

Thrive Ministries: Changing Season

Change is truly the one constant in life. Whether you thrive on change or try to avoid it at all costs, change can be daunting yet filled with opportunity. Things can change for the better or for the worse, but it's always inevitable!

Everyone experiences change differently:

- It could feel new and exciting.
- It could feel scary and unpredictable.
- It could fill your heart with worries of an unknown future.
- It could make you feel nervous and unsure of your next steps.

Whatever your view on change, one of Christ's primary objectives in our lives is for us to change – for the better, even when our circumstances don't. He is far more interested in our hearts, and lovingly corrects and shapes us as we put our trust in Him.

If you're struggling with change, try: prayer journaling, or dive deeper into Scripture on the feelings you're experiencing about change (overwhelmed, needing wisdom, looking for contentment, looking for ways to grow, struggling with your identity, or fighting doubt or temptation)—whatever the change, there's a verse for that!

(taken from www.soverlyblessed.com)

Congratulations and Good Luck to the Rings

On Sunday, July 1, Pastor Judi Ring completed her ordination as minister in the Disciples of Christ. This month, the Rings move to Paris, Kentucky, where the family (Judi, Rob, Jack, and Regan) will raise horses on their farm, Judi will apply for a pastoral position at a nearby church, Jack will attend college and Regan will continue in high school. Prayers and best wishes go with Pastor Judi and the entire family on this new step in their life's journey!

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN JULY

AT FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH-GREELEY!

Sun's out; school's out; evening book club and CWF are on break: it is definitely summer!

And there is still plenty happening at FCC-Greeley this month, and we hope you can be there. July 9 is FCC's annual **Hymn Sing Sunday**, when you can request a favorite hymn and sing along with others' favorites. Come help out the church (inside or out!) on **Serve Day**, Saturday July 15. Then on Saturday, July 22, the Life After Fifty-Five (LAFF) group invites you to the annual **Ice Cream Social** at 6 p.m. July also features sermons from guest ministers at each week's 10:00 am worship service. The speakers are **Lena Morris**, July 16; **Mike McGuire**, July 23; and **Weston Edmunds**, July 30. On August 6, **Pastor Vince Endris** begins as First Christian Church-Greeley's full-time pastor.

LAFF (Life After Fifty-Five)
invites you to an **Ice Cream Social**
July 22 6:00 pm
at Tom & Shirley Miller's
Ice cream provided, bring a treat to share!
Sign up at the church!
Call for more details.

First Christian Church Governance

Ministries Cabinet, 5:30 pm: July 11

CWF Board meets again August 10

General Board, 5:30 pm: July 20

**"We hold these truths to be self-evident:
that all men are created equal, . . .
endowed by their creator with certain
unalienable rights. . ."**

-Thomas Jefferson,
Declaration of Independence
July 4, 1776



First Christian Church
DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

2230 13th St, Greeley, CO 970-352-1292 fccgreeley.com

The Christian Caller Newsletter

2023 July

A Message from Pastor Mark

I am much better at saying "Hello" than saying "Goodbye." Maybe it's the extrovert in me but saying hello means I get to interact with humans. Saying goodbye is hard. It has always been hard. I can clearly remember after spending a fun weekend with my four cousins on the north side of Pueblo doing all kinds of fun stuff, my sadness of having to leave. I would try to sneak out of their house with that vague sadness in my gut. My wonderful Aunt Marie would gently find me, put her arms around me and say, "It was so good to have you with us". Whether that was true or not did not matter—it worked.

Well, I am saying goodbye and I am trying to do a better job of being present and grateful. I have been given so much by you all. I have had the rare opportunity of a "last chance," a "postlude," or a giant hug, like the kind that Aunt Marie gave. I want to say thank you all for this grand opportunity. Mary Kay and I have nothing but positive memories about our time with you, whether it was singing in the choir, or dinners, or after church coffees or the 101 other things you do so well.

While in Israel with you our guide Francis reminded me the "Shalom" is both a hello greeting and a goodbye closing. It speaks to the "Peace that Passes all Understanding." So I say to all of you,

*Shalom,
Mark*

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

2230 13th St Greeley 80631 970.352.1292

Todd Loschen, Youth: 970.397.9258

David Haining, Technology: fcctech@fccgreeley.com

Gary Ikenouye, Bookkeeper: fccbookkeeper@comcast.net

Admin Asst: 970.352.1292 fccadmin@comcast.net

Website: www.fccgreeley.com

Meet Pastor Vince Endris

On June 16 Pastor Vince Endris accepted our call to serve as the Lead Pastor at First Christian Church. Pastor Endris and wife Amy and three children will begin their service in Greeley on August 1, and Pastor Endris will lead the August 6 worship service. Pastor Endris comes to us from Grace Point Christian Fellowship, a Disciples of Christ church in Lake Charles, Louisiana, where he has served as the part-time Lead Pastor since August 2015. Pastor Endris has also served as a middle school science teacher during his time at Grace Point Christian Fellowship, and he provided interim Education Minister services for the St. Luke-Simpson United Methodist Church in the summer of 2015.

Pastor Endris was ordained in the Great River Region of the Disciples of Christ Church in October 2021. He received his BA in Religious Education from Louisiana College in 1999 and his MTS in New Testament Historical Studies from Boston University in 2002. He later studied for a year at Perkin's Theological Seminary at SMU, focusing on a narrative approach to scripture. Pastor Endris has also completed intentional training in Anti-Racism/Pro-Reconciliation, Healthy Boundaries, and Ethics through the Disciples of Christ and the Cameron, Louisiana, School Board. Religious education and preaching are two of his particular interests. He also has a heart for mission and outreach as well as ecumenical and interfaith collaboration. In his words, "The mission of the church provides an answer to [today's] challenges. It unites people in community. It spreads the truth of Christ, a truth that encourages us to grow in a love that includes all. The mission of the church is to offer meaning through reconciliation with God and through service of others."

Amy is a former schoolteacher and is currently a stay-at-home mom to their four-year-old twins, Wilson and Alice, and their seven-year-old son, Raymond. Pastor Endris has two older sons from a previous marriage, Charles and Christopher, who will not be joining them in Colorado, but are a vital part of their family. The Endrises will be living in Greeley and enrolling their children in the Greeley-Evans School District this summer.

We thoroughly enjoyed meeting Vince and Amy during their visit to Greeley in early June and look forward to welcoming the family and getting to know them even better as they make this significant move to Colorado to answer God's calling for their ministry and walk side by side as we bring the church's mission to our community.

July Birthdays

- 01 Keaton Hartmann
- 02 Mark Pumphrey
- 08 Diane Doyle
- 14 Daniel Recor
- 18 Taylor Gray
- 19 Patty Lesser
- 19 Tom Rainbolt
- 21 George Hypes
- 22 Guin Skow
- 23 Roy Berg
- 26 Emerson Skow
- 27 Connie Harbert
- Aug 1 Vi Corliss
- Aug 3 Paula Armstrong

FCC Finances	
As of May 31, 2023	
Income YTD	\$102316.00
Expenses YTD	\$105539.31



Mission Matters

"God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them."
Hebrews 6:10

ACS Cancer Relay for Life – July 15

This annual fundraiser will be Saturday, July 15, from 4:00 p.m. to midnight on the track at University Schools (6525 18th St.) FCC will not have an official team this year, but the congregation is encouraged to attend. Visit their [website](#) for all the details.



Serve Day 2023 – July 15

Each year, thousands of Christians around the world observe Serve Day. This year at First Christian, we are going to spend the day giving some needed attention to our own church building and grounds. There will be multiple projects to work on, or you can work on a project of your own. Crews will begin working at 8:00 a.m., but come when you can to help ready our facility for our new pastor!



Back to School Drive – July 16-August 6

Help students in District 6 have the supplies they need to get their new school year off to a great start. The Mission Team will be holding our annual Back-to-School Drive from Sunday, July 16 through Sunday, August 6. We will collect school supplies for our partner school, the Fred Tjardes School of Innovation, as well as the Family Center at School District 6.



The Fred Tjardes School especially appreciates art supplies, such as 24-count crayons, 12-count color pencils, 8-count markers, glue sticks, watercolor paint boxes, and construction paper. The Teachers' Closet provides supplies to classrooms and students across the school district and especially needs #2 wooden pencils, pens, spiral notebooks (wide and college-ruled), sharpies, glue, dry-erase markers, pocket folders, rulers, and scissors. Backpacks are also requested. Please place your donated items in any of the school-bus boxes located around the church.

Habitat for Humanity Breakfast – July 20

Learn about the exciting plans Habitat for Humanity has for our community at their 2023 Building Impact Breakfast on Thursday, July 20. The event is free, but donations will be requested. Dick Monfort will be the featured speaker, and some exciting surprises are planned. The breakfast is at Christ Community Church (1301 15th St.) and will begin promptly at 7:00 a.m. and end at approximately 8:00 a.m. Rich Recor and Carla Ikenouye are hosting tables, so a sign-up sheet is posted. You can also donate online at their [website](#).



Special Offerings

-Right Here, Right Now Benevolence Fund – July 2, August 6

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. (Donations to RHRN are also accepted throughout the month).



Upcoming Community Fundraisers

- Life Stories [Big Balloon Build](#) to benefit abused and neglected children. July 20-24 at Aims Community College Welcome Center Ballroom