

Connecting  
Us with God and  
one another

August 1, 2015

**CONTACTING THE  
CHURCH STAFF**

Main Church Phone Number:  
(970) 667-1318

**Pastoral Leadership Team**

**Michael Stein**

Senior Minister  
Extension 30  
[michael@lovelanddisciples.org](mailto:michael@lovelanddisciples.org)  
Cellphone: (970) 775-4895

**Rachel Nelson**

Minister to Emerging Generations  
Extension 22  
[rachel@lovelanddisciples.org](mailto:rachel@lovelanddisciples.org)

**Pam Hilliard**

Minister for Grief and Loss  
(970) 215-5969  
[Hilliardp2@aol.com](mailto:Hilliardp2@aol.com)

**Tracy Morgan**

Commissioned Minister  
(970) 988-3219  
[tdmorgan@earthink.net](mailto:tdmorgan@earthink.net)

**Mission Support Staff**

**Kirsten Bayne**

Office Administrator  
Extension 21  
[kirsten@lovelanddisciples.org](mailto:kirsten@lovelanddisciples.org)

**Max and Marcia Peters**

Building Managers  
(970) 669-6895  
[mm4ever@q.com](mailto:mm4ever@q.com)

**Tammy Swartz**

Nursery/Childcare Director  
Extension 24  
[tswartz1784@comcast.net](mailto:tswartz1784@comcast.net)

**Gina Schuh-Turner**, Choir Dir.

**Karen Lee**, Organist

**Troy Schuh**, Pianist



**CHRISTIAN  
EDUCATION**



**CHRITSIAN EDUCATION NEWS!**

Starting September 13<sup>th</sup> we will be kicking off our Sunday school time, for children and adults. I am looking for some new faces to help with this years Sunday school classes for our children. If you feel God tugging at your heart to help in this area please contact Tammy Swartz at 970-962-9612 or [tswartz1784@comcast.net](mailto:tswartz1784@comcast.net) by August 15th. I have many options for you to fit with most schedules come and talk with me and together with Gods discernment we can make it happen. All of your class materials are provided along with a great snack that is incorporated into that week's lesson. If we don't get a few individual's to answer God's call, I will have to make a decision on whether or not we continue with this program. Ask yourself, is God calling you to volunteer, is God calling our church to provide a Sunday school time for our children? Where can you help? How can you make a difference in our church and with our children? Pray about how you may fit the need of our church in this ministry. Pray for God to guide all of us as we move forward. Blessings, Tammy Swartz

## BEING A PEOPLE OF WELCOME

Part of our longstanding Disciples tradition is to include a time in worship for persons to newly commit or to commit anew to a life in Christ. In practice, this frequently also means (but does not require) placing formal membership in our congregation.



It has been a joy this summer – in spite of lagging attendance – to witness the steady stream of persons coming forward during our hymn of commitment to publicly join in the life of the church. They are welcomed with a handshake and invited to proclaim once again the confession of faith:

*“I believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God, and proclaim him Lord and Savior of the world”*

As the service ends, Elders meet with them and the congregation is invited to greet them following worship. And that’s where **YOUR** responsibility begins.

For a newcomer to our church, it can be pretty daunting to find a place to fit in. Like any organization, small groups tend to form around people who have known each other for decades. These groups – formal and informal – are usually not intended to be exclusive, but they look and feel that way to others.

If we’re asked, nearly everyone will proudly insist that we are a “friendly” church where everyone is welcome. Few of us would consciously act to exclude people from the church or our groups, but we do fall into habits that can feel exclusive to others.

For instance, we invite everyone to share refreshments and fellowship on Sunday mornings before worship. John Liddle, Peggy Moore, Sandy Burch and other volunteers do a wonderful job of organizing our hospitality each week. If you’re one who enjoys these times on a regular basis, be thankful to those who buy the donuts and juice and make the coffee.

Let’s take that a step further. Look around your table each Sunday; are you always eating, drinking and conversing with the same people? Do you notice who comes in the doors after you? Are there newcomers who may be

unaware that they can share in this gift? In other words, can we think of this regular event less as something done for **US** and instead think of it as an occasion for hospitality we extend to others?

Our habits continue as we walk through the doors into worship. How many of us sit in the same place every service, with the same people? How many of us “mix it up” by changing our location and company as we gather with God? Perhaps first time visitors would feel more comfortable (and more likely to return) if an experienced member were to invite them to share a pew and help them to understand what’s happening.

I recognize that these steps are not easy for everyone. Many people inside and outside our congregation are not readily outgoing. They’re not unfriendly or exclusive, but they don’t feel comfortable in crowds or with strangers. For some, just entering the sanctuary requires courage. It is from recognition and respect for these persons that we no longer practice the forced “greet and grin” as a regular part of worship.

While respecting other’s boundaries, the Gospel also calls for us to extend our comfort zones in the name of hospitality. If we’re painfully shy, this may mean just a handshake and introduction.

If we’re more comfortable, an invitation to fellowship or Bible study class is a step further. Instead of heading directly out the door after worship, maybe we stick around and meet someone new – or get to know someone better. If plans include a meal, how about inviting someone else to join us?

And if we’re really courageous in the name of Christ, we don’t even have to wait until we arrive at the building. When was the last time you invited someone to your church? Chances are, you encounter people regularly who are not already part of worshipping and serving family. No evangelism strategy works better than an invitation from someone you know!

*Love, Grace and Peace;*  
*Michael*

# Summer Update

Our youth are right in the midst of their mountaintop experiences. Summer camps at LaForet went well, and our campers had a good time building friendships, worshipping God, and learning about the Holy Spirit (see pictures below). Our high school mission group returned from Portland having had numerous opportunities to observe, and take part in, intentional interactions between humanity and the environment. Our middle school mission group is packing their bags and preparing for their journey to the San Luis Valley where they will



cook, clean, garden, work, and learn with their less privileged neighbors. We appreciate the loving support of our church family, and look forward to sharing more about our trips in worship soon!



With hope  
and gratitude,  
Rachel

## **IMPORTANT INFO AND UPCOMING DATES**

### **FOR YOUTH:**

including grades 6 – 12

### **Youth Group**

Our youth group will return to its school year schedule of weekly meetings on Sunday, September 13. We meet in the youth room to enjoy time together playing games, having conversations about God and faith, sharing our lives, and building lasting friendships. New youth are always welcome!

### **Chi Rho Mission**

July 26 – August 1

Please pray for Abbie, Jayla, Rachel, and Tracie as they travel to Alamosa for their mission trip with partners from Fort Collins and Greeley

### **Final Summer Youth Gathering(s)**

Aug 23 and/or Aug 30

This will be an opportunity for youth to gather, reminisce over summer experiences, decorate the youth room, and make plans for fall youth group meetings. Be in touch with Rachel for more details as these dates approach!

### **FOR YOUNG ADULTS:**

#### **College Aged YA Gathering**

This fellowship group for anyone aged 18-23ish meets a couple of times a month for dinner, conversation, fun, and spiritual growth - Email

[Rachel@lovelanddisciples.org](mailto:Rachel@lovelanddisciples.org) for more information.

## Blessing of the Backpacks

Students of all ages! Bring your school backpack to worship August 9<sup>th</sup> for a special blessing to start the new school year!

We'll also ask God's blessings on the **donated backpacks and school supplies** to be disbursed the following Saturday August 15<sup>th</sup>.



## financial ministry

### June Stewardship

**Income:** \$19,289

\$2,378 **under** budget

**Expenses:** \$22,380

\$524 **below** budget

*The income shortfall for June reflects the seasonal drop in attendance, although the situation was improved by nearly \$1,600 in reimbursements from the Mission Station.*

*As we complete the first half of the year, our **cash flow** (income/expenses) is about **\$1,500 in the black**.*

*If vacations and other summer happenings have kept you away from church, **August is an excellent time to get caught up with your intentions for giving**. As always, thank you for your faithful stewardship.*

*Randy Kettenhofen, Treasurer*

## All Church Picnic August 30

The Community Garden Project invites everyone to share in a **celebration of the harvest** Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup>.



Following the 9:00am worship service, we'll gather for a **potluck picnic** on the church grounds. **Please bring meat, salad, or desert dishes to share with all.** Fresh produce from the garden will also be featured.



Music is essential in our worship and in the life of the church! Are you ready to be a part of this important ministry?

The **Chancel Choir resumes Thursday night rehearsals August 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm**. This choir is responsible for providing a leading voice in congregational singing, as well as presentation of anthems and seasonal cantatas.

The **Handbell Choir resumes rehearsal September 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm**. This choir provides occasional special music throughout the church year.

Choir Director Gina Schuh-Turner invites you join one or both of these excellent (and fun!) groups for a new season.

*We are grateful for the messages of love and support from our church family as we mourn the passing of my mother, Mary Lou Miller. We welcome your continued prayers as we plan to gather our family Labor Day weekend in Salida for a memorial service and celebration of her life.*

*Thank you!*

*Carla Stein and Family*



"Help for today... Hope for tomorrow"

## First Sunday Food Bank

On the first Sunday of each month, we invite our church family to contribute non-perishable food items for the community food bank. **Macaroni & cheese** is the suggested food for August, but any contributions are appreciated.



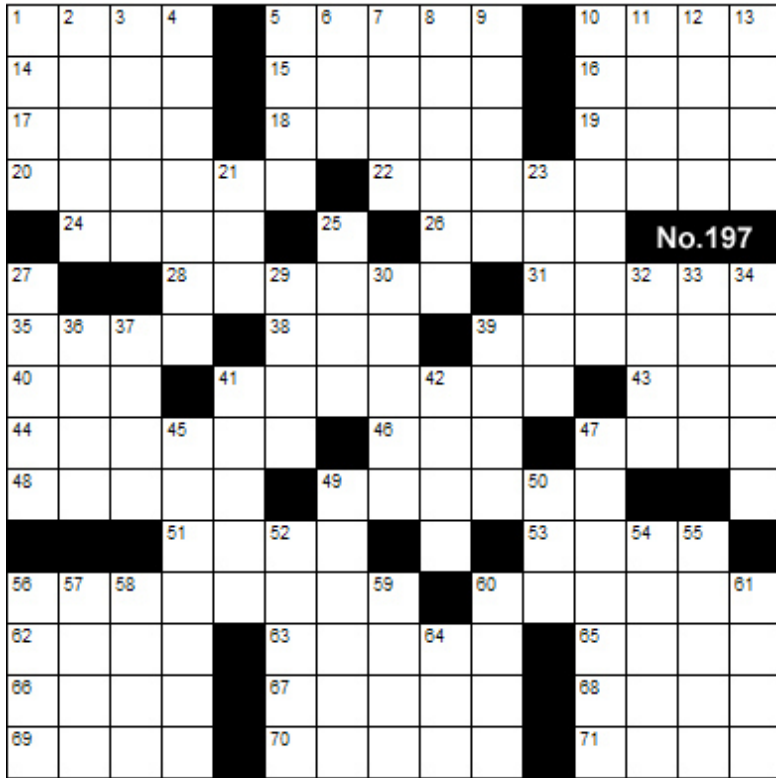
You are invited to attend Denny and Sharon Swartz's 50th Wedding anniversary BBQ held on August 8, 2015 from 4-9PM. It will be at Matt and Tammy Swartz's home at 1123 Sycamore Drive. No presents, just Best Wishes.

## OWLS(Older Wiser Livelier Seniors)

The OWLS (Older Wiser Livelier Seniors) will visit the Timberlane Farm Museum on Friday, August 14, 2015. Please meet at the church, south parking lot, at 9:30 am. We will continue fellowship with lunch out prior to returning to the church.

Please use the sign-up sheet near the kitchen to indicate your attendance. All are welcome to join the group.





No. 197

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**ACROSS**

- it is only a \_\_\_ from the boil (Lev 13:23)
- where morning dawns and evening \_\_\_ (Ps 65:8)
- fine \_\_\_ have been poured upon me (Ps 92:10)
- But the tongue can no man \_\_\_; it is an unruly evil (James 3:8)
- Zerah son of Judah, was the king's \_\_\_ in all affairs (Neh 11:24)
- to let the oppressed go \_\_\_ (Isaiah 58:6)
- Samuel said, "Bring me \_\_\_ king of the Amalekites" (1 Sam 15:32)
- like the venom of a snake, like that of a \_\_\_ (Ps 58:4)
- I wish I could be with you now and change my \_\_\_ (Gal 4:20)
- What has happened to us is a \_\_\_ of our evil deeds (Ezra 9:13)
- Rain will come in \_\_\_, and I will send hailstones (Ezek 13:11)
- sold your people for a pittance, gaining nothing from their \_\_\_ (Ps 44:12)
- whether it be fat or \_\_\_, whether there be wood therein (Num 13:20)
- They beat us publicly without \_\_\_ (1,5) (Acts 16:37)
- stop, end (Ps 46:9)
- and if a son, then an \_\_\_ of God through Christ (Gal 4:7)
- How \_\_\_ thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer (Isaiah 14:12)
- rulers hold no \_\_\_ for those who do right (Rom 13:3)
- Neither do men put new wine into \_\_\_ bottles (Matt 9:17)
- tempted God, and \_\_\_ the Holy One of Israel (Ps 78:41)
- he touched the man's \_\_\_ and healed him (Luke 22:51)
- Scripture is God-breathed and is \_\_\_ for teaching (2 Tim 3:16)
- A curse on him who is \_\_\_ in doing the LORD's work (Jer 48:10)
- rabbit (Deut 14:7) (KJV)

- she began to wet his feet with her \_\_\_ (Luke 7:38)
- grinding him like grain with a \_\_\_ (Prov 27:22)
- with tumors, festering sores and the \_\_\_ (Deut 28:27)
- bless you by turning \_\_\_ of you from your wicked ways (Acts 3:26)
- they hoisted the \_\_\_ to the wind and made for the beach (Acts 27:40)
- He will \_\_\_ his donkey to a vine (Gen 49:11)
- I will destroy the king who is in the Valley of \_\_\_ (Amos 1:5)
- you would plunge me into a \_\_\_ pit (Job 9:31)
- Can anyone \_\_\_ in secret places so that I cannot see him (Jer 23:24)
- a time to tear and a time to \_\_\_ (Eccl 3:7)
- if he trespass against thee seven \_\_\_ in a day (Luke 17:4) KJV
- the ax is dull and its \_\_\_ unsharpened (Eccl 10:10)
- He makes clouds rise from the \_\_\_ of the earth (Ps 135:7)
- which had \_\_\_ all her living upon physicians (Luke 8:43)
- I have \_\_\_ to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me? (Matt 3:14) KJV

**DOWN**

- the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning \_\_\_ (Rev 22:16)
- Like \_\_\_ full of birds, their houses are full of deceit (Jer 5:27)
- Absalom had appointed \_\_\_ over the army in place of Joab (2 Sam 17:25)
- They had not been able to celebrate it at the \_\_\_ time (2 Chron 30:3)
- Everyone who sins breaks the law; in \_\_\_, sin is lawlessness (1 Jn 3:4)
- Four days \_\_\_ I was fasting until this hour (Acts 10:30)
- Go, sell the oil, and pay thy \_\_\_ (2 King 4:7) KJV
- from Dan to Beersheba and \_\_\_ the fighting men (2 Sam 24:2)
- I may tell all my bones: they look and \_\_\_ upon me (Ps 22:17)
- he sent for him the \_\_\_, and communed with him (Acts 24:26) KJV
- It had large \_\_\_ teeth; it crushed and devoured (Dan 7:7)
- I have neither \_\_\_ on usury, nor men have lent to me (Jer 15:10)
- Go, post a lookout and have him report what he \_\_\_ (Isa 21:6)
- He trusted in God; \_\_\_ him deliver him now (Matt 27:43)
- you have \_\_\_ with men on foot and they have worn you out (Jer 12:5)
- the plans of the LORD stand \_\_\_ forever (Ps 33:11)
- \_\_\_ with joy to God, all the earth (Ps 66:1)
- He wrote also letters to \_\_\_ on the LORD God (2 Chron 32:17) KJV
- take thee \_\_\_, and lay it before thee (1,4) (Ezek 4:1) (KJV)
- Which \_\_\_ shadow of things to come; but the body is (3,1) (Col 2:17)
- \_\_\_ like the eagle and make your nest among the stars (Obad 1:4)
- for the one who \_\_\_ by sinning unintentionally (Num 15:28)
- Salvation is found in no one \_\_\_, for there is no other name (Acts 4:12)
- "Is that your own \_\_\_," Jesus asked (John 18:34)
- A copy of the \_\_\_ of the edict was to be issued as law (Est 3:14)
- Flee also youthful \_\_\_; but follow righteousness (2 Tim 2:22) KJV
- if only I may finish the race and complete the \_\_\_ (Acts 20:24)
- but whoever repeats the matter separates close \_\_\_ (Prov 17:9)
- after the abominations of the \_\_\_, whom the LORD cast out (2 King 21:2)
- both \_\_\_ and the eunuch went down into the water (Acts 8:38)
- we sailed to the \_\_\_ of Crete, opposite Salmone (Acts 27:7)
- does his neighbor no wrong and \_\_\_ no slur on his fellowman (Ps 15:3)
- Wherefore the people did \_\_\_ with Moses (Ex 17:2) KJV
- Have you not put a \_\_\_ around him and his household (Job 1:10)
- the \_\_\_ thereof was heard in Pharaoh's house (Gen 45:16)
- Every grain offering baked in an \_\_\_ or cooked (Lev 7:9)
- \_\_\_ your heart and not your garments (Joel 2:13)
- he burned the bones of the king of Edom into \_\_\_ (Amos 2:1) KJV
- I will \_\_\_ them and see whether they will follow (Exodus 16:4)
- LORD shall smite Israel, as a \_\_\_ is shaken (1 King 14:15)
- Follow peace with all \_\_\_, and holiness (Heb 12:14)



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
<b>2</b> 9a Worship <i>First Sunday Food—            Mac &amp; Cheese</i>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> 9a Worship—Blessing of the backpacks	<b>10</b> 9:30a Rachel Circle 7p Program Ministries	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 9:30a Trustees	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 9:30a Owls Outing	<b>15 Link Deadline</b>
<b>16</b> 9a Worship	<b>17</b> 7p General Board	<b>18</b> 7p Mary Circle	<b>19</b> 2p Nominating Comm.	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 9a Worship	<b>24</b> 6p Worship Committee	<b>25</b> 7p Elders Meeting	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 7p Choir rehearsal	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 9a Worship 10a All Church Picnic	<b>31</b>					

# Birthdays

GALUS, Bernie	08/02
MAGNUSON, Herman	08/02
KOSCHEL, Gilbert	08/03
WEBB, Judy	08/05
FUCHS, Linda	08/10
BAYNE, Kirsten	08/12
HORTON, Ethel	08/12
MAHONY, Tadan	08/13
JESKULSKI, Todd	08/15
RUEGSEGGER, Dave	08/15
BUEHLER, Beverly	08/17
LAFFERTY, Sandy	08/17
OLSON, Esther	08/20
PERSON, Sarah	08/21
THOMPSON, Marsha	08/21
MCCAULEY, Juanita	08/23
HYATT, Carolyn	08/25
PICKERT, J.T.	08/25
RUEGSEGGER, Janean	08/25
WEBB, Bradley	08/27
DEPPERSCHMIDT, Rod	08/28
KEELER, Cherie	08/29

# Anniversaries

PICKERT, Scott & Linda	08/05
HANSEN, Tod & Karen	08/06
DYNOWSKI, Shannon & Boris	08/07
MAHONY, Michael & Nancy	08/07
SWARTZ, Dennis & Sharon	08/08
SWARTZ, Matthew & Tammy	08/10
BURCH, Terry & Sandra	08/14
JESKULSKI, Todd & Samantha	08/26
HARRELL, John & Kathleen	08/28

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

2000 N. Lincoln Ave.  
Loveland, CO 80538

Phone: 970-667-1318  
Fax: 970-744-7047  
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.

**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.**

**Sunday Morning Services:**  
9:00 Worship Service  
10:10 Sunday School for all ages

