

Why Are We Using Envelopes?

We are stuffing our Christian Caller Newsletters in envelopes to comply with new postal regulations.

Room at the Inn

The Outreach Ministry is looking into the possibility of hosting Room at the Inn in our church building. Room at the Inn provides meals, support, and shelter for homeless families. Different churches take turns hosting three to four families for a week about four times a year. In order to commit to this program, we would need volunteers to set up beds, make meals, and spend the night at the church when we serve as hosts. On Sunday, June 28th, we will hear a little bit about Room at the Inn in our worship service, and we will have a presentation following worship for those who are interested. Please plan to join us. If you are unable to attend, speak with Outreach Ministry Chair Mark Weiler, or Tim Bobbitt, for more information.

Time for a Chuckle

A little girl, dressed in her Sunday best, was running as fast as she could, trying not to be late for her Sunday School class. As she ran she prayed, "Dear Lord, please don't let me be late! Dear Lord, please don't let me be late!"

While she was running and praying, she tripped on a curb and fell, getting her clothes dirty and tearing her dress. She got up, brushed herself off, and started running again. As she ran she once again began to pray, "Dear Lord, please don't let me be late...But please don't shove me again, either!"

Tips from the Kitchen

Please do not leave containers of food in the refrigerator. Be sure to take the food home or give it to someone to take home. Take large amounts to the Transitional House (1206 10th Stree—ring the doorbell). Or if you are leaving food for a specific event, please make use of the labels hanging on the refrigerator door.

The Christian Caller

Monthly Publication of
First Christian Church
Greeley, Colorado

970/352-1292

www.fccgreeley.com

Rev. Tim Bobbitt, Senior Minister

Rev. C. fester Coffee-Prose, Associate Minister

Our Vision: First Christian Church - called
by Christ's transforming grace and love to
share hope and life in community.

June 2009

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Global Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and United Church of Christ

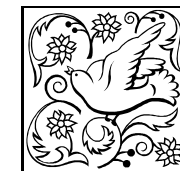
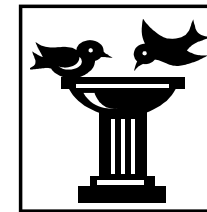
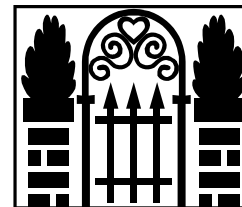
"Shine Where You Are"

Do all things without grumbling or questioning, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world... Philippians 2: 14-15

The atmosphere was vibrant during the celebration of 140 years at Inanda Seminary in Durban South Africa. Headmaster, Mrs. JT Tate felt the school was brilliantly showcased for the glory of God and the work of Jesus. Inanda Seminary was founded in 1869 by the American Board of Missions (ABM) as the first secondary Christian school for black girls in Durban. For 140 years Inanda Seminary has maintained the Christian values and African ethos it was founded upon. It believes in developing and growing the whole child: spiritually, intellectually, socially and physically. Inanda provides a solid grounding for its students and to date has graduated more than 8000 young women, many of whom have become the core of black female leadership in South Africa. During the Apartheid years, Inanda Seminary continued to educate and motivate black females to rise up against oppression and racism. This continues today in the current climate of crime, violence and HIV and AIDS where infection is highest among women. Inanda Seminary is a school of the United Congregational Church of Southern Africa (UCCSA), and a partner of Global Ministries. Mrs. Tate reported that students and staff had a rosy glow about them for days reflecting the glow of the anniversary celebration.

We share the inspiration offered to us by Inanda Seminary as they are part of the wider church community and a part of the plan that God clearly has for our world.

Revs. Susan Valiquette and Scott Couper are missionaries to South Africa under the United Congregational Church of Southern Africa (UCCSA).



A MOMENT WITH TIM

“And Jesus took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.” Mark 10:16

June is summer camp month. Beginning on June 5th we will have a great group of young people and adults spending time at the beautiful campground of La Foret near Colorado Springs. Please keep this group in your prayers. Both fester and I will be gone from our offices during that time to participate in this special ministry.

Church camp has been an important part of my life for as long as I can remember. Camp officially began for me when I was 4 or 5 years old, and my family participated in family camp. I still have the scars to prove it from stitches inside my mouth. Ask me if you want to hear the whole story. The importance of church camp for me goes even further back, because it is where my parents met. Some of my best friends still today are people I got to know at camp.

Each year I ponder, “How can we bring that special feeling to all we do as church? Do we need to include the songs “Kum Ba Yah” and “Pass It On” in our church service every Sunday? Do we need to have s’mores every time we gather? Do we need to separate into cabin groups? Although all of these items may be helpful, I think we need to focus on relationships; our relationship with God and one another.

There are lots of directions we can get pulled as a congregation, but we are at our best when our focus returns to our relationships with God and others. Camp is about the formation of a special community. That community is closer to the Kingdom of God than any others I have experienced. Camp allows the deepening of relationships with one another and with God.

The theme for camp this year is *Breakthrough*. We are talking about how Jesus broke down barriers to share God’s love. It is a pretty good theme for our congregation as well. I encourage you to seek to tear down some of the barriers which separate us from God and one another.

Here are some simple ways of strengthening relationships. Commit to prayer time every day; including time set apart to simply listen to God. Attend our Prayer Gatherings. Make the forgiveness workshop on June 3rd a priority. Find someone you don’t know very well every Sunday and spend some time with them at Fellowship time. Seek to see each person as a child of God.

May God’s vision for us guide us: First Christian Church – called by Christ’s transforming grace and love to share hope and life in community.

Bendiciones (Blessings),

Tim



Baby Bottle Campaign

Please remember to fill your baby bottles with your spare change and return them to church on Father’s Day, June 15. This year our donations will go to the Weld Food Bank to support their Backpack program. This program helps supply food for 314 homeless and high-needs students in Greeley and Evans.



The typical pack contains milk, juice, one meal, applesauce, a breakfast item, and three snacks for a total of \$2.16 each. Providing one child with a pack for one school year costs \$75.60.

If you did not receive a baby bottle, we encourage you to still save your change and bring it back on Father’s Day.

Pray for Our Campers & Staff

June is church camp month. Send our campers a note and let them know you are thinking about them and praying for them. Send your notes to:

(Name of Camper)

(Name of Camp)

La Foret

6145 Shoup Road

Colorado Springs, CO 80908



Here is a list of the campers and adults we are sending to La Foret this year:

Discovery Camp June 5-7

Counselor: Shannon King

Counselor: Kris King

Austin Loschen

David King

Nathan Bobbitt

Junior Camp June 7-13

Counselor: Tom Rainbolt

Chaplin: Rev. Tim Bobbitt

Taylor White

Josh Bobbitt

Ian Galindo

Chi Rho Camp June 14-20

Counselor: David Haining

Counselor: Erika Hartmann

Chris Hartmann: Medical Staff

Chaplin: fester Coffee-Prose

Emilee Wolsey

Lauryn Waldo

Scott Haining

Andrew Bishop

Daniel Recor

CYF Camp June 7-13

Counselor: Rev. fester Coffee-Prose

Director: Todd Loschen

Tori Brown

Jessi Brown

Kaylen Fields

Cambrie Bishop

Caitlin Berg

Tessa Rainbolt

Kelly Davis

Porschia Gray



Bereavements

Our sympathy is with Herman Hoke and his family. Meta Hoke passed away on May 18, 2009.

Our sympathy is with Pam Sheffer and her family. Dan passed away May 22, 2009.

Wednesday Prayer Gathering

Because of the Power of Forgiveness Workshop, on June 3rd, we will not have Prayer Gathering, but we will join together again on June 17th at 6:30 p.m. Come and deepen your relationships with God and one another.

Neighborhood Block Party Date Set

We are beginning to plan for a September 12 Block Party during our fall activities kick-off celebration. Let our organizing group (Patty Endres, David Haining, Kris King, and Hazel Gibson) know if you have ideas or if you would like to volunteer. We will need lots of participants to make this a great event.

FCC Board Update

The Board had a regular meeting on Wednesday, May 13. We opened with a presentation from the Greeley Police department on some new resources they are making available to local churches to help them develop ways to increase their security and to develop an emergency preparedness plan. The Board celebrated the hiring of Judi Ring as the new preschool director. The Board spent quite a bit of time understanding the current financial situation of the church. More information will be forthcoming in future newsletters and meetings. The Board did agree to invite a denominational resource to help us understand what changes we might make to our church building to help it better meet our needs. The consultation has no cost and will result in a list of recommendations that we can use to help direct any future decision making we may choose to do in this area.

Excerpts from

CRMR DISCIPLE LINK

Navajo Mission Trip

The annual **Navajo Mission Trip to Shiprock, Arizona**, will be September 23-27. Contact Rev. John Shaw, Harvey Park Christian Church 303-789-3142. Email: harveypark@harveyparkchristian.org for more information.

The **Golf Tournament** that supports the Mission Trip will be held Saturday, August 15 in Loveland. For more information regarding the Golf Tournament contact Harlan Ferguson at 970-669-2192.

Venezuela Construction Mission Trip

Ten Global Partner representatives formed the team for the annual construction mission trip to Venezuela. The trip took place April 19 - 28, 2009. The mission was billed as a partnership between US and Venezuelan volunteers - to build a cinder-block wall around a shelter for battered women and children in Ospino; it proved to be so very much more! Dennis Miller, of FCC Loveland, writes:

"We just returned from a marvelous experience in which the Lord's work was advanced. Ten hearty souls from the Denver-Loveland area representing the United Church of Christ Rocky Mountain Region and the Central Rocky Mountain Region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) toiled mightily as the cause of Christ was served in Ospino, Venezuela. Led by Merv Bangert from Boulder, our group helped build a concrete block wall around a community center on an approximately five acre site which assists the local UEPV (indigenous Pentecostal church) serve its people."

To learn more about this exciting trip and view pictures log onto the CRMR web site at: Centralrockymountaindisciples.org

Strangers in a Strange Land-Sandra Hergenreder

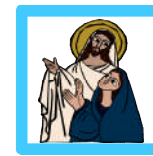
"Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares." Hebrews 13:2

The ancient Greeks practiced it – as did the ancient Hebrews, the ancient Celts, and the ancient India Indians. Today? Martha Stewart practices it – as does the Ramada Inn, casinos, Southerners and Minnesotans. BUT: how frequently and sincerely is hospitality practiced in today's churches?

There are stories of hospitality in almost every time and culture. In India, there is a story about a widow who willingly shares her pot of khichdi with everyone in need and offers the last bit, her share, to a stranger who turns out to be a god who repays the widow with a never-empty pot of khichdi. The widow's generous gift is an example of the Indian philosophy that "the guest is God." Hospitality goes both ways. Strong bonds are created with the sharing of salt in Arabian culture. There is a story of a thief who tastes a bit of what he thinks is sugar and upon finding it to be salt, returns all that he has taken and leaves. A violation of hospitality in ancient Greece led to the Trojan War. Serious consequences indeed!

Do we, as Christians, take hospitality as seriously as the Ancients? Do we believe, like Abraham, that our guests are to be honored? He gave his guests (strangers) water, rest, and food. He supplied their basic needs without question. Are there some mornings you don't even have the energy to smile, introduce yourself, and say "Welcome! We're glad you are with us this morning!"?

What is this thing...this gift called hospitality? As defined by Fred Bernhard and Steve Clapp in their book Widening the Welcome of Your Church, "Hospitality is the attitude and practice of providing the atmosphere and opportunities, however risky, in which strangers are free to become friends, thereby feeling accepted, included, and loved. The relationship opens up the possibility for eventual communion among the host, the stranger and God." In most churches, this requires a transformation from the current static thinking and doing into the dynamic understanding and doing that "the guest is God."



Greetings,

Can you believe that it is already the summer? I feel like we just celebrated Christmas, and now we are getting ready for summer camp. This might be the most exciting time for our youth groups. Camp is oftentimes the highlight of the year for our youth and even for our adults. As this month progresses, we will be sending 19 youth and 9 adults to camp. While there, they will have tons of fun, but they will also explore breakthrough moments in their own lives as well as in the lives of people who encountered Jesus in the Bible. They will explore these breakthrough moments in keynotes, worship, small group study, and informal conversation. By the end of the week they will be refueled, refreshed, and exhausted.

We can all be a part of the camping program in many ways, even if we are not traveling to La Foret. If you check the board outside of my office, you will see a list, not only of campers, but also of ways you can support camp. Some of these ways include sending mail. We all love mail at camp: letters, care packages, even simple notes that let us know our church is thinking about us. These provide a real uplifting moment during the week.

Please pray for our campers and adults while they are at camp. We know that while we are there people are praying for us and for the programming, and that can be a true inspiration to us all. Be sure to stop by the board and take note of who all will be at camp this summer. I will be at both Chi Rho and CYF camp this summer, which means two weeks in a row. So I will see all of you, or after two weeks of camp maybe it is more accurate to say that you will see me. On June 21st I promise I will be alert enough to answer any questions you have about my two weeks of camp.

I cannot wait to see how this year's camping program shapes the lives of all our youth who will be in attendance. Be sure to ask them about their experiences when they return home.

Waiting for, and celebrating while at camp,

Youth Camp: Discovery: June 5-7; Juniors/CYF: June 7-13; Chi-Rho June 14-20



Christian Women's Fellowship

CFW is winding down our activities for the 2008-2009 year. The year was filled with worthwhile service projects, informative programs and delicious luncheons.

Many thanks to everyone who attended the Daughters' Dessert. It was a lovely evening filled with great entertainment and delicious desserts. A big thank you goes out to Diane Doyle for the beautiful table decorations and gift baskets, to the men for the many hours they spent in the kitchen preparing the variety of desserts and serving them, and to Carol Hypes for finding the entertainment.

Officers for the 2009-2010 CWF Year have been elected and installed. Chairman: Judi Ring; Treasurer: Caren Renee Haining; Recording Secretary: Verna Recor; Worship and Study: Carol Hypes; Service: Betty Jensen and Norma Hammons.

The Groups will be holding their final meetings; contact leaders for dates and times. Have a great summer. See you in September.

How are We Doing?

In order to reflect a truer picture of our financial situation, our actual income numbers will reflect only pledges and other giving. They will not include savings under management of the Trustees. Please see the asterisk below and speak with David Haining, Rich Recor, Jim Prichard, Gary Ikenouye, or Tim Bobbitt if you have any questions.

Income 2009

Actual as of 4/30/09 \$83,749.25*
Budgeted Year to Date \$98,836.32

Expenses 2009

Actual as of 3/31/09 \$106,169.09
Budgeted Year to Date \$98,738.72

*In order to balance the Plan for 2009, the Board of Trustees was asked to commit \$36,000 as needed. Through April, \$20,000 of the \$36,000 has been transferred to the General Fund to meet expenses.

The Power of Forgiveness

Join Dr. Nancy Turner for an exploration of "The Power of Forgiveness" at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 3rd. Harboring anger and negative emotions is physically, emotionally and spiritually destructive. Exciting new medical research documents the negative effects of anger and hostility and looks at the benefits of forgiveness. This two-hour presentation and discussion will feature a powerful DVD with insights from leaders such as the Rev. James Forbes, Elie Weisel, Thich Nhat Hanh, Thomas Moore and Marianne Williamson. This presentation can help you understand how forgiveness can transform life.

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Grand Junction, Colorado

invites you to their
125th
Anniversary Celebration
June 12-14, 2009

~Please see the invitation
on the bulletin board
in the main hall.~

Tennyson Center Needs for June

Sunscreen (SPF 30)
Hair Brushes
Hand Lotion
Peppermint Lifesavers
Toilet Paper
Slim Fit Tampons
Thin and Ultra Thin
Maxi Pads
Scrubbing Sponges
Deodorant



Christian Men's Fellowship Gets Down and Dirty

The FCC Christian Men's Fellowship has been "getting our hands dirty" in ministry by helping prepare the stew for the Irish Stew luncheon, helping spruce up the church for Easter, and recently helping to build a house with the Habitat for Humanity. We will continue our ministry on June 13 following breakfast and fellowship beginning at 7:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. For all those who are able, we will then move outdoors to work on the yard, parking lot, etc. Invite a friend and come with gloves, shovels, etc., for some good fellowship and fun.



Elders' Message

I have always enjoyed the culture and music of the native Americans. Their beliefs are simple and true as reflected in this prayer found in our hymnal:

"Prayer of a Native American"

O Great Spirit, whose voice I hear in the winds, and whose breath gives life to all the world, hear me. I am small and weak. I need your strength and wisdom. Let me walk in beauty and make my eyes ever behold the red and purple sunset. Make my hands respect the things you have made. Make my ears sharp to hear your voice. Make me wise so that I may understand the things you have taught your people. Let me learn the lessons you have hidden in every leaf and rock.

I seek strength, not to be greater than another, but to fight my greatest enemy—myself. Make me always ready to come to you with clean hands and straight eyes. So when life fades, as the fading sunset, my spirit may come to you without shame.

-Anonymous-

Chuck Walker, FCC Elder



Walker Manufacturing Company Presents . . .

The 2009

Walker Hymn Sing

*An evening for all ages—
congregational singing and lifting high
the name of our Lord through
hymns and gospel songs.*

~ Hymns • Gospel Songs • Special Music ~

Saturday, June 20 - 6 p.m.

~ Grounds Open at 4:30 - Come Early & Bring a
Picnic Dinner to Enjoy with your Family ~

5925 E. Harmony Road, Fort Collins
(1-1/4 Miles East of Interstate 25 on Harmony Road)

Free Admission~Bring a Friend

Questions? - 970-221-5614

Please Bring Lawn Chairs or Blankets for Seating
See poster in FCC main hall for map.



L.A.F.F. Group

Schedule through December

The Life After Fifty-Five Group has planned monthly activities through the end of the year. Here's a heads-up:

June 30 6:00 p.m. Ice Cream Social at Houston Gardens. Contact: Nancy.

July No activity

August 13 Greeley Police Station Tour, 2:00 p.m., followed by dessert at Village Inn. Travel by bus. Contact: Von.

September 8 Harberts' mountain cabin followed by elk viewing in Estes Park. Harberts will provide hamburgers & drinks. LAFF will bring side dishes and desserts for lunch. Travel by bus. Contact: Von.

October 16 Lee Maxwell Washing Machine Museum, 35901 WCR Eaton. Time and eating place will be announced later. Travel by bus. Contact: Nancy.

November 15 Union Colony Dinner Theater Sunday Matinee. Dinner at 12:15 p.m. Show around 2:30. Reservations required. Contact: Von.

December 11 Turkey dinner at church followed by Crazy Cards—6:00p. Bring side dishes & desserts. Contact: Veronica & Von

Save the Date!

July 10 VBS Picnic
July 29-August 2 General Assembly
August 15 Shiprock Golf Tournament
August 16 All-Congregational Picnic at 5:00p hosted by the Elders
September 11-13 Women's Retreat
September 12 Block Party
September 18-20 Men's Retreat
September 23-27 Shiprock New Mexico Mission Trip
October 12-20 Venezeula Medical Mission Trip



June Birthdays



3 Dorothy Boston	9 Marla Johnson	19 Kelli Hays
4 Morris Allison	13 Carol Smith	22 Rose Marie Schafer
4 John Campbell	14 Richard Simon	24 Ashley Malcom
4 Kathy Lee	16 Emily Warntz	26 Fred Tjardes
6 Amy Haining	17 Connie Davis	29 Bernie Holland
6 Dalia Ramirez	18 Carolyn Schroeder	30 Rich Recor
6 Ivar Samuelson	19 Louise Graber	30 Paul Schneider
9 Carla Ikenouye		

Summer Worship Schedule

From Sunday, May 31, through Sunday, Sept. 6th, we will have one Sunday worship service at 9:30.



General Assembly

Have you considered attending General Assembly to worship, learn, fellowship and discuss the future of our Church?

Disciples from all walks of life will gather in Indianapolis from Wednesday, July 29, to Sunday, August 2, for the church's biennial Assembly.

For more information, please go to:

<http://www.disciples.org/GeneralAssembly/tabid/59/Default.aspx>



FCC Preschool News

The preschool ended the school year with a trip to Plumb Farm, where the children were able to pet rabbits and goats and learn about different types of bird eggs and nests. We also had an end of the year celebration for the children and their families. The children enjoyed face painting, games, and ice cream sundaes! The preschool will be closed for the summer, but will resume after Labor Day. If you are interested in enrolling for the fall, please contact Judi Ring at 352-2543.

VBS Picnic

We plan to end our VBS with a picnic on Friday evening, July 10th. We need your help. Speak with Verna Recor or the church office if you are able to help with this fun event.



Vacation Bible School

Experience + Discover God Everywhere! (CAMP E.D.G.E)

2009 VBS is on its way, and we are in need of your help!

Please consider your time and talents as we prepare for "Camp Edge" July 6th-10th (9 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.). There are opportunities for everyone, and we still have lots of jobs to fill! It is sure to be a great time!

If you are unable to commit time that week, please consider donating supplies and materials that are needed, as well as possible decorations (tents, Christmas trees, etc.). There will be a list to sign up on the bulletin board outside of the nursery, and please keep watching for updates! Forms to sign up for VBS are located outside of Pastor fester's office. Sign up your kids, grandkids, neighbors, friends, and even your neighbor's friends!

If you are interested in helping in any way, or if you have any questions, please contact Erika Hartmann at 402-6042, or Rev. fester Coffee-Prose at the church.

Servers for the Month of June

	June 7	June 14	June 21	June 28
9:30 Sanctuary Service				
Elder: North	Kris King	Bessie Bishop	Chuck Walker	Tom Rainbolt
Elder: South	Bessie Bishop	Chuck Walker	Tom Rainbolt	Kris King
Worship Leader	Roger Harbert	Tessa Johnson	Sandy Beiser	David Haining
Song Leader	Rich Recor	Bill Kehl	Connie Davis	Gerre Tjardes
Sound Operator	Caitlin Berg	Bruce Waldo	Janice Billings	Gary Ikenouye
Van Driver	Miguel Ramirez	Gary Ikenouye	Paul Warntz	Fred Tjardes
Diaconate	Bill Crawford ▲	David Miller ■	Bill Crawford ☼	David Miller
	Marie Caster	Chris Hartmann ▲	Marie Caster ▲	Chris Hartmann ■
Please have communion	Connie Harbert ☼	Erika Hartmann ▲	Connie Harbert ■	Erika Hartmann ■
	Roger Harbert ☼	Carol Walker ☼	Roger Harbert ■	Carol Walker ▲
Ready by 10:00 a.m.	Margaret Crawford ▲	Carolyn Rainbolt ☼	Margaret Crawford ☼	Carolyn Rainbolt ▲
	Cambrie Bishop	Dana Bechler	Cambrie Bishop ▲	Dana Bechler ☼
	Shannon King ■	Susan Luecht ■	Shannon King	Susan Luecht
	Kelly Jensen ■	Jayne Hays	Kelly Jensen	Jayne Hays ☼
Greeters	Jim & Susan Luecht Ron & Charlotte Shetter Carl & Carolyn England	Evelyn Kehl Helen Stolte Darron & Debbie Berg	Rick & Janice Billings Norma Basey Marie Caster	Marilyn Lesser Kathleen Davis Betty Jensen
Coffee Hour Host	TBA	TBA	Heitmans	Harberts
Acolytes	Andrew Bishop Kane Shirley	Josh Bobbitt Emilee Wolsey	Scott Haining Daniel Recor	Cambrie Bishop Laurn W.
Preacher	Rev. Connie Harbert	Rev. Tim Bobbitt	Rev. Tim Bobbitt	Rev. Tim Bobbitt
Children's Church	Jodi Bobbitt	Michelle Gray	Connie Harbert	Lynne Waldo
Children's Moment	Jodi Bobbitt	Kris King	David Haining	Erika Hartmann

KEY: PREPARATION=☼ CLEAN UP SANCTUARY=▲ CLEAN UP COMMUNION=■

If you are unable to serve on your designated Sunday, please make arrangements for a replacement. Please notify your team leader and the church of any changes.