

First Christian Church
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THE CALL

**Sunday November 21 -
Deacons host Thanksgiving Dinner**

November 25 - Thanksgiving Day (office closed 11/25-26)

November 28 - First Sunday in Advent -
“Hanging of the Greens” special worship service

Friday December 3 - Final session “Your Child” class 6 p.m.
The Strong Willed Child—Protecting the Spirit

December 12 - Annual Congregational meeting
and “Celebration of Ministry!”

This Sunday - don’t miss out on our annual All-Church turkey dinner with all the trimmings! We’ll eat right after second service and then share in the fun of preparing decorations for Advent around the church. If you haven’t signed up, please call the church office to include your name in the count so we’ll have enough food. Diaconate is preparing turkeys. Members bring a side dish to share. Youth help with serving & clean-up.

Celebration of Ministry and “Tasting Party”! Between services on December 12, bring your favorite holiday treat to share. At 9:45 a.m. we will gather in Fellowship Hall for the Annual Congregational Meeting. We will vote on the budget and nominations for 2011. There will also be a special celebration of ministry - recognizing those who have faithfully served in the past year. Our time of fellowship will extend throughout the Sunday School hour that day as we sample the flavors of the season. Bring any “finger food” item to share.

Church Staff: Rev. Cynthia McBride Lead Pastor

Lois Koch Business Manager, Elisa Jones Church Secretary,

Thomas May Custodian, Betty Walts Organist, Amber French Director of Music

Cyndi Trimmer Nursery, Jenny Black FCC Preschool Director



A Life of Learning and Love....

"More Than Enough"

This year's stewardship commission chose the theme "More Than Enough" for our annual pledge campaign. It is based on 2 Corinthians 9. The early Christians in Macedonia were living in poverty, and yet they took a generous collection to support their brothers and sisters in Christ. In a few short yet deep verses Paul writes: "the one who sows sparingly will reap sparingly... God loves a cheerful giver... And God is able to provide you with EVERY Blessing IN ABUNDANCE, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work."

As Thanksgiving draws near, I invite you to count your blessings. Literally. Sit down with a piece of paper or a page in your journal or diary and begin to write down a list of EVERY blessing you can name. Here's part of my list: fresh Wyoming air, shelter in a snowstorm, the gift of my family (both near and far), my latest meal, my next meal, unconditional love (from God and from our dog Henry), clean water, meaningful work, talents to share, a friend who listened to me, a cup of hot cocoa, health, patience when I really needed it, a good book, The Good Book, hearing a new song, singing a new song, new friends, a helpful neighbor, enough money to pay the mortgage, thoughtful conversation, seeing the world with new eyes.... Be specific in your list. Include names and dates and details. Give thanks for big things and little things and things that aren't "things" at all.

This simple practice of naming ALL the blessings we receive can help us realize that we are loved by a God of ABUNDANCE. Nearly every member in our congregation has enough - there will be food on the table and a bed to sleep in. In fact, nearly every one of us, whether we know it or not, actually has more than enough. Like the Macedonians who knew tight times and hunger, may we be blessed with generous hearts.

- Pastor Cynthia

The world asks, "What does a man own?"...

Christ asks, "How does he use it?"...

-Andrew Murray (1828-1917) S. African minister, church leader, writer

"FINANCIAL PEACE"

A course of study using Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University will be hosted by Dave & Terri Taylor @ FCC. Many of our members have participated before and give high praise to the skills and insights gained through this course.

January 16 thru April 17, 2011 (No class March 6, Spring Break)

Join us for an informational meeting and a light lunch

Sunday, January 16, 2011 12:30 p.m.

Fellowship Hall - Babysitting Provided

Contact Lynda Williams or FCC office to pre-register

*The **Financial Peace coordinator kit** is missing. If you borrowed it or know who did would you please bring it to the church office. ASAP*

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your many calls, cards, and prayers during Carol's recent hospitalization and surgery. Please continue to pray as she needs six weeks of radiation. Thank you.

In Christian Love, Martha & David Wallace



Dear Church Family, The bright yellow carnation was a welcome sight in my room as I returned from surgery. Thank you for your thoughtfulness and prayers. I also thank Shirley Wenn, Cynthia & Charles McBride, Amber French, Bryant Badger and Paul Hallock for their visits at the hospital. I'm looking forward to more pain free days. Thanks to all of you. In Friendship, Lynn Klocksiem

Dear Church family, What a wonderful celebration we had on Oct. 30. Thank you all who came to the party. Thank you also for all the cards, flowers and gifts. It is a joy to be part of the wonderful, caring family. God bless you, Kathy Badger

It's Thanksgiving time, Christian Women's Fellowship and the rest of the members of the congregation give a huge **THANK YOU** to **Mike Slominski**. Since Mike and Kelli joined this church, Mike has been involved in all the floor covering projects in this entire church. As we all know, whenever we have a service or repair job done around our residence or on our motor vehicles, a very large part of the total amount due is for labor. That means that Mike has donated thousands of dollars in labor, time and expertise to this church. Thank you, Mike, from the bottom of our hearts!!! Twilla Herrick on behalf of CWF



for the month of
December

Presiding Elder:

8:00 a.m. -
Deb King

10:45 a.m. -
Carol Vlastos

Bread Elder:
Stan McIrvin

Cup Elder:
Linda Mosteller

Greeters:

8:00 a.m.
Lani McBee

10:45 a.m.
Lindy Bland
Betty Blain

Scripture Readers at 10:45

11/21 - *Pam Rouse*

Acolytes at 10:45

11/28 - *Dylan Stupak*

Please sign up on the bulletin board by the front door!

Congregational Elections for 2011

On November 8, 2010, the Nominating Committee presented to the Executive Board, the 2011 slate of officers, Elders and Diaconate. This slate was approved by the Executive Board, and the congregation will be voting on this issue and our annual budget at the Annual Congregational Meeting on December 12, 2010 at 9:45 AM. A list of the current nominees and copies of the church Bylaws are available for review in the church office.

According to the FCC Bylaws - "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." (7.3.1) Anyone wishing to make additional nominations at the annual congregational meeting, is asked to read the Bylaws, page 6 (7.2.1- 7.2.2) prior to asking someone to serve.

Monthly Offering	Offering for General Fund	Budget Needed	Special Offering
October	22,023.79	29,213.25	Thanksgiving - 165.00 Reconciliation - 75.00

PUMPKIN PATCH THANKS!

Thank you to the entire congregation for joining together to make this our most successful Patch ever! Mother Nature helped us out with beautiful weather and our membership helped out with everything else! The final total sales were: \$32,759.18 of which FCC and its partners received 40%, along with our donations and other sales, bringing our take home total to \$15,041.53. Who knows what exciting things God has planned for using the proceeds given to our church, Scouts and preschool! A complete report was given to the Board and is available for review at the "Patch Headquarters" bulletin board by the Christian Ed office. Specifically, I'd like to thank our amazing

2010 Patch Committee:

- Co-Chair - Becky Foster
- Set Up/Tear Down - BSA Troop 13
- Decorations - Kelly Hover
- Finance - Charles McBride
- Publicity - Lani McBee
- Volunteer Coordinator - Kelli Slominski
- Quality Control - Lyle Cox

Again, Blessings to ALL for your donations of Time, Talent and Treasure!

Mark Your Calendars for next year's Patch:

Pumpkins Arrive Thursday, October 6, 2011!!

A huge thanks also goes to our office staff for all the extra work and calls during the pumpkin patch. To Lisa, who helped with ALL the correspondence and Lois who double checks and deposits ALL that money! We couldn't do it without them!

Jenny Black, 2010 Patch and Story time Coordinator



Congratulations to Pumpkin Bake-Off Winners!

Here are the judges' final decision of the tasty treats submitted at this year's Pumpkin Bake-Off:

- #1 - Pumpkin Cheesecake by Annette Ambrosino
- #2 - Pumpkin Pecan Pie by Becky Foster
- #3 - Pumpkin Cheese Pie by Kathy Meloy
- #4 - Pumpkin Bundt Cake by Kathy Meloy

Thank you to all who submitted entries and shared them with members of the congregation for taste testing after the judging.

DECEMBER 12 2ND SUN. SERVICE 5 PM MEAL - WORSHIP AT 6

Dec. meal =
Taco Soup

Our “worship experiment” of offering an informal “Praise Service” continues EVERY Second Sunday. The attendance at these evening services is averaging about the same as the attendance at our 8 a.m. worship. Members of our church and friends who’ve joined us share relaxed fellowship over a home-cooked meal and Praise songs, communion and a message.

At our December service, we hope to offer LIVE music (rather than recorded songs). Kevin Budack is coordinating arrangements for a Praise Band to visit and share in worship. If you’re interested in being a song-leader or instrumentalist for praise songs, and would like to rehearse for this or future services, please call Kevin at: 472-0425.

Congratulations to YOUTH - to Briana Black on receiving the “high point senior” award on the Kelly Walsh swim team.

- to William Bjoersdorff and the NCHS Mustangs on winning the WY state high school football championship.

- to Cameron Budack on completing requirements for Eagle Scout.

PRESCHOOL NEWS

The FCC Preschool will hold its annual Thanksgiving Feast on Friday, November 19th at 11 am. We are performing our first musical ever! “Tom Turkey's Thanksgiving” involves speaking parts for all children as well as fun Thanksgiving songs. The children are very excited to perform and we will enjoy the fellowship of all our preschool families.

We have had a change in staff this month, our beloved Teacher Megan has moved on to a full time position directing at a local childcare center and our Spanish teacher, Wendy Godinez, will be stepping into the classroom through Christmas, at which time we will reevaluate our staffing needs. The children already know and love Teacher Wendy, so it will be a nice transition. This time of year, we’re especially THANKFUL to FCC for being our host facility and all the support the church provides this ministry!

“YOUTH NEWS” !!!

CYF - grades 9-12
Chi Rho - grades 6-8
JYF - grades 2-5

Nov. 21 - All-church Thanksgiving Dinner hosted by the Diaconate. Youth help clean up & stay after to decorate church.

Nov. 28 - Thanksgiving Holiday - no “official” youth group at church - but if you’re in town - how about a movie?

Dec. 5 - JYF, Chi Rho AND CYF - Led by Mark & Lynda Williams - meet 5:00 to 6:00 PM. **Come make a special craft.**

Lynda Williams shares: “At the CRMR CYF Fall Retreat, I saw an AMAZING group of adolescents and adults who are well on their way to showing others they are Christian. I witnessed their Christianity thru acceptance, friendship, teaching, serving, laboring, self-reflection, compassion, and sharing.

Acceptance of 3 foreign exchange students from Germany, Russia, and Sweden; Muslim store owners; Spanish-speaking shoppers; Senior Citizens; the homeless. Friendship given to each other thru card games, competitions of who can catch the most cheese balls in their mouth, throwing a Frisbee, compliments and great conversation.

Teaching others how to serve, pray, and follow the Will of the Lord ... Serving by cooking and giving food to the hungry... Laboring to provide food, clothing, and household goods for those less fortunate than themselves.... Self-Reflection of new insights to the way others live, eat, sleep, get clothes, earn money, lack education in comparison to themselves...

Compassion by bringing water to an ill student unable to help them work; by giving a granola bar and juice to an out-of-work man on the street so that he may feed his dog as well as himself; by taking up a collection of \$168 to give to an entertainer who touched their hearts after finding out the two homeless men he gave shelter to for the night had robbed him of his rent money. Sharing with each other and the hosting Mountair Christian Church about their experiences and how they were forever changed. In my mind, I still hear them singing **“They will know we are Christians by our love, by our love!”**

TASTING PARTY - A New Tradition?

This year we will “test out” two new holiday traditions. (New for FCC Casper that is....) On Sunday, Nov. 28th, you'll want to be certain to be in worship. We will have a service of lessons and carols as we decorate the sanctuary for Advent and learn the meaning behind the beautiful seasonal decorations. On Dec. 12th, we will have a “Tasting Party” - plan to bring a sample of your favorite holiday finger food to share during the Sunday School hour.

WOMEN'S & MEN'S MINISTRIES

The Wednesday morning Men's group struggled to find a foothold at 6:30 a.m. (For some, the time was too early! For others, too late!) If you are interested in a Men's group - either at a different time or with a different focus - please talk with Dennis Baker or Rev. McBride. 7:30 a.m. Saturday Bible study continues.

“CWF” - The Christian Women's Fellowship executive board is pleased to announce that they have found leadership for the coming year. Bev Miller & Jo Cox will be co-chairs.

Godly Girlfriends will be baking Christmas cookies at 5:30 PM on Thursday, December 2 in the downstairs kitchen. All women of the church are invited to come join the fun!

SCOUTING NEWS

The Cub Scouts had a record breaking Popcorn season, selling \$38,540 worth of popcorn! The Pack would like to give a big thank you to the church for allowing them to use Fellowship Hall to sort and distribute popcorn. In December, the Pack will be busy making gift baskets for Shepherd of The Valley residents and will have a Christmas party with them on December 11. The Cub Scouts will also be collecting books to give to Seton House. They will collect books thru December 6th if you'd like to donate. The 4th and 5th graders are continuing their God & Family journey with Reverend McBride on Monday evenings at FCC.

19 Boy Scouts from the troop attended a Merit Badge Fair in Gillette on November 5th-6th and worked on many merit badges. As a troop, they are working on the merit badges that are only available in 2010 for the 100 Year Anniversary and have also been working on First Aid and CPR. The troop will be participating in a food drive in December; so, be on the lookout for Boy Scouts coming to your door!

Prayer Group Begins With Unbinding the Gospel

For nine weeks, a small group met every Tuesday evening to discuss the “E-word” – Evangelism. Together we've overcome our hesitancy to even say the word, discovering that Evangelism doesn't mean banging on doors to try to get people to come to church – rather it is sharing the story of our faith in order to deepen our relationship with God and offer Christ's love to others. The next step? Prayer.

Are you longing to grow closer to Christ? Are you eager to become a better pray-er by practicing with others? Would you be willing to commit to pray for God to guide our congregation?

Starting Nov. 30 from 6 to 8 PM, a small group will meet for prayer every other Tuesday for 3 months.

Evangelism shares: “Evangelism is not a committee assignment. It isn't learning some special technique about how to lead a person to Christ. Evangelism is the conscious work of praising and revealing the name of Jesus in every action, word, and moment of the church's life. Individuals have a role to play in this witness, but in the fullest sense evangelism is the ministry of the whole church at all times in all places.” Jan G. Linn, [Reclaiming Evangelism](#) (St. Louis, MO:

December Birthdays

William Wenn	Dec. 2	Dottie Gray	Dec. 17
Lyle Cox	Dec. 6	Sarah Street	Dec. 17
Ted Purvis	Dec. 6	Robert Cain	Dec. 19
Mike Ward	Dec. 6	Terri Taylor	Dec. 21
Mena Pagett	Dec. 7	William Bjoersdorff	Dec. 21
Crystal Rodgers	Dec. 8	Virginia Braley	Dec. 22
Roger Cook	Dec. 9	Dorothy McCaughey	Dec. 22
Kelly Russell	Dec. 11	Jolene Knaus	Dec. 23
Charles McBride	Dec. 12	Rita Petersen	Dec. 25
Rob Knaus	Dec. 14	Shelby Address	Dec. 27
Holly Chapman	Dec. 15	Dwayne Axworthy	Dec. 30
		Lorna Cook	Dec. 31



December Wedding Anniversary Dates

Roy & Connie Buck	Dec. 12, 1981
Bruce Postema & Carol Sage	Dec. 17, 1999
Roger & Lorna Cook	Dec. 22, 1953
Lyle & Jo Cox	Dec. 22, 1990
Ed & Mary Burgess	Dec. 24, 1974
Robert & Jacquie Cook	Dec. 29, 1951
Ron & Terry Rasmussen	Dec. 31, 1977



Office Hours: Mon. - Thurs. 8:30 A.M to noon & 1:00-4:30 P.M. Fridays 8:30 A.M to noon

November

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11

January

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5

December 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 November Advent I No Youth Group 8 AM & 10:45 AM Worship	29 6 PM CSA 7 PM BSA-Court of Honor	30 4:15 PM Youth Choir 6 PM Prayer Group 7 PM Bell Rehearsal 7 PM AA Meeting	1 December 9 AM Quilters 5:30 PM World AIDS Day 7 PM Choir 8 PM Cantata Rehearsal	2 10 AM CWF Board Meeting 5:30 PM CSA Board Mee... 5:30 PM Godly Girlfriends	3 6 PM Your Child Class	4 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study
5 Advent II Donut Sunday 8 AM & 10:45 AM Worship 5 PM Chi-Rho, CYF & JY...	6 6 PM CSA 6:45 PM Prayer in Sanct... 7 PM Commissions Board 7 PM BSA 8 PM Exec. Board Mtg	7 4:15 PM Youth Choir 7 PM Bell Rehearsal 7 PM AA Meeting	8 9 AM Quilters 11:30 AM CWF #3 @ Ar... 12 PM CWF #2 7 PM Choir 8 PM Cantata Rehearsal	9 10 AM CWF #1 6 PM NAMI Christmas Pa...	10	11 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study 10 AM Wallace quilters 2 PM Piano recital w/ Kel...
12 Advent III 8 AM & 10:45 AM Worship 9:45 AM ANNUAL CONG... 1:30 PM Singles Lunch 5 PM 2nd Sunday Service	13 6 PM Elder's Dinner 6 PM CSA 7 PM BSA	14 4:15 PM Youth Choir 6 PM Prayer Group 7 PM Bell Rehearsal 7 PM AA Meeting	15 9 AM Quilters 7 PM Choir 8 PM Cantata Rehearsal	16	17	18 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study 12 PM Cantata Rehearsal 3 PM Rehearsal Dinner
19 Advent IV Christmas cantata 8 AM & 10:45 AM Worship 5 PM Chi-Ro & CYF-Yout...	20 CALL DEADLINE	21 7 PM AA Meeting	22 9 AM Quilters 12 PM Staff potluck	23	24 Office closed CHRISTMAS EVE 5:30 PM Family Christm... 7:30 PM Christmas Eve	25 CHRISTMAS 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study
26 No Youth Group 8 AM & 10:45 AM Worship	27	28 6 PM Prayer Group 7 PM AA Meeting	29 9 AM Quilters	30	31 Office Closed NEW YEARS EVE	1 January NEW YEARS DAY 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

The Worship Commission is again asking that you share a poinsettia to decorate the Sanctuary during the 2010 Advent Season. The poinsettias will cost \$5.00. Please put your check marked for poinsettias in the offering with this form on Sunday morning or send to the church office by **Sunday, December 5.**

The volume of memorial flowers in the past has been overwhelming. People have been so generous in their memorials! The Worship Commission wishes to continue purchasing an adequate number of flowers for church decoration and place the remainder of the monies in the Church Memorial Fund. All donations will be recognized in the usual manner in "The Call" and the "Christmas Bulletin".

You may take your poinsettias home **Sunday, January 2, 2011**

Given By:

In Memory of:

In Honor of:

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
90TH YEAR SERVING CHRIST ~ 2011
Please volunteer now!

*Please tell us what ways you'd like to serve the Lord in our local church during 2011.
Your name will be given to the new functional commission chairpersons.*

_____ **Worship Commission** (Special seasons, evaluating, devotional life, special services, leadership greeting, acolytes)

_____ **Music**

- | | | |
|---|---|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chancel Choir | <input type="checkbox"/> Sunbeam Choir | <input type="checkbox"/> Piano |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Handball Choir | <input type="checkbox"/> Instrument _____ | |

_____ **Education Commission**

- | | | |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nursery Care | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Programs | <input type="checkbox"/> Family Camp |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Camp & Conferences | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacation Bible School | |

_____ **Church School Teacher:**

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth | <input type="checkbox"/> Adult |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|

_____ **Property Commission**

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yard Work | <input type="checkbox"/> Painting | <input type="checkbox"/> Work Days |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Snow Removal | <input type="checkbox"/> Other | |

_____ **Special Skills:**

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Electrical | <input type="checkbox"/> Carpentry | <input type="checkbox"/> Plumbing |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|

_____ **World Outreach**

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Promotion | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Day Offerings | <input type="checkbox"/> Mission Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other | | |

_____ **Stewardship/Church Finance**

(Budget, monitoring, education campaign, stewardship education)

_____ **Membership Commission**

- | | | |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fellowship Dinners | <input type="checkbox"/> Inactive Members | <input type="checkbox"/> Visitation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hospital Ministry | <input type="checkbox"/> New Member Orientation | <input type="checkbox"/> Clerk |

_____ **Evangelisms Commissions**

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Make Home Visits | <input type="checkbox"/> Identify New Residents | <input type="checkbox"/> Willing to be trained |
|---|---|--|

_____ **Social Action**

- | | | |
|---|--|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Homes | <input type="checkbox"/> Political Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Elderly |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transient Care | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Service | |

NAME: _____ **TELEPHONE #:** _____

Please complete as soon as possible and place in the offering plate or return to the church office. **PLEASE HELP!** Contact Kelli Slominski (234-4335) if you are interested in serving as a Commission Chair.