



Connecting  
Us with God and  
one another

March 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](mailto: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](mailto:kirsten@lovelanddisciples.org)

By the 15th of each month.

**March 24: Palm Sunday**

Featuring the musical cantata

*The Rose of Calvary*

During 9am Worship Service

Brunch following worship served by

Youth Ministries

**March 28: Maundy Thursday**

7:00pm Communion Service

**March 29: Good Friday**

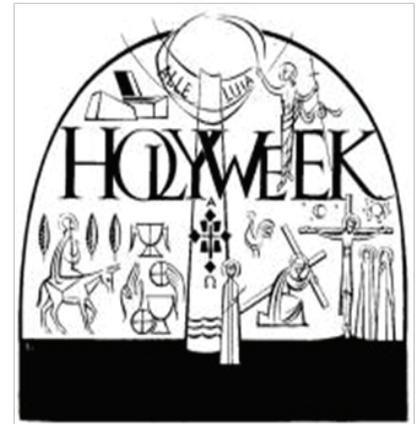
7:00pm Interchurch Worship Service

A cooperative service in our sanctuary with members of First Presbyterian and Trinity United Methodist churches.

**March 31: Easter Sunday**

7:30am Continental Breakfast served by Youth Ministries

9:00am Worship Service



**The Easter Offering of the Disciples Mission Fund (DMF) supports the general ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) – the Church in the world!**

## TENDING OUR VESSELS

A couple of weeks ago a big story in the news was a cruise ship stuck at sea with no electricity or running water. System failures and a fire had resulted in the ship and thousands of passengers being towed into port under terrible conditions. The story was only the latest in a series of incidents and accidents involving such vessels in recent years.



Coincidentally, this was the same week the HVAC (heating, ventilation & air conditioning) system in our sanctuary failed again. As with a similar failure last summer, we were forced to worship in more crowded environs in Minnerly Hall until a “workaround” could be figured out this past Sunday and we were able to return. About the same time, our staff came in one chilly morning to find the boiler had gone out in the original building.

While it felt initially like there were demons at work, most who have been around the church for a while know the demon has name; it is “deferred maintenance”. For many years now, our congregation has been trying to get by with minimal repairs and solutions patched together to keep things running. It should be noted that many of our congregation’s **staff and volunteers deserve credit and much thanks for their hard work in repairs and maintenance.** They are not the “demons”.

What many in our church family may not realize is that we have essentially two separate buildings, with at least six HVAC systems between them. Most of these systems have been in use longer than the manufacturers expected service life.

The original building is nearly 60 years old, and is primarily heated by the single, gas-fired hot water boiler installed in construction. There was no capability at the time for air conditioning, but just last year we installed “mini-split” units that supplement the heating and provide AC for some of the rooms. These are not intended to be primary heat sources, but instead allow us to increase efficiency somewhat by keeping the rooms at a constant lower temperature and then raising it when the rooms are actually occupied.

In the “new” building (nearly 30 years old), the sanctuary HVAC system is a massive forced air unit supplemented by passive solar heating. The blower for this unit was repaired last summer, but **the system is now broken beyond repair.** It was originally a custom-designed solution, and replacement parts are no longer on the shelf. In addition, there are rooftop HVAC systems for the narthex (2) and choir room.

The emerging consensus among your leadership – property team, trustees and members of the board – is that **it is time to make a commitment to our future** in meeting these challenges. In consultation with HVAC professionals and the *Church Extension* arm of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), they are pursuing a comprehensive plan that would end our periodic system failures and **lower the energy expenditures from our annual budget.**

A Christian church is not generally like a cruise ship, but our situations do share some similarities. The cruise companies (hopefully) realize that potential customers are lost every time there is an incident like this. How many people on that ship – stuck at sea with no running water or bathroom facilities – will ever step foot on a vessel again? How many who followed the story will now choose another option for vacation?

Likewise, potential members (and perhaps even some current ones) may see frequent breakdowns and patched repairs as sign that we are a “sinking ship”, reducing their enthusiasm for investment of their time, treasure, and presence. In this way, both our congregation and the cruise lines have good reason to restore confidence by making sure we get it right.

God has charged us with stewardship over vessels like our building and other assets so that we may effectively carry out our mission. When there is sufficient information available, your church leaders will present a plan for your consideration and input. In the meantime, please remain both patient and prayerful.

*Love, Grace and Peace,*  
*Michael*

# Rachel's Remarks

## The Scoop on Summer Camps and Mission Trips...

It's still winter, but there's a lot of buzz about summer in the youth ministry; it's registration time! Here's the scoop:

**Summer Camps**, through the Central Rocky Mountain Region, are offered for children and youth currently in grades 1-12 in June. CYF (high school) and Junior camp (grades 3-5) will be June 16-22, Chi Rho (middle school) June 23-29, and Discovery (grades 1-3) June 27-29. These camps will be held at beautiful LaForet in the Black Forest. Each camp is tailored to their specific age group, and will likely include small group meetings, large group activities, powerful camper-led worship services, inspiring keynotes, crafts, games, and much more. They are a wonderful opportunity for our children and youth to connect with God and other faithful youth (and adults who love to mentor youth) in the outdoors, away from the struggles, temptations, and technology that so often distracts us in our daily life. Relationships formed at camp are often amongst the strongest, and faith decisions are lasting and impactful.

**Mission Trips** for Chi Rho and CYF will be offered in partnership with Heart of the Rockies Christian Church and First Christian Church of Greeley this year. We are very excited for this partnership and the many ways it promises to make these trips transformative! CYF will be traveling to Joplin, Missouri, to work through Rebuilding Joplin in the continuing recovery efforts from the 2011 tornados. Chi Rho will be traveling to Alamosa, Colorado to work at LaPuente Home's network of services for the homeless and poverty stricken. These trips offer eye opening glances at the struggles many people are facing and wonderful opportunities to take a healthy step outside of our comfort zones to serve others before ourselves. By traveling, youth are exposed to a wider world view, are stretched a bit farther out of their comfort zone, are empowered to experience life differently, and are exposed to God's workings in a much more powerful way outside the familiarity of our own community. We hope that these experiences grow the youth's thirst for justice in a way that then better opens their eyes and hearts to the needs of the underprivileged, and empowers them to make a lasting difference with their lives.

**Sweets for the Sweet raised just over \$1300 toward our summer mission trips! Many thanks to the Diaconate and LifeCare participants who made this possible by their donations and efforts as well as those who bid so generously (and with fervor!) on their sweet treats. That's 4 lives changed by a mission trip – let's see how many we can send to camp with our Palm Sunday and Easter fundraising meals!**

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

### **Summer Camp Forms Available NOW**

Pick up a packet at church or download from [crrmdoc.org](http://crrmdoc.org), ministries tab, youth section

### **Mission Trip Reservation Forms Available**

Sun, March 3

### **Palm Sunday Lunch**

Sun, March 24

### **Easter Breakfast**

Sun, March 31

### **Summer Camp Forms DUE**

Sun, April 7

### **Mission Trip Reservations DUE**

Sun, May 5

### **Want more info?**

Email [Rachel@lovelanddisciples.org](mailto: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.

### **Family Game Day**

Come join us for a family game day on March 16<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm. Please bring your favorite board or card game or suggestions for a non board or card game. We will serve hot dogs, chips, and popcorn for a donation! We encourage you to bring your favorite snack for all to share. Children under the age of 16 will need to be accompanied by an adult. Event sponsored by the Congregational Life Team.

### **Can We Buy You Dinner?**

Some folks have asked me why the Colorado Christian Home/ Tennyson Center Dinner hasn't been held at the new Embassy Suites facility near The Ranch.

Well, the good news is that this year it will be. The bad news: We had to commit to 300 dinners to get a deal. That means we have to beat our best attendance so far, 270ish, by an additional 30 guests. So here goes a leap of faith that we won't pay for dinners nobody is there to eat.

**Which brings me to my request of you.** If asked to be a table host or a guest at this years dinner April 19th, will you give it special consideration this year? Do you have friends or neighbors you could invite and help fill up your table, especially with non-First Christian folks. I'm not worried about over inviting this time so please go for it, and if I can help, let me know how.

Bob Tinnen 667-7748

### **OWLS Outing**

The OWLS will be gathering at the Village Inn, 1225 W. Eisenhower Loveland on Friday March 8, 2013 for lunch at 11:30 am. All are welcome, please use the sign up sheet if you plan to come.

### **Thank You Music Department**

Sunday, Feb. 24 was a real inspiration. We may have been few in attendance due to the great snow, but we had magnificent music.

The choir anthem, the bell ringers and the majestic duet on the piano and organ by Troy and Karen were all a real blessing. We hope these will be repeated so that more can hear them.

It was great to see 3 generations together in the Bell Choir! Who? you might ask: Fran Davis, her daughter, Bobbie Carlson, and her daughter, Bobby Jo Carlson.

By-the-way, all 10 in the Bell Choir made it through the snow, as did most of the members of the Choir. Karen Lee comes over from Eaton. That is real dedication!

## Clothing Give Away

Hello Church it is that time of year where we are all thinking about starting our spring cleaning. What does that mean to you? Spring cleaning means to me out with the old and in with the new. While you are contemplating on what do with all that stuff that you want to purge be thinking of the church. The clothing given a way will be June 8, 2013 from 8-1:00ish. We are looking for good useable clothing all sizes and shape, from babies, kids, to adult clothing, purses, shoes, belts, coats; all items need to be free of holes and stains. If you would like to help out with this Outreach there will be a meeting on Sunday March 10<sup>th</sup> right after church. For more information please contact Tammy Swartz at 970-962-9612.

## You Can Avoid A Stroke!

Most people can't identify a single risk factor or a warning sign of stroke, yet over 750,000 Americans will be affected by a stroke this year alone!

Life Line Screening will be at First Christian Church of Loveland performing a day of preventive health screenings on 5/7/2013.

Screenings are fast, painless and offered at low cost. They involve the use of ultrasound technology and scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries which can lead to a stroke, aortic aneurysms which can lead to a rupture, and plaque buildup in the arteries in the legs which is a strong predictor of heart disease. Also offered for men and women is a bone density screening to assess their risk for osteoporosis.

These non-invasive, inexpensive and painless ultrasound tests help people identify their risk for stroke, vascular diseases or osteoporosis early enough for their physician to begin preventive procedures.

Appointments spaces are limited and pre-registration is required. Sign up now by calling toll free to 1-888-653-6441

## Save the Date

April 26th is ladies night out at the church. The dinner will be cooked by the men of the church. More info will follow in the April LINK

## Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School is in the planning stages; Tracie Zakavec and Tammy Swartz are really excited to be partnering up for this year's VBS at First Christian Church. After viewing this year curriculum we are in need of some items, and would love all the help we can get. Here is a few of our wish items to start saving and recycling from your home.

- Empty-clean-with lids plastic jars around the 16 ounce size would be great. (Peanut Butter, Mayo jars would be the best)
- Small object-colorful beads, small farm animal erasers etc. Let your imagination run wild with this one.
- Terra Cotta-flower pots either 6 inch or 10 inch pots would work.
- Bird seed
- Toy Farm tractor's a variety of sizes

Please drop off all the above items in the Nursery on Sunday mornings, from now until July. For more information on how you can help please visit with:

- Tracie Zakavec at 303-744-1134 or [tzakavec@yahoo.com](mailto:tzakavec@yahoo.com)
- Tammy Swartz 970-962-9612 or [tswartz1784@comcast.net](mailto:tswartz1784@comcast.net).

Be watching for future updates on how to make this year's Vacation Bible School a **SUCCESS**, where might God be calling you this year!



Global Ministries has provided us with a year of missionaries that we can pray for each week. Each month I will give you the featured people that we can be praying for. Feel free to visit the Global Ministries web page to find a Weekly Prayer. [www.globalministries.org](http://www.globalministries.org)

March 3<sup>rd</sup> Phyllis Bryd-Kenya

March 10<sup>th</sup> Laura Jean Torgerson and Tm Donaghy-Nicaragua

March 17<sup>th</sup> Barbara and Zoltan Szucs-Hungary

March 24<sup>th</sup> Tim Rose-Guadeloupe/Martinique

March 31<sup>st</sup> Bruce Van Voorhis-Hong Kong



### First Sunday Food

First Sunday Food has been a great success in 2012. FCC as a Body of Christ will continue our efforts to support The House of Neighborly Service of Loveland. By doing this small act of kindness we are showing God's Love to our

community along with being Church in the World. You will find a list of this year food items, that we will be collecting, the list will also be posted by the Outreach board in the Fellowship Hall. What if you forget your food item on this given Sunday? That is ok, just bring in your items when you come the next Sunday and drop it off by the Nursery. The Nursery Staff will place it into a collecting bucket until the First Sunday collection date. What if you have food items in your pantry that you won't use? Bring those items in on the first Sunday and add them to our collection, the more food items the better. If you have any questions please contact Tammy Swartz at 970-962-9612

- January- 48 jars of Peanut Butter a variety of sizes, 27 jars of jelly a variety of sizes and flavors. 2-cans of salmon, 1-can of chicken, 2 -dry milk, 2-formula, 2-boxes of crackers, 1-popcorn, 2-baby food, 7-singe servings of oatmeal, 3-ensure, 2-muffins mixes, 1-cranberry sauce. With a total of 130.5 lbs for HNS
- February-40-bags of microwave popcorn, 6-peanut butter, 4-jelly, 2 -cake mixes, 2-frostings, 1-can of pumpkin, 1-diced tomatoes, 1-canned fruit, 15-tuna, 5-chicken, 11-dry soups, 5-chilli, 1-Chef Boyardee, 19-small soups, 10-lg soups, 12-cup of noodles, 11-ramen.
- March-Mac & Cheese, Ramen
- April-Canned Fruit
- May-Pasta & Sauce
- June-Dry Cereal
- July-Peanut Butter & Jelly
- August-Mac & Cheese
- September-Canned Meat
- October-Canned Vegetables
- November-Dry Mixes (muffin mix, cake mix, stuffing, seasonings, flour, sugar)
- December-Canned Meat

### Red Envelope Collection

January = \$707.00

February = \$289.76



**From Our Treasurer**  
Don Stoppel

**END OF YEAR FINANCIAL SUMMARY**  
**(Compared to 2012 Budget)**

**INCOME**

Congregation Contributions below budget by \$50,000  
Building Use Income below Budget by \$13,000

**EXPENSES**

Total Expenditures below budget by \$85,000  
Administrative Expenses by \$10,000  
Personnel Expenses by \$41,000  
Property Expenses by \$23,000  
Other Programs by \$11,000

**COMMENTS**

Although we completed 2012 with a budget surplus of \$22,000, this was achieved through some very painful decisions and serious sacrifices.

Personnel savings were accomplished through elimination of positions and lowering of salary for the incoming minister.

Property savings were accomplished by deferring building maintenance (see the *Minister's Moment* elsewhere in this newsletter).

**Outlook for 2013**

Our budget for this year was significantly reduced, and we are meeting expectations so far. I am working with all program and administrative units to help plan and project our budget so we can track through the year how we are doing and effectively allocate resources.

**A FINAL THOUGHT...**

*I reached in my pocket for a dime  
To give to my Savior divine  
But as I, I knew in my heart  
This was not enough to do my part  
I must break this trend of giving less  
To Jesus, who saved me and all the rest  
God, please speak to me in a silent way  
That I will give more and feel good each day*

## March Birthdays

JESKULSKI, Bella	6-Mar
SPIREK, Gloria	6-Mar
HEINZE, Helen	8-Mar
HANSEN, Jordan	9-Mar
SCHMIDT, Doris	9-Mar
PERRY, Toni	10-Mar
STENCEL, Judy	13-Mar
BUROW, Gwen	14-Mar
MASTERSON, Martha	14-Mar
WALTERS, Edna	15-Mar
JESKULSKI, Dash	16-Mar
WRAY, Hugh	18-Mar
BROWNRIGG, Mary Jane (Joy)	19-Mar
MAHONY, Michael	19-Mar
JENKINS, Merlyn	20-Mar
VAUGHN, John	20-Mar
HINKLE, Lou	23-Mar
KLASSEN, Daryle	23-Mar
BLOCKER, Connie	24-Mar
REISDORFF, Debbie	25-Mar
ZIMBELMAN, Maxine	25-Mar
DAVIS, DeLois	26-Mar
HALE, Frances	26-Mar
PETERS, Marcia	26-Mar
RUEGSEGGER, Harvey	26-Mar
KELLUMS, Ashley	28-Mar
MORGAN, Andrew	28-Mar
CAMPAGNA, Bob	30-Mar
SEATON, Ron	30-Mar

## March Anniversaries

WOHLMAN, Jerry & Alice Jo	1-Mar
COOPER, John & Loraine	4-Mar
UDLOCK, Michael & Dana	12-Mar
BOUDREAU, Tom & Pam	19-Mar
PERSON, Craig & Bobbie	21-Mar
MCGEE, Larry & Pam	25-Mar
SCHLINGMAN, William & Corwin	29-Mar
HAUGHEY, Dave & Kay	31-Mar



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<b>1</b> 7:15a Men's reunion group	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> 9a Worship 10:30a Sunday School <i>First Sunday Food— Mac n Cheese, Ramen</i>	<b>4</b> 6p Women's reunion group	<b>5</b> 6:30p Grief Share	<b>6</b> 10:30a Trustees 12p Life Tree Café 6p Xone 77 6p Reach 7p Life Tree Café	<b>7</b> 6p Bell Choir 7p Chancel Choir	<b>8</b> 7:15a Men's reunion group	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 9a Worship 10:30a Sunday School 11:30a Sweets for the Sweet	<b>11</b> 9:30a Rachel Circle 6p Women's reunion group 7p Program Ministries	<b>12</b> 6:30p Grief Share	<b>13</b> 12p Life Tree Café 6p Xone77 6p Reach 7p Life Tree Café	<b>14</b> 6p Bell Choir 7p Chancel Choir	<b>15 Link Deadline</b> 7:15a Men's reunion group	<b>16</b> 4p FCC Game Day
<b>17</b> 9a Worship 10:30a Sunday School	<b>18</b> 6p Women's reunion group 7p General Board	<b>19</b> 6:30p Grief Share 7p Mary's Circle	<b>20</b> 12p Life Tree Café 6p Xone77 6p Reach 7p Life Tree Café	<b>21</b> 6p Bell Choir 7p Chancel Choir	<b>22</b> 7:15a Men's reunion group	<b>23</b>
<b>24 Palm Sunday</b> 9a Easter Cantata 10:30a Youth Brunch <hr/> <b>31</b> 7:30a Youth Breakfast 9a Worship Service	<b>25 IHN Week</b> 6p Women's reunion group 7p Worship Committee	<b>26</b> 6:30p Grief Share 7p Elders Meeting	<b>27</b> 12p Life Tree Café 6p Xone77 6p Reach 7p Life Tree Café	<b>28</b> 7p Maundy Thursday Service	<b>29</b> 7:15a Men's reunion group 7p Good Friday Service	<b>30</b>

**First Christian Church**  
**www.lovelanddisciples.org**

2000 N. Lincoln Ave.  
Loveland, CO 80538

Phone: 970-667-1318  
Fax: 970-744-7047  
Careline: 970-663-4436  
E-mail: [kirsten@lovelanddisciples.org](mailto:kirsten@lovelanddisciples.org)

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## 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.

STATEMENT  
**Our Mission**  
STATEMENT  
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STATEMENT

