



Message from Mark

“That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither—whatever they do prospers.” Psalm 1:3

Dear Friends,

Where are we planted? Are we trying to go life on our own—self-made, independent, “I know better” kinds of creatures? Or do we recognize that we need and depend on the source of all life and each other?

This past week Mary Kay and I spent time in Pagosa Springs basically just changing the scenery in our Covid life. We did not go to the hot springs or meander through the galleries. We always wore masks—(loving your neighbor as yourself) and took some lovely walks. We did view the comet—wow!!! On our way back home we drove by our old home of 11 years in Alamosa. In 1994 we planted five aspen trees. We moved in 1997 to Capitol Hill in Denver and the young trees were left to the care of someone else. I am pleased to report they are 30’ tall and a foot at the base. Aspen do well when planted together.

We need each other and the living waters of God’s spirit. As we gather for another two months at our wonderful fountain—listen to the water and be reminded that we belong to God.

Love,
Mark

★ Thank You to Our Church Property Specialists ★

We very much appreciate the time and talents so many have given to FCC in recent weeks—from installing signs, to troubleshooting leaks, thermostats, fans, scanners, copiers, Internet, sink stoppers and pilot lights. Special thanks to those who clean, who maintain the lawn, labyrinth, communion table & sprinkler system, and who buy fluorescent bulbs & the usual supplies. You know who you are. We thank the Lord for you!



Love Never Gives Up

Love never gives up.

Love cares more for others than for self.

Love doesn’t want what it doesn’t have.

Love doesn’t strut,

Doesn’t have a swelled head,

Doesn’t force itself on others,

Isn’t always “me first,”

Doesn’t fly off the handle,

Doesn’t keep score of the sins of others,

Doesn’t revel when others grovel,

Takes pleasure in the flowering of truth,

Puts up with anything,

Trusts God always,

Always looks for the best,

Never looks back,

But keeps going to the end.

From 1 Cor. 13, The Message

Contact Us

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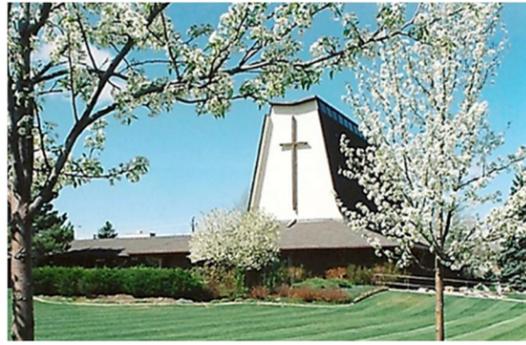


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(Disciples of Christ)
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Continuing Sunday Activities

8:00-10:00 AM **Sanctuary Music**

8:30 & 9:40 AM
Communion & Prayer at the Fountain

8:45 AM **Children's Time**

FCC continues to offer online worship, accessed on Facebook (www.facebook.com/fccgreeley) or our website (www.fccgreeley.com/sermons-events) on Sundays at 10 AM. All videos are available to watch at any time that is convenient for you. Email pictures or stories of where you experience God to ministry@fccgreeley.com.

Pastor Mark is at FCC on Sundays & Tuesdays

Colorado's Covid Guidelines

FCC's health protocols are based on current state guidelines for **places of worship**. Some of the **mandatory guidelines include:**

Indoors: Maximum 50% capacity or up to 50 people per room.

Outdoors: Groups from different households spaced at least 6 feet apart, up to local capacity levels.

Physical/Social Distancing: Entering and exiting buildings should include at least 6 feet physical distancing by party. A "party" includes members of a household who live together.

Seating: Arranged to maintain at least 6 feet of distance in every direction between individuals or parties.

Restrooms: One person at a time.

In addition, FCC follows many of the state's **"strongly recommended" guidelines**, such as mask usage inside and out, smaller groups & sanitizing.

Please schedule any meetings through the front office: (970) 352-1292 ~ fccadmin@comcast.net.

Bible Study Options

~ Judi Ring

I plan to start a Bible Study this fall at the church—Disciple I: Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study. The study includes daily reading for participants (about 30 min.) and a weekly meeting lasting about 2.5 hours. This is an intensive 34-week course that takes us through the entire Bible. There is a fast-track option that is a little less intensive, however, I would like to find out who is interested—then we can decide which route to go. We will meet in Fellowship Hall starting sometime in **September**. Due to continuing guidelines, we will wear masks, sit six feet apart, and limit it to 10 participants. At this point, I am just gauging interest before ordering materials. **If you are interested or have questions**, please contact me by August 9, then we will decide on a meeting time and a track to follow.

Elder's Message

~ Tom Webster

"Open" or "Closed"?

Several years ago I woke up early to attend a men's breakfast. I was excited about the opportunity to meet with the other men. I found a place to park and hurried to the restaurant.

Imagine my surprise when I discovered no one in sight and a sign saying, "CLOSED." I did not know what to do. I looked at my schedule and it said we were to meet at 8:00 a.m. on this day, and at this restaurant.

I went back to my car, puzzled by the situation. After a while I went back again to the door, as it was now about 20 minutes late. This time someone had flipped the sign over and now it said "OPEN." I went inside and found the men crowded into the back room.

I began to wonder if some men had come to the door, seen the "CLOSED" sign and left, never to return. Suddenly my mind's eye went to other doors, the doors of our churches, and I began to question what sign people see when they drive by churches right now. Do they see "CLOSED" or "OPEN" signs?

I believe right now more than ever people are looking for friendly faces, warm, loving atmospheres, and a place to belong and be accepted. I am not sure whose responsibility it was at the restaurant to turn the "CLOSED" sign over to say "OPEN," but in our churches it is everyone's responsibility to have the sign on their heart saying "OPEN."

Before we start meeting together again, we can use this time to check on what our sign says. If people see our "OPEN" signs, when this pandemic is over they will join us and together we will make a big impact on our community. I am excited about the wonderful things happening within our church. We have an exciting future together with God. Soon I will see you in church.

Remember! God loves you and so do I!



Want to Update Your Church Directory Photo?

Email the church office a **single photo** that shows **everyone in your household**. Please **squeeze together** in the photo, leaving plenty of space around the edges. Printed photos will be square, but we can work with what you send us as long as you are very close together and leave lots of space at the sides, top and bottom of the photo. **Photos taken inside** or else **outside on a cloudy day** would work best. Email your photo to fccadmin@comcast.net. Thank you!

Mission Matters

"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." John 1:5

Habitat for Humanity Faith Build

The ground for the 2020 Faith Build has been blessed and they are ready to begin building! Our workday is scheduled for August 29 starting at 8:00 a.m. Health safety precautions are being followed, so build teams will be small. If you feel this is something you would like to participate in, please contact Carla Ikenouye at 970-356-2121 or caikenouye@gmail.com or to sign up.



American Cancer Society Relay for Life

Due to COVID-19, the American Cancer Society is not able to host their annual Relay for Life as they have in the past, but a once-in-a-century pandemic will not stop the fight against cancer. First Christian Church has a team again this year, even though we won't be meeting for a relay event. If you would like to contribute to the fight against cancer, you can visit our church's Relay for Life [webpage](#) or write a check to FCC with *ACS Relay for Life* in the memo line.



Back to School Drive—August 2 - 16

Whether students will be learning in classrooms or online, they will need school supplies to get their new school year off to a good start. The Mission Team will be holding our annual Back-to-School Drive from Sunday, August 2, through Sunday, August 16. We will collect school supplies for our partner school, the Fred Tjardes School of Innovation, as well as the Teacher's Closet at District 6. The Fred Tjardes school appreciates art supplies in particular, such as 24-count crayons, 12-count colored pencils, markers, glue sticks, and construction paper. The Teacher's Closet helps students all across the school district and especially needs #2 wooden pencils, pens, scissors, spiral notebooks (wide and college-ruled), dry-erase markers, sharpies, pocket folders, glue, and rulers. Please place your donated items in the school bus box inside the main doors going to the sanctuary (by the fountain). Thank you for your donations to school children in our community!



North Range Behavioral Health Offers Extra Support During Pandemic

North Range Behavioral Health provides mental health services for all ages in all circumstances. They work with third-party insurance, Medicaid, and Medicare, and will create payment plans if needed. In addition to their regular, comprehensive services, they now offer the following to help people cope during this challenging time:



Coffee with a Counselor – Free Facebook Live conversations with various clinicians occur two times per week: Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. and Fridays at 2:30 p.m. Find live and past conversations at www.facebook.com/nrbhweld.

North Range Warm Line – Free phone line created for anyone who is experiencing anxiety, feeling isolated, going "stir crazy," or having any other disquieting feelings during this time. Call 970-347-2359 between 10:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m.

North Range Cares – Three free therapy sessions to nursing home staff or residents and District 6 and JBS employees; two free sessions to anyone in Weld who has been impacted by COVID-19 in any way (economic hardship, illness, isolation, etc.).

My Resilience – Self-help web support system designed to help individuals deal with the challenges faced due to the COVID-19 pandemic: <https://resilience.vast.uccs.edu/>.

For more information about the mental health support offered by NRBH, visit their website at <https://northrange.org/>.



Notes from Sandy



August is back-to-school month. Even though we may not know exactly what that will look like, school will be happening again, one way or the other. August is also our month for youth Sunday. This focus on school and youth has me thinking about music in childhood. Do you have a favorite Sunday School or camp song? If you do, let us know by calling the church office or telling Sandy. Once you tell us what your favorite is, and why, we'll be sure it gets played during August. Mine is Heavenly Sunlight, because it sounds as happy as Heavenly Sunlight is. What's yours?

A Note from Norma

To My Church Family:

You are a gift to my life. I thank you for all the cards, notes, and phone calls while I have been "isolated." Hardly a day went by that I didn't get some kind of message. Each one a life saver.

I'm out of quarantine now and hope I can stay that way!

Norma Basey

Video Editing Skills?

Do you have gifts of editing video that you would be willing to share with FCC Greeley? We have a need for someone to join the technology team to assist on a volunteer basis as a backup for our online presence. If you have skills and interest, let's start a conversation.

Please contact David Haining at fcctech@fccgreeley.com.

August Birthdays

- 1 Viola Corliss
- 3 Paula Armstrong
- 5 Rodney Herman
- 9 David Haining
- 10 Isaiah Gray
- 10 Sandy Beiser
- 13 Ronell Heitman
- 15 Caren Renee Haining
- 27 Phyllis Hansberry
- 31 Sam McMichael

Have you shared your birthdate with FCC?

Congregation members are welcome to check out a hymnal to use during this pandemic for singing at home during our online services. Hymnals have been numbered, and a record of borrowers will be kept. They can be checked out on Sunday mornings in the narthex from 8 am to 10 am, or contact Susan in the church office.

FCC Financial Update (as of 6/30/2020) Income Year to Date: \$113,949.34 Expenses YTD: \$117,793.45

Youth Group News

Hello to all the wonderful youth here at Church. I hope your summer is going well and all of you are staying healthy and happy.

I am looking to do a Zoom meeting on August 12th at 4:00, so hopefully right before dinner. Then we can all decide when we can plan for future meetings.

As far as Youth Group goes, we will not meet as a group until all is safe. It would be too hard to maintain the 6-foot rule, have masks on, and try to play active games.

Remember, if any of you want to call and talk, or just tell me some great, clean jokes, I'm always up for that.

Blessings to everyone, and have a wonderful summer.

Another favorite Bible verse of mine is Psalm 62: 5-6

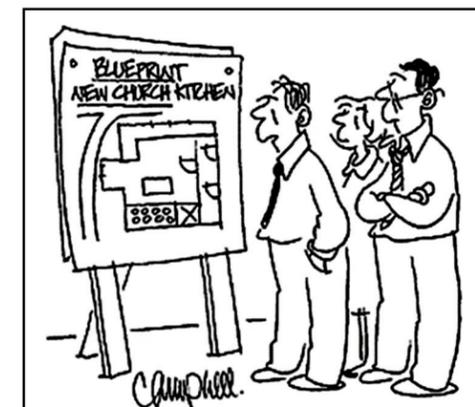
"Yes, my soul, find rest in God,
my hope comes from him.

Truly he is my rock and my salvation,
he is my fortress,
I will not be shaken."

Peace, Todd

Community Forum on Race

If you missed the July 15 Community Forum on Race, it was recorded & is posted on the <http://greeleygov.com> website. More webinars are planned & will be announced on the website.



Frankly, I think the drive-thru window defeats the purpose of the fellowship dinners.

FCC Received \$211.79 from the **King Soopers Community Rewards Program** from April 1—June 30. Fifteen households direct their donations to FCC through this program.