



Connecting  
Us with God and  
one another

June 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](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.

## 2 NEW Classes Starting June 12th

### Simple Relevant Self-Control

Imagine how sensational it feels to be **FREE**:

- Free from guilt
- Free from anger
- Free from unhealthy desires

It's all about developing self-control and experiencing the abundance of life God promised us. Let God's Word come alive in you, and be set free celebrating your new found freedom with yourself and your friends. Experience friendly and fun sessions that guide you in discovering how to develop self-control by listening to God. Starting June 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. Tammy Swartz will begin a women's study on Simple Relevant study on Self-Control. The books will cost \$7.00 for this class I hope to see you there for a fun night of fellowship and learning what God has in store for each of us. For more information please visit with Tammy at 970-962-9612 or [tswartz1784@comcast.net](mailto:tswartz1784@comcast.net)

### The Driving Force: Living Life at Full Speed

Gentlemen, start your engines.....Matt Swartz will begin a new class starting on June 12, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. meeting in the Narthex. You will be studying The Driving Force by Kyle Petty.

**A life of purpose.**

**Of power.**

**Of passion.**

A life like that lived by NASCAR champion Kyle Petty.

In these sessions, Kyle Petty shares with you men the lessons it's taken him a life time-and more than 850 NASCAR races-to learn.

Each participant will learn to:

- Focus their ambition so they win where it matters most
- Find purpose in a crowded, pressure-packed world
- Survive losses without bitterness or regret
- Serve others in ways that endure
- Experience life beyond themselves—through Jesus Christ

This study will help men know more about Kyle Petty, grow in their friendships with each other, and draw closer to God. For more information and reserve your copy of Kyle Petty book please call Matt Swartz at 970-215-1783 or emails him at [mswartz1783@comcast.net](mailto:mswartz1783@comcast.net). The cost of this class is \$2.00 for your book.

## A CALM CHURCH IN AN ANXIOUS WORLD

Last week I took the opportunity to participate in a workshop on *Leadership and Anxiety in the Church*, sponsored by a well-respected institute with ties to the Mennonite Christian tradition. The workshop was both a refresher of concepts I'd studied in seminary and some helpful context in my current position as interim minister.



At the heart of the session is an approach called *Family Systems Theory*, which was developed to help understand and provide help to actual families. It assumes that every person in the family is influenced by the behavior of others, often tracing back several generations. What many of us know from our own experience – that traumatic events and dark secrets continue to injure long after they have happened – is laid out in a comprehensible way.

Over the years, it has occurred to some researchers and practitioners that congregations act more like families than institutions; that behavior and relationships are a more meaningful way of looking at churches than just their doctrines, creeds, and organizational structures. As with biological and adoptive families, the joys and hurts in church families can be passed from one generation to the next without being recognized or resolved. With this realization, we have used Family Systems principles to examine and help to heal our church families.

The hurts begin with anxiety about some situation or event; perhaps the decision to build a new building, the departure of a pastor, or other changes. The anxiety may be intensified by other factors, such as conditions and events in the community, the country, or society. Often the congregation gets dragged into trauma and controversy that is happening outside the walls.

A certain amount of anxiety can be a good thing, perhaps even necessary. Without some anxiety, we would frequently be unmotivated to do or to change things that need to be done. An appropriate response – proportional to the level of urgency – is healthy and normal. Once a decision is made and action taken, the anxiety subsides and we are better off for the experience.

The anxiety is unhealthy and harmful when our response is out of proportion to the situation. We may be overreacting due to societal conditions, or more importantly, we may be reacting out of memory of a previous incident or situation. Sometimes we don't actually remember that incident, or directly tie it to the current situation because the memory is subconscious. Our brains and our bodies go into "autopilot" and we become overly anxious and even fearful.

A symptom of that over anxiety and fearfulness is an elevated degree of conflict, both in our home families and in our church family. We start to fight over things that normally might seem trivial, and the intensity of our conflict is out of proportion to the problem or issue. Left unresolved, it causes families to deteriorate and churches to divide. Fighting over the "little things" prevents us from addressing the "big things" we may be afraid to talk about. We start to look for people to blame, so that we may punish them or banish them.

The researchers and practitioners may have fleshed out the theories, but it was Jesus who recognized these truths long before. So many times throughout the Gospels, he tells his disciples and others some variation of the phrase, "be not afraid". He advises them – and us – to relate to each other in love, respect, and compassion as an antidote to the debilitating effects of fear and anxiety.

Our congregation and the larger church of Jesus Christ sees much to feel anxious about today. Changes in the world and in our society make us feel insecure and less influential than we have been in the past. Our numbers dwindle and our finances seem precarious. People outside and inside our fellowship suggest ideas and actions that are contrary to what we have known and believed our entire lives.

Perhaps the mission for our church and for each follower of Christ is to return to the role he prescribed for us – to be a less anxious presence in an over-anxious world. If we can be a model of how people can relate to anxiety without being overcome by it, we can be the model of the Reign of God that is mysteriously coming –and yet – already here.

*Love, Grace and Peace,  
Michael*

# Tonight

Tonight...

...someone shared their relief that a friend's injury was not as severe as it was initially thought to be.

...someone shared their worry about the unknown future.

...someone shared their excitement for an upcoming opportunity to share their talents with an audience.

...someone shared their concern that their final exams of the school year may be overwhelmingly challenging.

...someone laughed out loud, one of those full belly laughs that speaks only of genuine delight.

...someone shared their excited anticipation of a summer filled with new experiences.

...someone shared their disappointment in themselves, and received unconditional love and acceptance from their peers.

...someone shared a work of art they'd created while listening quietly to words of wisdom and the musings of their peers.

...someone pondered what heaven may be like when God has already created so much beauty, seen and unseen, on the earth.

...someone explored the possibility that God might be working more closely in and with this world than they'd previously imagined.

...someone struggled to understand why our loving God would allow such great suffering to exist in the world.

...someone gained a deeper understanding of the meaning of the cross.

Tonight...

... was just another youth group meeting, and yet it was one of those wonderfully special youth group meetings that offers particularly deep insight into the lives, hopes, worries, and wonderings of our youth. May you receive this glimpse into their minds and hearts, and know that they are learning faith, they are seeking connection, their budding discipleship is genuine, and their love runs deep.

With hope and gratitude,  
Rachel

## 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 Parent and Participant Meeting**

June 2, 4:30-6:30

### **Chi Rho Mission Trip Parent and Participant Meeting**

June 9, 4:30-6:30

### **CYF Camp (high sch.) Junior Camp (late elem. sch.)**

June 16-22

Please pray for our campers Miranda, Andy, Abbie, Aiden, and Tadan, and leaders Rachel, Tracy, and Brad!

### **Chi Rho Camp (middle sch.)**

June 23-29

Please pray for our campers Brooke, Andrea, and Jayla, and leader Rachel!

### **Discovery Camp (early elem.)**

June 27-29

Please pray for our camper Elijah and leader Rev. Michael!

### **CYF Mission Trip Team Building Meeting**

July 3, 6-8pm

### **Find us on Facebook!**

[facebook.com/FCCLovelandYouth](https://facebook.com/FCCLovelandYouth)



## OWLS Outing (Older Wiser Livelier Seniors)

The OWLS will be visiting the C and T Iris Patch near Eaton in early June. The date for a tour is weather dependent, thus will be determined soon. We will meet at the church, visit the iris patch and have lunch before returning to the church. Watch the for the date in the bulletins and on the bulletin board. Questions, see Bonnie R. or Ann M.

## HVAC Update

Last week the replacement storage shed was erected, in the first visible step of our HVAC renovation! In addition, a piece that was specially fabricated for the project has shipped from the factory in Texas. When it arrives the last week in May, our contractor will remove the old unit behind the sanctuary, as well as the old storage shed and the rooftop unit that heats/cool the choir room. The special piece will be installed and the site prepared for the new units on that side.

All of the forced-air equipment for the newer building has been ordered and will be scheduled for installation. The hot water system for older building will be installed as weather allows.

Thanks to everyone for your continued support, including those who have contributed more than \$9,000 in special gifts.

## Red Envelope Fund

The Trustees have established this fund to prepare for emergencies involving the church building, and invite you to give as you are able. The suggested contribution is \$1 a week, but larger gifts are welcome! You may place your gift in the Red Envelopes provided in your pew, or make a note on your check designating it for this purpose.

**IMPORTANT:** The Red Envelope Fund is not to be confused with special donations for the HVAC PROJECT. If you wish designate a gift for the Heating/AC system renovation, **please mark your check or envelope with "HVAC"!**

## Clean-Up Day June 15th

Starting at 9:00am we will be cleaning up the church grounds. We need as many helpers as we can get to make our church look beautiful on the outside. There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex or you can contact Dennis Swartz at 215-2205.

## Calling ALL Bunco players and anyone interested in learning Bunco!

If you can roll dice and want to have some fun and good fellowship, we want you! We are looking for adults, male or female, to start up a Bunco club. We need at least 12 people to get started, but would love to have many more join us. Bunco is a simple dice game that is easy to learn and requires no special skills. If you are interested please sign up in the Narthex or contact Kathy Vaughn, 663-3260.

What: Potluck and BUNCO

When: Fri. June 21, Fri. Aug 16,  
Fri. Oct 18, Fri. Dec 20

Where: Minnerly Hall

What time: 6:00pm

## 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

## Clothing Give Away Round Up!

### The clothing drive this year will be on June 8th

You may bring your clothing donations to any of the follow addresses and just leave your items on their front porch. Please make sure your boxes are closed and bags are tied, we would hate to have your clothing blown all over the neighborhood.

- Tom and Pam Boudreau  
7007 Spanish Bay Dr. Windsor #970-667-5550
- Kirsten and Travis Bayne  
200 Sequoia Circle Windsor #970-686-8975
- Shey and Jim Kron  
1701 Twin Lakes Circle Loveland #970-619-0725
- Julie and Patrick Estrada  
2806 SW 6th St Loveland #970-226-0532
- Tammy and Matt Swartz  
1123 Sycamore Dr Loveland #970-962-9612

We are in need of infant/children's/teen clothing, talk to your co-workers, neighbors or family member's and see if they have items to donate. If you need further information please contact myself or anyone above.  
Tammy Swartz



## 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](http://www.globalministries.org)

June 2<sup>nd</sup> Judy Chan Hong Kong

June 9<sup>th</sup> Jayanthi and Jim Wilson Botswana

June 16<sup>th</sup> Katie Moyer and Doug Smith Mexico

June 23<sup>rd</sup> Nichole Betteridge Laos

June 30<sup>th</sup> Andrew Long-Higgins Israel/Palestine



## First Sunday Food

May- **WOW** is all that I can say, you all did a wonderful job responding to Jesus' call this month. Here is what we as the **Body of Christ** collected: 44 pkgs of spaghetti, 22 pasta meals, 10 ramen, 4 boxes of cereal/oatmeal, 1 brownie mix, 2 cake mix, 1 box of crackers, 1 pancake flour, 28 jars of

pasta sauce, 15 cans of pasta sauce, 2 Alfredo sauce, 1 bag of choco chips, 6 pkgs of elbow macaroni, 5 pkgs of egg noodles, 7 pkgs of shells, 3 rotini, 6 pkgs of garden rotini, 3 penne, 6 jars of peanut butter, 1 lasagna, 1 manicotti, 3 pkg3 of fancy pasta, 1 rice, 1 ketchup, 1 mustard, 1 salsa, 6 jars of jelly, 1 cracker jack, 4 cans of fruit, 5 cans of meat, 1 Crisco, 1 French onions, 1 bread crumbs, 6 jello/pudding, 1 popcorn, 10 cans of tomato juice, 6 seasoning packet, 10 mac-n-cheese, 1-kleenex, 1 steak sauce, 25 cans of vegetables, 3 cans of tomato sauce, 5 cans of broth, 1 ravioli, 1 chili, 1 pizza sauce, 8 cans of family size soup, 6 cans of soup with a weight of 343.6 lbs WAY to GO FCC that is how we can be the Hands and Feet of Christ!

- 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



Thank you for the many words of encouragement and prayers before my heart surgery. Also, the numerous cards and prayers after surgery.

Thank you so much.

God Bless

Jan Spight.

Church Family,

Thank you so much for all the prayers, calls & cards during my surgery and recovery.

You're the best.

Love,

Jan Krings

Staff and members of First Christian Church,

On behalf of the Northern Colorado Emmaus Community, thank you for the generous use of your facility for our April walks. Many lives were touched & blessed throughout the weekends. Please accept our donation in appreciation for your help in making the walk to Emmaus weekends possible.

Blessings,

Pat Ferrell, Sec. NCEC

Dear members and staff of First Christian Church

Again, I want to thank you so much for the use of your church for my piano recital. I always feel like it is such a warm and loving place to have the recital, all the kids and adults feel welcome.

Many thanks,

Sincerely,

Debi Strick

## Remembering Those Who Served

As Memorial Day is upon us, we think especially of those who died in the service of our country, as well as others who sacrificed short of death, in war and in peacetime.

To recognize and remember such women and men in our congregation, we are relocating and expanding the display of currently serving people. The board will be moved to the Gallery side of the narthex, next to the American flag. In addition to members and family now in service, we wish to also honor veteran members and educate the congregation about their service with pictures and a short description of their experiences.

If you are a veteran or wish to be involved in the project, please contact Will Harmes or Pastor Michael. Further information will be coming in The Link and the weekly worship bulletins.





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

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Loveland, CO 80538

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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**  
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STATEMENT

