

**FCC Blood Drive Week
Is October 9-13**

FCC is registered for a week-long blood drive from October 9-13 with the UHealth Garth Englund Blood Center!

It's easy to give. [Schedule a time online](#) or call **970-829-5391** to make an appointment at any of their three donor centers:

Greeley – 6906 W 10th St.
Mon. & Tues. 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.,
Wed. & Thur. 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.,
Fri. 7:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Loveland – 2500 Rocky Mountain Ave.
Mon.-Fri. 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Fort Collins – 1025 Pennock Pl. #104
Mon.-Fri. 7:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.,
Sat. 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Be sure to tell them FCC sent you!



Fellowship Time:

Potluck Honoring Military Families Nov 12

Join us for an all-church potluck in appreciation of the service and sacrifice of our active-duty, reserve, veteran, and retired service members and their families, immediately following worship on **November 12**. Bring a dish or two to share with church family and friends. Please see the sign-up sheet to indicate what kind of dish(es) you plan to bring.

First Christian Church Governance
CWF Board, 9:30 am: Oct 12
General Board, 5:30 pm: Oct 19

**Thrive Ministry:
GENDER+**

A presentation for the church and the community

Oct 21, 10 am-Noon in the Fellowship Hall

With so much being said today, in the news and the world, about new ways of thinking about gender, it might be easy to feel overwhelmed, puzzled, and uncertain. This 2-hour session will help you be more informed and confident on topics such as topics such as pronoun use, how to help and support friends and family, and what male and female means.

In the first half of the session, Ethan Bratt, Greeley LMFT (licensed marriage and family therapist) and LGBTQ expert, will define terms, clarify concepts, and present facts on issues of gender.

The session's second half will include sharing, discussion, and a question & answer time with Ethan Bratt, his student intern, and members of the community.

GENDER+ is a free session sponsored by Thrive ministry. There is no charge, and no registration is required. The session is open to the community as well as FCC members; everyone is welcome.

Snacks will be served.

Hope you can join us, Saturday, Oct 21, 10 am-12 pm, in the Fellowship Hall at First Christian Church-Greeley.

**CELEBRATE YOUR COMMITMENT
TO FCC!**

**SOUP & STEWARDSHIP
LUNCH**

*Commitment Sunday Oct 29
Join your friends and family in a demonstration of
faith, joy, and the future of the church!*

*Pick up your 2024 giving pledge form at the church.
Please return your pledge by Oct 29*

Questions? Call (970) 352-1292



The Christian Caller Newsletter

2023 October

A MESSAGE FROM VINCE

As our church experiences this time of transition between saying good-bye to former ministers and welcoming a new minister, it occurs to me that Christianity has always existed at a juncture of the past and the future. We are a religion that looks back on and celebrates the past (the creation of the world; the calling of God's people; the words of the prophets; the life, death and resurrection of Christ) while simultaneously looking forward to and hoping for a future of restoration, redemption and resurrection. We celebrate the lives of loved ones who have passed on, while at the same time looking forward to reuniting with them in the future. We honor traditions of past Christians while concurrently looking for new and relevant ways to make those traditions meaningful to a new generation. With a mystical irony, we celebrate the last meal Jesus ate with his disciples, a ritual specifically established to look forward to the future: "I tell you, I will not drink from this fruit of the vine again until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom" (Matthew 26:29). Like the focal point of the cross, Christianity exists in the here and now between the horizontal beam of those things that have happened and the vertical beam of those things that will happen. The inherent danger is that we do not dwell in the past nor consume ourselves with the future. Instead, we must always live our lives in the present, letting the shadow of the cross illuminate our journey forward.

First Christian Church Greeley (Disciples of Christ) holds Sunday worship services in the sanctuary at 10:00 am. Childcare is provided during the service. Find more information at www.fccgreeley.com



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Christian Women's Fellowship

Our September General Meeting was a big success. We hope you can make it to the next General Meeting on December 7. Christian Women's Fellowship Board meets at 9:30 am on October 12. CWF groups meet the 4th Thursday of each month at 9:30 am, 1:30 pm, and 6:00 pm. This month that Thursday is October 26. All women of the church are invited to join CWF. Talk to LaVonne or Sandy for information.

Evening Book Club

The FCC Book Club is reading *Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI* by David Grann. They will meet on Monday, October 2, at 6:00 p.m. in the church parlor to discuss this nonfiction book.

FCC Finances

As of August 31, 2023

Income YTD \$168034.27
(includes \$26932.79 Working Capital)

Expenses YTD \$172296.24

Speaking of FCC Finances... Church Financial Q&A, Oct 15

During fellowship time on October 15, FCC Financial Officer Rich Recor will give an overview of the church's financial situation and will answer questions about current and future possibilities. Join him in the Fellowship Hall after the service.

October Birthdays

02 Veronica Thomas
03 Octavius Aasland
04 Tom Miller
08 Rick Carreon
14 David King
16 Molly Hartmann
18 Kris King
15 Garrett Shirley
20 Chris Hartmann
23 Kay Dobbins
26 Roberta Smith

Elder's Message

-Colleen Heitman

Harvest season is a time of celebration and thanksgiving. It is a time of gathering, both to sow, store, and transform what is reaped. At the growing season's completion, there is social importance in festivals and transforming the yield into something else. Pumpkins, apples, grains turn into pies, sauces, jams, and flours. This change provides a bounty to last through the winter and the year.

How do you use your harvest? God has given us a harvest of blessings that last beyond: grains to bread; fruit to wine, and water for salvation and eternal life.

Harvest encompasses God's provision for us and God's blessing for others. We experience the spirit of harvest all the time. Each time we work and earn a paycheck, each time we receive love from those in our lives, each time we feel the closeness of God in a way that fills us spiritually, we experience a harvest. Our harvest isn't just once a year; it is experienced every day. God is the Lord of the harvest. Our jobs, money and family all belong to the Lord of the Harvest: *"Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing. (Malachi 3:10)*

When we put God in His rightful place in our lives, He gives harvest to meet our needs and for us to use to bless others.

All these things we give thanks for. Put God in His place within your life this harvest season. Celebrate your blessings and be a blessing to others in the world. Be thankful for salvation, redemption, healing, deliverance, favor, protection, guidance, peace, joy, family, spiritual gifts and talents.

The cornucopia symbolizes the bounty and abundance of the harvest that blesses us in the fruits of our sowing and in the nourishment of our body and our soul.

CELEBRATE AND GIVE THANKS FOR YOUR
HARVEST BLESSINGS!

Dear Lord of our harvest, we thank you for our many blessings. As we reap what we sow, please guide us to place you at the center of our hearts and transform us to grow in our actions so that we may help others to know you in their hearts. These things we ask in Your Son Jesus Christ's name. Amen

-Colleen Heitman

Mission Matters

"Those who are generous are blessed, for they share their bread with the poor."

Proverbs 22:9

Weld Food Bank Drive – Month of October

Did you know?

- **1 in 5** people in Weld County are going without food today.
- **1 in 4** children in Weld County are struggling with hunger right now.
- **4 for 1** – four meals can be provided for every dollar donated.
- **14.6 million** pounds of food were distributed to those in need last year.

Once again First Christian Church will partner in this critical ministry. Non-perishable food and monetary donations are greatly needed. Please note "Weld Food Bank" in the memo line on checks and be sure any donated food has not expired and is not in a glass container. Look for the Weld Food Bank barrel in the hallway. Items especially requested are canned meat, fruit, and vegetables as well.



Weld Food Bank Volunteer Day – October 12

FCC has a volunteer day scheduled at the Weld Food Bank on Thursday, October 12. Our shift will be from 1:00-3:00 p.m., and we will pack food boxes. Please [register online](#) for our group or add your name to the FCC sign-up sheet. Closed-toe shoes are required for all volunteers.

Weld Project Connect – October 19

Weld Project Connect is an annual event providing numerous on-site services directly to individuals and households who are struggling and in need due to housing instability, job loss, age, health problems, and other issues that can interrupt a life. All services are **FREE**.

Date: Thursday, October 19

Time: Noon-5:30 p.m.

Location: Island Grove

Volunteers are needed! Volunteer navigators are paired up one-on-one to guide guests through the services being provided and will receive required training prior to WPC. Multiple shifts are available. [Sign up to volunteer today!](#)



Special Offerings

-Right Here, Right Now Benevolence Fund – Oct 1

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 Events/Needs

- **H'ART of Envision Art Show** to support adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. **October 6** from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Academy of Natural Therapy. [Click here](#) to learn more.
- **Walk to End Alzheimer's** to raise funds for Alzheimer's care, support, and research. **October 7** at 9:00 a.m. at Bittersweet Park. [Click here](#) to register or to donate.
- **2023 Celebrating Women Gala** to celebrate outstanding women in Weld County and raise funds for A Woman's Place. **October 7** at 7:30 p.m. at Aims Welcome Center. [Click here](#) to learn more and to purchase tickets.