



First Christian Church (DOC)

1326 North 1st Street

Grand Junction, CO 81501

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www.gjdisciples.org

970.242.7204—phone

Return Service Requested

Volume 17 May Crossword Newsletter

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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

As I've gotten to know our 'unhoused neighbors' and have some good conversations, I've come to understand a little about living on the streets of Grand Junction. One of the profound understandings for me is the fear they live with every day, especially at night. Fear of the unknown is powerful! Can you imagine feeling like every person who approaches you is dangerous, until they prove otherwise?


It helps me to understand better why sleeping in the church doorways is especially attractive. It feels a bit safer on church grounds. But, having only one direction to watch for approaching danger is especially comforting for them. So much so, that they not only want to protect their spot, but some of them go out of their way to clean 'their' spot and even clean around the building to make their presence less onerous.

They have other ways to ward off their fear of danger. Building a community of trusted neighbors and getting to know as many people as possible, beyond that close circle of trust, further helps them to feel safer even when danger does approach.

I can begin to understand our neighbors and I can begin to understand church members. We too have fears of the unknown. We often fear strangers and usually reserve our trust for those who have earned it through a mutual relationship of some sort. We too feel that church grounds feel more safe. We too try to make this space as comfortable as possible for ourselves and others. We too try to surround ourselves with a trusted community, which can make us feel safer even when danger does encroach.

But danger does encroach, even in the church. Occasionally new people enter our safe place, and we can't help feeling a little threat until we get to know them. If they are very different from our expectations that can take much longer to build trust and sometimes longer to find the courage to go out of our way to get to know them.

(Continued on Page 3)



We fear anything that might disturb our safe and comfortable building and community. And the biggest fear is the 'unknown.' That includes dangers that we see coming, but are unsure of what dangers they might bring. It also includes the unknown future. We don't know the future so we don't know how to protect ourselves from any dangers that 'might' come. Historically, we've addressed the unknown future by identifying safety measures we can take. We buy insurance. We take good care of our building, property and resources. We stockpile as much financial reserves as we can, 'for a rainy day.' And sometimes we make changes.

Changes might include inviting more people to join us, for strength in numbers, for financial strength, for more help in keeping up and protecting building, property and resources. Of course, people bring their own dangers, at least until they become 'known.' Even then, the more people, the more relationships to care for, the more misunderstandings that happen, the more forgiveness is needed. "The best thing about church is the people. The hardest thing about church is people." That's a quote from...me.

More money is always a popular change when facing the unknown future. It often requires more unknown people. Sometimes we can sell excess property or resources. Sometimes we win the lottery; oh, you have to buy a ticket for that. Or, sometimes we can change our strategy, maybe look for partners to walk and work with us or help with finances. Maybe we find a new ministry or need that connects us to new people, who might join our (God's) cause. Maybe we find a new ministry that gets us so excited and 'filled with the Spirit,' that we start telling everyone about it and invite them to participate with us.

Of course, we can also become immobilized by our fears. We can shy away from any changes or dangers and just sit back and watch the future come and pass us by. We can pray (always a good idea) and ask God to save us. Or we can pray and start trying some new "smart" experiments so God has something to use, including ourselves (always a good idea).

I'm praying for God to lead us toward His will and direction. I know you are too. I'm praying for courage to face and try new possibilities. I'm praying for a greater dose of love, acceptance and forgiveness from God for us, and from each of us for others. I'm praying for a greater level of trust for God, for each other, and for those we are yet to meet along the way. I'm praying for us to choose wisdom over fear, hope over despair or apathy, and love to guide every circumstance, known or unknown. Please join me and your Elders in prayer, and then watching to see how God responds!

God bless you! Pastor Kevin

P.S. Pastor Kevin and Shannon will take vacation the first week of May; some out of town, some around town. Please keep us in prayer!

May 13 and 21 I will be playing at Sang Garden from 6:00 to 8:30 pm

Easter 2023



Our beautiful Lenten season culminated with much participation in Easter Sunday Service and other festivities.

Thanks to the Worship Ministry

Thank You

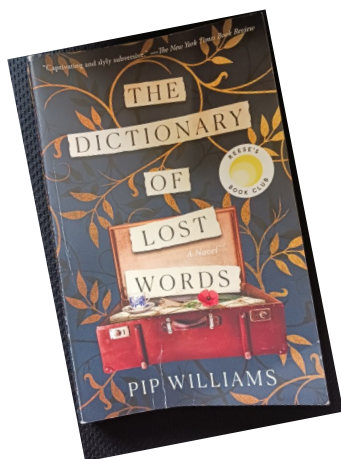
The many breads provided for the Brunch and Coffee Mingle Easter morning were delicious and very much appreciated by all. In fact, we had such a great response to our request that we had breads for at least two more of our coffee mingles.

Thank you all who helped with the breads. Membership

"To live is to change, to be perfect is to have changed often.

-- Cardinal Newman (1801-1890)

The FCC Bookworms have just finished reading and discussing "The Dictionary of Lost Words" by Pip Williams. Our discussion was led by Cynthia Grover who did a great deal of research on the creation of the first Oxford English Dictionary which was started in 1879 and not completed until 1928. The story is about Esme, our fictitious protagonist who found, on the floor of the actual Scriptorium, a word that was truly lost behind the many pigeonholes, and she started her own dictionary of lost words. Many of the words that Esme collected were "women" words that she, a naïve young lady, only heard in the market place spoken by an unsavory character. Williams, the author, has woven a story about Esme and the actual process of publishing the words we speak into a captivating novel that makes a very good read. Check it out! The Bookworms have declared a summer respite and will resume in September. More later.



Thanks to all of you who bring your spent batteries to the church for recycling. We have saved 12 1/2 more pounds of batteries from the landfill!

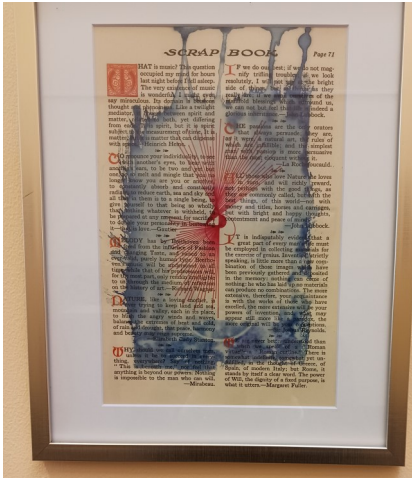


Did You See in *The Daily Sentinel*?

Norma Lavelett and other members of the Daughter of the Pioneers were seen visiting the Palisade Historical Museum. (Picture on Fellowship bulletin board.)

Lily Fitch, President of Disciples Women (CWF) was pictured awarding \$500 checks to The House, Latimer House and Hope of the Grand Valley. (Picture on Fellowship bulletin board.)

Note: If you know someone you'd like to have mentioned in the Crosswords, please call the office.



The “Recycled Book Art Show” at the Mesa County Library continues through May 11. Among the pieces displayed are two by A. J. Schlechten, whom some of you may remember from before his family moved to the Eastern Slope. Now he is the church handyman who helps with the grounds and other duties. A. J. is a man of many talents! His piece is taken from a book by Elbert Hubbard (1856-1915). Hubbard was born in Bloomington, IL, and died when the *RMS Lusitania* was bombed. Many quotes are attributed to him, including “Your friend is the man who knows all about you and still likes you.” Also, “A retentive memory may be a good thing, but the ability to forget is the true token of greatness.”



My mom was given this beautiful cat that we decided to keep, the day we took her to get her spayed, she was already carrying these little blessings. This momma gave birth to 5 kittens, and we are looking to see who would like to adopt one. They are not ready to be weaned yet, maybe another month or so. But, we would like to see if anyone is interested. If so, please email the church office email or call 970-242-7204. We want them to go to great caring and loving home.



Thank you! -Manny

If any FCC members would have extra pair of clothing you are not using, please consider donating it to the church for our unhoused neighbors. The items of clothing that would be greatly appreciated are Mens and Women's clothing , socks and underwear.

Thank you!

-Bruce Hinds

HISTORY OF THE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST – PART 3

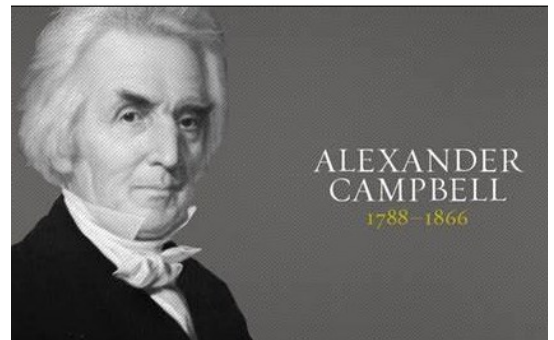
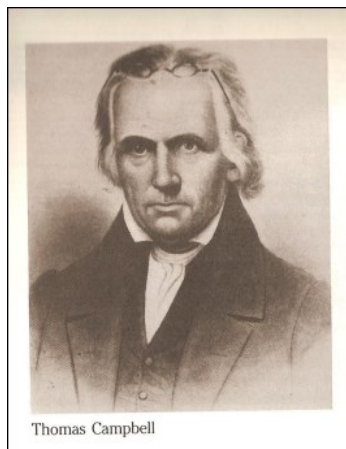
Thomas Campbell, a Presbyterian minister born in Ireland in 1763 was a member of the “New Light, Anti-Burgher Synod of the Seceder Presbyterian Church in Ireland. He emigrated to America in 1807 leaving his family behind. Thomas was disappointed to find that Presbyterians were as rigid and intolerant on the frontier as they had been in Scotland and Ireland. He settled in Washington, PA, near where Pennsylvania meets West Virginia and Ohio. Only months after moving to Pennsylvania he alarmed others of his faith by inviting worshippers from other branches of the Presbyterian church to take communion with seceder Presbyterians. In 1809 he was suspended from the Associate Synod of North America and had formally withdrawn. During the same year he formed the Christian Association of Washington.

He wrote and published the second oldest important document in Disciples history, the “Declaration and Address.” That statement of principles reflects the Christian Association’s and Campbell’s views that sectarianism is evil and that Christian unity would be possible if Christians would recognize the supreme authority of the Scriptures. It contains a key proposition still used as a summary of Disciples’ convictions about the unit of the church. It read “That the church of Christ upon earth is essentially, intentionally, and constitutionally one, consisting of all those in every place that profess their faith in Christ and obedience to him in all things according to the scriptures, and that manifest the same by their tempers and conduct, and of none else, as none else can be truly and properly called Christians.”

In 1809, Thomas Campbell’s wife, Jane and their seven children joined him in Western Pennsylvania. Alexander was the oldest son and he and his father, Thomas, found they shared similar religious positions concerning the church. Alexander’s convictions had taken shape during a year at the University of Glasgow where he had contact with movements interested in restoring primitive Christianity on a biblical basis. During his first few months in the new country, Alexander studied in preparation for the ministry, and in 1810 began preaching. In 1811 Alexander married Margaret Brown and they had eight children. After Margaret’s death, he married Selina Bakewell and they had six children. The scholarly Thomas remained influential among the “reformers,” but Alexander became the real leader. The early Alexander Campbell was very rigid and conservative, for instance, he disagreed with the newly imported “Sunday School” because it wasn’t mentioned in the Bible. As he matured, he became more liberal. Alexander died at age 88, outliving nine of his children.

To be continued.....

Yvonne Warner



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH NEIGHBORHOOD YARD

SALE

1326 N. 1st Street, Grand Junction, CO 81501

Saturday June 3, 2023

8 am—2 pm

We invite you to bring your own table and
sell your items at your table.

**HOT
DOGS**





DW/CWF Program, May 11, 1pm

Historical Research and Costume Design

Ever wonder how costume designers create the costumes you see on stage? Join Jill Van Brussel for an up-close look at how theatre costume designers use historical research as a tool for storytelling. We'll dive into the connections between history and costume design, focusing on how 18th century fashion research might be applied to costumes ranging from the realistic to the fantastical. Jill Van Brussel has an MA Theatre from Bowling Green State University and MFA Costume Design from Purdue University. She is a tenured Associate Professor at Colorado Mesa University where she designs, teaches, and has the privilege of mentoring young designers. You won't want to miss this program! All are welcome. Refreshments and program start at 1pm, followed by the general business meeting. Dorcas group hosts.

Welcome New Members

Ronnie Charlie

Keith Osborn

Bruce Hinds



At the April 13, DW/CWF meeting Craig and Lorraine Granlund presented a slideshow with music highlighting the beauty of the Grand Valley and the Neighboring areas. Those who attended were pleasantly entertained with Spectacular photography which included birds, wildlife, plants and landscapes.

I would like to thank you to all FCC for all the warm get well wishes I received.

-Ruth Acord

THANK
YOU!

The Outreach Committee has prepared the gardens for planting and we have a few needs. The water system is being worked on to ensure that our veggies will get plenty of water. Bruce Hinds will be the primary gardener and take care of the day-to-day watering and weeding. I am sure he will be more than happy to have someone to volunteer to assist him.

If you have any garden tools such as rakes, leaf rakes, hoes, shovels or hand tools you are no longer using, they are needed. Please let us know and someone can pick them up if needed.

We will be planting carrots, radishes and beans from seed. If you would like to donate for the purchase of a tomato plant, cucumber plant or pepper plant please let Melanie or Bonnie know so we can plan for the purchase of those plants. The plants will be placed in the garden around the first of May.

The plan is that these vegetables will go to Homeward Bound for their use. Any excess will be available for the church members. We are looking forward to a successful harvest this year.



Easter

On this day, loving gracious God,
we once again sing Alleluia.

We praise You and bless You for
raising Jesus up from the dead,
And we praise and bless You
for all the times You have raised us
up through Your grace.

In his Easter season and always
when we are weak and unable
to make good decisions,

When we are stubborn
and refuse to forgive others,

When we are afraid or discouraged
and forget that You strengthen us,
we are too selfish or too weary
to follow Jesus as we should,
raise us up, loving God, raise us up.

Thank You for giving us
new life in Jesus

and for his presence among us
this Eastertime and always.

Amen

--- Kathy Moore 4-9-23

Wonderful Mother

God made a wonderful mother, A
mother who never grows old; He
made her smile of the sunshine, And
He molded her heart of pure gold; In
her eyes He placed bright shining
stars, in her cheeks fair roses you see;
God made a wonderful mother, and He
gave that dear mother to me.

- Pat O'Reilly

And Grandma's too...

While we honor all our mothers with
words of love and praise. While we tell
about their goodness and their kind
and loving ways. We should also think
of Grandma, She's a mother too you
see... For she mothered my dear
mother as my mother mothers me.

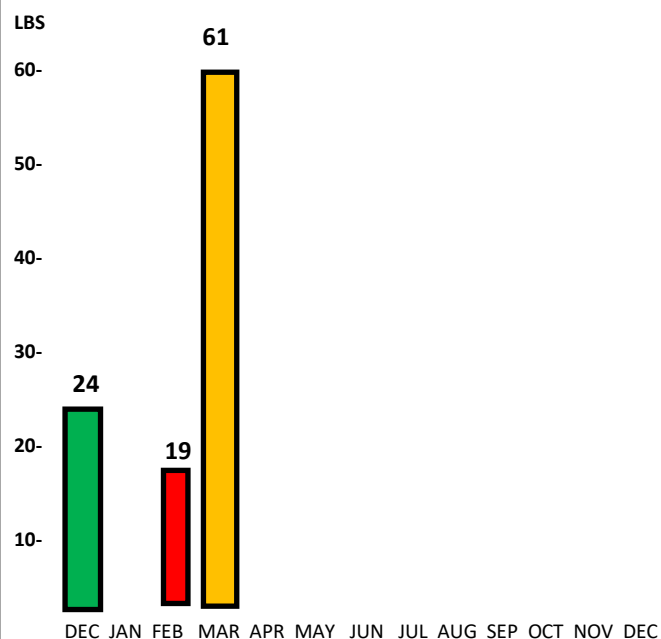
-Author Unknown

FOR THE YEAR OF 2022, FCC DONATED A TOTAL OF \$2,025 IN CASH.

Giving Boxes

March 2023

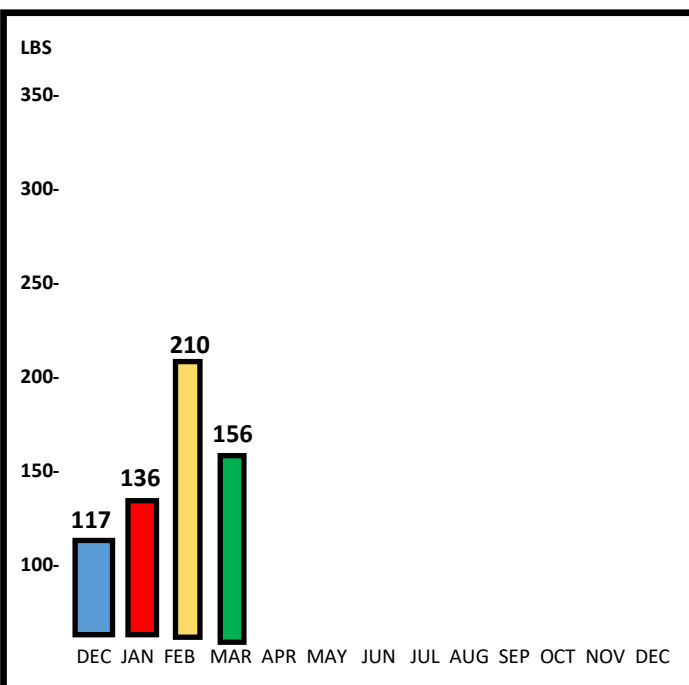
61 Lbs



COMMUNITY FOOD BANK DONATIONS

March 2023

156 Lbs





May 2023

FCC Anniversaries

- 14 Al & Elsie Ladage

FCC Birthdays

- 1 Keith Osborn
- 7 Pam Baumgartle
- 10 Al Baumgartle
- 10 Johnny Cowan
- 13 Norma Lavelett
- 17 Jeanne Klitzke
- 19 Marlene Cowan
- 21 Carol Matthews
- 22 Bill Fitch
- 23 Wayne Ostermiller
- 25 Alex Everett
- 30 Yvonne Warner



CROSSWORDS

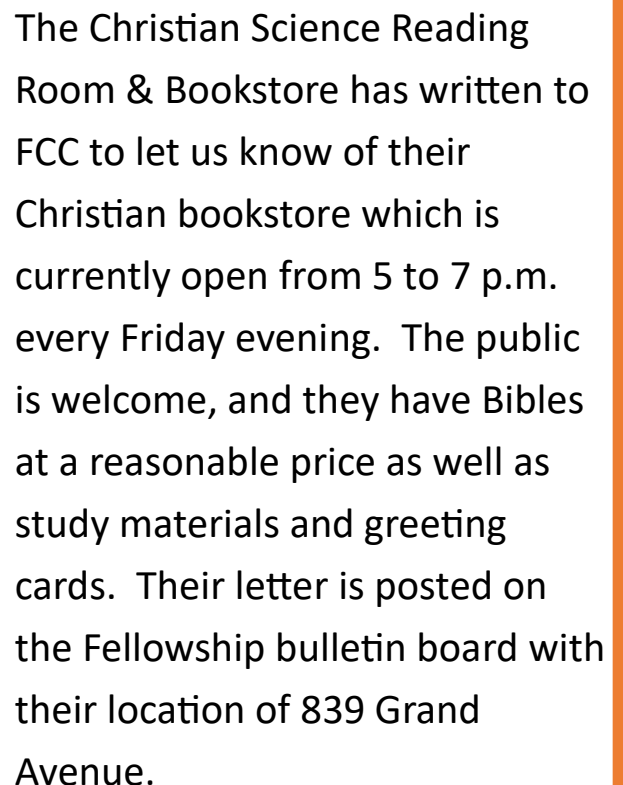
Next Deadline is

May 18 , 2023

Please submit to the
church office or email to:

firstchristiangi@hotmail.com

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



The Christian Science Reading Room & Bookstore has written to FCC to let us know of their Christian bookstore which is currently open from 5 to 7 p.m. every Friday evening. The public is welcome, and they have Bibles at a reasonable price as well as study materials and greeting cards. Their letter is posted on the Fellowship bulletin board with their location of 839 Grand Avenue.

Corrections to Membership List

Update

Jeanne Klitzke:

The Commons

625 27 1/2 Rd, Room 365

Grand Junction, CO 81506

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

Thank you!

May Friendship Day, May 5, 2023

Church Women United (CWU) will hold their May Friendship Day activity on the 5th at First Christian Church starting at 11:30 a.m. with a salad luncheon. The program will be Beverly Lampley, who is the Director of Development and Communication at Grand Valley Catholic Outreach. Grand Valley Catholic Outreach provides housing, counseling, and meals, and their goal is to lessen the homeless population in the valley. Please



Congratulations to Chuck Haigler

On April 16 Chuck was made Elder Emeritus for his many years as an elder at First Christian Church, Grand Junction, CO.

Please join Chuck on May 7 during Coffee Mingle for cake to recognize his leadership and other countless contributions to our congregation.

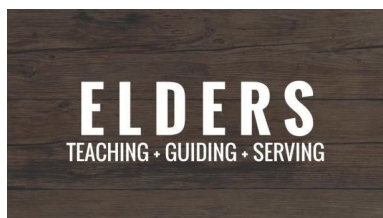
Thank you, Chuck

Membership



FCC SUNDAY SERVERS' MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS

May 07, 2023		1st Sunday	
<u>Worship Leader</u> Joyce Wittwer	<u>Elder</u> Lily Fitch	<u>Coffee Mingle</u> Norma Lavelett	<u>Collection Team</u> Al Baumgartle
<u>Greeter</u> Karen Lehman		Gloria Jeffrey	Bonnie Watts
May 14, 2023		2nd Sunday	
<u>Worship Leader</u> Johnny West	<u>Elder</u> Jeanice Swank	<u>Coffee Mingle</u> Lamar Edwards	<u>Collection Team</u> Al Baumgartle
<u>Greeter</u> Jeanice Swank		Joyce Wittwer	Bonnie Watts
May 21, 2023		3rd Sunday	
<u>Worship Leader</u> Dennis Edwards	<u>Elder</u> Al Baumgartle	<u>Coffee Mingle</u> Jeanice Swank	<u>Collection Team</u> Al Baumgartle
<u>Greeter</u> Ann Hutton		Virginia Johnson	Bonnie Watts
May 28, 2023		4th Sunday	
<u>Worship Leader</u> Pam Baumgartle	<u>Elder</u> Melanie Ferron	<u>Coffee Mingle</u> Donna Ham	<u>Collection Team</u> Al Baumgartle
<u>Greeter</u> Jeanne Klitzke		Karen Lehman	Bonnie Watts
5th Sunday			
<u>Worship Leader</u>	<u>Elder</u>	<u>Coffee Mingle</u>	<u>Collection Team</u>
<u>Greeter</u>			



FCC Prayer Concerns

“Pray without ceasing.”

1 Thessalonians 5:17

Please Pray For:

Betty Nelson
Christina Nicoletti
Citizens of Ukraine (Sergii Antonov)
David and Vickie Haegen
Faye Morosini
Gloria Jeffrey
Janet Biederman
Jeanne Klitzke
Jerry Laubhan
Kyle Rosencrans
Law & Military Enforcement Personnel
Les Armbruster
Margie O'Dell
Nancy Armbruster
Our Church and Country
Paul Scanga
Pete Personette and Family
Ric Rava
Rob and Darla Niles
Santiago Rubalcaba
Shirley Kennedy
Tammy Whitcomb & Daughters

Requested By:

Joyce Wittwer
JoAnne Compton
Shannon Arensman/Bonnie
Nancy Armbruster
Nancy Armbruster
Elders
Elders
Tammy Ostermiller and All of Us
Lily Fitch
Tammy Ostermiller
Kevin Arensman
Nancy Armbruster
Shannon Arensman
Nancy Armbruster

Bev Dorson
Tammy Ostermiller
Shannon Arensman
Shannon Arensman
Shannon Arensman
Shannon Arensman
Pam Baumgartle

Bolded names are new additions



2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 6:00 pm Guitar Club	2 2:00 pm Parkinson's Ping Pong Group (PPPG) 6:00 pm Night N' Gals	3 2:00 pm PPPG 3:00 pm Parkinson's Support Group 5:30 pm Praise Team	4 9:30 am-11:30 am Alanon Group 1:00 pm am Dorcas Group	5 11:30 am CWU-Friendship Day 2:00 pm PPPG	6
7 10:50 am Worship 12:00 pm Coffee Mingle 12:30 pm Worship Ministry Meeting (Conference room) 6:00 pm NA (Men Only)	8 6:00 pm Guitar Club	9 10:00 am Friends with Missions 2:00 pm PPPG	10 2:00 pm PPPG 5:30 pm Praise Team 6:00 pm CO West Quilters Guild	11 9:30 am-11:30 am Alanon Group 1:00 pm CWF General Meeting 4:45 pm Serving at Homeward Bound	12 1:00 pm Mexican Train 2:00 pm PPPG	13 8:30 am WCARC
14 MOTHER'S DAY 9:30 am Elder's Meeting 10:50 am Worship 12:00 pm Coffee Mingle 6:00 pm NA (Men Only)	15 10:00 am CWU Meeting 6:00 pm Guitar Club	16 2:00 pm PPPG	17 2:00 pm PPPG 5:30 pm Praise Team	18 ***Crossword Deadline*** 9:30 am-11:30 am Alanon Group 12:00 pm Tai-Chi	19 2:00 pm PPPG	20 8:00 am Monthly Breakfast 12:00 pm Territorial Daughters
21 10:50 am Worship 12:00 pm Coffee Mingle 6:00 pm NA (Men Only)	22 6:00 pm Guitar Club	23 10:00 am Friends with Missions 2:00 pm PPPG	24 2:00 pm PPPG 5:30 pm Praise Team	25 ***Crossword Sent*** 9:30 am-11:30 am Alanon Group	26 1:00 pm Mexican Train 2:00 pm PPPG	27 8:30 am Mesa County ARES
28 Community Food Bank 10:50 am Worship 12:00 pm Coffee Mingle 6:00 pm NA (Men Only)	29 6:00 pm Guitar Club	30 2:00 pm PPPG	31 2:00 pm PPPG 5:30 pm Praise Team			

JUST FOR FUN-FACTS

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

May 1st - Observed as May Day, a holiday and spring festival since ancient times, also observed in socialist countries as a workers' holiday or Labor Day.

May 4, 1494 During his second journey of exploration in the New World, Christopher Columbus discovered Jamaica.

May 7, 1992 - The 27th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified, prohibiting Congress from giving itself pay raises.

May 14, 1607 - The first permanent English settlement in America was established at Jamestown, Virginia, by a group of royally chartered Virginia Company settlers from Plymouth, England.

May 27, 1937 - In San Francisco, 200,000 people celebrated the grand opening of the Golden Gate Bridge by strolling across it.

May 30, 1783 - The Pennsylvania Evening Post became the first daily newspaper published in America.

Chipmunk



There are 25 species of chipmunk, 24 of which live in North America. Chipmunks are excellent tree climbers and swimmers who live in a variety of habitats, including plains, mountains, forests, and deserts. Chipmunks like to live alone in holes or burrows called dens.

Chipmunks hibernate in cold weather, which means they spend most of the winter sleeping in their dens. One chipmunk can gather up to 165 acorns in a day. In just two days, a chipmunk can collect enough food to last an entire winter, although chipmunks typically hoard much more food than necessary.

Chipmunk young are born in late spring, and stay in the nest for up to six weeks. Female chipmunks have one or two litters per year, each with four or five babies.



May 14, 2023