

First Christian Church
520 CY Ave
Casper WY, 82601

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First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
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CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Charles Shannon
Interim Minister

Lois Koch
Business Manager

Veronica Mason
Church Secretary

Betty Walts
Organist

Amber French
Director of Music

Melissa Heck
Custodian

Michelle England
Youth Group

THE CALL



2009



HELP WANTED!!!

Are books your passion? Do you love to organize? Have you got a few spare hours??? Well, have I got just the job for you?? After countless years of amazing service to FCC, Twilla Herrick has retired as the church librarian. I would like to extend the thanks of FCC to Twilla for all of her years of hard work and dedication to this mission.

We are now in need of a new librarian. First and foremost, the library needs some purging, followed by some cataloguing and then some book shelving. Fortunately, over the years, the FCC library has benefited from many generous book donations. Unfortunately, the library shelves have reached their capacity and are now busting at the seams and in need of serious purging and reorganizing.

So if you are energetic, have some spare time and are up for a bit of a challenge, FCC has just the right job for you. If you would like to volunteer as the librarian or would like to find out more about this intriguing position, please call Bob Dundas at 266-1721.

Month/Day	Offering/ Gen. Fund	Budget Needed	Special Offerings	Amount
01/04/09	5,709.55	5,932.67		
01/11/09	5,153.65	5,932.67	Pentecost	25.00
01/18/09	2,252.09	5,932.37		
01/25/09	1,934.70	5,932.37		
TOTAL	15,049.99	23,730.68	Pentecost	25.00



My Grandmother Shannon was vehemently anti-Catholic. If she knew I was pastoring churches that observed lent, she'd have a cow. If she knew her only grandson was dispensing ashes on Ash Wednesday, she would tell me "That's Catholic!" and then, would I get a lecture!

As someone who grew up in the Christian Church (Disciples) I have watched as our congregations have adopted what my grandmother would call "Catholic" traditions from stoles, advent wreaths and observing lent. I enjoy some of these "new" traditions. What does bother me is that we adopt them without really understanding why.

The "Season of Lent" reminds us of the forty days that Jesus spent in the wilderness after his baptism. These forty days begin on Ash Wednesday and conclude with Easter. This does not count the Sundays which are considered "mini Easters." The primary purpose of lent has been a time to prepare folk for baptism at Easter. This was a long process sometimes taking as much as two years, but the lent before their baptism was a time of intense prayer, penitence and self study. Today, we give "something up for lent" or we "do something for lent." We also traditionally accept new members at the conclusion of lent.

The ashes that are placed on foreheads and sometimes hands remind us of our own death "Ashes to ashes and dust to dust" They also recall that in the Old Testament people who were in mourning would sit in "sackcloth and ashes."

These "Catholic" traditions are greater than just one faith tradition. They belong to all of us who claim to be a Christian, Grandma.

See You in Church,
Chuck

FCC DINNER CLUB

Membership Commission is restarting a Dinner Club. When you sign up, you will be placed in a group with 4-5 families and/or singles. Once a month you will have a potluck type dinner at one group member's home. This is a great way to get to know members of our church of all ages. If you are interested in being part of this opportunity for fellowship, please fill out this form and place it in the offering place or send it to the church office by **March 11th**.

I am interested in joining the FCC Dinner Club!

NAME: _____

NUMBER IN FAMILY: _____



This is a **THANK YOU** to the Board and Members of First Christian Church for recognizing Rob as a Deacon Emeritus. He truly was a “Good and Faithful Servant” to his church because he thoroughly enjoyed participating in every activity - whether it be learning, serving, or giving. The pin will be treasured along with his other deacon emblems. He would be proud to accept this recognition!

In God’s Love,
Marie Robertson

Dear Church Family at F.C.C.

This is to thank you for all your loving concern during Fred’s recent stay in the hospital. Visits from Paul, Rev. Shannon, and Dr. Badger helped shorten the hours spent in ICU and subsequently on 5th floor. All your prayers, your cards, and phone calls were a very real comfort and were very much appreciated. I believe the cardiologists have the necessary repairs this time, and hopefully, he is on the road to recovery.

Again, thank you all and God Bless.
Shirley Hudson

Thank you to Brian and Jenny Black for chauffeuring and Holly Chapman for chaperoning 10 youth to Mid-Winter Retreat in La Foret!

Thank you for caring and your thoughtfulness of the beautiful flower.
Love, Ed Strube

Worship Assistants February 2009

Elder Presiding:

Lani McBee

Bread Elder:

Russ Black

Cup Elder:

Shirley Downs

Diaconate:

Del Lloyd

Dave Jerde

Verla Jerde

Bev Miller

Scott Hawley

Julie Black

Amy Black

Sarah Brown

Communion Preparation:

8:00 am

Deb Schuetz

10:45 am

Dave & Verla Jerde

Greeters:

8:00 a.m.

Pat Seamonds

10:45 a.m.

Floyd & Janet Field

Acolytes:

TBA



Poplar Living Center

June Forgey

Life Care Center

Donna Ward

Arylne Dunmire

Jack Riley

Kathy Badger

Meadow Wind

Ethel Dunn

Joe Dunmire

Shepherd of the Valley

Margaret Shriver

Joan Linenberger

Garden Square

Wilma Dee Forester

Betty Snyder

Park Place

Hospice

Primrose

Catherine Kingsolver

Maurice Griffith Manor

Location	Elders
Poplar Living Center Life Care Center	Mike Ward, Jack Walts, Deb King
At Home	Nancy Vreeland, Carol Jo Vlastos, Bob Glasspoole
Shepherd of the Valley Maurice Griffith Manor	Suzy Stewart, Shirley Downs, Floyd Field
Garden Square Primrose Place	Kelli Slominski, Lani McBee, Russ Black
Meadow Wind Park Place	Melanie Dowler, Roger Miller, Sandy Bentley
Hospice	All Elders



Membership Class

One of the primary ancient traditions of lent is to prepare individuals for membership within the church. We still do that. If you have a young person who would like to join the church, or you know of an adult who would like to join, please let the church office know. We would like to have the class begin on Sunday, February 22 during the Sunday School hour. If you have any questions, please contact Chuck Shannon.

PRAYER BOX

Family prayer time is a good habit. Make it fun with this activity for all family members. They can use this special box whenever they have a prayer request.

What you need:

- Shoebox
- Wrapping paper
- Scissors
- Tape
- Stickers, markers, etc. (optional)
- Index cards
- Pencils or pens

What you do:

1. Wrap the shoebox like a present. Be sure to wrap the lid separately so it can be removed.
2. Let the whole family help decorate the box. You can write Bible verses about prayer, draw pictures, glue on pictures or add stickers. Be creative!
3. Put the box in a prominent location of your house. Keep a pile of index cards and pencils or pens near the box.
4. Whenever a family member has a prayer request, he or she can write or draw it on a card and put it inside the box.
5. Family members can share the cards in a prayer circle, or people can take turns praying for all the requests. Throughout the week, family members can check the box for new prayer needs.

Just for **KIDS**

A FAMILY OF PRAYER

The book of Acts tells about a man named Cornelius. He was a Roman centurion from Caesarea who worshiped God. Through his encounter with Cornelius, Peter learned that God accepts everyone who fears him and does what is right.

Use the code below to use the example set by Cornelius and his family. Solve the math problems by using the grid. Then use the key to find the letter that matches each answer. Write the letter on the blank.

GRID	
A	B
3	4
C	D
E	5

KEY: a=F e=B i=O o=B u=H y=B

H _ _ nd _ _ ll n _ _ s f _ _ m _ _ l _ _
 a+c a+d a+d b+c a+d b+c a+b
 w _ _ r _ _ d _ _ v _ _ _ _ t _ _ nd
 a+c a+c a+c b+d c+d a+d
 Q _ _ d - f _ _ _ r _ _ ng: n _ _ g _ _ v _ _
 b-d a+c a+d b+c a+c a+d a+c
 Q _ _ n _ _ r _ _ _ s i _ _ t _ _ t n _ _ a _ _ n
 b+c a+c b+d c+d a+b b+d b+d a+c b+c
 n _ _ _ d _ _ nd p r _ _ _ _ d f _ _ G _ _ d
 a+c b+c a+d a+d a+b a+c b+d b+d
 f _ _ w _ _ j _ _ _ l _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
 a+c c+d a+d a+b b+d

Answers: The rest of the family were drawn and led through the gate personally to them in need and helped to find regularly. Acts 10:2, 24



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Rob Hester	01
Helena Kettle	02
Joan Pitts	02
Kylie Terpening	02
Jack Edelbrock	05
Billy Mosteller	05
Kirby Black	07
Cindy Huckfeldt	08
Frank Mowery	10
Kim Doyle	12
Anne Klocksiem	12
Arlene Wegner	12
Donna Cain	13
Nancy Farrar	15
Tim Havasi	16

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

John Becker	18
Carol Braley	18
Cecelia Miller	20
Kasey Stewart	20
Judy Baker	23
Jeff Hover	24
Trenton Hover	24
Lori Hayden	25
Darin Myers	25
Lindy Bland	26
Janie Nelson	26
Kolby Hilderbrand	27
Wayne Roads	27
Ginni Myers	28
Suzy Stewart	30

ADDRESS CHANGE

Gladys Lindholm
 5405 Colonial Circle, Apt. 104
 Knoxville, TN 37918-3273



**Youth Group
 Gospel Journey: Maui**

Join us starting February 22nd for a journey that you will always remember! We will kick off Gospel Journey with a Luau at 4! Gospel Journey is a chance to join 6 teens of different faiths, and learn about their faiths, as well as learn more about your own! This is going to be a wonderful opportunity, and I hope to see you all there! If you have any questions, give me a call. Michelle - 259-1166.

March Schedule

March 1 - Gospel Journey
 March 8 - Gospel Journey
 March 15 - Gospel Journey
 March 22 - Gospel Journey

Coming To Your Neighborhood:

The CRMR Vision Team is preparing for its final round of listening conferences. Vision Team members will visit individual congregations or clusters of congregations soon to get feedback from those who could not attend the November, 2008 conference that was held at South Broadway Christian Church. We are preparing a video that can be shown in each congregation before the team members arrive that is designed to pose five questions:

- 1) What should the Region continue doing?
- 2) What should the Region stop doing or do differently?
- 3) What new things should the region do?
- 4) What do you think the ideal Region looks like?
- 5) Is there anything else you would like to say to the Vision Team as they do this work?

Team members are currently making arrangements with congregations to meet with individual congregations or clusters of congregations to get this feedback. Listening conferences are expected to last approximately one and a half hours.

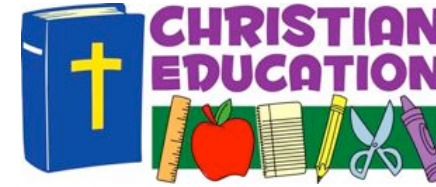
A schedule of these events along with team members will be issued in the near future.

In addition to these listening conferences, we are also convening prayer groups around the region to pray for the success of the visioning process. Each of these prayer meetings will be approximately two and a half hours in length, at a quiet location of each convener's choosing. If you wish to participate in these prayer groups, please contact Dick Hamm at: dhamm@ddi.org.

For your information, the timeline currently being followed by the Vision Team is:

- Complete congregational listening meetings by April 7
- Complete prayer meetings by April 7
- Complete feedback from other than congregations by April 7
- Team begins writing Future Story on April 15
- Team completes Future Story draft on May 8
- Regional meeting to react to Future Story on May 9 (put on your calendars. Location to be named later)
- Visioning Team completes Strategic Plan in Summer, 2009
- Regional Board votes on Strategic Plan at October, 2009 meeting
- Strategic Plan implemented for next five years.

CRMR Vision Team



Do you love books? Do you enjoy young people? Are you a leader? The Education Commission is in need of your talents to fill the following positions:

LIBRARIAN-- Our grateful thanks to Twilla Herrick for her many years of dedicated service during this chapter of her life!

YOUTH COORDINATOR-- Grades 6-12 Plan meetings and events. Coordinate Retreats, Summer Camp, Mission Trip, Youth Sunday.

CHURCH SCHOOL LEADERS--
CHI-RHO Grades 6-8 (Curriculum has been set thru May)
T.H.E. - Adult Class

Please contact the church office, Lynda Williams 234-9693
dutchwilliams@msn.com or Daria Dundas 266-1721



***Due to the NCSD need for a snow make-up day, the dates for Vacation Bible School have been rescheduled. We will be hosting VBS 2009 the week of July 13-17, our traditional week after Central Wyoming Fair & Rodeo.

Special Dates

- March 1 - First Sunday of Lent
- March 4 - Mid-Week Lent Service
- March 6 - World Day of Prayer
- March 8 - Second Sunday of Lent
- March 8 - Daylight Savings Time
- March 11 - Mid-Week Lenten Services
- March 15 - Third Sunday of Lent
- March 18 - Mid-Week Lenten Services
- March 18 - Call Deadline
- March 20 - First day of Spring
- March 22 - Fourth Sunday of Lent
- March 25 - Mid-Week Lenten Services
- March 25 - Call Mailed
- March 25 - Chili, Chocolate, Chuck It
- March 29 - Fifth Sunday of Lent



DATE	STORY	STORYTELLER	GREETER
March 1	Lenten Puzzle	Linnea Meline	Josh Black
March 8	Jesus & the Children	Pat Buck	Jared Black
March 15	Jesus & Bartimaeus	Jenn Hawley	Briana Black
March 22	Jesus & Xaccheaus	Daria Dundas	Emily Dundas
March 29	Jesus the King	Sarah Brown	Val Williams

Helen Louis Mayfield, 92 passed away on Jan. 23, 2009 in Arizona. Helen and her husband, Howard were members of FCC until 1977. A memorial service and interment was in Greeley, CO.



"Supper and SuperBrush"

The Preschool is gearing up for their first Family Chili Dinner and Show on Thursday, March 5th at 6:00 pm. We will be hosting a Chili Dinner for the families to raise money for new equipment and present our children's musical "Superbrush and the Molars" starring our preschoolers! Should be a fun night for all.

PreRegistration Now Open

Beginning March 1st Preregistration will be open to the public for our FCC Preschool. We will be offering the following classes next fall and encourage any FCC members to register now or let friends and family know we would love to have them consider our school as an early childhood education option. Family visits are encouraged and preregistration forms are available in the church office.

Intro to Preschool - M/W or T/TH (2 1/2 yr olds)

3's to 4 - M/W/F or T/TH/F

4's to 5 - M/W/F or T/TH/F

PreK - M-TH (designed for children of kindergarten age, but not yet attending)



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Boyd & Wanda Hall	03/22/50
Nayna & Robert Hilton	03/24/06
Bill & Elaine Gross	03/30/58

March 14th
CWF Pork Tenderloin Dinner

Christian Women's Fellowship will prepare and serve a lovely pork tenderloin dinner with all the trimmings to members of First Christian Church and to their guests from 5 to 7 p.m. on March 14th in Fellowship Hall. Trimmings include homemade mashed potatoes and gravy, applesauce- jello, carrots, dinner rolls, homemade pie, and beverages. This dinner provides a wonderful opportunity to enjoy a relaxed and delicious dinner while assisting CWF in its fundraising efforts toward new flooring for our Fellowship Hall.

Tickets are \$10.00 each, \$5.00 each for children's tickets, and will be for sale between Sunday School and the 10:45 a.m. service on Sundays February 22nd, March 1st, and March 8th. You will find ticket sellers in the Narthex and in Fellowship Hall. If you'd like tickets and can't come to purchase them at any of those times, call C.W.F. Chairperson Jo Cox at 237-7267 prior to March 12th.

No CWF church dinner is complete without a raffle so be sure to purchase your raffle tickets from CWF members or at the dinner for the modest price of \$5.00 per ticket or three tickets for \$20.00. Raffle prizes will include a quilt, 2 decorated denim jackets and 3 denim handbags made by FCC's quilters, a handmade afghan, a very lovely crystal bowl, and a sterling silver platter that is a real treasure. More prizes will be announced at the dinner.

Directories will be out soon. They are at the printer now. As soon as they are in, I will put them in the Narthax and an announcement will be in the bulletin.

Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University

Financial Peace University is a 13-week, biblically based, video-driven small-group study that teaches families to beat debt, build wealth and give like never before!

First Christian Church will be hosting a class beginning on Sunday, March 1st. Classes will be held on Sunday's from 4:00 to 6:00 pm.

Tentative Class Dates:

March 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th
April 5th, 19th, and 26th
May 3rd, 17th, 24th, and 31st

Cost:

The cost of the class is \$93.00, which includes the workbooks, all 13 lessons on CD, *Financial Peace Revisited* book, Financial Peace University Envelope System, Budgeting Forms, UPDATED Financial Peace University Bonus CD, 2 Debit Card Holders, and Member Resource Center (a free online tool).

Interested: Sign up and pay at one of the preview sessions or call the office at 234-8964.

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.

MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICES

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SOUP</u>	<u>SPEAKER</u>	<u>LAST WORD</u>	<u>SCRIPTURE</u>
<u>Ash Wednesday</u>				
02/25/09	Nancy Vreeland	Rev. Shannon	"They know not what they do"	Luke 23:24
03/04/09	Melanie Dowler	Carol Jo Vlastos	"U assure you, today, you will be with me in paradise"	Luck 23:43
03/11/09	Lani McBee	Mike Ward	"Woman, Here is your son"	John 19:26
03/18/09	Kelli Slominski	Suzy Stewart	"My God, my God, Why have you forsaken me?"	Mark 15:34
03/25/09	Mike Ward	Nancy Vreeland	"I'm Thirsty"	John 19:38
04/01/09	Youth Group	Floyd Field/Roger Miller	"It is Finished"	John 19:30
<u>Maundy Thursday</u>				
04/09/09		Rev. Shannon	"Father, into your hands I commend my Spirit"	Luke 23:46

LENTEN SERVICES

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>SCRIPTURES</u>	
March 1	"These Forty Days"	Old Testament: 9: 8: 1-7	New Testament: Mark 1: 9-15
March 8	"Take Up the Cross"	Old Testament: Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16	New Testament: Mark 8:31-38
March 15	"The Pigeons"	Old Testament: Exodus 20: 1-17	New Testament: John 2: 13-22
March 22	"A Sign of Mercy"	Old Testament: Numbers 21: 4-9	New Testament: John 3: 14-21
March 29	" Do You Know the Lord"	Old Testament: Jeremiah 31: 31-34	New Testament: John 12: 20-33