



First Christian Church

Disciples of Christ • Greeley, Colorado

The Christian Caller Newsletter

July 2018

A Message from Mark



Dear Friends,

So I am approaching a birthday. Some years they blow by me with little notice. Other years I can't wait (perhaps the last "can't wait" was 65 and the red, white and blue card). This past week I met the most precious 3-year-old. His name was Milo. . .

"My name is Milo and I am 3. What's your name? How old are you?"

"Well, my name is Mark and in 17 days I will have my birthday and I will be 33 times as old as you."

"Will you have a cake with candles?"

I told him, "They have a ban on fireworks." He did not give up. Finally I told him, "Yes, I will have a cake with sparklers." That satisfied him.

Being your pastor is my greatest gift. I get to do ministry with a committed and adventurous community. Every week that I come here to be with you, my heart is blessed. I am a fortunate man. I still get to do exactly what I love to do—with people who make it special. I did not imagine that I would feel so alive and connected at 69. We begin Year 2 of your call to me this July. Together we are growing a church who cares for each other and God's world.

Love, Mark

Fall Feast—Join us at First Christian Church in Casper, Wyoming, for our Bi-Annual Regional Assembly!

"Putting Feet to our Faith" will be our theme this year. Keynote Speakers will be our current General Minister and President, Rev. Teresa "Terri" Hord Owens, and our Executive Regional Minister, Rev. Joan Bell-Haynes.

Friday, September 21 – Sunday, September 23, 2018, First Christian Church, 520 CY Ave, Casper, WY



Have a Joyous Independence Day!

Contact Us

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July Sermons

- 7/01 — Mark 5: 21-33
“Reach Out and Touch”
- 7/08 — Mark 6: 1-13
“Get Out and Get Going”
- 7/15 — Mark 6: 14-29
“When Illegitimate Power Is Threatened. . .”
- 7/22 — “Hands in Praise”
- 7/29 — Message from Judi Ring



Bereavements

We extend our deepest sympathies to the families of **Boyd William “Bill” Crawford**, **Raleigh Newby**, and **Dorothy Boston**.

Bill Crawford passed away on May 22. He is survived by his wife, Margaret, who lives in Meeker.

Raleigh Newby passed away on May 25.

Dorothy Boston passed away on June 17. Her service will take place here at the FCC June 27.

4th of July Parade Float

Sign up to ride on FCC’s float in the 4th of July Parade and help celebrate our 115th anniversary. We’ll sing praise songs and share our joy in God’s glory. We encourage you to wear red.

Ice Cream Social

All are invited to the LAFF Group’s annual Ice Cream Social at Tom and Shirley Miller’s home on Saturday evening, July 21st at 6:00 p.m. The Millers’ address is 4958 2nd Street in Greeley. Ice cream and toppings will be provided. If you have questions, you may call Phyllis Hansberry at 970-353-9566 or the Millers at 970-356-5335. Please bring cookies, brownies, etc. See the sign-up sheet.

Women’s Activities

The CWF Peace Group will meet for lunch at Kenny’s Steak House on Thursday, July 12, at 11:30.

The **next** Christian Women’s Fellowship lunch/program will take place Thursday, **Sept. 6th**, in Fellowship Hall at noon.

No Women’s Prayer Breakfast in July

Men: RC Jet Rally Re-Scheduled

The field trip originally scheduled for May has been moved to July 28. We’ll meet at the church for coffee and donuts at 8:00 AM, then carpool to the model airplane airfield east of Ault. It’s a jet planes only rally—some of the best imaginable. Talk with Sam!

FCC Fantasy Football League

Do you enjoy American football, a friendly banter, and possibly getting to know others in the church that you don’t know well? If so, then the FCC Fantasy Football League may be for you.

Fantasy Football has you “running” a team to go up against another owner in the league on a weekly basis to see who wins. The end of the season includes a playoff and Super Bowl to crown the champion. The league is all run through computers, so you will need to have access to a computer on a weekly basis. The winner will receive bragging rights! If you are interested or have questions, contact David Haining at 970-353-7613 or at church by July 15.

Annual Camping Trip

FCC’s camping group would like to let everyone know that we will have our annual Campout over Labor Day weekend. The date is set for August 30th to September 3rd and will be at Jack’s Gulch (up the Poudre River). Even if you are not a camper, we would like you to join us for a day of fun—hiking, card playing, and other campsite activities. Fishing spots lie a mile or two from our camp site. If Sunday the 2nd is your day of choice, we will have a tasty evening meal followed by a short Sunday get-together. So if you can, plan on some fun in the mountains with us. We would love to have you and your friends and family come. If you have any questions, please contact Charlotte Shetler or Shari Lueking.

The Bountiful Light of God

God is bountiful in His giving to us. He gives His gifts “from above” as an act of His grace. He never lets us down, even though we fail Him and are not worthy. We at First Christian Church understand His grace and know His light shines within us as we use it to lead the way.

This summer as you go about your business, share your light of God’s love with others, so they might know Him and receive that inner glow you carry. Let them know “the rewards of life and devotion to God and inner rapture, and the capacity to receive the light of God.” (Anonymous)

The General Board invites you to participate in all the events, activities and programs First Christian Church offers. Come and proclaim God’s love and light in all that we do in Jesus Christ’s name. Celebrate your bounty!

~Colleen Heitman, General Board Chair

Thank You from the Mission Team

Our heartfelt thanks to the many people who supported our Relay for Life team by walking with us, dedicating luminarias, or making donations. It was a chilly night, but we persevered! With your support, the FCC team led by Rich and Kathy Stossel raised \$1,400 to fight cancer!

Elder's Message ~Michelle Gray, Carol Reynolds

We recently came across this story and believe it is relevant for all of us at one time or another. Sometimes we become content in our life situations and at other times suffer incredible pain. But it is important to remember that God has a plan for us in all situations. Let's Grow!

"I was in Dollar Tree last night and there was a lady and two kids behind me in a long line. One was a big kid, one was a toddler. The bigger one had a package of glow sticks and the baby was screaming for them, so the Mom opened the pack and gave him one, which stopped his tears. He walked around with it, smiling, but then the bigger boy took it and the baby started screaming again.

"Just as the Mom was about to fuss at the older child, he bent the glow stick and handed it back to the baby. As we walked outside, the baby noticed that the stick was glowing and his brother said 'I had to break it so you could get the full effect from it.'

"I almost ran because I could hear God saying to me 'I had to break you to show you why I created you. You had to go through it so you could fulfill your purpose.' That little baby was happy just swinging the unbroken stick around in the air, because he didn't understand what it was created to do, which was to 'glow.' There are some people who are just 'being,' but some of us that God has chosen, we have to be 'broken.' We have to get sick. We go through divorce. We have special need babies. We lose jobs. We have to bury our spouse, parents, best friend, or our child because in those moments of desperation, God is breaking us. But when the breaking is done, we are able to see the reason we were created."

In addition to the above analogy, we want to add that Jesus had to be broken in order for God's grace to be available for all of us. And in Romans 8:28 we read, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." (NIV)

 **Help Us Make Connections** 
Please encourage visitors to fill out a visitor card.

Join the Prayer Chain
If you would like to be a link in FCC's prayer chain, contact the church office at 970-352-1292 or fccadmin@comcast.net.

Mission Matters

"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve." Mark 10:45

SERVE Day 2018

July 14

Saturday, July 14th, hundreds of volunteers from Greeley churches will be observing Serve Day, serving others in the community in Jesus' name. There will be a variety of projects to choose from. FCC is in charge of the group communion service prior to going out to serve. It will be an amazing day to bless others and to be blessed.

8:00 - 8:30 am Communion Service and Kick-off at Monfort Park (4800 w. 24th St.)

8:45 am - noon Work at Job Site

Noon - 2:00 pm Free Appreciation Lunch at Zoe's Cafe (715 10th St.)

Project sign-up sheets will be posted at church, or you can sign up online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080945aaab2fa2fd0-greeley>

As part of the **SERVE Day** event, worship band **Jesus Culture** will perform at the Budweiser Center on Friday, July 13, at 7:00 pm. Tickets are \$23.97 plus fees. (See Carla Ikenouye for a 10% off promo code.)

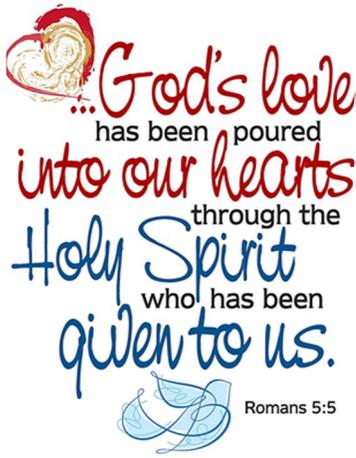
All volunteers are encouraged to wear green Serve Day t-shirts (\$4 per shirt). Talk to Carla Ikenouye if you have not yet requested one.

Habitat for Humanity Breakfast—July 26

Join table hosts Carla Ikenouye & Rich Recor at the Greeley/Weld Habitat for Humanity *Love in Action Breakfast*. This annual fundraiser is Thurs., July 26, from 6:45 am-8:00 am at Christ Community Church (1301 15th St., Greeley). Come learn more about Habitat's incredible work; Colorado Rockies' owner, Dick Monfort, will speak. Sign up now!

Opportunity to Help Guadalupe Center

UNC's Waste Not Program is seeking summer volunteers to pick up food from the UNC campus and deliver it to The Guadalupe Center. This program saves the center thousands of dollars in food costs. If you would like to volunteer to help, please contact UNC at wastenot@unco.edu or talk to Carla Ikenouye for details.



Summer Schedule

FCC's summer schedule has begun. Our worship service starts at 9:30 AM in the Sanctuary; outdoor worship is planned for July 15 and August 19.

Dead Sea Scrolls & Jerusalem 3D IMAX

Our August 11 trip to the Denver Museum of Nature & Science is approaching! We'll see the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibition, museum, and Jerusalem 3D IMAX show.

We'll leave together in the morning to arrive with time to visit the museum and have lunch before seeing the IMAX show at 1:00 p.m. and then the exhibition at 2:00 p.m.

Group tickets for all three events are \$25 for seniors (65 & older), \$30 for other adults, and \$22 for juniors (3-18). The sign-up sheet is on the board outside Fellowship Hall. Also, please indicate on the sign-up sheet if you'll be able to drive others to the museum.



July Birthdays

- 2 Mark Pumphrey
- 8 Diane Doyle
- 10 Joyce McMichael
- 18 Taylor Gray
- 19 Tom Rainbolt
- 21 George Hypes
- 22 Guin Skow
- 26 Emerson Skow

Greeley Stampede Rodeo

Those who reserved tickets for the July 2nd rodeo will enjoy an evening together beginning at 7:00 pm. Have fun!

Summer Fellowship Time

Want to help host Fellowship Time after worship without taking on the whole job? During the months of June, July, and August, you can sign up either to bring refreshments, or to serve and clean up, or both. Another way you can help is to bring cookies for the freezer. Any way you would like to help is appreciated!

Does FCC have your birthdate? Email fccadmin@comcast.net or call 970-352-1292.

FCC Financial Update

(as of 5/31/18)
 Income Year to Date: \$88,107.26
 Expenses YTD: \$94,848.29

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---------------------------|--------------------------|--|--|--------|--|
| JULY 2018 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 1 RHRN Offering | 7:00p Stampede Rodeo | 8:30a Float Decorating | Independence Day 8:00a Float Riders Gather for Parade | 9:00a P.E.P. Walkers 6:00p Book Study with Rev. Mark | | No Women's Prayer Breakfast |
| 8 9:30a Sanctuary Worship 10:30a Mission Mtg. 10:30a Fellowship Mtg. 11:00a Decorate for VBS 4:00p Pumphrey's Open House | 9 | 10 8:30a Men's Coffee | 11 | 12 9:00a P.E.P. Walkers 11:30a Peace Group Lunch at Kenny's 6:00p Book Study with Rev. Mark | 13 | 14 8:00a SERVE Day |
| 15 9:30a Outdoor Worship 3:00p Yoga, Meditation 3:30p Guadalupe Meal | 16 Newsletter Deadline | 17 8:30a Men's Coffee | 18 | 19 9:00a P.E.P. Walkers | 20 | 21 Noon Habitat Dedication 6:00p LAFF Group Ice Cream Social at the Millers' |
| 22 9:30a "Hands in Praise" Sanctuary Worship | 23 | 24 8:30a Men's Coffee | 25 | 26 6:45a Habitat Fundraiser at Christ Community 9:00a P.E.P. Walkers | 27 | 28 8:00a Men's Donuts and trip to Ault Jet Rally |
| 29 9:30a Sanctuary Service 10:30a Elders Mtg. | 30 | 31 8:30a Men's Coffee | | | | |

Bible School Date Change

FCC will be hosting VBS on **August 13-15** (Monday through Wednesday) from 5:30 p.m.-7:30.

Supper will be served to families and will be followed by multi-generational family activities. This is being planned by your five elementary Sunday School teachers for our members and their guests.

By now, you have figured out that we will need a lot of congregational help. Following are some ideas of how you might serve. There will be sign-up sheets on the hall bulletin board. Please be generous with your time to help make this successful. Thank you!

- ☞ Kitchen preparation and clean up
- ☞ Fellowship Hall set-up and take-down
- ☞ Registration
- ☞ Materials preparation
- ☞ Donation of requested supplies

Youth News

~Todd Loschen

Well, June and our church camps are about over. What a great time our youth and leaders had at camp, focusing on “Beyond Belief, the Universe of God.” The youth will be sharing their time at camp in July—I hope all can come! Thanks to everyone who donated snacks for all the camps. Thanks to the Brems, Evans, Rainbolt, Ring, Haining, and Golightly families for transportation to and from camp. Look for the upcoming, final Youth Group with pies in the face. You are all God’s Beloved Children.

Stewardship

~Bill Rusher

Stewardship - “The careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one’s care.”

Whew, we’ve made it to Summer, schools are on break, camps and vacations are happening, and everyone is catching their breath after a busy year. But the church mission continues, and we’re still tasked with the responsibilities given to Christ’s disciples. Let us continue to be diligent stewards who responsibly contribute our talents, our time and energy, and our financial support as much as we are able, in order to carry his message to the world—and be examples of worthy and loyal disciples.

I once heard a story about how a rich man in the village was complaining to Hillel the Elder*, a respected, wise man, of how the village people, especially the poor, were always coming to him to solve the village’s problems. Hillel reportedly said, “If not you, Who? And if not now, When?”

In researching Hillel the Elder to verify this story, what he really said was, “If I am not for myself, who will be for me? But if I am only for myself, who am I? If not now, when?” His “I” was referring to the unique person each of us are. There is only one unique “I” in the universe who has been entrusted to one human being: YOU, no one else can bring it into the world. So our unique responsibility is to benefit our world through service, and to continue to do it now.

*Hillel the Elder, one of the most important figures in Jewish History, was born in Babylon and lived from 10 BCE to 10 CE. He is associated with the development of the Mishnah and the Talmud.

| Participants | July 1 | July 8 | July 15 | July 22 | July 29 |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| 9:30 Sanctuary Worship | | | | | |
| Elder | Tom Rainbolt | Bob Corliss | Judi Ring | Carol R./Michelle G. | Lena Morris |
| Worship Leader | Gerre Tjardes | Jim Richardson | Gary Ikenouye | Nita White | Norma Piccone |
| Announcements | Lorilee Scott | Lorilee Scott | Lorilee Scott | Lorilee Scott | Lorilee Scott |
| Song Leader | Rich Recor | Judi Ring | Connie Davis | Gary Dobbins | Judi Ring |
| Children's Moment | Pastor Mark | Pastor Mark | Pyper Evans, Amy Haining | N/A | Judi Ring |
| Slides | Lorilee Scott | Darron Berg | David Haining | Ken Thompson | Lorilee Scott |
| Sound Operator | Sue Tjardes | Nita White | Caren Renee Haining | Sue Tjardes | Ken Thompson |
| Diaconate | TBD ± ▲ | Ron Creighton ± ▲ | TBD ■ | Ron Creighton ■ | TBD ± ▲ |
| Please have | TBD ± ▲ | Lorilee Scott ± ▲ | TBD ■ | Lorilee Scott ■ | TBD ± ▲ |
| communion | Bill Rusher ■ | Gary Ikenouye ■ | Bill Rusher ± ▲ | Gary Ikenouye ± ▲ | Bill Rusher ■ |
| ready by 10:00 am | Theresa Rusher ■ | Carla Ikenouye ■ | Theresa Rusher ± ▲ | Carla Ikenouye ± ▲ | Theresa Rusher ■ |
| Van Driver | Gary I./Ray White | Gary Ikenouye/Ray W. | Gary I./Ray White | Gary Ikenouye/Ray W. | Gary I./Ray White |
| Greeters | Ron & Charlotte Shetler Carl & Carolyn England Tom & Shirley Miller | Ray White The McMichaels Helen, Kathy Herman | Julie Hoskins Carol Reynolds | Marla Johnson Tom & Lynn Teixeira | Phyllis Hansberry LaVonne Rogakis Jan, Carol Williams |
| Coffee Hour Host | Volunteers Needed | Volunteers Needed | Volunteers Needed | Volunteers Needed | Volunteers Needed |
| Acolytes | Taylor Gray Isaiah Gray | Regan Ring | Jack Ring Michael Beiser | Annabelle Loschen | Bradford Loschen |

Preparation ± Clean Up Sanctuary ▲ Clean Up Communion ■ If unable, please find a substitute.

TIME VALUED MAIL

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