



THE CALL



First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
520 C Y Ave.
Casper WY 82601
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fcccasper@qwest.net



2008



Religion and Ethics Newsweekly is one of the best things on television that you probably aren't watching. Locally it is on our PBS channel on Sundays at 12:30 p.m. It is a half

hour news program that does what mainstream media doesn't. It covers religion's role behind major news stories. Consequently, it covers all religions not just Christianity. It seriously is one of the least biased news programs on the air. You can get more information from their web site under "Religion and Ethics Newsweekly" You can also tape or TiVo the program.

See you in Church
Chuck

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Charles Shannon
Interim Minister

Lois Koch
Business Manager

Veronica Mason
Church Secretary

Betty Waits
Organist

Amber French
Director of Music

Maintenance / Custodian

Michelle England
Youth Group



"... a women in the crowd raised her voice and said to him, (Jesus) 'Blessed is the womb that bore you and the breast that nurtured you!' But he said, 'Blessed are those who hear the word of God and obey it!'" (Luke 11:27-8).

This year my theme for preaching of Advent, Christmas and Epiphany is Annunciation. The root word of annunciation is announce. We have come to the point when the word is almost used only when we think of The Annunciation of the Angel Gabriel's visit to Mary. Gabriel also visits Zechariah to tell him that his wife Elizabeth will have a son who will be called John. In other announcements, an Angel of the Lord tells Joseph that Mary has conceived with the Holy Spirit a child who will be called Jesus. An Angel of the Lord tells the shepherds of Jesus' birth. A star told the wise men about Jesus' birth and a dream warned them of the treachery of Herod. The Spirit told Simeon that he would not die until he had seen the Lord's Messiah.

These six weeks from the first Sunday of Advent to Epiphany is time in which God makes various announcements in ways that we are not used to like angels, dreams and spirits. Yet, what is important, these people heard God's word and obeyed. We must be prepared not only during this advent season, but at all times for God to speak in unusual ways. What can you expect from a God who uses a burning bush to get Moses' attention.

November 30: The Annunciation of John the Baptist to Zechariah and Elizabeth
Luke 1:5-25

December 7: The Annunciation of Jesus to Mary
Luke 1:26-35, 37-38

December 14: The Annunciation of Jesus to Joseph
Matthew 1:18-25

December 21: The Annunciation of Jesus to the Shepherds
Luke 2:1-14

December 24: Festivals of Lessons and Carols

December 28: The Revealing of the Messiah to Simeon and Anna
Luke 2:22-40

January 4: Told by a Star, Warned by a Dream.
Matthew 2:7-12

**Worship Assistants
December 2008**



Elder Presiding:

Randisue Davis

Bread Elder:

Kelli Slominski

Cup Elder:

Floyd Field

Diaconate:

Dave Taylor

Dan Coey

Diane Martin

Wanda Leeling

Jo Cox

Lyle Cox

Julie Black

Communion Preparation:

8:00 am

Mary & Ed Burgess

(2nd & 9th)

Dennis & Judy Baker

(16th & 30th)

10:45 am

Amy Russell

Greeters:

8:00 a.m.

Keith & Harriet Ames

10:45 a.m.

Janet Field & Bev Miller

Acolytes:

Poplar Living Center

June Forgey

Life Care Center

Alta Sanders

Donna Ward

Arylne Dunmire

Meadow Wind

Ethel Dunn

Joe Dunmire

Shepherd of the Valley

Effie Smith

Maurice Griffith Manor

Margaret Shriver

Garden Square

Wilma Dee Forester

Betty Snyder

Park Place

Jack Riley

Hospice

Mary Lou Day

Location	Elders
Poplar Living Center Life Care Center	Mike Ward, Floyd Field, Jack Waits
At Home	Bob & Laura Glasspoole, Tammy Heck, Shirley Wenn
Shepherd of the Valley Maurice Griffith Manor	Suzy Stewart, Shirley Downs, Rick Black
Garden Square Primrose Place	Kelli Slominski, Lani McBee, Randisue Davis
Hospice	All Elders



Dear Friends at First Christian Church. We want to thank you for your prayers while Roger was spending QUALITY TIME in the WMC. We also thank you for the hospital visits, the phone calls, cards, letters, and the pretty flower. We also thank you for the many thoughts and prayers after Roger was released from the hospital in mid-October. Thanks again for your compassion and love during his recovery.

*In Christian Love, Your Friends in Christ,
Cecelia & Roger Miller*

Dear Church Family,

Greetings to all, and a happy up-coming Thanksgiving, giving thanks to God and to all our friends at FCC for the many birthday cards we both received in October [Bryant is now the big 70!], and for your prayers, flowers, cards, visits, and telephone calls while I had my 3rd lumbar disk surgery on October 29, and realtively good recovery---back is good, but stomach fouled due to potent pain killers and weight loss. Returned to teaching my Ethics class at CC on November 10th, with limited activities, but 'getting there'! Miss you! Love to all! **Keep the Faith!**

With thanks-giving, Bryant & Kathy Badger

Dear Church Friends - Thank you so much for the beautiful hand blown glass pumpkin! As you know, the Patch is very near and dear to me and this gift will always be a special reminder of my work with the Pumpkin Patch and FCC.

Jenny Black

NOMINEES FOR 2009 OFFICES

Executive Board

President	Bob Dundas
Vice President	Rick Black
Secretary	Kathy Winders
Treasurer	Lois Koch
Members at Large	George Marble, Dave Jerde, Michelle England, Cindy Huckfeldt
Historian	Lani McBee

Board of Elders

Class of 2011 (3 year term)

Deb King	Melanie Dowler	Nancy Vreeland,
Russ Black	Carol Jo Vlastos	

Diaconate

Class of 2011 (3 year term)

Amy Black	Bev Miller	Debbie Mestas
Brent Forbis	Kim Forbis	Debbie Mapp
Dave Jerde	Verla Jerde	Ed Burgess
Holly Chapman	Jane Wallace	Scott Wallace
Janie Nelson	Laurie Anderson	Marie Robertson
Mary Burgess	Pat Seamands	Robin Nelson
Susan Guthrie	Tina Beall	

Diaconate Emeritus

Rob Robertson

Junior Diaconate

Class of 2009 (1 year term)

Jamie Williams	Jessi Heck	Briana Black
Hanna Slominski	Brad Black	Balie Marble
Jason Baker	Kolby Hilderbrand	Kim Haug



If you have not given your email address to the church office, please do so. This is an excellent way for us to maintain communication. We have been sending out a weekly promo for the upcoming events in the church. We would like to develop this "Coming Attractions" even more.

Thanks! Chuck

Please remember to bring your nonperishable items to the church on the first Sunday of each month. These will be delivered to Joshua's storehouse. These items are especially needed at this time of year.

SUGGESTIONS:

1. Canned Goods 2. Packaged Foods 3. Toilet Paper 4. Diapers 5. Soaps
Perishable items such as Turkeys, milk, etc. can be delivered in person to Joshua's at 334 S. Wolcott.

I have put the directories for 2008 in binders by the Sanctuary and in the Fellowship Hall. It would be wonderful if everyone could look at your name and make sure your address, phone numbers (home, work, & cell) are correct. I am also asking that you put your email addresses down, adults and youth. Email is the new thing now-a-days, and it is a great way to get a message to you quickly if needed. Thank you for your help. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!!

Veronica



Just for **KIDS**

The Story of Jesus' Birth

Jesus' birth is recorded in three New Testament chapters: Matthew 1 and 2, and Luke 2. Follow some important words about our Savior's birth by starting at a word beginning with the letter **A** and finishing with a word starting with the letter **Z**.



angels	Bethlehem	car	dance	ease!
cat	bear	child	donkey	egg
fast	holy	glory	flocks	Earth
gap	feathers	in	jacket	grapes
hat	peace	quiet	Joseph	King
shepherds	righteous	only	Lord	only
Salings	unique	night	Mary	loop
water	virgin	wise men	paper	most
young	excitement	word	rest	open



Answer: angels, Bethlehem, child, donkey, Earth, flocks, glory, holy, inn, Joseph, king, Lord, Mary, night, only, peace, quiet, righteous, shepherds, tidings, unique, virgin, wise men, excitement, young, zillions (saved by this baby called Jesus)

Yuletide

GAMES

Enjoy the Christmas season with these games, centered around the theme of Jesus, our greatest gift.

JESUS' BIRTH FROM A-Z

What you need:

- Paper
- Pencils or pens
- Bibles (optional)



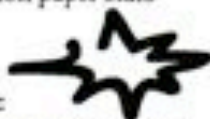
What you do:

Instruct players to think of as many Christmas-related words as they can that start with each letter of the alphabet. Start with A and give everyone a minute to brainstorm words for each letter. For example, M words include manger, Mary and miracle. If you get stuck, look at the Nativity accounts in Matthew 1 and 2, and also Luke 2. Players get a point for each word not repeated by others.

PIN THE STAR ON THE MANGER

What you need:

- Butcher paper, poster board or plain wrapping paper
- Markers, paint or crayons
- Construction paper stars
- Tape
- Blindfold



What you do:

On large paper, draw a picture of a stable. Give each player a star cutout. Put a small + above the manger where the star led the shepherds and wise men to baby Jesus. Like in Pin the Tail on the Donkey, the blindfolded person who puts his or her star closest to the + wins.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
<p>Personal Bible Study Advent 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship 	<p>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00 PM Cub Meeting 6:00 PM Elders Christmas Dinner 7:00 PM BSA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM Home Visitation 7:00 PM AA Meeting
<p>7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship 	<p>8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00 PM Cub Meeting 7:00 PM Commission Board Meeting 7:00 PM BSA 8:00 PM Executive Board Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM AA Meeting 7:00 PM Home Visitation
<p>14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School 9:45 AM Congregational Annual Business Meeting 10:45 AM Worship 2:00 PM Jesus's Birthday Party 	<p>15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00 PM Cub Meeting 7:00 PM BSA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM Home Visitation 7:00 PM AA Meeting
<p>21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship 	<p>22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00 PM Cub Meeting 7:00 PM BSA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM Home Visitation 7:00 PM AA Meeting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship 	<p>28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00 PM Cub Meeting 7:00 PM BSA 	<p>29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM Home Visitation 7:00 PM AA Meeting



Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

2	3	4	5	6
<ul style="list-style-type: none">9:00 AM Quilters4:00 PM Staff Meeting7:00 PM Choir	<ul style="list-style-type: none">10:00 AM CWF Exec. Board		<ul style="list-style-type: none">7:30 AM Men's Bible Study	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">9:00 AM Quilters11:30 AM CWF-#3-Restaurant12:00 PM CWF #24:00 PM Staff Meeting7:00 PM Choir	<ul style="list-style-type: none">10:00 AM CWF #16:00 PM NAMI Christmas Party-Becky Foster		<ul style="list-style-type: none">7:30 AM Men's Bible Study	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">9:00 AM Quilters4:00 PM Staff Meeting7:00 PM Choir	<ul style="list-style-type: none">12:00 PM Casper Clergy		<ul style="list-style-type: none">7:30 AM Men's Bible Study	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">9:00 AM Quilters7:30 PM Christmas Eve Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Office ClosedThese Days is Over4:00:00 AM CWF Book Orders		<ul style="list-style-type: none">7:30 AM Men's Bible Study	

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Joe Dunmire	05
Lyle Cox	06
Ted Purvis	06
Mike Ward	06
Mena Pagett	07
Tooev Eggert	08
Crystal Rogers	08
Roger Cook	09
Mark Hallock	09
Kelly Russell	11
Vera Smith	13
Rob Knaus	14
Holly Chapman	15
Don Klinker	15
Dottie Gray	17
Sarah Street	17
Robert Cain	19
Virginia Braley	22
Dorothy McConaughey	22
Jolene Knaus	23
Rita Peterson	25
Shelby Andress	27
Arlyne Dunmire	29
Dwayne Axworthy	30
Lorna Cook	31



SPECIAL DATES TO REMEMBER

- * Nov. 30 - Advent I
- * Dec. 6-7 - ECOY Retreat
- * Dec. 7 - Advent II
- * - Donut Sunday
- * - Annual Congregational Meeting @ 9:45
- * Dec. 8 - Commission Meeting @ 7:00 pm
- * - Executive Board Meeting @ 8:00 pm
- * Dec. 14 - Advent III
- * - Jesus's Birthday Party @ 12:00 pm
- * Dec. 17 - **CALL DEADLINE**
- * Dec. 21 - Christmas Sunday-Cantata @ 10:30 am
- * Dec. 23 - **Office closes at Noon thru Dec 28**
- * - **CALL MAILED**
- * Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve Services @ 7:30 pm
- * Dec. 25 - Christmas Day - Merry Christmas Every

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Roy & Connie Buck	12/12/81
Roger & Lorna Cook	12/22/53
Lyle & Jo Cox	12/22/60
Roger & Jacquie Cook	12/29/57
Ron & Terry Rasmussen	12/31/77

**Birthdays &
Anniversaries**

Pumpkin Patch Update



Total Pumpkins Sold	\$17,885.77
FCC percentage@ 33.3%	\$ 5,955.96
Donations/Cornstalk sales to FCC Youth	\$ 586.25
<u>TOTAL\$ to CWF for Baked Goods</u>	<u>\$ 619.25</u>
Grand Total Profit from Sales:	\$ 7,161.06

Groups Participating (included in Grand Total)

FCC Youth Missions:	Total sales @33.3	\$3,287.31
Donations/Corn Sales – 619.25	TOTAL RECEIVED:	\$3,873.56
Cub Scout Pack 13 – Worked 3 nights – Oct 13,20,27		
Total Sales – 1,349.01 @33.3%	TOTAL RECEIVED:	\$ 449.22
Boy Scout Troop 13 – Worked 2 days - Oct 24,25		
Total Sales – 5,094.50 @33.3%	TOTAL RECEIVED:	\$1,696.46
FCC Preschool Staff – Worked 1 night – Oct 16		
Total Sales – 1570.50 @33.3%	TOTAL RECEIVED:	\$ 522.97
CWF BAKED GOODS	TOTAL RECEIVED:	\$ 619.25

Other Totals of Interest:

- Number Helping with unload – 100 (adults, children, scouts)
- Number Workers at Patch – 85 adults – plus youth/children
- 25 School/Preschool Story times during day – **535 little visitors!**

Approx. 1,000 sales slips - representing each sale - shows the community impact!



Advent Wreath

The Advent wreath is a symbol of watchfulness and increasing joy as we anticipate Jesus' birth. The wreath's circular shape symbolizes eternity, or life without end. The candles remind us that Jesus is the Light of the World – he brought light and life to a dark world (see John 1:4-5). On each of the four Sundays of Advent, we light a new candle. As the light grows, so do our hope and joy.

Elections for 2009

On November 10, 2008, the Nominating Committee presented to the Executive Board, the 2009 slate of officers, Elders and Diaconate. This slate of personnel was approved by the Executive Board and the congregation will be voting on this issue at the Annual Congregational Meeting on December 7, 2008.

According to the by-laws (7.3.1) Quote "At the annual meeting the members of the congregation may make other nominations of persons who have been informed of the duties of the offices for which they are nominated, and who have consented to serve, if elected." (By-law 7.3.1) Anyone who wishes to make additional nominations at the annual congregational meeting, please read the By-laws, page 6 (7.2.1 -7.2.2) prior to asking someone to serve.

Christmas Eve Services will be at 7:30 pm. on December 24. We will gather together for a "Festival of Lessons and Carols". We will hear the Christmas story from scripture and sing beloved carols. We will also have communion and the traditional singing of Silent Night with lighting of Christmas Candles. Rose and Kate Shannon will join us for the service. (Yes, they really do exist!)



Christmas Cantata



The Choir will be performing THE GLORY OF CHRISTMAS as its' cantata on December 21. This cantata has a wonderful variety of Christmas music, new songs and wonderful arrangements of traditional Christmas carols. Please make a special effort to join us on December 21 at the 10:45 am service.



Sunday, December 7th

A chili luncheon!

Hot dogs, salad and cookies too.

Eat some great Chili!
Support ECOY!

Following Church on Sunday, December 7 ECOY will be hosting a chili luncheon. ECOY stands for Executive Council of Youth and they are our youth leadership team for the Central Rocky Mountain Region. They help plan Fall and Midwestern Retreats, and Camp and they also represent all of the youth of the region in our churches, at our regional events and at National Disciples events as well. Many of them go on to serve as ministers or to serve their congregations as active lay leaders. The region no longer has the funds to support ECOY, so this is one of their fundraisers. Please plan to stay and enjoy some chili and support our youth leaders.



EVANGELISM:

Sharing Christ With Others

EVANGELISM - perhaps the hardest to grasp of Christian concepts. Basically, it is our charge to convert people to Christ through the spreading of the gospels.

The Evangelism Commission strives to do that in different ways - develop a spirit of Evangelism within our congregation, to spread the word around our community, to explain our Faith to everyone.

We have a great history of Evangelism here at First Christian Church - the Boy Scout Troop, the Timothies we have helped with scholarships, the many efforts of Christian Women's Fellowship, our Outreach giving, every educational class, the Christian Pre-School, and our annual Pumpkin Patch for starters.

Our Evangelism financial needs are equally as important as those of the other Commissions as we try to create new methods to "spread the word". As our annual budgeting time is now upon us, please realize how necessary your financial commitment is to the word and work of God.

December Children's Church

Date	Storyteller	Greeter
7	Jenn Hawley	Zach Marble
14	Sarah Brown	Emily Dundas
21	Jenny Black	Trent Hover
28	Daria Dundas	Ashley Budack



Youth Group Calender

Nov. 30 - Ice Skating 1-3 p.m.

Dec. 6-7 - E-Coy Retreat

Dec. 7 - Serious Topics - CYF, Chi-Rho 4 p.m.

Dec. 14. - Christmas Afternoon?

Dec. 21 - No Youth Group

Dec. 28 - No Youth Group



The FCC Youth Group invites the congregation and community to gather for Jesus's Birthday Party

Sunday, December 14, 2008

12:00 - 2:00 Fellowship Hall

Guests will enjoy a baked potato bar, birthday cake, ice cream -
sundaes, and the true meaning of Christmas. The children will open the "birthday presents", participate in activities and listen to stories of the season. Please bring a wrapped gift which will be donated to local food pantries.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY,
Jesus!

First Christian Church
520 CY Ave
Casper WY, 82601

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

CASPER WY
PERMIT NO. 129

Mr. & Mrs. Rick Black
1712 Westridge Circle
Casper, WY 82604-3379

Month/Day	Offering/ Gen. Fund	Budget Needed	Special Offerings	Amount
10/05/08	7,882.50	6,269.23	Reconciliation	50.00
10/12/08	5,771.20	6,269.23	Reconciliation	25.00
10/19/08	3,179.28	6,269.23	Reconciliation	5.00
10/26/08	2,951.37	6,269.23		
TOTAL	19,784.25	25,076.92	Reconciliation	80.00