

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



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The Christian Caller

Monthly Publication of
First Christian Church
Greeley, Colorado

970/352-1292
www.fccgreeley.com
Rev. Lynn Taylor, Interim Minister

First Christian Church—Called by
Christ's transforming grace and love
to share hope and life in community.

APRIL 2016



Search Committee

The Senior Pastor Search Committee has now met twice and is moving forward with our task. We met in March with Pastor Lynn and Interim Executive Regional Minister Dean Phelps to discuss this process.

There are 10 steps in this path, and you can track our progress on the poster hanging in the church. We will also keep you updated in the newsletter and with occasional reports during worship.

Our next step is to prepare a profile of the church for potential candidates to read. As a committee we ask that you remain patient; this entire process could take 18 months or longer. This is a big decision, which we do not take lightly, and that we want to make with God's guidance. We also ask for your prayers throughout the process.

Weld Food Bank Thanks

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your donation of \$571.52. The ability to reach 1 in 5 children struggling with hunger in our community is dependent upon the support of people like you. . . Across Weld County half of the students qualify for free or reduce priced school meals. . . We work throughout the year to provide food to hungry children and their families by means of our various direct services. Our Mobile Food Pantry delivers healthy foods such as meat, dairy, and produce to sites across the county.

. . . This is the impact of your support. Thank you for allowing us to. . . ensure children and their families don't go to bed hungry.
March 10, 2016



YOUTH SUNDAY

GOD
ME YOU THEM
RELATIONSHIPS
FRIENDS FAMILY
PASTORS ELDERS DEACONS
BROTHERS & SISTERS IN CHRIST
TEACHING PREACHING
FAITH BIBLE
SALVATION SANCTIFICATION
PRAISE ADORATION THANKSGIVING
LOVE JOY PEACE
WORSHIP



APRIL 17 ~ 10:30 AM

(1) From Lynn

Due to our publication timeline I'm writing this just after Palm Sunday but before Easter. Palm Sunday we had the joy of witnessing two of our young men, **Bradford Loschen** and **Jack Ring**, make their Good Confession of Faith. Their baptisms were part of our Easter Resurrection Celebration. As I watched them walk forward, I got a lump in my throat. Public faith decisions are defining moments where we see the anointing of God's presence. Hearts and minds are humbled and rejoice to see God's Holy Spirit at work. It is a profound blessing when it occurs in our midst.

(2) New after Easter sermon series – April 3 & 10

Breakthrough Prayer: Our deepest longing, our greatest discovery.

When a doctoral student at Princeton asked, "What is there left in the world for original dissertation research?" Albert Einstein replied, "Find out about prayer. Somebody must find out about prayer."

According to Gallup, more Americans will pray this week than will exercise, drive a car, have sex, or go to work. Nine out of 10 of us pray regularly. Three out four claim to pray every day. Go online and Google *prayer*. There is a staggering number of links that pop up.

Yet many who state that prayer is important admit to feeling guilty and unsatisfied with their prayer lives. It too often slips our mind. When we do pray, our mind wanders over a vast, unrelated landscape. Our attention span keeps getting shorter and our actual prayers briefer.

It has been said that "when it comes to prayer, we are all beginners."

If prayer is the point where God and humans stand together, then let's discover **Breakthrough Prayer** and see it not as a *got to* but get to exercise of faith.

This will be a good series to mention and invite your friends to.

(3) New Adult Sunday School Group begins April 3 – Resolving Relational Conflict

Conflict is a normal part of life if you interact with people. Opinions and actions often collide, yet many relationships are too important to walk away from.

Some issues are too big to ignore. Add a variety of intense emotions to the mix, and conflict can get very messy and painful. Unresolved conflict brings tragic results.

We'll turn to the Scriptures and explore the causes of conflict.

We'll work to recognize healthy boundaries that need to be present.

We'll discover tools we can use to repair frayed relationships.

We'll see that conflict doesn't need to ruin our lives. In fact, our response to Conflict can demonstrate the difference the Holy Spirit makes in the life of a Christian.

Join Pastor Lynn in the Chapel for this April-May group.

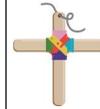
Please note: Lynn strongly recommends Ken Sande's book: Resolving Everyday Conflict.

Cost is \$10. Let the office know if you would like a copy.



Thank You

Ella Heitman and family would like to thank everyone who offered prayers and sent cards and well wishes while she was recovering from surgery. We feel blessed to have such a wonderful church family.



VBS Director(s) Needed

Help Wanted - Are you looking for a fun way to spend a week in early summer?

Do you like to share God's love with children and families who may not know Him?

Then we have the job for you! We need a Vacation Bible School director—or two people who would like to share the duties as co-directors. Please call Lynne Waldo at 970-302-8550 if you would like to learn more about this exciting opportunity.



Thank You to All Who Served



Thank you to all who served in FCC ministries throughout the Lenten and Easter seasons. Thank you for your gifts of time, talent, prayer, food, flowers, and candy. We have a very giving church!



RISE 2016 Gala in May

RISE will host their 2nd annual gala on May 20th at 6:00 PM at Cornerstone Community Church (1321 9th Ave. in Greeley). Attendees will enjoy delicious food, dessert, entertainment, and a live auction. Tickets are \$35 each. If you would like to purchase tickets or learn more about RISE, go to <http://www.r-i-s-e.org/index.html>.



Spring Feast 2016 in Colorado Springs

**First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
Central Rocky Mountain Regional Assembly**

May 13-14, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Location: First Christian Church of Colorado Springs

"On Earth as It Is in Heaven"

Keynote Speaker: Nadia Bolz-Weber

\$75



LAFF Group Breakfast

On Saturday, April 23, at 8:30 AM all are welcome to join the Life After Fifty-Five Group at *Butters* (2170 Unit B, 35th Ave.) in the Westlake Shopping Center. Please sign up by April 17th so we can give *Butters* a count.



Check Out the Website!

Check out our updated website at www.fccgreeley.com.

You will find a calendar of events, news articles, newsletter, and Lynn's weekly article. It even formats for reading on a smartphone! Also, we invite you to **Like** the FCCGreeley page on Facebook.



Youth Sunday April 17!



The FCC Youth will lead our worship on the third Sunday of April. We will have just one worship service that day— at 10:30 AM in the sanctuary.



FCC Book Clubs



The Monday Book Club is now reading the American classic *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee. This Pulitzer Prize-winning 1960 novel tells the story of race, class, justice, and the pain of growing up. They will meet Monday, April 4, at 6:00 PM in the church parlor for discussion. They plan to watch the movie as well, before tackling *Go Set a Watchman*, also by Lee, next month.

The Friday Book Club is also reading a Pulitzer Prize-winning novel: *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr. This story of the relationship between a blind French girl and a German boy takes place in France during World War II. Their next meeting will be Friday, April 8, at 10:00 AM in the church parlor.

 **Elder's Message** ~Carol Reynolds

I love the Easter Season and the beginning of spring—as the weather begins to warm; new life becomes apparent in the budding of trees and plants, and flowers begin to bloom. “Ever since God created the world, his invisible qualities, both his eternal power and his divine nature, have been clearly seen; they are perceived in the things that God has made . . .” Romans 1:20 (TEV)

Helen Steiner Rice portrays it beautifully in the following . . .

“The earth is the Lord’s and the fullness thereof--
It speaks of His greatness, it sings of His love,
I watch the night vanish as a new day is born,
and I hear the birds sing on the wings of the morn,
I see the dew glisten in crystal-like splendor
while God, with a touch that is gentle and tender,
wraps up the night and tucks it away and
hangs out the sun to herald a new day,
A day yet unblemished by what’s gone before,
a chance to begin and start over once more.”

Let us be keenly aware of all that God has done to bring the world into existence to allow us to enjoy His awesome creation! Thanks be to God now and forever!



Worship Team **Small Changes Can Have a Big Impact** 

As Lent and Easter have passed, we have made changes that can alter our lives forever. In prayer, we quietly live in God’s presence and heighten a time of faith, developing a relationship and connection with God. We have committed to remain focused and acquired a discipline that will bless our lives in many ways. Throughout the forty days following Easter, Jesus appeared many times, speaking to people and creating miracles. Let us focus on our many blessings as we continue our journey here at First Christian Church.

Sunday, April 3rd — Search Committee Commissioning Service

Sunday, April 17th — Youth Sunday—one service at 10:30 p.m.

Mondays - Acts Bible Study at 3:00 p.m.

Tuesdays - Men’s Breakfast Group at 8:30 a.m.

Thursdays - P.E.P. Walking group, Sanborn Park’s west parking lot at 9:00 a.m.

Book Clubs, Christian Women’s Fellowship Circles, L.A.F.F. Group, and Giggles & Grins Group

We appreciate the true abundance in our lives and continue to commit to making changes that will impact our lives and others as we spread the Good News. Help us offer care, concern and compassion that reflect the path of Jesus Christ.



- **Discovery Camp**
(completed grades 1-3)
June 23-25, 2016
- **Junior Camp**
(completed grades 3-5)
June 12-18, 2016
- **Chi Rho Camp**
(completed grades 6-8)
June 19-25, 2016
- **CYF Conference**
(completed grades 9-12)
June 12-18, 2016

Registration Forms & payment are due to FCC on April 10.

For online registration and all camp documents, go to http://www.cmrdoc.org/?page_id=4341

Monthly Participants	April 3	April 10	April 17	April 24
8:15 Chapel				
Elder	Ray White	Carl England	N/A	Tom Rainbolt
Diaconate	Jim Richardson	Jim Richardson	N/A	Jim Richardson
Worship Leader	Martie Miller	Jim Thomas	N/A	Sandy Beiser
Pianist	Jodi Hartmann	Gretchen Howland	N/A	Nita White
10:30 Sanctuary				
Elder	Ray White	Carl England	Darron Berg	Tom Rainbolt
Worship Leader	Nita White	LaVonne Rogakis	Youth Sunday	Lena Morris
Song Leader	Rich Recor	Judi Ring	Connie Davis	Gary Dobbins
Children’s Moment	Kris King	Jan Taylor	Youth Sunday	Diane Doyle
Sound Operator	Ken Thompson	David Haining	Caren Renee Haining	TBD
Slides	Bruce Waldo	Nita White	David Haining	Ken Thompson
Diaconate	Lynne Waldo ±	Lynne Waldo ■	Lynne Waldo ▸	Lynne Waldo ▲
Please have communion ready by 10:00 a.m.	Hazel Gibson ±	Hazel Gibson ■	Hazel Gibson ▸	Hazel Gibson ▲
	Kris King ▲	Tom Miller ±	Kris King ■	Tom Miller ▸
	David King ▲	Shirley Miller ±	David King ■	Shirley Miller ▸
	Ron Shetler ▸	Gary Ikenouye ▲	Ron Shetler ±	Ron Shetler ■
	Charlotte Shetler ▸	Carla Ikenouye ▲	Charlotte Shetler ±	Charlotte Shetler ■
	Alicia Loschen ■	Alicia Loschen ▸	Alicia Loschen ▲	Alicia Loschen ±
	Betty Lund ■	Betty Lund ▸	Betty Lund ▲	Betty Lund ±
Van Driver	Gary Ikenouye	Richard Stossel	Paul Warntz	Ray White
Greeters	The Shetlers The Englands The Millers	The Ray Whites The McMichaels Helen, Kathy Herman	Julie Hoskins Rhonda, Angelica White Carol Reynolds	Marilyn Lesser Diane Doyle Betty Jensen
Coffee Hour Host	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	FCC Youth	Volunteer Needed
Acolytes	Regan Ring Taylor Gray	Kevin King Bradford Loschen	Jack Ring Isaiah Gray	Angelica White Anthony White

Preparation ± Clean Up Sanctuary = ▲ Clean Up Communion ■ No Extra Tasks ▸ If unable, please find a substitute.

 **April Birthdays** 

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| 2 Sylvia Werbin | 13 Sue Sinnwell | 26 Charlotte Kidd |
| 11 Jodi Bobbitt | 19 Carroll Nickle | 27 LaVonne Rogakis |
| 11 Carl England | 21 Kathleen Davis | 29 Erika Hartmann |
| 12 Ed Boston | 23 Madysen Bruch | |

Address Change?
Please notify us in advance.

Colorado Rockies Faith Day
Sunday, August 7, 2:10 p.m.
Postgame Concert featuring
CROWDER
Go to www.rockies.com/faith day

Congregational Meeting in May

Mark your calendar for an All-Congregational Meeting after our 10:30 AM worship on **May 22nd**. We will review where we are to date with our finances and approve a budget for the remainder of the year.



A Note from Dean Phelps Interim Executive Regional Minister

Dear Partners in Ministry,

Recently I had the opportunity to research giving to Disciples Mission Fund by congregations in the U.S. and Canada. I discovered that in 2015, out of approximately 3,500 congregations, 50% of the regular giving to CMF came from just 200 churches. . .

. . . I was delighted and proud to see that First Christian Church [of Greeley] was one of those 200. I just returned from spending a day with more than 70 youth of the Central Rocky Mountain Region at MidWinter Retreat, and I can say without reservation that your participation is making a difference. . .

For the complete letter and a pie chart detailing the destination of Disciples Mission Funds, see the main bulletin board.



Aspen Club CarFit Event at FCC May 2

**11:00 AM to noon in Fellowship Hall:
Tips for Driving Wellness**

Therapists from Pro31 Safe Senior Driver will help mature drivers improve safety.

**Noon-3:00 in east parking lot:
CarFit Assessments**

Technicians evaluate steering wheels, headrests, seat belts, and more. Check-ups take 20 min.

Call 970-313-2796 to register
or talk with Phyllis Hansberry.



Dare to Dream!

A big thanks to 26 from our congregation who dedicated a Saturday to understanding some of the critical needs in Greeley and dreaming how First Christian Church in Greeley can be God's hands and feet in the community, helping to make a difference in people's lives. This day was led by Rick Morse from Hope Partnership, who is working with us to transform the work done on this day into our future story.

In the closing circle, the words *hope, excitement, refreshing* and *energizing* were just a few of the powerful words used to summarize the day. Look for more details on our future story over the coming weeks.

The group would like to thank Hazel Gibson and Colleen Heitman for their work in coordinating the food for the day.

~David Haining, General Board Chair



Reminder: Tennyson Center Dinner

The annual Northern Colorado dinner/dance will take place at **5:30 PM** on Saturday, **April 16th**, at the Embassy Suites in Loveland with motivational speaker Ian Humphrey.

Deadline to sign up was 3/26. Please contact Lynne Waldo at 302-8550 for more information.

Tennyson Center Thank You



Dear First Christian Church,
Without your gift of \$282.50 on March 8, 2016, we could not provide necessary services to kids who have survived abuse or neglect, or those who face mental health or developmental issues. Your generous support helps continue our vision of changing lives and giving hope to children and families. . .

Donors like you make it possible for us to help kids who often have nowhere else to go. . .

To learn how your gifts are hard at work, please visit our website, www.tennysoncenter.org.

Daughters' Dessert: May 3rd



All women and girls of any age are invited to the Daughters' Dessert. Watch for more information regarding this evening event. **If you plan to bring guests who are high school age or younger, please sign the lilac sheet on the bulletin board.** Include their names and ages. Please do this as early as possible; the deadline is Sunday, April 24th. Thank you!
~Diane



Christian Women's Fellowship

There will be a general CWF meeting on **April 7th**. The luncheon will start at noon and the program at 1:00 PM. Rev. Lena Morris will present an Easter devotional. Joy Group will host. Reservations for the lunch are due on April 3rd. Cost is \$5. The CWF Board will meet a week later than usual, on **April 21st** at 10:30 AM.

Joy Group—April 12th at 1:15 PM.

Kindness Group—April 28th at 9:30 AM.

Peace Group—April 28^h at 1:30 PM.

Daughters' Dessert—Tuesday, May 3rd—Reservations not needed, **except please see the sign-up sheet for guests high school age and younger.**



Automatic Giving

Do you find yourself getting ready to write a check to the church during the service, only to realize you forgot your checkbook? Or do you oftentimes forget to write a check? An automatic bill payment through your credit union or bank may be the answer to help both you and the church—it helps you in not having to remember, and helps the church in getting a more regular income flow.

Most credit unions and many banks have free automatic bill payment systems with which they will automatically pull an amount you specify each month and send a check to the church.

Check with your financial institution to see if this might be an option for you.



Garage Sale Set for May 14

7:00a-1:00p. Anything left at FCC for the next garage sale should be marked "Garage Sale." No mattresses or TVs.

You may leave items in the first Sunday School room on the north side of the hall (across from the nursery).

Yarn Needed for Afghans

Donations of yarn are needed by folks who crochet afghans for veterans at the VA Hospital in Cheyenne. Please contact Kathy Stossel at (303) 358-7852.

Financial Update (as of 2/29/16)

Budgeted Income: \$41,178.34

Actual Income: \$28,249.59

Budgeted Expense: \$41,170.46

Actual Expense: \$33,395.80

January Offering: \$15,045.59

January Expenses: \$17,564.59



"You're welcome to look on, but viewer discretion is advised."



April



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 9:30a Women's Prayer Breakfast
3 8:15a Chapel Service 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Sanctuary Service 4:30p Chi Rho & CYF Youth	4 3:00p Acts Bible Study 6:00p FCC Book Club	5 8:30a Men's Coffee Group	6	7 9:00a P.E.P. Walking Group Noon CWF Luncheon 1:00p CWF Program 6:30p Chancel Choir	8 10:00a FCC Book Club	9 8:30a Christian Men's Fellowship at Golden Corral
10 8:15a Chapel Service 10:30a Sanctuary Service 11:45a Elders' Meeting 4:30p Chi Rho & CYF Youth Camp Forms & Money Needed	11	12 8:30a Men's Coffee Group 1:15a CWF Joy Group 5:00p Worship Team 6:15p Ministries Cabinet	13	14 9:00a P.E.P. Walking Group 6:30p Chancel Choir	15 Newsletter Deadline	16 5:30p Tennyson Center Dinner
17 Youth Sunday <i>No Chapel Service</i> 10:30a Sanctuary Service 3:30a Guadalupe Shelter (Chi Rho, CYF)	18	19 8:30a Men's Coffee Group	20	21 9:00a P.E.P. Walking Group 10:30a CWF Board Mtg. 6:30p Chancel Choir	22 <i>Earth Day</i>	23 8:30a LAFF Group Breakfast at Butters
24 8:15a Chapel Service 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Sanctuary Service 4:30p Chi Rho & CYF Youth	25 3:00p Acts Bible Study	26 8:30a Men's Coffee Group	27	28 9:00a P.E.P. Walking Group 9:30a CWF Kindness Group 1:30p CWF Peace Group 6:30p Chancel Choir	29 <i>Arbor Day</i>	30

