

**We honor God when we are good stewards
of what He has given us.**

Chances are you know the story of the poor widow and her two mites (coins similar to a penny) found in both Mark 12 and Luke 21. Jesus was by the Temple near the collection box. Those who were rich put in large amounts, but this poor widow who had only a few mites added them to the box. Jesus told His disciples that the widow had put in more than the others. The rich had offered their excess – the widow gave all she had.

I have always struggled with this story. In my profession, I caution clients to be sure they use their limited funds to secure the roofs over their heads and keep something for an emergency fund. I know it's difficult to understand that God will provide if I give everything I own. I'll keep working on that fear.

However, I feel certain that what we have, be it a little or a lot, comes from a plan God designed. As we approach our 2024 pledging, let's give some of our assets, talents, and time. These are essential to a healthy ministry, building, outreach, and programs. This giving is how we can honor God and receive the joy of being a part of this church community. Be watching for your pledge cards in October. Peace, Carolyn Rainbolt

Out-to-Lunch Bunch:

South of the Border Style!

We'll head down the street to Herradura Mexican Restaurant at 1330 8th Ave. after worship September 17. Join us at noon to enjoy cuisine inspired by dishes of Mexico and Southern California. Please sign up on the bulletin board near Fellowship Hall or let Marla Johnson know that you plan to attend. ¡Buen provecho!

CONGRATULATIONS!

Shawn Loschen was recently selected to be a member of the Executive Council of Youth (ECOY) for the DOC Rocky Mountain Region. The nine high school youth selected will now be part of the leadership team that plans and leads regional youth retreats and camps. We are proud of Shawn and excited to have representation from Greeley!

**First Christian Church Governance
Ministries Cabinet, 5:30 pm: Sept 12
CWF Board, 9:30 am: Sept 14
General Board, 5:30 pm: Sept 21**

Visit La Foret Camp on October 17!



A day trip is being planned to tour La Foret Conference & Retreat Center in the Black Forest near Colorado Springs, where our church youth attend summer camp and often experience the transformational power of outdoor ministry. This special place is a peaceful nature setting that offers time for spiritual awareness and an opportunity to draw closer to God.

Through the connections of Todd Loschen, our Director of Youth, and trip coordinator, Colleen Heitman, daytrip travelers will be able to visit La Foret, see and experience firsthand this beautiful setting that our youth love.

Come and enjoy the walking trails of nature, have a cafeteria meal, enter the chapel and walk the quiet labyrinth that draws all to the beauty of nature and a closer relationship with God.

This trip will be on Saturday, October 7th, 2023. It will be a long day (approx. 7:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.) at a cost of \$20.00 per person. Don't let the cost prohibit you from participating. You can contact the church office for more details. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the church bulletin board for those wanting to attend. Seats may be limited, so sign up early.

The travel fee can be given to Sue in the church office or to Colleen Heitman. Sunday, September 24th is the last day to sign-up for travel and meal reservations. This day trip will be a lot of fun and fellowship in a gorgeous scenic trip.

Come and caravan to La Foret with us and encounter this beautiful setting and delight in God's nature.

For questions, please contact the Church Office 970-352-1292 or Colleen Heitman 970-590-2724

Q is for Questioning Workshops

Co-hosted by Envision One and PFLAG Greeley

This is a three-week series for parents, guardians, teachers, or others who work with LGBTQ youth. There are three 2-hour workshops September 14, 21, and 28, 6:00-8:00 pm. The first two sessions are online. The final session is a hybrid workshop offered both online and in person. Registration is required for the limited spots. For more information or to register for the class go to

<https://secure.everyaction.com/RuzGyNPSikOFFdXQbmnKA2>

Please share this with others who may be interested!



First Christian Church
DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

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

The Christian Caller Newsletter

2023 August

A Message from Pastor Vince

Hello!

The Endrises have come to Greeley! Thank you all so much for the warm welcome (and cool weather). My family and I are getting settled and are discovering that Greeley is a fantastic place to call home! I have been up at the church for almost a month now and have enjoyed getting to know all of you. Thank you so much for visiting. In church, I have been leading you through the letter of Philippians. I have been emphasizing the role of fellowship, relationship, partnership, growth, and love in the church. And these are definitely things that you have shown to me and my family during this time of transition. I can't wait to see what God has in store for our church in the future.

In His Love,

Vince

New Friends in Greeley,

Thank you so much for the warm welcome to FCC. We are all moving in nicely and enjoying Greeley. Ray and the twins, Alice and Wilson, have started school and are enjoying it. I am making my way through boxes and not enjoying it as much. But we are all enjoying the large parks, nice weather and loving people. Thank you all for welcoming us so graciously. We wanted to give a special thanks to those of you who provided meals, money and gift cards. It was a huge blessing to not have to worry about preparing meals during the moving process.

With Sincere Gratitude,

Amy & the Endris Family

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

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Christian Women's Fellowship

Our first General Meeting is Thursday, September 7th at 1:30 pm in the Chapel. The program will be by a representative of School District #6, who will talk about different categories of schools and paths of study available in the district. Refreshments will be served in the Fellowship Hall after the program. Please join us as we begin a new CWF year. All women of the church are welcome!

Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who came to Fellowship Hall after the worship service on August 13th and helped us celebrate our 70th wedding anniversary. We were married August 7, 1953.

George and Carol Hypes

Thank you so very much to everyone who sent cards, texted, emailed, and held me in their prayers after my fall. I am truly blessed to have such a wonderful church family.

Thank you again,
Becky Linenbroker

It's a great time to join the FCC Book Club!

The normal meeting date is the first Monday of the month, but due to Labor Day, the fall kick-off is Tuesday, September 5, 6:00 p.m. in the church parlor. They will share about the books they read over the summer hiatus and select a book for their September read. Talk with Carla if you want to join, or just show up on the 5th!

September Birthdays

- 03 Austin Loschen
- 06 Scott Haining
- 06 Bradford Loschen
- 07 Tom Teixeira
- 12 Eric Beiser
- 15 Garrett Shirley
- 17 Evelyn Fletcher
- 18 Deb Richardson
- 19 Brittani McClune
- 19 Freya McClune
- 20 Mike McGuire
- 21 Charlotte Shetler
- 22 Sue Evans

Elder LaVonne apologizes for sending September birthday greetings a month early and August greetings a month late! 😊

Elder's Message

I find this time at First Christian Church very exciting! Now that we've gone through the long process of searching for a new spiritual leader and we've called Pastor Vince to be our minister, it may seem like we're done with change for a while. However, I think we are still going to be enduring and hopefully embracing change as we learn to work together under Pastor Vince's leadership. What a wonderful opportunity that this season of change brings! One of the reasons that we're not done with change is because as Christians, we are taught that God wants us to change, not just our circumstances or surroundings, but God wants us to change from within and to do so with love and humility. In Philippians 2:1-3, Paul tells the people of Philippi, "If there is any encouragement in Christ, if any comfort of lover, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any compassion mercy, then fulfill my joy and be like-minded having the same love, being in unity with one mind. Let nothing be done out of strife or conceit, but in humility let each esteem the other better than himself." Paul had a great deal of change in his life and much of it was very difficult and in less-than-ideal circumstances, yet, in reading his words to the people of Philippi, he continues to embrace his circumstances, to look forward, and to find joy and love. Better yet, he continues to spread that love and his desire for the people to come together in unity, having the same love, and being in unity with one mind. I believe it is an important time for our congregation to be in unity, to embrace the changes, and to show love and humility in all that we do and in all that we say. Let us look for and promote positivity rather than dwelling on things of the past. When we look forward, we honor the plans that God has for each one of us and for our church.

Let us pray together:

Father God, we come to you today to ask for your guidance in helping us be unified in love and humility as we continue to grow our relationship with Pastor Vince and his family. Give us peace in this continued time of change and help us to honor the past but not dwell there so that we may embrace what is to come. Help us to keep our minds and hearts open to new people and new ideas, let us listen to our brothers and sisters intently, and guide us to be the hands and feet of Jesus as we continue with the many ways in which we bring your love to many who are in need. Guide us and keep us on the path you have chosen for us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

-Kris King

FCC Finances

As of July 31, 2023

Income YTD \$ 147,491.63
Expenses YTD \$ 148,976.68

Mission Matters

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."

Matthew 5:9

New Doers of the Word Crew!

We have a good start with assembling a Doers of the Word crew to assist people in our church who have a relatively simple job at their home they need help with. No particular skills are required! If you would like to volunteer to be part of this new ministry, please add your name to the sign-up sheet outside Fellowship Hall.



Special Week of Compassion Offering for Hawaii

It's not too late to contribute to our special Week of Compassion offering to help those people affected by the wildfires in Maui. Please write a check to FCC with "Hawaii Fires" in the memo line.



International Day of Peace – September 21

Each year the International Day of Peace is observed around the world on September 21. In 1981, the United Nations General Assembly declared this a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace through observing 24 hours of non-violence and cease-fire. To commemorate this special day, individuals, organizations, communities, and nations are invited to participate in a **Minute of Silence at noon** in each time zone to create a "Peace Wave" around the world.



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).

RHRN

-Reconciliation Special Offering – September 24 & October 1 The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) has been on a pro-reconciling and anti-racist journey for over 20 years. This year's theme is "Sound the Trumpets" against racial inequity and injustice (Numbers 10:4-7). Please note "Reconciliation Offering" in the memo line.

Check out these resources for Reconciliation Ministry:

[Your big questions about race, answered](#)

[Parallel Journey](#): Online Individual 20-minute Anti-racism Bible Study

[Books about Social Justice from Chalice Press](#)

[Justice Primer & Study Guide](#)



Upcoming Community Event

Jobs of Hope Banquet to provide support for Weld County men who are coming out of incarceration and/or gang involvement. September 14, at 5:30 p.m. in the Rocky Mountain Ballroom at UNC University Center, 2102 10th Ave. [Register here.](#)

THANK YOU!!

- Our congregation donated \$838 through the **Baby Bottle Campaign** to Week of Compassion to help families in Syria and Turkey rebuild after the devastating February earthquake.
- **Greeley-Weld Habitat for Humanity** is approaching a record \$300,000 raised from their recent "35 Years and Building" annual breakfast fundraiser. Rich Recor and Carla Ikenouye both hosted full tables at the event. Many thanks to those who attended and/or donated!
- The **Fred Tjardes School of Innovation and School District 6 Teachers Closet** were extremely grateful for the six boxes of art and school supplies that were donated by our congregation.

