

Leadership Transition Team Update

The Leadership Transition Team continues the process of evaluating candidates to find a lead pastor who is the best fit for Greeley First Christian Church. The candidate should also want to answer our call, and then we all must answer the question, what's God's will for both of us?

We prayed from the beginning for guidance and inspiration because we know we will fail without God's help, but we will surely succeed if we have it! Now, we are asking the congregation to each join us in prayer for what is best for our congregation and present and future pastors. We are asking you to pray for our church, pray for the LTT, pray for our pastors, and pray for the next pastor and their family, all so that we can to seek and fulfill God's will now and in the future of our church. To help with this Prayer Campaign, we will say a unison prayer each Sundays, and we have email sent with a personal prayer guide to use each day.

FCC Blood Drive Week: June 4-10

Instead of a having a blood drive day at the church, this year FCC is registered for a week-long blood drive from June 4-10 with the UHealth Garth Englund Blood Center. You can [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.-5 :00 p.m.
Wed. & Thur. 9:30 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
Fri. 7:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Loveland – 2500 Rocky Mountain Ave.

Mon.-Fri. 9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Fort Collins – 1025 Pennock Pl. #104

Mon.-Fri. 7:30 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
Sat. 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m

Be sure to tell them FCC sent you!



National Mental Health Month

May is National Mental Health Month, a time to raise awareness about mental health issues and the impact these issues can have on the physical, emotional, and mental well-being of individuals, families, and communities. Statistically, we know all someone dealing with mental health issues, although we may not realize it. The National Benevolent Association of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) provide resources to help, including sermons, prayers, and tips for caring for yourself and others. Find these at VisitNBACares.org/MH-Resources Watch for special events sponsored by city, county, and state agencies all month. And take a few moments to say a prayer for those struggling in your family and community.

Thrive Ministries

Out-to-Lunch Bunch New York Style!

Join us for lunch at Empire State Pizza, here in Greeley at 2700 8th Ave., on May 21 after worship. We'll meet at the restaurant at noon for authentic NY-style pizza, calzones, salads, appetizers, and more. Please be sure to sign up on the sign-up board near Fellowship Hall or let Marla Johnson know that you plan to attend. Come grab a slice with us and enjoy!

For Mother's Day, and all during the month of May, Ken Thompson will be playing classical guitar during the prelude each week. The theme will be "lullabies and love songs." Come in a little early and enjoy the music!



First Christian Church Governance

Ministries Cabinet, 5:30 pm: May 9
CWF Board, 9:30 am: May 4
General Board, 5:30 pm: May 18



The Christian Caller Newsletter

2023 May

A Message from Pastor Judi

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not rely on your own insight.
In all thy ways acknowledge God and God will direct your path.*

Proverbs 3:5-6

Seems simple. So, why is trusting God so difficult? Maybe we have the wrong definition of trust. Like most of us, I worry about what the future will bring. I often think that if I could just know that everything will be okay, then I could relax and let things unfold. The problem is that often what is "okay" for me means life will turn out the way I would like it to. But when will I know if things "turn out?" Life is a journey; (cliché, I know) but maybe there is no destination. We could say heaven, but are we really living this life just to get to heaven? I think God put us here not only for God's enjoyment and pleasure, but for our own. And somehow, we need to figure out how to embrace the journey, resting in the knowledge that God will not lead us astray. We will be okay. Maybe I also need to change my definition of what it means to be okay. I think it should mean that I live in a loving community. That I can spend time with family and friends rejoicing in the goodness of God. That I can come to church and not only worship the God of all creation but do so with those I love. That I have enough to eat and can help ensure that others have enough to eat. What do I need to be okay? What do you need? Trusting God does not mean that we just let go and let God do everything. Afterall, God is not going to fill out the job application, run errands, or cook supper. Trust means that I am in this *with* God; and I must do my part. I think that what the Proverb above is trying to tell us is that we must be open to God's insight in where our path is taking us. Do not relay your own understanding to lead you because God has a much wider vision of the path. It's like looking at a map versus standing at the intersection trying to figure out where each road will lead. We can trust God. And when we trust God, we don't need to spend sleepless nights with our stomach in knots wondering what is to come and how we'll ever make it work. When we trust God, we can rest in the knowledge that we have partnered with the best guide there is.

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

We are coming down to the end of our 2022-2023 year. Our last big event is the "Glad Hatter's Tea Party" for all mothers and daughters, 10:30 am, Saturday, May 13, in the Fellowship Hall. Sign up at the church or by calling the church office!

In May, our morning, afternoon, and evening groups will go out to dinner at a time to be decided later.

Meetings will resume in September. Happy Summer!

LaVonne Rogakis and Sandy Beiser

Book Club

The FCC Book Club chose *Braving the Wilderness* by Brené Brown as their April read. They will meet on Monday, May 1, at 6:00 p.m. in the church parlor to discuss this nonfiction book.

FCC Finances

As of March 31, 2023

Income YTD	\$74017.63
Expenses YTD	\$68154.58

May Birthdays

06 Kane Shirley
07 Gretchen Howland
08 Todd Loschen
08 Rob Ring
09 Jodi Hartmann
17 Cynthia May
22 Theresa Rusher
25 Doug McDowell
28 Ron Shetler
29 Amber Becker
29 Debbie Berg
29 Max Skow
31 Kathy Herman

Elder's Message

Becky Linenbroker

SPRING:

Ecclesiastes 3:1 says, "There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under the heavens."

May brings a time for renewal and growth. The flowers begin to spring up and bloom, trees show forth beautiful new blossoms or buds, the butterflies spread their wings and fly. First Christian Church, Disciples of Christ in Greeley, Colorado looks toward a renewal of faith as we search for a new pastor.

We have been blessed by the gift of Mark and Judi as they have spurred us to new challenges and growth and we will be sad to mark their loss, but with the sadness can come a rejuvenation of spirit and promise if we work together for Christ's purpose.

The transition team has asked for prayers that the call might fall on ears that will result in the right person to serve and lead us toward more and greater missions as Christ's disciples. Matthew 21:22 says, "If you believe you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer."

Spring is a reminder that God is all about making things new. In fact, Jesus promised to make everything new one day (Rev. 21:5). In the meantime, he gives us glimpses of the coming attractions not only through spring but through the promise of the changes in The First Christian Church of Greeley, Colorado.

Thank you

*To our dear friends and members of First Christian Church Greeley,
We wish to express our deep appreciation for all you have provided following Michelle's passing. Your prayers, financial assistance, food provided to our family, your services at her Celebration of Life, and memorial gifts, all show your love through Christ.
Blessings to one and all,
The Gray Family*

Mission Matters

"He shall be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age."

Ruth 4:15a

Teacher Appreciation Week – May 8-12

Talk to Verna Recor if you would like to help us show appreciation to the staff at our partner school, the Fred Tjardes School of Innovation, during this special week for teachers.

Baby Bottle Campaign – May 14-June 18

Baby bottles will be distributed on Mothers' Day, May 14. Our donations this year will go to Week of Compassion to help families rebuild their homes after the February earthquake in Syria and Turkey. Fill your bottle with your spare change and return it to church on Father's Day, June 18.



Weld County AAA Film Fest – May 16

In recognition of Older Americans Month, the Weld County Area Agency on Agency will host its 12th Annual Film Festival on Tuesday, May 16. This year's short films that honor the joys, challenges, and opportunities faced later in life will be shown at the Kress Theatre, 817 8th Ave. at 10:30 p.m. and at 2:00 p.m. Each session is 120 minutes long. Filmmaker Kathleen O'Neil of the film *It's Hip to Be Old*, will speak at the end of the first session. For more information and to reserve your FREE tickets, call 970-400-6950.

Shred Day – May 23

Weld Area Agency on Aging will partner with AARP on May 23 to hold a Shred Day at Island Grove (1221 D St.). You can securely shred old tax returns, credit card receipts, legal documents, and more! AAA will also be making donations to the Weld Food Bank, so bring canned goods or other non-perishable food to donate.

Special Offerings

-Right Here, Right Now Benevolence Fund – May 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.



-Pentecost Offering – May 21 & 28

This offering supports Disciples new church development both in our region and through the New Church Ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Your donation will help the new church movement continue to take root, bear fruit, and grow more Disciples every day!

Upcoming Community Fundraisers

- **Envision – [5K In My Shoes](#)** – supports people with developmental disabilities
Saturday, June 3, 8:30 a.m. at Riverside Park in Evans
- **A Woman's Place – [Cornhole Tournament](#)** – benefits survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault in our community
Sunday, June 11, 1:00 p.m. at Just Us Sisters Event Center in Greeley
- **60+ Ride – [Ride&Revel! 2023](#)** – provides free transportation to seniors
Saturday, June 17, at Lincoln Park in Greeley