

Youth News

As you are reading this, we are either getting ready for camp, or we are already at camp! Either way, we are excited and thankful that we are returning to camp after missing out on last year because of the pandemic. FCC has campers and staff volunteers at the CYF and JR camps, which are June 13-19, and at the Chi Rho camp, which is June 20-26. Please keep our campers and adult volunteers in your prayers this month. Pray for safe travels and meaningful experiences, and say a prayer of thanks that we have the chance this summer to worship, learn, grow, and praise together! We will tell you all about our camp experience when we get back.

See you then!

-Todd

Disciple Drivers Needed!

If you are available to drive a fellow disciple to church on Sunday morning, please contact the church office. If you need a ride, be sure to let the office know. *For whenever two or more of you are gathered in a car, there is love.*

Thank You!

Thanks to everyone who pitched in to help on the 1st of May at the church. We got a lot of outside cleanup done, with weeding, hedge and tree trimming, painting, and more. We also had some good fellowship, catching up with each other over coffee and donuts. This volunteer cleanup day was a great success.—*Carl England*

A big thank you to Rich Recor, Gary Ikenouye, and Garry Hadley for always being willing & available, usually on the spur of the moment, for specialized work and minor crises. From solving router troubles, to replenishing the paper towel supply, to prepping the baptistery, to so much more, these folks have saved the day for us.—*Staff*



Message from Mark

“By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down, yes we wept, when we remembered Zion”

Psalm 137 : 1

Israel spent 59 years held in captivity by the Babylonians— from 597 BC to 538 BC. Everything they knew as normal was taken away. Their world was turned upside down. When Israel went home, they were changed and so was home. There were those who wanted things as they were told things once were. Their place of worship had been destroyed. The first task was to figure out how to rebuild it. Life would never be the same.

For nearly 16 months, our world has been shaken in ways we could have never imagined. We too are now finding our way back home. Our church building has held steady, even for those six months where we rarely used anything! It appears that we will begin the process of returning to life inside our building. We have certainly witnessed how our ministries continued even without our usual weekly presence. Our church community did not just survive Covid 19, we thrived! That is not to say there has not been a lot of pain, grief, loss, stress, confusion, and frustrations, but the people of God have always found ways to move forward. With God’s help, we will continue not just to survive, but to thrive in our changed world.

Love,
Mark

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
2230 13th Street
Greeley, CO 80631

First Christian Church Greeley (Disciples of Christ) holds Sunday worship services in the sanctuary at 9:30 am. Child care is provided during the service. Masks, social distancing, and limited seating protocols are observed. Service reservations are invited but not required. Find more information and worship videos at www.fccgreeley.com

Contact Us

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Congratulations!

Sarah Beiser was baptized in the sanctuary on May 9th, 2021, supported by her grandmother, Sandy Beiser; parents, Eric & Dora Beiser; and family. Welcome and congratula-



Book Club

The Evening Book Club is closing out the 2020-21 season reading *Miss Benson's Beetle* by Rachel Joyce. They will meet via Zoom on Monday, June 7, at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the novel.

FCC Financial Update

(as of 4/30/2021)

Income Year to Date:
\$83281.24

Expenses Year to Date:
\$74344.72

Join Us at the Fountain After Sunday Service!

Beginning Sunday May 30, our Fellowship Ministry Team will host a time for refreshments and fellowship after worship. Please join us outside around the fountain as we once again gather in friendship and fellowship!

June Birthdays

- 1 Rich Stossel
- 6 Amy Haining
- 9 Carla Ikenouye
- 9 Marla Johnson
- 9 Karen Markus
- 9 Cindy McDowell
- 15 Stuart Murphy
- 17 Connie Davis
- 17 Billy Gallegos
- 18 Vivian Nickle
- 23 Willa Betz
- 30 Rich Recor



Elder's Message

Bill Rusher

It has been 15 months since March 2020, when the First Christian Church of Greeley was forced by the corona virus pandemic to shut down any in-person services. I am remembering how we have gone through a dreary dark time and now we are able to enjoy the bright warmth of summer.

The temptation for me, and for us as a congregation, is to think "Whew, we are done with that bug!" The reality is NO, we are not. We may not have to fear the virus as much because we've learned a lot in the past year and with the vaccines, we may have turned the corner. But the virus is still out there, and because of the variants, in some places, cases are surging, not receding. Europe and India are suffering from new waves of infection when they thought they had defeated the virus in the first wave. The lesson for us is that we still need to be prudent and while practicing our faith, we have to reopen our services in a responsible manner that protects each other.

So we are starting here in June with one indoor service, still observing social distancing and masks. We will still take communion together using the individual wafers and cups. But what is new is that the indoor service will be followed by an outside fellowship time around the fountain where coffee, tea, and cookies are available. It is felt that with these steps we are beginning to prepare for a return to traditional services this fall in a safe manner while still reconnecting with each other. Of course, these plans may have to change, contingent on if cases increase or decrease, which would mean a tightening or loosening of restrictions.

I believe that we have been given this opportunity to re-evaluate our services, traditions, and missions as disciples, in order to be more effective as the hands and feet of Christ in all of our communities. We can serve better by being more accessible to all people, daring to be vulnerable if needed while serving others, and showing compassion to everyone.

Mission Matters

"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

Baby Bottle Campaign – May 9-June 20

Baby bottles are still available at church for collecting your spare change for our annual Baby Bottle Campaign. The campaign will run through Fathers' Day. This year, we are supporting a Week of Compassion food security project in Guatemala to help improve child nutrition. If you prefer sending a check, please write it to FCC with "Baby Bottle" in the memo line.



2021 Habitat Faith Build – June 19

Our build day for the 2021 Habitat for Humanity Faith Build will be Saturday, June 19, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Mission Springs Lane in Evans. We will be providing our own lunch. Lots of hands will be needed, so please sign up soon to either build or help with lunch. Builders **must** register by following [this link](#). All volunteers should register as a **new** First Christian Church volunteer, sign the electronic waiver, and then sign up on June 19 (Koroso Home is okay.) Talk to Carla Ikenouye if you have questions about the build or about signing up.



World Refugee Day – June 20

World Refugee Day was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 2001. This year, Disciples Home Missions (DHM) has also declared June 20 "Refugee Welcome Sunday." Our church will be providing Refugee Hospitality Kits to the Immigrant and Refugee Center of Northern Colorado (IRCNOCO). **If you would like to contribute items to the kitchen and bath kits, contact Carla Ikenouye.** IRCNOCO will celebrate World Refugee Day at Delta Park (East of Hwy 85 on 24th St.) on Sunday, June 20, from 12-2:00 p.m. The community is invited to enjoy food, speakers, and music from various cultures/artists.



FCC Blood Drive – June 26

Did you know one blood donation could save three lives? FCC will host our summer UHealth blood drive on Saturday, June 26, from 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. in our east parking lot. You must wait 14 days after receiving a COVID-19 vaccination to donate blood. You can [sign up online](#) and visit the [UHealth website for more information](#).



Special Offering

Right Here, Right Now Benevolence Fund – June 6

All \$1 bills and checks written to FCC with "RN/RH" in the memo line go toward meeting immediate needs within our church family or community.

Serve Day 2020 – July 10

On Saturday, July 10, thousands of Christians around the world will share God's love through serving others. Like last year, we will organize our own Serve Day observance. Look for sign-up sheets for various projects in our community as we get closer to the event. If you have a project you would like help with, contact the church office or Carla Ikenouye, and we will match you with a willing servant!