

Easter Breakfast

Join us Easter morning for a breakfast of delicious breakfast burritos plus assorted baked goods and fruit. We will begin serving at 8:30 a.m. after the special 8:00 a.m. service. If you would like to help prepare and/or serve the breakfast, please contact Marla Johnson. We encourage you to invite friends and family to enjoy food and fellowship as we begin our celebration of this holy day. There will be a free-will offering.

THRIVE Ministry Book Study

Join the Thrive team to study *It's Okay to Not be Okay: Moving Forward One Day at a Time* by Sheila Walsh. We will meet at 6:00 p.m. on April 27, May 4, and May 11 at the church. Individuals need to purchase their own books. Give payment to Alicia Loschen by April 10 to purchase as part of a bulk order (books \$12.39 each).



NEW Sunday Youth Service!

As we have entered the Lenten season and Easter approaches, I have been brainstorming on the meaning of Easter and what that means for the youth of the church. Easter is about the resurrection of Jesus Christ and can also be translated as the season of new birth. So, what does this mean for the youth of the church? It means new birth. The birth of an interactive Sunday Youth Sermon. The youth will be invited to join Caitlin and Todd in the Narthex before the Adult Service every Sunday. We will participate in the first part of the Adult Service, then move to the Chapel during the joys and concerns portion of the service.

The Youth Service will begin with Joys and Concerns, modeling our service on the Adult Service with a more youthful focus. The Goal of the Sunday Youth Service is to dive into the scriptures and learn about how they relate to the lives of the youth, and to grow the connections of the youth with each other as they begin to open up with themselves and their peers. The first Youth Sunday Service will be **April 14th**, during the Easter Sunday Service. We will be reading the Easter story and talking about how it relates to our lives today. We look forward to beginning this journey with all of the youth! -- *Caitlin & Todd, Youth Directors*



The Christian Caller Newsletter

April 2022

Message from Mark

“The Lord will restore the years the locusts have eaten.”

We are a “Restoration Movement” church. The Restoration Movement was born after the Revolutionary War on what was then the western frontier. These are key words for us today. “Restore” can mean two very different things. It can mean going back, trying to capture days gone by, or it mean to rebuild for the future. To be a movement is dynamic, adaptable, ever-changing, and yet focused on core values.

We are seeing some exciting energy returning to our church. We have been given, “by the spirit,” four core values that will guide us: COMMUNITY, COMPASSION, SERVICE, AND DISCIPLESHIP. We are BACK!!! This Holy Week can be a very exciting and encouraging time. Plan on being here as we continue on this great adventure with God.

Love, *Mark*

Message from Judi

You can be part of our “Stations of the Cross” Maundy Thursday Service on April 14! There will be a small table for each station; you provide other materials and display. Each station should take no more than 3-5 minutes for people to engage. We will have pre-recorded music playing throughout the sanctuary, so you won’t need music playing at your station. Stations need to be set up by 5:00pm on the 14th. To choose the station you would like to prepare, share ideas, get more information, or ask questions, please talk to Pastor Judi. There is also a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the education hallway.

Love, *Judi*

First Christian Church Greeley (Disciples of Christ) holds Sunday worship services in the sanctuary at 10: 00 am.

Child care is provided during the service.

Find more information at www.fccgreeley.com.



Contact Us

Rev. Dr. Mark Pumphrey: 303.748.5385
Judi Ring, Spiritual/Pastoral Care: 719.740.253
Todd Loschen, Youth: 970.397.9258
Dr. Sandra Varley, Piano/Organ: svarley@comcast.net
David Haining, Technology: fcctech@fccgreeley.com
Gary Ikenouye, Bookkeeper: fccbookkeeper@comcast.net
Admin Asst: 970.352.1292 fccadmin@comcast.net

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

TIME VALUED MAIL

Non Profit
Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Greeley, CO 80631
Permit No. 20

Christian Women's Fellowship

All women are invited to attend one of CWF's group, which meet on the 4th Thursday of each month. We have a morning group that meets at 9:30 a.m., an afternoon group that meets at 1:30 p.m., and an evening group that meets at 6:00 p.m. Come and bring a friend; all women are welcome. If you would like more information, contact LaVonne Rogakis or Sandy Beiser.

FCC Financial Update

(as of 2/28/2022)

Income Year to Date:
\$56,245

Expenses Year to Date:
\$42,072

Book Club

The Evening Book Club chose *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald as their annual classic novel. They will meet for discussion on Monday, April 2, at 6:00 p.m. in the church parlor. The Morning Book Club is currently on hiatus.

April Birthdays

2 Sylvia Werbin
6 Taylor Rainbolt
11 Carl England
13 Sue Sinnwell
22 Tessa Rainbolt
27 Jim Richardson
27 LaVonne Rogakis
29 Erika Hartmann

Palm Sunday service- 10:00 a.m. April 10
Maundy Thursday service- 6:00 p.m., April 14
Easter, April 17-

Early service, 8:00 a.m.
Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
Egg hunt, 9:30 a.m.
Late service, 10:00 a.m.



Elder's Message

—Colleen Heitman

A Season of Hope Through Christ

Lent is a season of spiritual preparation before Easter, a time to set aside reflection on Jesus Christ – to consider his suffering, his sacrifice, his life, death, burial, and resurrection. It is a time to reflect, gain deeper understanding, develop a closer relationship with God and strengthen your faith. Lent is an opportunity to contemplate what your Lord really did for you on the Cross. It is a time to listen to His leading.

In this Holy season, we have been challenged to draw closer to Christ in nature. The land we rest and stand on, the air we inhale and exhale – everything that powers our lives is because we have nature. This is what God has freely given us. These rich and vast blessings, that is, nature that surrounds us, tells us what kind of character we are as a person. “This is the Lord’s doing, it is marvelous in our eyes” (Psalms 118:23). Nature is perfect because God’s love is perfect. God speaks to us through nature. Nature is beyond priceless and ravishing. Through nature we can see with our own eyes the love and compassion God has for us. In nature, we are able to stand and nourish ourselves with never-ending resources that come free from the hands of God. For nature, always reminds us of our purpose that comes with our opportunity to witness the world’s magnificent beauty (Alyssa Castillo, 2021). Whether intimate walks in nature, viewing magnificent art, listening to delightful music, reading meaning passages or reflecting in overwhelming silence, God is speaking to you.

So, draw closer to God and prepare your hearts for the celebration of Easter; draw closer to Him; praise and worship His Son, Jesus Christ; read the Bible; walk in nature and view its beauty; pray often – these are the blessings that will cause joy and thanksgiving in this Season of Hope Through Christ.

Dear First Christian Church,

It is with gratitude that I thank all the many people who have supported Debbie and myself with my health struggles. Your cards, calls, and prayers have REALLY helped. I believe with God, Debbie, my family, Jan and Bobby, plus church family, I will get through this.

Blessings,

Jim Richardson

Mission Matters

“Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.”
Romans 13:10



Cold Weather Shelter Volunteer Day – Apr. 9

FCC will serve dinner at the Cold Weather Shelter on Saturday, April 9, from 6:45-8:00 p.m. If you would like to help, contact Carla Ikenouye. (Note: we will not be preparing dinner, only serving.)

Virtual Holocaust Memorial Observances of Greeley & Northern Colorado – April 24-29

Voices of the Holocaust, an annual week-long commemoration, will be held in-person and virtually from April 24–29. Planned events include film screenings, presentations, and a book discussion. There will also be an Interfaith Memorial Service on Sunday, April 24, at 7:00 p.m. at Beth Israel Congregation (625 Reservoir Road, Greeley) and a virtual Holocaust Survivor Presentation by Osi Sladek on Wednesday, April 27, time TBD. Visit their [Schedule](#) page for updated information and Zoom links



Help for Households from United Way

- **LEAP**
Colorado’s Low-income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP) helps Colorado families, individuals, older adults, and those with a disability by paying part of their winter home heating costs. **LEAP applications are accepted from November 1-April 30 only.** Find out more at www.UnitedWay-Weld.org/2LEAP.
- **Get-Ahead Colorado**
Even if you earn little to no income, by filing your taxes you could receive up to \$3,600 through the Child Tax Credit or up to \$6,700 through the Earned Income Tax Credit. Visit <https://www.getaheadcolorado.org/getstarted> to learn more.
- **MyFreeTaxes**
United Way provides MyFreeTaxes in partnership with the IRS’s Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program to help filers prepare their tax returns on their own or have their return prepared for them. Filers who make about \$58,000 or less a year qualify to have their taxes prepared for free by a qualified, IRS-certified tax preparer. Find free tax help at MyFreeTaxes.com.

Upcoming Special Offerings

- **Right Here, Right Now Benevolence Fund – April 3**
All \$1 bills and checks written to FCC with “RH/RN” in the memo line go toward meeting immediate needs within our church family and community. FCC now has an Emergency Food Pantry that will be funded by your RH/RN donations.
- **Easter Offering – April 10 & 17**
This special offering supports the Disciples of Christ General Ministries. Checks may be written to FCC with “Easter Offering” in the memo line.

