



Connecting
Us with God and
one another

July 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
Cellphone: (970) 775-4895

Rachel Nelson

Minister to Emerging Generations
Extension 22
rachel@lovelanddisciples.org

Pam Hilliard

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

Tracy Morgan

Commissioned Minister
(970) 988-3219
tdmorgan@earthink.net

Mission Support Staff

Kirsten Bayne

Office Administrator
Extension 21
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Max and Marcia Peters

Building Managers
(970) 669-6895
mm4ever@q.com

Tammy Swartz

Nursery/Childcare Director
Extension 24
tswartz1784@comcast.net

Gina Schuh-Turner, Choir Dir.

Karen Lee, Organist

Troy Schuh, Pianist



**July 1 @ 6:00 – Namaqua Park – Namaqua ave. & Big
Thompson River**

Theme: Matthew 18: 21 – 35 “Why Should we Forgive?”
Leader: Lanny Helzer

July 8 @ 6:00 – Foot Lagoon – west of the Library off 3rd Street

Theme: Matthew 7:21 – 29 “Building on the Rock”
Leader: Bev Reeves

**July 15 @ 6:00 – Eagle View – 37th & Monroe [north of Good
Shepherd Church]**

Theme: Matthew 7:24 – 27 “The Value of the House”
Leader: Pam Hilliard

**July 22 @ 6:00 – Sports Park – County Road 9 across from
Mountain View High School**

Theme: Luke 12:13 – 21 “The Man who Talked with Soul”
Leader: Tracy Morgan

**July 29 @ 6:00 – North Lake Park across from old fire station
on Taft Ave.**

Theme: Luke 7:36 – 48 “What Chance does ... sinner have?”
Leader: Harvey Ruegger

CONTINUING THE JOURNEY

There was much joy in worship June 21st, as we celebrated our shared ministry; Regional Minister Dean Phelps joined us to officiate in



installing me as your Senior Minister and Pastor, emphasizing our covenant with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Among the hymns we sang that Sunday was *Ours the Journey*, written by a United Methodist minister with Colorado ties. The song begins:

In the midst of new dimensions, in the face of changing ways. Who will lead the pilgrim peoples wandering in their separate ways?

At the end of each verse is the chorus:
God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar, We your people, ours the journey now and ever, now and ever, now and ever more.

We have included this hymn in worship at critical points in our life together over the past couple of years – especially at congregation meetings where we have discerned and voted on critical decisions for our future. In doing so, we have sought to remind ourselves that **with God, we are always on the move – always on a journey**. We may experience milestones along the way, be they are not destinations.

As we set our sights on the journey forward, we seek to refine and define our vision for ministry and to develop the leadership necessary to get us there. Toward this end, your church board discussed in the May meeting and voted in June **to commit the congregation to a two-year intensive process called (appropriately) *The Journey***.

The process is a cooperative effort with our regional church and other congregations. It was developed by *Hope Partnership for Missional Transformation*, to help the church determine mission and develop leaders.

We began in the spring, when we were one of two Central Rocky Mountain churches hosting *Dare to Lead*, the introductory session for the process. Several lay and clergy members attended that session, and were impressed enough to seek further participation.

Program Description

The Journey is a two-year cycle of services that helps church leaders seek answers to the right questions, unleash creativity and develop teamwork in their congregation and discover courage to lead their church through missional transformation.

Journey congregations participate in:

- Experience I and II (weekend retreats)
- 24 Coaching sessions
- 8 CARE Group sessions
- 4 Cohort Group gatherings
- Detailed demographic services

Costs

The Central Rocky Mountain Region and individual donors have made grants to cover a large portion of the costs for participating congregations. Our church board has received a required \$500 gift from a generous congregation member, and has voted to dedicate an unexpected gift from outside the congregation to this purpose.

In order to participate, we will need to pay a fee of about \$2,800. Nearly half this fee will be rebated to us by the region upon completion of the program. We will also need to pay for transportation and lodging costs for the two weekend retreats.

Making a Commitment

In the next step, we need to identify **current and future congregation leaders who will commit to seeing through the process** to the end. If you think you may be interested, please talk with me, our President John Zakavec or VP Cheryl McAnally.

Results

The Journey process results in:

- Leaders who work more cohesively and collaboratively
- Leaders who focus on “the right questions”
- Leaders who work more creatively
- Greater focus on God’s mission and less focus on Church as institution
- Congregations who move from a membership model towards a mission focus

Love, Grace and Peace;
Michael

Mission Adventures!

July is an exciting month in our youth ministry, as it is time for our summer mission trips. If you've been around a while, you've heard of the trips we take with the middle school youth to LaPuente Home in Alamosa, CO. We serve in a variety of ways on this trip, including cooking and serving lunch and dinner for roughly 80 people at the homeless shelter, spending time as "big buddies" for preschool and early elementary aged children who have been abused and/or witness to violence in their home, weeding and/or harvesting vegetables in the community garden, and/or cleaning or painting the shelter or long term volunteer housing. We also may serve by sorting donations in a thrift store, food bank, and/or clothing bank that are part of the system of services available to aide the underprivileged of the San Luis Valley. This is often a time of growth for our young people, both in the skills they learn in the kitchen, garden, etc., and in their awareness of poverty and issues of social justice. We have been blessed to share in this experience with our friends and partners from Heart of the Rockies in Fort Collins (HRCC) and First Christian in Greeley (FCCG) for numerous years now over the past decade, and are greatly looking forward to this years' chapter.

Earlier in the month, we will be taking our high school youth, also in partnership with HRCC and FCCG, to Portland, Oregon for their mission trip. As stated by Jason-Paul Channels, Associate Minister at HRCC and our partner in leadership on this trip: "We will be working with a variety of community organizations that address issues, actions and needs that impact the environment. We will be exploring these issues both from a practical standpoint and a theological perspective. What is our role in both the problem and the solution? How does our decisions about environmental issues impact others? What systems are we a part of that perpetuate or exacerbate these issues? ... We will also, by the location where we are staying, see that issues of care and concern for the environment cannot be looked at separate from those same questions about other issues like homelessness. It will be a chance for us all to integrate the various experiences we have had with social justice and love in action to begin to build a systematic way of thinking about our faith-ful response to such questions."

It is with great anticipation that we approach these journeys, and great hope for the impact they will have on our young believers who are so courageously stepping out to serve God. We appreciate your prayers and look forward to sharing with you upon our return – please see the list of participants to the right.

With hope and gratitude,
Rachel

IMPORTANT INFO AND UPCOMING DATES

FOR YOUTH:

including grades 6 – 12

Youth Group

Our youth group is taking a break from weekly meetings to participate in summer camps and mission trips, but we enjoy staying connected with BBQs and trips to the park or pool in between those adventures, so please make sure you're on our email list by contacting Rachel@lovelanddisciples.org and let me know if you'd like to host a gathering.

CYF Mission

July 5-12

Please pray for Brooke, Kate, Tyner, Rachel, and Ben as they travel to Portland for their mission trip with partners from Fort Collins and Greeley

Chi Rho Mission Team Building Meeting

July 15, 6-7:30 pm
@ HRCC

This meeting is required for all youth and sponsors participating in the Chi Rho mission trip later this month.

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

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 for more information.



OWLS(Older Wiser Livelier Seniors)

The OWLS (Older Wiser Livelier Seniors) will visit the Zippity Zoo Barnyard on Friday July 10, 2015. We will meet at the church

to carpool at 9:30 am. We will continue fellowship with lunch before we return to the church. Tour admission is \$3.00. Zippity Zoo has alpacas, chickens etc. also a store which includes alpaca products as well as mushrooms, sprouts etc. All are welcome to join the group. Please use the sign up sheet near the kitchen.



Back to School

Backpack Program Reminder

We need volunteers to be on the committee and we also need donations.

Items we need include:

- | | | |
|----------------------|-------------|---------|
| Large backpacks | Kleenex | Pencils |
| Loose notebook paper | Binders | Pens |
| Colored pencils | Erasers | Rulers |
| Pencil boxes | Glue sticks | |
| Spiral notebooks | | |

We will have a barrel just out side the sanctuary for you to put your donations in. If you are interested in helping out please contact:

Linda Galus, 667-7072 home, 231-3616 cell
auntiqueauntlindy@msn.com

Thank You To the First Christian Church:

A big Thank you to Bob Sprague for bringing me communion at the Greeley Hospital in late May when I was ill. You don't know how I appreciated that First Christian.

Sincerely Yours, Ann Betz

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. **Peanut Butter & Jelly** is the suggested food for July, but any contributions are appreciated.

THANK YOU!

My thanks for your generous cards and gifts for my birthday and in celebration of my installation!

Michael

FCC Clothing give-away: Thanks for your help and NEW help needed:

Thanks to all of the members and friends that have helped with the FCC clothing give away! Special thanks goes to Tammy Swartz and the Swartz extended family for guiding this ministry; what a wonderful and blessed ministry this has been!

This ministry has been in place for 5 years, and it is now time to make a transition in people and concept. A small committee of Karen Hansen, Lyle Hinkle and Ann McSay examined our capacity for 2015, discussed it with the program ministry committee and recommended that it was not feasible to do the clothing give away for 2015, due to our other church commitments. We would like YOUR HELP in examining what this ministry may look like in 2016 and beyond. SO, we are looking for committee members to plan for the future. IF YOU HAVE a passion for this ministry, please contact Karen Hansen (dkhansen79@msn.com or call: 970-219-1903) to be a committee member (or see me before or after worship!). We would like to have a preliminary meeting in July to get the ball rolling! THANK YOU!



financial ministry

May Stewardship

Income:	\$27,451
	\$5,784 over budget
Expenses:	\$16,775
	\$4,892 below budget

May was a good month financially! In addition to being on target for our regular giving, we received a generous gift intended to make up our income/expense deficit. Building use reimbursement (mostly from the mission station) also contributed to the healthier picture.

*As a result, we ended May with a year to date **cash flow** (income/expenses) that is **\$3,382 in the black**.*

On the expense side, the continuous rain in May made it unnecessary to irrigate the lawn, saving significantly in water and electricity costs.

Please help us maintain this trend through the summer by keeping current with your stewardship intentions in spite of vacations and family activities!

Randy Kettenhofen, Treasurer

Wordsearch 191 and Solution

Bible Wordsearch

Wordsearch 191

Famous Men of the Old Testament

A	H	S	I	L	E	H	F	S	E	L	N	J	A	L
C	Y	R	U	S	L	T	H	A	U	R	A	O	J	E
G	I	D	E	O	N	A	L	A	B	T	H	S	A	B
H	I	H	T	O	D	I	S	E	E	R	T	E	C	A
A	N	S	R	R	H	L	N	S	I	L	A	P	O	A
J	O	A	A	A	D	O	N	O	U	K	N	H	B	L
I	A	C	D	A	S	G	E	O	E	I	E	R	A	A
L	H	U	N	A	C	B	H	L	D	M	R	Z	H	M
E	J	I	M	O	R	D	E	C	A	I	I	A	E	D
Y	E	S	S	O	U	U	M	L	H	M	I	S	D	I
L	O	H	C	H	M	I	I	S	A	M	O	S	I	V
N	E	A	D	A	M	A	A	I	E	C	N	S	V	A
M	I	I	S	A	I	A	H	R	E	N	B	A	E	D
N	O	M	O	L	O	S	E	H	C	O	N	E	L	S
T	A	U	H	S	O	J	S	L	J	J	O	N	A	H

AARON	JACOB
ABEL	JEREMIAH
ABNER	JOB
ABRAHAM	JONAH
ADAM	JOSEPH
BAALAM	JOSHUA
CAIN	JUDAH
CALEB	LEVI
CYRUS	LOT
DANIEL	MORDECAI
DARIUS	MOSES
DAVID	NATHAN
ELIJAH	NEHEMIAH
ELISHA	NOAH
ENOC	SAMSON
EZEKIEL	SAMUEL
GIDEON	SAUL
GOLIATH	SHADRACH
ISAAC	SHEM
ISAIAH	SOLOMON
ISHMAEL	SIMEON

After you find all the hidden words the left over letters spell out a Bible verse reading from the top left to the bottom right

Psalm 35

MORE PUZZLES AT:
<http://biblewordgames.com>

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Birthdays

KLASSEN, Shirley	07/01
PAYNE, Larry	07/01
WITTLER, Randy	07/01
BREINER, Geraldine	07/02
SCHERER, Alice	07/02
LINDSEY, Janet	07/04
RUEGSEGGER, Bonnie	07/04
BASS, Sandy	07/06
THIELMAN, Esther	07/06
SWARTZ, Dennis	07/08
BAYNE, Travis	07/09
HARMES, Willis	07/09
BURCH, Terry	07/10
ZAKAVEC, John	07/12
COMBS, Dennis	07/14
ODELL, Merna	07/17
RITTER SHAFFER, Joan	07/17
CARTER, Pat	07/21
YOUNG, David	07/25
ESTRADA, Patrick	07/30
WOHLMAN, Alice Jo	07/30

Anniversaries

HARMES, Willis & Charlene	07/02
OLDSEN, Christi & Cody	07/05
KLASSEN, Daryle & Shirley	07/06
MASTERSON, Bert & Martha	07/07
KOSCHEL, Gilbert & Doris	07/11
BAYNE, Travis & Kirsten	07/14
BUROW, Don & Gwen	07/24

JULY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6p Parables in the Park	2	3	4
5 9a Worship <i>First Sunday Food— PB & J</i>	6 Church Office Closed	7	8 9:30a Trustees 6p Parables in the Park	9	10 9:30a OWLS Outing	11
12 9a Worship	13 9:30a Rachel Circle 7p Program Ministries	14	15 Link Deadline 6p Parables in the Park	16	17	18
19 9a Worship	20 7p General Board	21	22 6p Parables in the Park	23	24	25
26 9a Worship	27 7p Worship Committee	28 7p Elders Meeting	29 6p Parables in the Park	30	31	

First Christian Church
www.lovelanddisciples.org

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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
By the 15th of each month.**

Sunday Morning Services:

9:00 Worship Service
10:10 Sunday School for all ages

