



Connecting  
Us with God and  
one another

April 1, 2015

**CONTACTING THE  
CHURCH STAFF**

Main Church Phone Number:  
(970) 667-1318

**Pastoral Leadership Team**

**Michael Stein**

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

**Dora DeVan**, Ministry Intern  
Extension 23

**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@earthlink.net](mailto:tdmorgan@earthlink.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



**Mar 29: Palm Sunday Worship**

**9:00am Musical Cantata**

**BRUNCH following**

**Apr 1: Final Lenten Luncheon NOON**

**Apr 2: Maundy Thursday Service 7:00pm**

**Apr 3: Good Friday Worship Service 7:00pm**

**At TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**801 Cleveland Avenue**

**Apr 5: EASTER SUNDAY! Worship 9:00am**

There will not be any Sunday school for adults and or children on Palm Sunday March 29th and Easter Sunday April 5th. All classes will resume Sunday April 12th.

**PICTORAL DIRECTORY**

Photographers continue taking pictures for the new pictorial directory of our church family. If you have not yet been photographed, please **make arrangements no later than Easter Sunday.**

Please check the information table in the Gallery

## PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

On the fourth Monday of each month, the Worship Committee meets to coordinate our congregational worship and devotion. Among their important tasks is to keep their “ear to the ground” for comments and input on how worship may continue to be meaningful for everyone.



In the March meeting, a concern was raised about differences in how people prepare themselves mentally and spiritually for the worship service.

For some, worship is experienced most meaningfully as a gathering of God’s people in joyous celebration. They look forward to seeing old friends and making new ones, as well as catching up on each other’s lives from the past week.

Others feel the need to prepare for worship in silent prayer and meditation. They wish to feel God’s presence with them without the distraction of conversation or human interaction.

Both of these approaches are valid and faithful ways of entering into the worship service. In fact, some people switch off between them. One week they may seek the company of others before worship, and the next feel the need for quiet and solace; it’s not an either-or proposition.

In the interest of accommodating both groups, the Worship Committee proposes to return to an old tradition – the respectful quiet of the **sanctuary**. For the period of 15 minutes prior to the beginning of the service (8:45am), we request that the sanctuary be reserved for those who wish to prepare in silence, or to listen to the music preludes (more on that later).

Meanwhile, the entire Gallery and Fellowship Hall spaces are open for those who wish to greet each other and converse. Refreshments are generally available by 8:15, and there is plenty of seating in both rooms. The committee asks that you **wait to complete your conversations before entering the sanctuary** after 8:45am, respecting those who wish to prepare in quiet.

The word **sanctuary** comes from Latin *sanctus*, meaning “holy”. As it evolved into Middle English and the church, a *sanctuarium* was a place consecrated as holy.

If we are a people believing that God is everywhere, then God can be encountered anywhere; any space can be holy. Likewise, we also encounter Christ in each other – as Jesus said, “where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them”.

In this sense, the Gallery and Fellowship Hall spaces on Sunday morning are equally holy with the room where we worship. **It is the sense of God’s presence – in company or in solitude – that makes them holy.** In making these requests, we hope to maintain the holiness of each space in different ways.

As I mentioned earlier, our musicians prepare and share music in the time before and after the service. These *preludes* and *postludes* are prayerfully selected and rehearsed as a contribution to the experience of worship. If we refrain from boisterous conversation or noisy activity during these times, we may find our encounter with God enhanced by these musical gifts.

Our church family is made up of people from several generations. Our faith was formed in many different Christian traditions (or none). Even those who grew up in Disciples of Christ congregations do not always share common experiences. As we worship together, it is sometimes difficult to find common ground and compromise so that others may feel God’s presence here.

The Worship Committee welcomes your opinions and input, as do I. Members include:  
Kathleen Harrell, Chair  
Bev Buehler  
Sharon Chenevert  
E.J. Schneider  
Sharon Swartz

Please feel free to share with them (or me) your ideas and suggestions regarding worship. They would also welcome additional members interested in serving on the team.

*Love, Grace and Peace;  
Michael*



## MISSION STATION GUESTS

The following Groups are scheduled in our Northern Colorado Mission Station, with the coordination of Lana & Ray Landis of Disciples Volunteering:

**Mar 29 – Apr 4:** Northern California/Nevada Disciples Region Mission Team

**Apr 5-11:** Mission Team from Kenya

**Apr 12-18:** Hillcrest Christian Church

**Apr 25:** Central Rocky Mountain Region Mission Day

*We thank these volunteers for coming to help our communities recover from the 2013 floods!*

## CONGREGATION MEETING REPORT

In the monthly meeting March 16<sup>th</sup>, your church board confirmed the results of the special congregation meeting held the previous day during worship service.

By **unanimous written ballot**, the congregation voted to adopt the following resolution:

*The congregation of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Loveland, Colorado, meeting in accordance with the church constitution and bylaws, hereby calls The Reverend Michael A. Stein as Senior Minister and Pastor, effective immediately. The congregation further authorizes and charges the General Board to negotiate terms of call and to report this decision to the appropriate regional and general manifestations of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).*



"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. The **suggested food for April is canned fruit** (any contributions are appreciated).

## SPRING CLEAN UP DAY @FCC

On Saturday April 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM we will be working on cleaning up the grounds around the church. We may be doing some painting if the weather permits. We will need trimmers, leaf blowers, trucks and trailers. If you have any questions contact Denny Swartz at 667-8832.



**Saturday April 11 ~~~ 9:00 – 4:00 PM**

Let the countdown to the show begin. God is at work with our committee. You guys are awesome. Thank You for all you are doing. We are having so much fun planning and getting ready for the show.

## Bake Sale and Hand Crafted Donated Items

I just know our booth at the show is going to be overflowing with scrumptious baked goodies and amazing unique hand crafted items.

**Thank you for your donations.**

**So very much appreciated.**

Please plan on bringing your baked goods and handcrafted items to the church on **Friday April 10 from 12:00 – 4:00 PM**. This will give us time to price the items and get them displayed.

## Advertise, Advertise, Advertise

Marketing is well underway. We have numerous members passing out flyers in the community. If you would like to help pass out flyers, come on and join us.

## A moment of reflection

The committee is asking for your prayers. Let's come together as a church and ask God for his guidance on marketing and with the show. We are conducting his work and he will direct us to the finish line. Our show will be successful because we are leaning on him.



# financial ministry

Randy Kettenhofen, Treasurer

**February Income:** \$13,109

**Budgeted:** \$21,670

Our income from offering and other sources for February **fell short by \$8,561**, due in large part to the cancellation of a worship service due to inclement weather.

**February Expenses:** \$16,804

**Budgeted:** \$20,992

Fortunately, our expenses for the month were **\$3,695 less than budgeted.**

# Birthdays

KAUFFMAN, Ben	04/01
PERKINS, Glenys	04/01
PICKERT, Linda	04/03
THOMPSON, Ed	04/04
BASS, Ed	04/06
HARRELL, John	04/07
SPARKS, Marian	04/08
HATHAWAY, Kathryn	04/14
DYNOWSKI, Shannon	04/18
JESKULSKI, Parker	04/18
MAHONY, Tyner	04/20
HYATT, Charles	04/22
ENGELHARDT, Cheryl	04/23
SCHLAUDER, Brandon	04/23
SPARKS, Kathryn	04/23
SPRAGUE, River	04/23
SAUL, Jeanette	04/24
TODD, Dawn	04/27
SIMON, Dixie	04/28

# Anniversaries

RUEGSEGGER, Dan & Nancy	04/01
VAUGHN, John & Kathy	04/05
HAYWARD, Walt & Twila	04/19
MILLER, Dennis & Barbara	04/20
RUEGSEGGER, Dave & Janean	04/27



# APRIL

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> 12p Lent Lunch	<b>2</b> <b>7p Maundy Thursday Worship</b>	<b>3</b> 7:00a Men's reunion group @ Breakfast Club <b>7p Good Friday Service @ Trinity United Methodist Church</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5 Easter Sunday</b> 9a Worship 4:30p Youth Group <i>First Sunday Food— Canned Fruit</i>	<b>6</b> 6p Women's reunion group	<b>7</b> 4:30p Grief Share	<b>8</b> 9:30a Trustees	<b>9</b> 6p Bell Choir 7p Chancel Choir	<b>10</b> 7:00a Men's reunion group @ Breakfast Club 9:30a OWLS	<b>11</b> <b>9a Spring Fest</b>
<b>12</b> 9a Worship 4:30p Youth Group	<b>13</b> 9:30a Rachel Circle 6p Women's reunion group 7p Program Ministries	<b>14</b>	<b>15 Link Deadline</b>	<b>16</b> 6p Bell Choir 7p Chancel Choir	<b>17</b> 7:00a Men's reunion group @ Breakfast Club	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 9a Worship 4:30p Youth Group	<b>20</b> 6p Women's reunion group 7p General Board	<b>21</b> 7p Mary Circle	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 6p Bell Choir 7p Chancel Choir	<b>24</b> 7:00a Men's reunion group @ Breakfast Club	<b>25</b> <b>9a Spring Clean-Up</b>
<b>26</b> 9a Worship 4:30p Youth Group	<b>27</b> 5:30p Worship Committee 6p Women's reunion group	<b>28</b> 7p Elders Meeting	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 6p Bell Choir 7p Chancel Choir		

**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)

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.

**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

