

First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
2230 13th Street
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First Christian Church
Greeley, Colorado

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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.

October 2008

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Global Ministries

“Partners in Christs' Service”

"In Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others." (Romans 12:5)

Last year, Gede Suarna was one of about 30 community leaders from Asia and Africa who participated in a 10-month program in organic agriculture and community organizing through the Asian Rural Institute (ARI) in Japan. Since graduating, Gede has returned to his home in far west Bali, Indonesia. He works with his wife at Maha Boga Marga (MBM), the outreach arm of The Protestant Christian Church in Bali (GKPB). MBM helps to put into action Jesus' commandments to feed the poor, heal the sick, and take care of the needy.

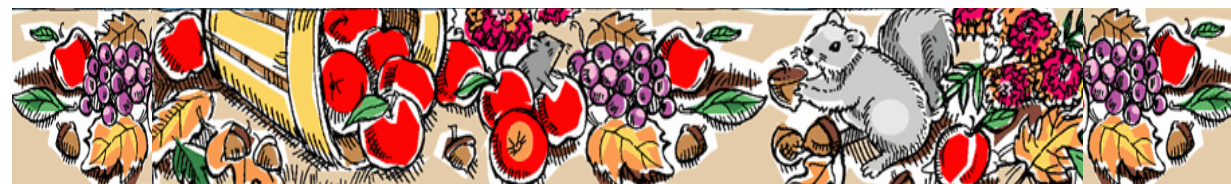
The MBM office houses a bank that makes small loans, most under \$100, to family businesses. A small loan may be granted for something as simple as a sewing machine so that a mother may begin a small business from her own home. MBM gives group training and helps monitor the success of each person. Currently some 1,000 are being served this way, regardless of their faith.

Gede is also a veterinarian, and after MBM office hours he grabs his bag of tools and makes visits to the patients who need him. At one village farm he treated a sick cow. At the same time, he showed the farmer how to produce organic fertilizer by mixing the cow manure with coconut shells and rice husks, sharing some of the agricultural practices he learned at the Asian Rural Institute.

Gede is also leading a group of farmers on a project to build a pit for pig manure. Many kitchens use kerosene or propane for cooking, but the world demand for oil has caused these fuels to become much more expensive. Pig manure is a practical alternative, close under foot, and a simple answer for cooking needs.

As workers and farmers face new challenges, the church must also change and respond. Partnerships between churches and other organizations equip people like Gede Suarna for ministry, and remind us that we do not engage in ministry alone, but as one Body of Christ that reaches around the world.

*The Protestant Christian Church in Bali (GKPB) and the Asian Rural Institute (ARI)
in Japan are just two of the many partners of Global Ministries.*



A MOMENT WITH TIM

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God. Ephesians 2: 19

I give thanks that I was able to attend a Pastor's workshop in Chicago during the second week of September. I gathered with 350 other Disciple ministers from across the country. The speakers were informative, entertaining, and relevant. The worship was uplifting. The insights were helpful.

The most meaningful part of the experience, however, was the conversation and the fellowship. It was sharing with longtime friends and forming new friendships. It was often in those moments away from the main activities where I found nourishment. I was reminded of the moments I first realized that God was calling me into ministry. I was reminded of excitement and fear, and asking, "Can God really be calling me to this life?" I shared with others who had similar experiences to my own.

This is often true in the church. Worship, Bible Study, and meetings are important parts of our life as a church. And yet sometimes, it is the conversation in the hallway, before the meeting, or at the Saturday evening fellowship event which is the most meaningful part of our day. God works in so many ways.

I encourage you to keep your eyes and ears open. Take time to remember the excitement of the beginning of your walk of faith. Take time to get to know the other members of our faith community. You might just find that God is using them to speak to you. I look forward to seeing you in worship and in the hallway too.

Bendiciones (Blessings),

Tim



FROM OUR DISCIPLES FAMILY...

Before our regional church begins a search for our next regional minister, the Central Rocky Mountain Region's board has appointed a diverse Visioning Team to discern the strengths, hopes, and dreams of our region (Disciples churches throughout Colorado, Wyoming, and Utah). *Our own Kayla Coffee-Prose is part of this team.* Former General Minister and President Dick Hamm will lead the process. You are invited to attend a retreat November 14-15 to review the work of the Visioning Team and to share your own hopes and dreams for the Central Rocky Mountain Region. Times and a location will be announced soon.

Want to learn more about the Disciples? Check out the following Web sites: disciples.org; disciplesworld.com; discipleshistory.org.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

HOW MUCH IS THE RIGHT AMOUNT?

Giving is a personal decision but I would share with you my giving has increased every year for many years. It is a challenge for young families because they are concerned about education costs, weddings, illnesses and all the daily expenses of earning a living and maintaining a home. As I matured in earning capacity, giving was not as much of a concern. As I think about retirement, the concerns are about medical costs and the ever-increasing cost of food and energy. Many people can identify with these concerns of giving for the young and for the retired.

So, as we all consider our personal circumstances of income and expenses and the station in our lives, how much giving is the right amount?

- A portion that makes one feel good about what is being done to help others through the support of the FCC Ministries.

- An amount you believe would be pleasing to our Heavenly Father.

Please consider prayerfully your commitment to support the FCC ministries for 2009.

Bill Kehl, Stewardship Chair

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Oct. 19—Planning for Ministries Meeting with light lunch.

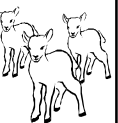
Oct. 26—Dedication of 2009 Commitments

Watch for your favorite burritos and award-winning casseroles at the Fall Bazaar!



NEW MEMBER

Judi Ring became a member of our fellowship on Sunday, September 7th. Welcome, Judi!



FCC PRESCHOOL NEWS

A new school year has begun and the FCC Preschool is now in full swing. The children are busy playing with their friends, learning how to follow directions and how to share, reviewing numbers, colors, letters and sounds, and singing their favorite songs. The staff and children are excited to be back in school and this looks to be a promising year for the preschool!

We are looking for volunteers to assist in the classrooms or to supply snacks for our children. Please speak with Courtney Landon or Pastor Tim if you are able to help out in either of these ways.



WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP

The ever popular Wednesday Night Fellowship began again on September 24th and will run for seven weeks. We gather at 5:30 for a meal, spend time worshipping together, and participate in different break-out groups. Even if you have not been able to join us yet, please come and share in this wonderful time of fellowship and faith building.

BURLINGTON FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH 100th ANNIVERSARY

You are invited to join the 100th anniversary celebration at First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Burlington, Colo. It will be held Nov. 15th and 16th. For more information, see the bulletin board across from Pastor Tim's office.

October




1 Patty Endres	9 Brandie Meisner	18 Riley Schneider
2 Evie Kehl	10 Norma Basey	19 Lauren Sinnwell
2 Veronica Thomas	14 Clarence Clark	20 Chris Hartmann
4 Tom Miller	14 Don Fry	21 Ian Galindo
7 Randy Bishop	14 David King	24 Josh Veik
9 Sue Benton	18 Kris King	25 Taylor White
		29 Chris Coon

OCTOBER L.A.F.F. ACTIVITY

The Life After Fifty-Five Group will travel by bus to the **Greeley Energy Facility** on Thursday, October 16. This is a plant powered by natural gas using two jet engines and a steam turbine. We will learn how the facility works and then tour the area. The tour will include some walking on stairs and grated floors. Please wear closed shoes.

Following our tour, we'll have lunch together at a restaurant to be announced later.

Please sign up on the sheet in the main hall and plan to meet at the church at 10:15 a.m.

RECONCILIATION OFFERING

The table is a central image to our understanding of ourselves as Disciples. The table is the place where we are drawn together as invited guests. The table is a place of invitation, conversation, and transformation. It is where we are called to become the gift of reconciliation!

Your gift to the Reconciliation Ministry of the Christian Church (DOC) will empower others to come to the table and become the gift of reconciliation.

2008 Reconciliation Special Offering
September 28 and October 5

Church BAZAAR NEWS

Have you marked your calendar for the **Holiday Happenings Bazaar**? The Bazaar will open at 4:00 p.m. on Friday evening, October 3. We will have a Soup Supper (chili or chicken noodle soup) from 5:30 to 7:00. You will want to come early to get good choices of our merchandise!! The Bazaar will continue on Saturday, Oct. 4, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

We will start setting up on Monday, Sept. 29, so if you have items for us to sell, please bring them to the church by the 29th. Sign-up sheets are filling up nicely, but there is still room for your name! The sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board just north of Fellowship Hall. Thanks for all you do!

Special Guest Preacher

On Sunday, October 19, Interim Regional Minister Ralph Datema will preach at both our 8:15 and 10:30 services. He will also lead a combined adult Sunday school class in the parlor. Following our 10:30 service, we will have a light lunch and discuss our ministry plans for the 2009 year. A proposed plan for mission and ministry will be presented at that meeting.

Servers for the Month of October

	October 5	October 12	October 19	October 26
8:15 Chapel Service				
Elder	Tessa Johnson	Patty Endres	Julie Hoskins	Rick Billings
Deacon	Ronell Heitman	Deb Richardson	Ronell Heitman	Deb Richardson
Worship Leader	David Haining	Tessa Johnson	Mark Weiler	Carol Smith
Song Leader	Caren Renee Haining	Tessa Johnson	Gretchen Howland	Tessa Johnson
Pianist	Chris Coon	Gretchen Howland	Nancy Kurtz	Nita White
10:30 Sanctuary Service				
Elder: North	Julie Hoskins	Rick Billings	Tessa Johnson	Patty Endres
Elder: South	Rick Billings	Tessa Johnson	Patty Endres	Julie Hoskins
Deacons	Janean Beaman ■ Marie Caster ☼ Frank Cribelli Susan Cribelli Kathleen Davis ■ Carl England ▲ Phyllis Hansberry ☼ John Hartmann ▲	Cody Highley ▲ Kelly Jensen ▲ Brandie Meisner ☼ Steve Meisner ☼ Bill Moser ■ Sandy Moser ■ Von Prichard Verna Recor	Janean Beaman ▲ Marie Caster Frank Cribelli ☼ Susan Cribelli ☼ Kathleen Davis ▲ Carl England ■ Phyllis Hansberry John Hartmann ■	Cody Highley ■ Kelly Jensen ■ Brandie Meisner ▲ Steve Meisner ▲ Bill Moser Sandy Moser Von Prichard ☼ Verna Recor ☼
Worship Leader	Gerre Tjardes	David Haining	Jayne Hays	Vicki Sears
Song Leader	Rich Recor	Bill Kehl	Connie Davis	Gerre Tjardes
Sound Operator	Caitlin Berg	Janice Billings	Bruce Waldo	Gary Ikenouye
Van Driver	Bill Moser	Gary Ikenouye	Paul Warntz	Fred Tjardes
Greeters	Jim/Susan Luecht Ron/Charlotte Shetler Carl/Carolyn England	Evelyn Kehl Helen Stolte Bill/Margaret Crawford	Rick/Janice Billings Norma Basey Marie Caster	Harold/Marilyn Lesser Kathleen Davis Betty Jensen
Coffee Hour	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed
Acolytes	Andrew Bishop Kane Shirley	Josh Bobbitt Austin Bechler	Scott Haining Daniel Recor	Cambrie Bishop Lauryn Waldo
Children's Moment	fester Prose	Kris King	David Haining	Erika Hartmann
Children's Church	Michelle Gray	Jodi Bobbitt	David Haining	Volunteer Needed

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.



CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

CWF will meet on Thursday, October 2, at noon for a catered lunch, program, and devotion. The lunch cost is \$4. Please have your RSVP in by September 28. There is a sign-up sheet in the south hallway. A program entitled "Quilts and Scripture" will be given by Jeanne Wright, who will bring quilts from her collection and present a slide show. Janice Billings will give the devotion and Kindness Group is hostess.

The Women of the First Christian Churches of Loveland and Windsor have been invited to this meeting.

Please remember the All-Church Fall Bazaar on October 3rd and 4th.

The CWF Board will meet on Thursday, October 9th, at 9:30 a.m. in the Parlor.

Group meetings for October:

Kindness: October 23, 9:30 a.m.-Parlor

Peace: October 23, 1:30 p.m.-Parlor

Delilah: October 22, 6:30 p.m.-Parlor

Joy: October 14, 1:15 p.m.-Parlor



Tennison Center for Children

<i>Needs for Oct.</i>	Kleenex	Decaf. Flavored Teas
	Toilet Paper	Halloween Candy
	Cough Drops	Black & Orange
	Bar Soap	Construction Paper
	Deodorant-travel sz	Toothpaste (large)

How are We Doing?

Income 2008

Planned Year to Date = \$160,000.00

Actual as of 8/29/08 = \$159,951.53

Expenses 2008

Planned Year to Date = \$193,333.40

Actual as of 8/29/08 = \$185,421.10

ELDERS' MESSAGE

"STEWARDSHIP IS EVERYTHING I DO AFTER I SAY I BELIEVE!"

This quote (author unknown) is one of my favorite quotes about stewardship. It really does speak to the heart of what stewardship really is. What's the point in stewardship of any kind if you don't believe in God and that He has a plan for our lives? Conversely, if we not only believe there is a God, but that He loves us unconditionally and died for us, then stewardship is inevitable!

Like stewardship, evangelism is really not an option if we are Christians. If I say I believe in Christ but never say or do anything to reveal that truth and share it with others, one must question the depth of my beliefs. The Elders have been studying a book about evangelism this year that acknowledges that evangelism is difficult for most Christians – not because we don't want to do it, but because we don't think we can do it well, or that it is something it is not.

I would like to propose that stewardship and evangelism are interrelated and not too difficult if we think about it. If we make knowing and loving God our highest priority, we will automatically radiate His love, thus attracting others to Christ (evangelism), and all of our decisions and actions will be influenced by His truths and will be done to benefit the world in which we live (stewardship).

Jodi Hartmann, Elder



CHRISTIAN MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The FCC Christian Men's Fellowship will hold it's regular meeting on October 11 from 7:30-8:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. All men of any age are invited to join us for breakfast, fellowship and a program. Our program will be on the Hospice organization – understanding what the organization is about, how we might be involved with it at some point, and how we might be able to help support the organization. Make sure to invite a friend!

Greetings,



What an exciting month September has been: We have been starting to meet at our new time, 4:30-6:00. While we are still adjusting to this change, no one has come in at 5:30, so I think most of you got the message. We have also begun the re-visioning of the youth space in the basement. In the last month our youth lounge has taken shape and so have our two classrooms. We will continue to make some changes in coming weeks. I really feel like this is going to open up so many opportunities, not only for fellowship, but more importantly, for learning and growth. Having a place that the youth can call their own is so important, and now all of our Chi-Rho and CYF events, including Sunday School and Youth groups, can happen in the same general area, adding to their ownership of the space.

As we press on through the year, October is sure to be just as exciting, as we begin to use this "new" space.

Here is what is going on this month:

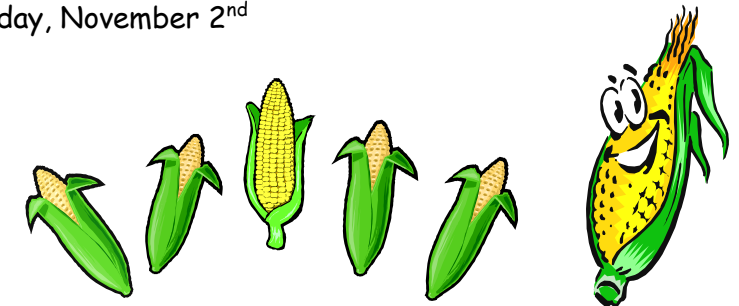
Youth groups will meet each week in October from 4:30-6:00.

There will be one week when we join with Loveland and Fort Collins to go to the Corn Maze. We are still scheduling this event and it will take the place of our normal youth group meeting for that week. Lets all pray that the weather allows us to go this year.

Remember, CYF, that your fall retreat forms are due October 5th.

We will leave for CYF Retreat at 4:30 on Friday, October 31st. We should be back to the church by 2:00 on Sunday, November 2nd

See you all on Sunday,



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