to receive donations from your future eligible AmazonSmile purchases. Simply type *in First Christian Church of Grand Junction*. Amazon will remember your selected charity whenever you shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com).

Ask your family and friends to sign up. Even though one person's donation might not amount to a lot, together we can make a difference! Remember, you must shop through



Our early Ash Wednesday Service on February 22 will start at noon with a light lunch of soups and bread. We will need three soups, and if you are able to bring a soup, please let Joyce know at 243-6214. Imposition of the Ashes will follow.

**\*\*\*\*We will offer an Ash Wednesday Service at 6:00 pm\*\*\*\*\***



**Many thanks** to Gene and Norma Matteson for their library of **Great Courses**. These are books or videos that can be checked out. (Great Courses is a series of college-level audio and video courses and documentaries. Over 700 topics are available through them.) Below are the Mattesons' topics that are on the table in the hall by the library. Please take advantage of this opportunity and check out those that interest you. A sign-up sheet is on the table!

1. The Aging Brain
2. The Apocalypse: Controversies and Meaning in Western History.
3. Comparative Religions (Book only)
4. Comparative Religions (CD)
5. Great World Religions: Christianity (Book only)
6. Great World Religions: Christianity (CD)
7. Great World Religions: Judaism
8. Great World Religions: Islam
9. Great World Religions: Buddhism
10. Great World Religions: Hinduism
11. The Historical Jesus (CD)
12. The Historical Jesus (Book)
13. Lost Christianities (CD)
14. Lost Christianities (Book)
15. The New Testament (CD)
16. The New Testament (Book)
17. Optimizing Brain Fitness
18. Pompeii: Daily Life
19. The Story of the Bible
20. Scientific Secrets for a Powerful Memory
21. Why Evil Exists
22. You've Got the Time (Listening to the Bible) Copy 1



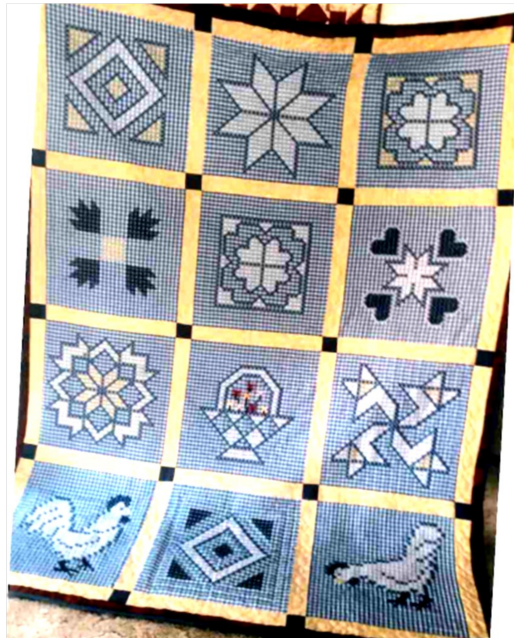
## Friends with Missions Quilt Raffle for Latimer House

Twelve years ago, The Sunshine Through Tears Ministry was created to help our church members deal with the loss of a loved one. Over the years, this ministry has changed the name of the group four times: Sunshine Through Tears, A New Door Opens, Friends Going Forward and currently, Friends With Missions. The group meets every two weeks. We welcome anyone to come and join us.

Recently this ministry has undertaken a new project. We wish to donate to a local charity and chose Latimer House. Latimer House provides services for those affected by domestic violence and sexual assault offering emergency safe houses, advocacy and 24-hour crisis line.

To help raise funds for this worthy cause, Norma Lavelett has donated a beautiful hand quilted cross-stitched pattern single size quilt. Help us make this fundraiser a huge success by purchasing ticket or tickets at one dollar each.

Tickets will be available to purchase from group members beginning the first of February. The quilt raffle drawing will be on Sunday March 19th.





## Giving Boxes

DECEMBER 2022

24



LBS

60-

50-

40-

30-

20-

10-

24

DEC JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC

## COMMUNITY FOOD BANK DONATIONS

DECEMBER 2022

117



LBS

350-

300-

250-

200-

150-

100-

117

DEC JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC



# February 2023

## FCC Anniversaries

January 23

Bill and Lily Fitch

## FCC Birthdays

February 20

Jim Matthews



## CROSSWORDS

Next Deadline is

**February 16, 2023**

Please submit to the  
church office or email to:

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

Articles arriving later than the  
deadline will be included in  
the next Crosswords.

## Our Sympathy To:

The Family of Mary Wright

Family of Dan Amigo





## Corrections to Membership List

Update

Shannon is collecting newspapers for her birdcages;; please get in contact with her if you would like to give if any, or drop them off in the office.

Thank you!



## Community Food Bank

The Community Food Bank's Annual Report showed they served over 800,000 meals in 2022. That's 400 tons of food given to 50,000 individuals. Organizations such as FCC donate 7 percent of their total food source. Clients can do their own shopping with the shelves organized, "to make nutritious whole foods the most Convenient, Attractive, and Normal Options." Whether each of us gives groceries or a monetary contribution, we are supporting a program that believes "no one should go hungry in Mesa County".

Starting with 2023, we are also including a graph of the pounds that are pulled out for the Giving Boxes we fill which are located on the church property next to the garden area.

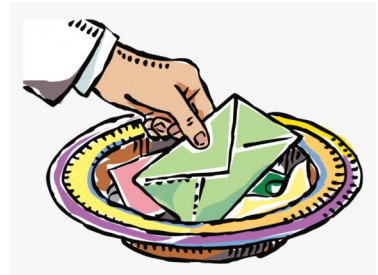
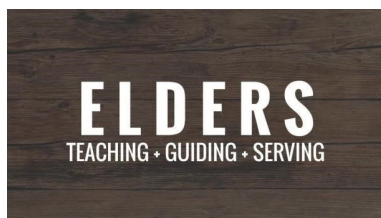
As everyone knows we have had guests staying in our Fellowship hall over the past week and they will be here until February 5<sup>th</sup>. I want to thank everyone for your help with food, time and prayers. Every day I hear from these men how much they appreciate the good food and a couple of them have mentioned how much they can feel the caring and love when they walk into our church. A special thanks to Lamar and his crew for the work in providing warm breakfasts to these men who go out and spend the day in the chilly weather we have had. We have learned a lot and plan to put that education to use as we go forward in our outreach to the community.

Thanks to all of you and please keep these men in your prayers.

-Bonnie Watts-Outreach Chair

## FCC SUNDAY SERVERS' MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS

February 05, 2023		1st Sunday	
<b><u>Worship Leader</u></b>	<b><u>Elder</u></b>	<b><u>Coffee Mingle</u></b>	<b><u>Collection Team</u></b>
Lily Fitch	Johnny West	Lamar Edwards	Al Ladage
<b><u>Greeter</u></b>		Joyce Wittwer	Nancy Claussen
Karen Lehman			
February 12, 2023		2nd Sunday	
<b><u>Worship Leader</u></b>	<b><u>Elder</u></b>	<b><u>Coffee Mingle</u></b>	<b><u>Collection Team</u></b>
Al Baumgartle	Joyce Wittwer	Norma Lavelett	Al Ladage
<b><u>Greeter</u></b>		Gloria Jeffrey	Nancy Claussen
Jeanice Swank			
February 19, 2023		3rd Sunday	
<b><u>Worship Leader</u></b>	<b><u>Elder</u></b>	<b><u>Coffee Mingle</u></b>	<b><u>Collection Team</u></b>
Riecke Claussen	Donna Ham	Virginia Johnson	Al Ladage
<b><u>Greeter</u></b>		Jeanne Klitzke	Nancy Claussen
Nancy Claussen			
February 26, 2023		4th Sunday	
<b><u>Worship Leader</u></b>	<b><u>Elder</u></b>	<b><u>Coffee Mingle</u></b>	<b><u>Collection Team</u></b>
Johnny West	Melanie Ferron	Donna Ham	Al Ladage
<b><u>Greeter</u></b>		Jeanne Klitzke	Nancy Claussen
Jeanne Klitzke			
5th Sunday			
<b><u>Worship Leader</u></b>	<b><u>Elder</u></b>	<b><u>Coffee Mingle</u></b>	<b><u>Collection Team</u></b>
<b><u>Greeter</u></b>			



## FCC Prayer Concerns

*"Pray without ceasing."*

1 Thessalonians 5:17

### **Please Pray For:**

Betty Nelson  
Christina Pherson  
Citizens of Ukraine (Sergii Antonov)  
David and Vickie Haegen  
Diana  
Faye Morosini  
Jeff Dean  
Jerry Laubhan  
Joanne Eggers (Step Grand-Son)  
Johnny West  
Keith Compton  
Law & Military Enforcement Personnel  
Linda VanDellen  
Les Armbruster  
Margie O'Dell  
Family of Mary Wright  
Megan Dixon  
Nancy Armbruster  
Our Church and Country  
Paul Scanga  
Pete Personette and Family  
Rebecca's Family  
Ric Rava  
Richlyn Cox  
Santiago Rubalcaba  
Shirley Kennedy  
Tammy Whitcomb & Daughters  
Wyatt McNeece

### **Requested By:**

Joyce Wittwer  
JoAnne Eggers  
Shannon Arensman/Bonnie  
Nancy Armbruster  
Lily Fitch  
Nancy Armbruster  
Gloria Jeffrey  
Lily Fitch  
Kevin Arensman  
Pam Baumgartle  
Lily Fitch  
Kevin Arensman  
Donna Ham  
Nancy Armbruster  
Shannon Arensman  
Gloria Jeffery  
Shannon Arensman  
Nancy Armbruster  
  
Bev Dorson  
Tammy Ostermiller  
Kathy Moore  
Shannon Arensman  
Donna Ham  
Shannon Arensman  
Shannon Arensman  
Pam Baumgartle  
Santiago Rubalcaba

**Bolded names are new additions**

# February 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> 2:30 pm Parkinson's Support Group 6:00 pm Praise Team	<b>2</b> 9:30 am-11:30 am Alanon Group 10:00 am Ruth G. 12:00 pm Tai-Chi 1:00 pm Dorcas G	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> 10:50 am Worship 12:00 pm Coffee Mingle 6:00 pm NA (Men Only)	<b>6</b> 6:00 pm Guitar Club	<b>7</b> 10:00 am FCC Bookworm 6:30 pm Night N'Gals	<b>8</b> 6:00 pm Praise Team 6:00 pm CO West Quilters Guild	<b>9</b> 9:30 am-11:30 am Alanon Group 12:00 pm Tai-Chi 1:00 pm CWF Executive Meeting 4:45 pm Serving at Homewardbound	<b>10</b> 1:00 pm Mexican Train	<b>11</b> 10:00 am Ellen Bradley's Event
<b>12</b> 9:30 am Elder's Meeting 10:50 am Worship 12:00 pm Coffee Mingle 6:00 pm NA (Men Only)	<b>13</b> 6:00 pm Guitar Club	<b>14</b> 10:00 am Friends with Missions	<b>15</b> 6:00 pm Praise Team	<b>16</b> <b>***Crossword Deadline***</b> 9:30 am-11:30 am Alanon Group 12:00 pm Tai-Chi	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 8:00 am Monthly Breakfast 12:00 pm Territorial Daughters
<b>19</b> 10:50 am Worship 12:00 pm Coffee Mingle 6:00 pm NA (Men Only)	<b>20</b> 6:00 pm Guitar Club	<b>21</b> 10:00 am FCC Bookworm	<b>22</b> 6:00 pm Praise Team	<b>23</b> <b>***Crossword Sent***</b> 1:00 pm CWF Executive	<b>24</b> 1:00 pm Mexican Train	<b>25</b> 8:30 am Mesa County ARES
<b>26</b> <b>***Community Food Bank***</b> 10:50 am Worship 12:00 pm Coffee Mingle 6:00 pm NA (Men Only)	<b>27</b> 6:00 pm Guitar Club	<b>28</b> 10:00 am Friends with Missions				

# JUST FOR FUN-FACTS

## Did you know... A Day like Today in History

**February 3, 1870** - The 15th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified, guaranteeing the right of citizens to vote, regardless of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.

**February 4, 1861** - Apache Chief Cochise was arrested in Arizona by the U.S. Army for raiding a ranch. Cochise then escaped and declared war, beginning the period known as the Apache Wars, which lasted 25 years.

**February 11th** - Celebrated in Japan as the founding date of the Japanese nation, which occurred with the accession to the throne of the first Emperor, Jimmu, in 660 BC.

**February 17, 1909** - Apache Chief Geronimo (1829-1909) died while in captivity at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. He had led a small group of warriors on raids throughout Arizona and New Mexico. Caught once, he escaped. The U.S. Army then sent 5,000 men to recapture him.

**February 27, 1991** - In Desert Storm, the 100-hour ground war ended as Allied troops entered Kuwait just four days after launching their offensive against Saddam Hussein's Iraqi forces.

## Glass Frog



A small frog the length of a quarter leaps from one plant leaf to another, flaunting its little belly as it soars. The skin on the frog's underside is see-through. So as the amphibian jumps you can view some of its internal organs, including its beating heart. This is a reticulated glass frog, a creature that has a lot of supercool secrets to reveal.

Reticulated glass frogs can be found in the rain forests of Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, and Ecuador.

These animals, which are active at night, inhabit vegetation along streams. Males can get pretty territorial, making squeaking noises to warn trespassing frogs to stay away from their leafy hangout spots. If an intruder doesn't leave, the frog will wrestle it to show who's boss.

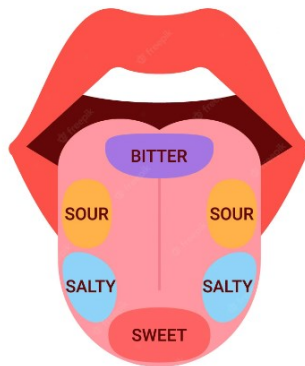
Males are also very protective of their mates' eggs. Females lay a mass of eggs (called a clutch) on the underside of leaves, sticking them in place with a jelly-like substance. Afterward, the females leave and the males go on guard duty. They watch the eggs 24/7 until they hatch, protecting them from enemies such as wasps. The frog has even been known to kick away wasps that get too close to the egg cluster!



## DID YOU KNOW ????



You lose up to 30 percent of your taste buds during flight.



This might explain why airplane food gets such a bad reputation. The elevation in an airplane can have a detrimental effect on our ability to taste things. According to a 2010 study conducted by Germany's Fraunhofer Institute for Building Physics, the dryness experienced at a high elevation as well as low pressure reduces the sensitivity of a person's taste buds to sweet and salty foods by about 30 percent. Add that dry cabin air affects our ability to smell, and our ability to taste is reduced further.