

Participants	January 6	January 13	January 20	January 27
8:15 Chapel				
Lead	Judi Ring	Pastor Mark	Pastor Mark	Pastor Mark
Communion	Judi Ring	Judi Ring	Judi Ring	Judi Ring
Offering	Judi Ring	Judi Ring	Judi Ring	Judi Ring
10:30 Sanctuary				
Elder	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Worship Leader	Gretchen Howland	Bill Rusher	Lon Sassman	Shari Lueking
Announcements	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Song Leader	Rich Recor	Judi Ring	Connie Davis	Gary Dobbins
Children's Moment	Pyper E., Amy H.	Judi Ring	Kris King	Judi Ring
Slides	Lorilee Scott	Darron Berg	David Haining	Ken Thompson
Sound Operator	Kris King	Nita White	Caren Renee Haining	Sue Tjardes
Diaconate Please have communion ready by 10:00 am	Alicia Loschen ± ▲	Ron Creighton ± ▲	Alicia Loschen ■	Ron Creighton ■
	Todd Loschen ± ▲	Lorilee Scott ± ▲	Todd Loschen ■	Lorilee Scott ■
	Bill Rusher ■	Bryan Mascola ■	Bill Rusher ± ▲	Bryan Mascola ■
	Theresa Rusher ■	Diana Peterson ■	Theresa Rusher ± ▲	Diana Peterson ■
Van Driver	Gary I./Ray White	Gary Ikenouye/Ray W.	Gary I./Ray White	Gary Ikenouye/Ray W.
Greeters	The Shetlers The Englands The Millers	Ray White The McMichaels The Hermans	Julie Hoskins Carol Reynolds	Marla Johnson The Teixeiras
Coffee Hour Host	Need Volunteer	Need Volunteer	Need Volunteer	Habitat Fundraiser
Acolytes	Taylor Gray Isaiah Gray	Regan Ring	Jack Ring	Annabelle Loschen

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



The Christian Caller Newsletter

January 2019

Message from Mark



Dear Friends,

Remember the Y2K scare??? That was 19 years ago. The futurists were both wrong and right about what these 20 years would bring. Organizations, including churches, used to have five-year plans. No longer is that possible. At best we need to know our core values and the context where we are living them out. This does not mean we have no sense of direction, rather it means we are continually listening and acting in a manner that we think pleases God and follows Jesus.

Very soon we will begin our third year together. This is going to be an important year for us to get a clearer sense of where we are going. Beginning on Wednesday, March 20th, for five Wednesdays we are going look at where we have been, where we are currently, and where we sense God's Spirit is leading us. I am arranging for five very fine speakers who will be sharing their insights with us. Following a Lenten soup meal for just one hour we will hear from one of them and then get input from all of you. These will be both informative and fun times. Next month I will share with you the specific details. FCC has a great opportunity to take some bold and faithful steps into a future that none of us could either imagine or predict.

I am committed in my time as your pastor to make this a truly significant chapter in your history. These five Wednesday nights are VERY important, so I hope we can all pull together and see what the Spirit has in store for us. Love,

Mark

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

*He has also set eternity in the
human heart; yet no one can
fathom what God has done from...*



ECCLESIASTES 3:11, New International

Contact Us

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
2230 13th Street, Greeley, CO 80631
Phone: 970.352.1292
Website: www.fccgreeley.com
Rev. Dr. Mark Pumphrey: 303.748.5385
Youth Director Todd Loschen: 970.397.9258
Email: fcctodd@comcast.net
Office: Susan Neeley
Email: fccadmin@comcast.net
Bookkeeper: Gary Ikenouye
Email: fccbookkeeper@comcast.net

January Sermons



- 1/06 — Matthew 2:1-12**
Guest Speaker: Judi Ring
- 1/13 — Luke 3:15-22**
“A Family Reunion”
- 1/20 — John 2:1-11**
“Please, Mom, I Would Rather Do It Myself”
- 1/27 — Luke 4:14-21**
“Worship—Anywhere, Anytime”

New Member



On December 16, 2018, we welcomed Kathi Duncan into membership at First Christian Church of Greeley. Give her a warm greeting!

Christian Women’s Fellowship

January dates for Christian Women’s Fellowship meetings are as follows:

- Jan. 5th—Prayer Breakfast** at 9:30 in the parlor
- Jan. 10th—CWF Board Meeting** at 9:45
- Jan. 15th—Joy Group**—1:15
- Jan. 24th—Kindness Group** at 9:30
- Jan. 24th—Peace Group** at 1:30

January 13th is **Blanket Sunday**, when we receive an offering for Church World Service. CWS responds to disasters around the world by providing blankets and tools. Offering envelopes will be inserted in the church bulletins.

February 10th is the annual CWF “**Bake Sale and Beyond.**” Proceeds fund a specific FCC project. Baked items, crafts, and items you no longer need that someone else could use are welcome (but don’t bring them until February).

An Epiphany-Filled Year

~ Colleen Heitman for the General Board

A new year—a new insight—an illuminating discovery. It’s an epiphany or time of celebration as Jesus was revealed and shown to the world. Wise men and shepherds traveled great distances as they saw the star in the east, and when they came and stood over the child, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. The mission of Jesus’ arrival on earth is one of peace and salvation for all people. It is up to each individual to choose the direction for his or her own life. God, by the leading of a star, showed His only Son to the people of the earth. And now we know by faith to live through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Arise, shine: for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. Isaiah 60:1

Thrill to this sign and rejoice for we have an abundance in our lives. Start your New Year with excited joy and a rebirth as you continue to build a relationship with Jesus Christ and follow His teachings in love and service.

And the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. 1 Timothy 1:14

Make your New Year a meaningful walk with Jesus Christ filled with good works, renewed with a new sense of purpose and a spirit overflowing with praise and gratitude. To His glory your life will be charged with delight and gladness.

Chapel Service Input Meeting

Following our 8:15 Chapel Worship on **January 13**, we will meet with all interested folks to talk about the future of the chapel service. 1. **Do we continue?** 2. **Is it working?** 3. **If we continue, how might we grow it?**

Book Clubs

The **Evening Book Club** is reading *The Twelve Clues of Christmas* by Rhys Bowen. The club will meet Monday, January 7, at 6:00 p.m. in the church parlor for discussion. The **Morning Book Club** is beginning the series *Threads West—An American Saga* by Reid Lance Rosenthal. They will read the first three books of the series in December, January and February. Their next meeting will be on Friday, January 11, at 10:00 a.m. in the parlor.

Youth News

~ Todd Loschen

Thank you to all our youth and volunteers and the amazing directors who put on a wonderful **Madrigal Feast!**

Thank you to all who help feed and cook and serve at the **Guadalupe Center**. Our Thanksgiving meal served another 65 people at the shelter. Thank you to all our youth and volunteers who made an amazing homemade lasagna dinner in December.

As last year, we will **not** have Youth Group over Christmas break or the Sunday of New Year’s. Hope all have a wonderful break.

Midwinter Retreat is coming upon us, and the forms are due Jan. 13th in my office with payment of half of the cost. If you are having concerns about payment, please text or call—we do have scholarship money to help. If anyone can drive some of our youth down to La Foret, please let me know if you can bring more back to the church. Thank you all so much for all your help with our youth.

“For unto us a Child is born. . . His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.” Isaiah 9:6

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Very Happy New Year!

Elder’s Message

~ Judi Ring

When I was growing up and had to leave the house for any reason, my parents didn’t tell me to “drive carefully” or “be safe,” but instead to “trust God.” To this day, when I leave my mother’s home she gives me a hug and tells me to “trust God.” I believe it all started with a sermon my dad gave; and while I don’t remember everything he said, the message is clear. . . When we trust God with everything, He will lead us where we need to be. If you look in the Bible, you can find literally dozens of verses on trust, but one of my favorites is Proverbs 3:5-6. . . “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.”

Acknowledge in this text means to know God personally and be in fellowship with him. We do this through prayer, reading, serving and gathering with his people. As we get closer to God and lean on **His** understanding, he will lead us where we need to be. This does not mean that everything will run smoothly in our lives (after all, we still have to live in this imperfect world), but he will direct us and give us the wisdom to make our path straight. Proverbs 3:8 tells us that God’s wisdom will “bring health to your body and nourishment to your bones.” As we start this new year, instead of making resolutions that we probably won’t keep, let’s “trust God” and see where he leads us.

Join the Prayer Chain

Please contact the First Christian Church office at 970-352-1292 or email fccadmin@comcast.net.

In Regard to Food Purchases...

Please remember to label the food you buy for FCC. And please check the fridge and cupboards before buying new supplies.



Mission Matters

“When we take your gifts to those who need them, they will break out into thanksgiving and praise to God for your help.”

2 Corinthians 9:11



Italian Dinner—Jan. 27

Plan on lunch from the FCC Cucina on Jan. 27 following the 10:30 worship service. Delicious Italian food will be served to raise money for the Habitat for Humanity Faith Build. We’ll enjoy entertainment provided by American folk singer Bob Barrick. The suggested donation is \$10. This is an event you won’t want to miss!

Cold Weather Shelter Meal—Feb. or Mar.

Our church will be providing another dinner at the Cold Weather Shelter sometime in February or March. If you are interested in helping prepare and/or serve a meal, please let Carla Ikenouye know.

La Puente Mission Trip—Mar. 8-11

La Puente serves the San Luis Valley by providing food, shelter, and advocacy for the homeless and community members in crisis. There will be a variety of projects volunteers can help with, including cooking and serving dinner, working at their food bank, playing with children in their child care program, and gardening in their year-round Grow Dome. We plan to drive down Friday, March 8, and work Saturday, Sunday, and Monday morning. We will then return after lunch on Monday. Tom Webster will be coordinating this mission trip. Look for a sign-up sheet.

Thank You from the Mission Team!

thanks

The Mission Team would like to thank the members of the congregation for your tremendous support of the mission work of our church throughout 2018. We truly were amazed by all the volunteer hours and donations you gave to the many causes lifted up by First Christian Church. Through your caring generosity, we are making a difference in our community and beyond by helping those in need. In December alone, we donated 126 books plus cash to Toys for Tots, baked 50 dozen cookies for the Habitat for Humanity Cookie Walk, fed 70 people at the Cold Weather Shelter, took treats for the teachers and a donation for spiral notebooks for the students at the Fred Tjardes School of Innovation, and filled several boxes with gloves, hats, scarves, socks and underwear for School District 6 school children. On top of that, we collected \$1,247.50 to send to the First Christian Church in Paradise, Calif., to help members who lost homes in the devastating fire. The Apostle James would be proud of all the Doers of the Word who worship at FCC Greeley!

Dear Friends at FCC,

Thank You!!! First for the gift to the Denver Center of Performing Arts. Mary Kay and I love going there. We will soon put it to use. Again, thanks for your very generous Christmas gift, it will go along with us on our trip this January, where I hope to use it to go snorkeling (how a vegan goes fishing). We are loving our time with you here and so appreciate everything you do.

Blessings,

Mark and Mary Kay



Thank You from FCC's Staff

Thank you for your many expressions of support during this holiday season. We appreciate all your thoughtful cards, gifts, treats, and words of encouragement. We thank God for a wonderful congregation.

Thank You from Fellowship

Your Fellowship Team extends a big thank you to everyone who helped provide hospitality and fun for church family, friends and visitors this past year. From hosting Fellowship Time after worship to furnishing food for special meals, to driving others to events (and much more), you made it possible for us to offer many opportunities for fellowship and friendship to grow. We look forward to another great year!

New Generations Get-Together

Anyone who is young at heart is invited to meet at Greeley's Poudre Trail Learning Center at 83rd Ave. & F St. in Greeley and catch some fresh air as we walk to the Eagle Viewing site (1 mile round trip) on Sunday, January 6th, 2019, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Families and children of all ages are welcome to join us on this fun outing. Afterwards, the group will meet at the east pavilion by the Learning Center for hot cocoa and snacks. Enjoy God's nature and church fellowship.

SIGN UP ON THE CHURCH BULLETIN BOARD OR CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE (970-352-1292) BY JANUARY 4TH.

If you have questions, contact Colleen Heitman at 970-590-2724.



January Birthdays

- 1 John Hartmann
- 4 Geneva Clark
- 12 Mary K. Pumphrey
- 15 Colleen Heitman
- 15 Copie Summerson
- 17 Bill Kehl
- 19 Sherrie Brems
- 19 Jim Luecht
- 19 Bayne Oletski
- 23 Michael Beiser
- 25 Ruth Schneider
- 28 Sue Campbell
- 31 Marilyn Lesser

FCC Financial Update

(as of 11/30/18)

Income Year to Date: \$201,633.45
Expenses YTD: \$209,846.54

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
January 2019		1 New Year's Day Church Office Closed	2	3 6:30p Chancel Choir	4	5 9:30a Women's Prayer Breakfast
6 RHRN Offering 8:15a Chapel Service 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Sanctuary Worship 2:00p New Generations at Poudre Trail	7 6:00p Book Club	8 8:30a Men's Coffee	9	10 9:45a CWF Board 5:15p Worship Team 6:30p Chancel Choir	11 10:00a Book Club 6:00p ECOY Retreat	12 ECOY Retreat
13 Blanket Sunday 8:15a Chapel Service 9:00a Chapel Meeting 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Sanctuary Worship Youth Retreat Forms Due	14	15 Newsletter Deadline 8:30a Men's Coffee 1:15p Joy Group 6:00p Gen. Board	16	17 6:30p Chancel Choir	18	19
20 8:15a Chapel 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Sanctuary Worship 3:30p Guadalupe Meal	21	22 8:30a Men's Coffee	23	24 9:30a Kindness Grp 1:30p Peace Group 6:30p Chancel Choir	25	26
27 8:15a Chapel Service 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Sanctuary Worship 11:30 Elders' Meeting Noon Fundraiser Meal	28	29 8:30a Men's Coffee	30	31 6:30p Chancel Choir		