



Connecting
Us with God and
one another

July 1, 2013

Interim 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.



JULY 21st IS MISSION SUNDAY!

Come for fun and fellowship as we celebrate both domestic and worldwide mission on Sunday, July 21st. The day looks like this:

8:30am Pre-worship fellowship, with coffee, donuts, and a **PUTTING GREEN!**

9:00am Worship Service celebrating the continuing **SHIPROCK (NM) MISSION.**

In celebration and anticipation of the SHIPROCK GOLF TOURNAMENT August 17th, everyone is invited to **wear "golfing attire" to worship on this Sunday.** If you're not a golfer, wear what you think you'd wear on the course.

Stick around after worship to enjoy the putting green and learn more about the Navajo Work Project at Shiprock.

11:30am Our **VENEZUELA MISSION PARTNERS** join us for a **POTLUCK LUNCH**, with special guests from around the Central Rocky Mountain Region!

The Congregational Life Team is providing chicken as a main dish for the lunch. **Please bring at least one side dish** (salad, vegetable, or dessert) to share – more are welcome.

WORSHIP WAYS

About a year ago at this time, our congregation was struggling with some of the most difficult decisions in our 135 year history. Faced with deep dissension and crushing budget shortfalls, **the**



church had to make painful choices. In the aftermath of that firestorm, a short-term pastor and a long-term music director were among the casualties. In the past month, I've had the pleasure of meeting both Rebecca Heller and Neil Forsythe as they visited our building. I know many of you have been praying for them and for their families as they transition to new lives, and I believe their brief presence here to be a **sign of healing** from the painful circumstances of their leaving.

Among the collateral damage of these decisions was the loss of a weekly worship opportunity. In order to preserve resources and “hunker down”, the congregation eliminated the later service and sought to provide a service at 9:00am that would seek to combine elements of both worship styles. In the pursuant pain, **many are still grieving the loss of the former service** – including those who have left to find a more suitable worship opportunity elsewhere. Others have found it hard to adjust to changes in the remaining worship service.

Last week during worship **we gave thanks and appreciation for the music leaders who have helped us through these difficult times.** Gina Schuh-Turner and her brother Troy Schuh have been a real gift, stepping in to provide leadership and accompaniment to the choirs. Although Gina is a part-time staff member (Neil was full time), she has energized the chancel choir and helped to resurrect the handbell choir. Their longtime teacher and musical mentor, Karen Lee, also joined us on a regular basis to provide accompaniment on organ and piano.

The choir members have also weathered a difficult storm, seeking to maintain their historical excellence through all the changes. With departures of former members and addition of new ones, they have provided weekly anthems and helped to improve congregational singing by practicing the hymns beforehand. As they take a break for a

couple of months, we genuinely thank them for their dedication and devotion.

As a next step in our healing and moving on, the **Worship Team is working to create a new opportunity for worship, to be launched after Labor Day.** The additional service is planned for Sunday mornings, beginning at 11:15, and will take place in Minnerly Hall. Tentatively called “Sunday Interactive”, the service is intended to be shorter and less formal than the earlier one. Seating will be around circular tables, and the music will be simple and lighter. Communion will be served by intinction, and the message will be conversational rather than sermon style. Participants will be invited to bring their coffee and their “gadgets” with them.

This new service and style is certainly not for everyone (although everyone is welcome). **Our hope is to appeal to people who need or want to worship later in the day, as well those who desire a more relaxed atmosphere.** If you're someone who has wished to ask questions or add your thoughts to the morning message, this may be for you. The central theme will still be scripturally based, but the participants will decide the direction it takes.

Our anticipation is that the style of the service will evolve over time; as more participants are drawn in, we will listen and adapt to their input. The service will likely not look a year from now as it does when first starting out.

Such a step does not come without anxiety, and it will take dedication to overcome some of the anticipated challenges. **We want to continue to grow participation in the early service as well,** avoiding “cannibalization” of members from one service to the other. Likewise, we want to create opportunities for fellowship between persons who attend at different times, to avoid being “two congregations”.

My prayer as we begin this venture is for open hearts, open minds, and the creative energy of the Holy Spirit in our midst. Will you join me in these prayers?

*Love, Grace and Peace,
Michael*

The Youth Have Left the Building...

After months of preparation – planning, fundraising, filling out forms, shopping for packing list items, making travel arrangements, and finally packing – our youth have left the building! It's mid-June as I'm writing this; regular youth group meetings and Sunday school classes have stopped for the summer, and it seems like all of the youth have disappeared. I have good news though: they haven't left the church, they've just left the building!

I leave for two weeks of camp tomorrow, soon to be joined by many of our youth as well as youth and youth leaders from all across the Central Rocky Mountain Region. After that we'll have a few days to rest and recover our energy before our Loveland mission trips start, and not only do we have a great high school trip to Joplin planned, this year we have the biggest middle school mission trip group we've had in 5 years – and this will be the very first mission trip for three of them!

Just as Jesus took time away to study and pray, and just as he traveled to serve the suffering and reconcile them with their loving God, our youth are stepping outside our walls, embarking on adventures of spiritual growth and faith in action so that they may better understand Jesus' teachings and connect to their Creator.

As you are reading this, we are right in the middle of it all, returning home from camp, processing our mountaintop experiences, and adjusting back into our daily lives. We are tired, but spiritually rejuvenated; we are the same people who left, and yet are made new. We are re-packing for our next adventures, anticipating the new experiences we will have with new people to serve and learn from. We hope that you will keep us in your hearts and prayers, and that when we return at the end, you will welcome us with open minds to hear our stories, with open arms to remind us we are loved, and with open hearts to welcome us back in as family.

With hope and gratitude,
Rachel

One more quick note: Every year, when we take our middle school trip to Alamosa, we are given the task of searching a pantry of donated food and with it, making a meal for anywhere from 60-120 people. We do this for 7 meals, and often need to supplement the pantry with groceries so that we can serve delicious, well balanced, and nutritious meals. This year we are collecting donations to fund our grocery trips. If you would like to donate, please place your cash or check in an envelope, label it "mission trip food", and place it in the offering plate. Thank you for joining us in this labor of love!

Weekly Youth Meetings

for youth in grades 6 – 12

Sundays: Rush Hour

Our Youth class will resume in the fall.

Wednesdays: Xone 77

Regular youth group meetings will resume in the fall; in the meantime, pick up a summer schedule!

Upcoming Youth Events & Important Dates

CYF Mission Trip Team Building Meeting

July 3, 6-8pm

This meeting is very important for all participants to attend!

CYF Mission Trip to Joplin

July 6-13

Please keep Rachel, Ben, and Miranda in your prayers as well as the youth and leaders from Heart of the Rockies and FCC Greeley.

Chi Rho Mission Trip to Alamosa

July 28-Aug 3

Please keep Rachel, Brooke, Jayla, Andrea, and Tyner in your prayers as well as the youth and leaders from HRCC and FCC Greeley

6th Grade Orientation Night

Aug 21, 6:30-7:30pm
(tentative, TBD)

This will be a special night for incoming 6th graders and their parents to meet our youth leaders, learn about youth group, and ask any questions before their first youth group meeting!

Find us on Facebook!

facebook.com/FCCLovelandYouth



OWLS Outing (Older Wiser Livelier Seniors)

The OWLS will be going to lunch on Friday July 12, 2013. Please meet at the church (south side) at 11:00 am. Destination will be a surprise. Please contact Ann M. or Bonnie R. for more info. Sign up sheet is on the bulletin board near the kitchen.

FCC Potluck and Game Night!

Back by popular demand! Our last game night had a light turn out, but those who did make it had a ball, so we are going to give it another try. Please join us for an evening of fun board games and a potluck. We have several games to choose from or bring your favorite one with you. All age groups are welcome.

What: Potluck and games
When: Fri. Jul 19, Fri. Sept 20,
Fri. Nov 15
Where: Minnerly Hall
What time: 6:00pm

Yeehaw!!!!!!!!!!!!

Grab those overalls and straw hats -- It's time for a HayDay! The 2013 Vacation Bible School season is upon us! We are excited to bring this condensed version of VBS to our congregation, with all of the same activities in one day of fun. Summer 2013 VBS will be held Saturday, July 27th. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Tracie Zakavec, 303-774-1134 or Tammy Swartz at 970-962-9612

Rockies Faith Day

FCC has purchased 35 tickets for the August Rockies Faith Day. Please contact Tracy Morgan at 669-2808 to purchase tickets for \$23.00 each. Tickets include the game and the postgame concert Colorado Rockies vs. Pittsburgh Pirates

Date: Sunday, August 11

Game Time: 2:10 p.m.

Musical Guest: David Crowder



Card Request

Ann Knodel, a former member of FCC, is living in Colorado Springs. Ann fell and broke her leg and collar bone a short time ago and is in a rehab center. The family gave me the following address for anyone who would like to send her cards and get well wishes.

Ann Knodel
c/o Gwen Volle
295 Gaines Ct
Colorado Springs, CO 80919

Shiprock Scramble Golf Tournament

This year's Shiprock Scramble Golf Tournament to benefit the 17th Annual Navajo Work Project will be held on Saturday, August 17th at the Cattail Creek Golf Course in Loveland. Those wishing to play may contact the Church Coordinator, Joyce Walker at 970-667-5653, to get a registration form. The registration fee per person is \$50.00, and that includes green fees, a supply of balls and tees, refreshments at the course, a meal after golf, and prizes for all contestants.

Funds raised from the event will be used to purchase supplies and materials for work to be done at the Hogback Chapter of the Navajo Nation in Shiprock, NM. Hole sponsorship is also available at \$50.00 per hole. Any donations or cash or in-kind goods for prizes are appreciated. Donations can be given to Joyce Walker or checks may be written to First Christian Church with 'Shiprock Fund' in the memo line.

The Navajo Work Project will be held this year from September 18th - 22nd on the Reservation. Those interested in volunteering may contact John Shaw at 970-493-0572, or email at jcsaw65@q.com. All skill levels are needed for the work to be done. Projects are assigned to teams of workers. Volunteers eat and sleep on the Reservation unless other arrangements are made.



Church in the World

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

July 7th Gloria Vicente-Guatemala

July 14th Julianna Nitz- Sri Lanka

July 21st Nancy Lott Henry-India

July 28th Marilyn Cooper and Glen Hebert-Ecuador

First Sunday Food



June: We collected 28 lg boxes of dry cereal, 28 small boxes of dry cereal, 5-hot cereal, 1-lg pasta sauce, 2-pkg of spaghetti noodles, 2-mac n cheese, 2 muffin mix with a grand total of 79.6 lbs for the House of Neighborly Service.

Clothing Give Away day we collected 6-boxes of variety canned goods,

along with dry goods with a total of 210.4 lbs.

- 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

Grocery Coupon Ministry

How do you dispose of the various grocery coupons that arrive with most Sunday papers? Would you like to help our military families rather than tossing them in the trash or recycle bin? Did you know that the grocery coupon ministry sent 60,000 coupons abroad last year? Please contact Joy Brownrigg at 970-669-58333 for details how you can help.



Clothing Give Away

Thank you to everyone who helped with the clothing give away, either by prayer, folding clothing, carrying out boxes, bringing in food to help feed all of our helpers throughout the week, or greeting our community as they arrived. I would also like to say thank you to everyone who donated clothing from their own closet, who brought in clothing from their neighbors, friends, and family. Without all of you this Out Reach event would not take place each year! We as the **Body of Christ** were able to **Show the Love of God** to about 250 community members this year. We as the Church were able to provide showers to two homeless individuals along with feeding one homeless gentleman; we provided a ride downtown for someone too. This event is more than just giving away clothing it is about seeing a need and filling a need. **Jesus** was in the two that needed showers, **Jesus** was in the one who needed fed, and **Jesus** was in the one who needed a ride. **Jesus** was present with us on this day, we as a church just need to have our eyes and our heart open on this day and every day so that **WE** can see **Jesus**. What happened to all the left over clothing? The clothing this year was donated to the Catholic Charities in Greeley, House of Neighborly Services in Loveland, McKee Thrift in Loveland, Larimer County Detention Center in Fort Collins. The 6 boxes of canned goods were donated to House of Neighborly Service of Loveland. Thank you again for all that you do in the name of God, all of you are a God Sighting to me.

Peace and Grace, your Humble Servant Tammy Swartz

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

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.

STATEMENT
Our Mission
STATEMENT
STATEMENT
STATEMENT

