



Connecting
Us with God and
one another

January 1, 2013

Senior Pastor:

Michael Stein (ext 30)

Office Manager:

Kirsten Bayne (ext 21)

Custodians:

Max & Marcia Peters

Music Ministers:

Troy Schuh, Pianist

Karen Lee, Organist

Gina Schuh-Turner,

Choir Director

Nursery Coordinator:

Tammy Swartz (ext 24)

Wedding Coordinator:

Kathy Vaughn

Youth Minister:

Rachel Nelson (ext 22)

Licensed Ministers:

Pam Hilliard

Tracy Morgan

Dennis Miller

LifeCare Email:

fcclifecare@comcast.net

Sunday Morning Services:

9:00 Worship Service

10:30 Sunday School for all ages

If you have information for our

Link, please e-mail that

information to:

kirsten@lovelanddisciples.org

By the 15th of each month.



First Sunday Food

First Sunday Food has been a great success in 2012. FCC as a Body of Christ has collected **1,840 pounds** of food for The House of Neighborly Service of Loveland. By doing this small act of kindness each month we are showing God's Love to our community along with being Church in the World. You will find a list for the 2013 year of what food items that we will be collecting, there will also be a list posted by the Outreach board in the

Fellowship Hall. On behalf of all those families that we are showing the Light of Jesus I would like to thank everyone for their donations this year, and look forward to providing another year of food to those in need. If you have any questions please contact Tammy Swartz at 970-962-9612

January- Peanut Butter & Jelly

February-Soups-Canned-Dry

March-Mac & Cheese, Ramen

April-Canned Fruit

May-Pasta & Sauce

June-Cereal

July-Peanut Butter & Jelly

August-Mac & Cheese

September-Canned Meat-Tuna, Chicken, Beef,

October-Canned Vegetables

November-Dry Mixes (muffin mix, cake mix, stuffing, seasonings, flour, sugar, jello, puddings)

December-Canned Meat

The follow items are bonus items that can be added in any month:

Baby products-formula, wipes, diapers, baby food

Toiletry items-shampoo, bars of soap, tooth paste,

toothbrushes

RESOLUTIONS FOR A HEALTHY CHURCH



Many people observe the New Year by adopting resolutions to make their lives healthier and happier. Although the “New Year” for the church has already started with Advent, it occurs to me that it’s not a bad idea for our congregation to make our fellowship together healthier and happier as well. Here are 10 suggestions of resolutions for our church:

1. First, let’s keep in mind that the purpose of the church is to build up the Kingdom of God. We should certainly be attentive to our own needs and compassionate about the needs of others, but the church was not established by God to “make me happy”.
2. As we interact with each other – and especially in the conduct of church business, we should assume that everyone is thinking and acting in what they believe to be the best interests of the church. We can resolve to disagree with ideas and opinions without casting doubt or accusation on people’s motives.
3. In the Epistle of James, we are advised that “everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry”. If someone says something that offends, we should assume first that it was not intended. Begin by asking if what I heard was what that person meant to say.
4. Remember that you and every other baptized Christian is a minister of the Gospel. Each of us must prayerfully discern the ways the Holy Spirit has gifted us for ministry, and seek with others to make the most of these gifts in God’s service.
5. The congregation has discerned that we should compensate some people to lead or carry out ministries in our name. Whether paid or unpaid, God’s servants in our congregation are due respect and appreciation for their work. As Luke’s Gospel tells us, “a worker is worthy of his wages”.
6. Throughout the history of the world, civilized people have held in respect and reverence those who have lived a long life. If you are young, resolve in the new year to appreciate and seek out the wisdom and counsel of your elders. The fact that it is new to you does not mean it is new.
7. In the same way, if you have lived and seen many years, resolve to temper the sharing of your wisdom with the knowledge that some things have changed. Remember also that there is a difference between “wise counsel” and “meddling”.
8. “I Did It My Way” was a great song when Frank Sinatra or Elvis sang it. It is NOT a hymn for the church. Let each of us make a resolution to sing instead that great hymn, “Have Thine Own Way, Lord”.
9. Resolve to have an “attitude of gratitude” and reflect it in your giving of time, talents, and treasure. In the secular economy, we are used to thinking of ourselves as consumers offering to pay for something in exchange. In God’s economy, we make an offering to God in appreciation for what we have already received.
10. The church and her members are called to be God’s light in the darkness of a hurting world. Those who need to know Christ are not attracted to the church when it appears to be just another reflection of petty bickering and power struggles. May we resolve in the new year to follow Matthew’s Gospel and “let our light shine” through our words and our actions.

I am grateful to be called as your Pastor, and look forward to serving God with all the congregation in 2013.

*Merry Christmas and Happy
New Year!*

Michael

Rachel's Remarks

2012: A Year in Review

The holidays are a wonderful time to reflect on the joys of the past year as we begin to look forward to a new year of life and ministry. We have been blessed to have another active year of youth ministry at FCC, and are so grateful for all of the youth, their parents and youth leaders, and their supporters throughout our church family! Here is a summary of our year:

Weekly "Xone 77" youth group meetings were held all year, involving fellowship time, group building games, music, worship, spiritual formation and exploration, relationship building, and discussion with a Christian perspective on issues relevant to the daily lives of the youth, and **"Rush Hour" Sunday School classes** were held during the school year with discussion of topics from the book "Banned Questions About the Bible", edited by Christian Piatt.

Summer Mission Trips included a High School trip to participate in a Group Workcamp at the **Northern Cheyenne Reservation** in Busby, Montana, where participants completed repair and weatherization projects for an impoverished resident of the reservation, and a Middle School trip to **LaPuente Home** in Alamosa, CO, where participants cooked and served meals for the homeless, worked at a clothing bank, and volunteered with "at risk" children.

Our **Sexuality and Spirituality course for middle school youth**, a weekend workshop taught by Brad and Tracy Morgan and Ben and Rachel Nelson in partnership with Heart of the Rockies, was attended by all of our middle school youth and at least one parent of each.

Special youth involvement in and service to First Christian Church and the Loveland community included mission trip sharing during worship, Hands to Heaven sign language in the Christmas Eve service, volunteer helpers for Vacation Bible School, cooking and serving dinner for IHN, a car wash to benefit the church's general fund, gleaning produce from Grant Family Farms to benefit the Larimer Co. Food Bank, as well as regular service by individual youth as lay leaders, diaconate, nursery staff, and youth representative to the Program Ministry Board.

FCC Youth Involvement in the Central Rocky Mountain Region included participation in the region's Spring Feast (aka Regional Assembly), as well as Mid-Winter and Fall Youth Retreats and Summer Camp (14 FCC children and youth went to camp this summer, and 4 FCC adults volunteered as camp counselors)! In addition, Rachel has been serving as leader of the regional Executive Council of Youth (ECOY).

With hope and gratitude,
Rachel

Weekly Youth Meetings

for youth in grades 6 – 12

Sundays: Rush Hour

Our Youth class meets in the NW corner youth room after Sunday morning worship

Wednesdays: Xone 77

Youth Groups in Minnerly Hall,
6:00 – 8:00 pm
Worship, faith development, fellowship, fun, and food!

Upcoming Youth Events

All Church Birthday Brunch

January 13

Our congregation will once again be celebrating a year full of birthdays with this brunch, and this year the youth will be serving brunch and accepting free will donations to benefit the youth ministry. All youth are encouraged to come serve!

Midwinter Forms due!

January 13

Registration forms for Midwinter Retreat will be due by this date. Please register early – forms are now available from Rachel and at the regional website.

CRMR Midwinter Retreat

February 15-18

Welcoming youth in grades 6-12, this retreat is a 3 night weekend of fellowship, faith development, and spiritual renewal with youth from around the region at LaForet. This year's keynoter will be Rev. Amanda Henderson, and the theme will be "Encountering Difference", exploring our responses when we encounter those who differ from us. It will be a GREAT retreat! Please register soon.

Want more info?

Email Rachel@lovelanddisciples.org if you'd like to join the youth e-news list, and/or "like" us on Facebook! – just search for "Xone 77 Youth" to find our page.

FCC Youth Ministry Mission Statement

Our Youth Ministry exists to **EXPOSE** teenagers to God's love, to **CONNECT** them with other Christians and help them **GROW** in their faith, challenging them to **SEEK** God's presence and to **SERVE** others for Christ.

Thank You



I enjoyed the Christmas Carols that you sang Saturday afternoon at Mirasol. And thank you for the Christmas goodies that you gave me.

Thanks again,
Helen Heinze

Dear Church Family,
Thank you for your prayers and love at our time of great sorrow. A special thank you to Harvey & Bonnie, the Chancel Choir, the Elders, Merlyn, and the ladies who prepared and served the luncheon. Max & Marcia and many others who helped to make our good-bye to Mark so special.

Our family is so appreciative,
Dixie, Cathy, Megan, Patrick, Tommy, Laura,
Doug, Jerrod & Krystin

I feel so blessed to be part of such a wonderful church. Thank you for the blessing of the staff gift this year.

Sincerely,
Kirsten

On behalf of the Nursery Staff please see page 5 for picturesque 'Thank You' note they made for their staff gift.

We had a visit from Esther Thielman and Jeanette Saul. They brought a care package full of goodies that were obviously donated by the good members of First Christian, and we are most appreciative. They also brought us the bread and cup. We had a delightful time with them. Please express our gratitude to all the congregation.

Merry Christmas

Twila and Walt Hayward

Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes for 2013 are in the Narthex. If you do not see your name and would like to have envelopes, or if you are homebound and would like to have them mailed to you please call the office and talk to Kirsten.



CD copies of worships now available

Due to technical difficulties were unable, for a few months, to reproduce CD's of the worship services. I know that some of you were receiving copies on a weekly basis. If you would like to receive copies on a weekly basis or if you would like to request a certain

Sunday please call the church office and let Kirsten know.

2013 Birthday Brunch

Come join us on January 13, 2012 to celebrate the 2013 birthdays with a Breakfast Brunch, following church services. Everyone will have the opportunity to give a free will offering for our 2013 Youth Program at the brunch. The children's Sunday school classes will be enjoying the brunch rather than to have classroom time. Let's Celebrate Together!

OWLS Outing

The Owls will gather at 11:00 AM the church on Friday January 11, 2013. We will be having a surprise movie and lunch. Please let us know if you are planning to attend. All are welcome! See Bonnie R or Ann M for info.

Cheesy Chicken Chowder from Joy Brownrigg

3 cups of chicken broth
2 cups diced peeled potatoes
1 cup diced celery
1 cup diced carrots
½ cup diced onion
1 ½ tsp salt
¼ tsp pepper
¼ cup butter or margarine
1/3 cup of flour
2 cups of milk
2 cups (8oz) shredded cheddar cheese
2 cups diced cooked chicken

In a 4qt saucepan bring chicken broth to a boil. Reduce heat; and potatoes, carrots, celery, onions, salt, pepper. Cover and simmer 15 minutes or until vegetables are tender. Meanwhile melt butter in a medium saucepan; add flour and mix well. Gradually stir in milk; cook over low heat until slightly thickened. Stir in cheese and cook until melted; add to broth along with chicken. Cook and stir over low heat until heated through.

BUILDING EMERGENCY FUND

In the congregation meeting December 9th, Trustee Bob Nicastle unveiled a plan for accumulating an emergency fund to deal with unexpected and urgent building problems. Beginning in January, contributions may be made using special "red envelopes" that will be available in the pews during worship services.

According to Bob, a contribution of as little as \$1 per week per family will help to prepare for unanticipated events that require quick response. Naturally, persons who wish to give more will not be turned away.

The fund is overseen by the Trustees and completely separate from the church annual budget or long term building funds.

WORSHIP TEAM "TIGHTENING" SERVICE

In order to keep worship services meaningful and inviting, the worship planning team is examining ways to make the best use of time and to make the service flow more smoothly.

One suggestion that has been taken to heart is to reduce or eliminate the number of verbal announcements included the service. Many have said this detracts from their worship experience and helps make the service longer than necessary.

Beginning in January, announcements about upcoming programs and events will be included in the worship bulletin and on the sanctuary projection screens before and after services.

Except where absolutely necessary, announcements will no longer be read or spoken once the service starts.

Individuals and ministry teams who wish to have announcements included for Sunday services are asked to have them in print or email to Kirsten **no later than Wednesday** of each week.

January Birthdays

PERSON, Craig	3-Jan
RYTERSKI, Amber	3-Jan
LINDSEY, Randy	6-Jan
WILLIAMS, Eula	6-Jan
ESTRADA, Julie	9-Jan
HILLIARD, Pamela	9-Jan
HALSEY, Daryl	11-Jan
WUERTZ, Harold	11-Jan
HINKLE, Lyle	12-Jan
FELDHUS, Kyle	13-Jan
JESKULSKI, Aiden	13-Jan
GROVES, Pat	15-Jan
RUEGSEGGER, Nancy	15-Jan
ROJAS, Robin	17-Jan
DILL, Judy	18-Jan
STENSON, Vance	18-Jan
CHENEVERT, Sharon	20-Jan
ZAKAVEC, Tracie	20-Jan
SWARTZ, Sharon	21-Jan
FARNHAM, Steven	23-Jan
MORRISON, Virginia	24-Jan
YOUNG, Irma	24-Jan
MORGAN, Brad	25-Jan
CLOUD, Justin	26-Jan
SEATON, Sylvia	29-Jan
ENGELHARDT, Orville	30-Jan
BRAY, Susan	31-Jan

January Anniversaries

GROVES, Don & Pat	1-Jan
BERGSTROM, Robert & Colleen	2-Jan
LIDDLE, Jack & Bonnie	13-Jan
SPRAGUE, Bob & Chris	13-Jan
MAGNUSON, Herman & Cherlene	15-Jan
MORGAN, Bryan & Lucy	18-Jan



JANUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 10:30a Trustees 12p Life Tree Café 6p Xone 77 6p Reach 7p Life Tree Café	3 7p Chancel Choir	4 7:15a Men's reunion group	5
6 IHN 9a Worship 10:30a Sunday School <i>First Sunday Food— Peanut Butter</i>	7 IHN 6p Women's reunion group	8 IHN	9 IHN 12p Life Tree Café 6p Xone 77 6p Reach 7p Life Tree Café	10 IHN 7p Chancel Choir	11 IHN 7:15a Men's reunion group	12 IHN
13 9a Worship 10:30a Sunday School 10:30a Diaconate Training	14 9:30a Rachel Circle 6p Women's reunion group 7p Program Ministries	15 Link Deadline 6:30p Grief Share 7p Mary's Circle	16 12p Life Tree Café 6p Xone77 6p Reach 7p Life Tree Café	17 7p Chancel Choir	18 7:15a Men's reunion group	19
20 9a Worship 10:30a Sunday School	21 6p Women's reunion group 7p General Board	22 6p Elders Training & Dinner 6:30p Grief Share	23 12p Life Tree Café 6p Xone77 6p Reach 7p Life Tree Café	24 7p Chancel Choir	25 7:15a Men's reunion group	26
27 9a Worship 10:30a Sunday School	28 6p Women's reunion group	29 6:30p Grief Share	30 12p Life Tree Café 6p Xone77 6p Reach 7p Life Tree Café	31 7p Chancel Choir		

First Christian Church
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NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

PERMIT NO. 22

U. S. POSTAGE PAID

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Last But Not Least

Vision Statement

Our vision is to be a growing, welcoming, diverse community of faith that worships, shares, and expresses through our service the love of God.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to know, grow, and show the love of God.

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