



# THE CALL

Feb/Mar.  
2015

## February, 2015

### **February 18 - LENT BEGINS**

Every Wednesday during Lent FCC Elders will lead a weekly Evening Vespers in the Inner Room (upstairs).

6:00 p.m. Soup Supper - Fellowship Hall  
and 6:30 p.m. Vespers.

### **February 22 - New Worship Schedule**

8:45 a.m. Coffee in the Inner Room

9:00 a.m. Sunday School for children & adults

9:00 a.m. Brief Chapel service

with communion and prayers in Room #19

10:10 a.m. - Worship in the sanctuary

Join us after worship for a coffee and fellowship for all in the Fellowship Hall.

Pastor's Class 6:00 p.m. Sundays during Lent

## **MARCH, 2015**

March 4 - Lenten Service

**MARCH 8 - CHANGE CLOCKS FORWARD**

March 11 - Lenten Service

March 13 - Week of Compassion Dinner

March 18 - Lenten Service

March 25 - Lenten Service

March 30-April 3 - Spring Break

April 2 - Maundy Thursday Service

### **Church Staff:**

**Rev. Cynthia McBride**, Pastor

**Lois Koch**, Business Manager

**Kathy Winders**, Secretary

**Cyndi Trimmer**, Nursery care

**Annette Crain**, Preschool Dir.

**Amber French**, Music Dir.

**Jordan Jones**, Pianist

### **Office hours:**

**Mon.-Thurs.**

8:30 AM - 2:30 PM

**Fridays**

8:30 AM - Noon

### **Preschool hours (Sept-May)**

M-F 9:00 AM - noon

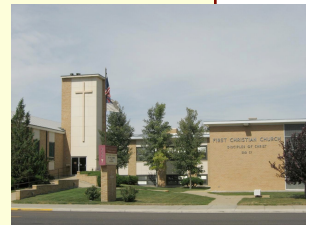
(307) 234-8964

[www.fcccasper.org](http://www.fcccasper.org)

[fcccasper@gmail.com](mailto:fcccasper@gmail.com)

### **Preschool Phone**

(307) 472-0649



**Spring Forward  
Sunday  
March 8th!!!**

*A Life of Learning and Love....****"Attending to God During Lent"***

One of the traditional texts used to mark the beginning of Lent is Matthew 4. *"Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' But he answered, 'It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"* At the beginning of Jesus' ministry, he spent time alone in the desert. The season of Lent spans 40 days - counting from Ash Wednesday to Easter, not including Sundays. The 40 days of Lent reminds us of the 40 days Jesus spent fasting in the wilderness.

When Jesus was most hungry (the NRSV says he was "famished") the first temptation the devil throws at him is to use the power of God to turn stones into bread, to feed himself, to satisfy what surely must have been his strongest physical desire in that very moment. But Jesus knows something we find easy to forget - his hunger for God is greater than any physical need.

Sometimes we are most tempted by what is right in front of us. Have you ever gotten online, thinking it would just be for a minute or two to check an email or a post on Facebook, but then before you know it one random link led to another and you've wasted precious time looking at websites you don't really care about at all? Have you sat down just to watch one show on TV and found yourself a few hours later still staring at the screen, watching whatever happens to be on? It is especially easy in this technological age to be distracted by insignificance. Sometimes we spend all of our time just being *so busy* that we don't even know we're hungering for God's love and peace and presence.

The tradition of "giving up" something for Lent is tied to the 40 days of fasting that Jesus spent in the wilderness. The most important aspect of choosing a Lenten practice, whether you "fast" from a specific food or activity or choose to "add" a new daily discipline to your life - the importance of Lent is remembering to PAY ATTENTION to God. If you give up something you always enjoy (whether it be TV or chocolate), your "sacrifice" can remind you of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross - but, more importantly, it's a way to attune yourself, body & soul, to think about God more often. Let's say you're giving up caffeine; every time you reach for that cup of coffee, you remember you decided to wait until Easter to go to Starbucks - and then, your mind turns to Jesus, "the reason for THIS season." In these 40 days, we are called most simply to pay attention to God, to attend to God's presence around and within us. Whatever Lenten practice you choose (perhaps something as simple as being in worship every week) - may it help you PAY ATTENTION to God with every breath you breathe, every bite you eat, every day you live.

*-Pastor Cynthia*

## **PASTOR'S CLASS**

The Pastor's Class will meet on Sunday evenings at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room beginning Sunday, February 22nd. The class is open to 5th grade and older students and any adults interested in either being baptized, joining the congregation or new members wanting to learn more about First Christian Church. Fourth graders who have spoken with their parents and the pastor may also participate. Please let Pastor Cynthia know if you plan to attend. Baptisms will be held on Easter Sunday, April 5.

***Lenten Bible Study*** with Rev. McBride - ***Sundays 9:00 a.m.*** - Room #18A - All are welcome

### Attention 2nd Graders & Upcoming Graduates

Please contact the church if there is a graduating high school/college senior or a child finishing 2nd grade in your family. They will be recognized in May and the children finishing 2nd grade will be presented a Bible during worship.



### NEW FOCUS ON VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Plans are being formulated to have a different sort of VBS on Casper Mountain this year and would be held in conjunction with Church on the Mountain the weekend of July 11-12th.

**FCC PICTORIAL DIRECTORY is ready for pick up and on the table outside the secretary's office. Please pick up your copy and we ask you take only one book per family. - Thanks**

### A BIG THANK YOU FROM PROPERTY COMMISSION & FCC STAFF

Thank you to *everyone* that has pitched in to help keep the church looking good—from fixing the door stop on the kitchen door to cleaning the carpet in the sanctuary and fellowship hall. It is appreciated by everyone!!

Volunteers are needed to help set up & take down chairs in the Inner Room for our weekly Lenten services.



### FCC PUMPKIN PATCH

The FCC Executive Board voted to continue with the Pumpkin Patch in 2015. If you would like to serve on the Pumpkin Patch Committee, please contact the church office or Jennifer Grooms. A meeting will be scheduled to determine the direction & focus of the Patch for 2015.

### FROM THE FAMILY OF DONNA WARD

To Our Church family at FCC— Thank you for all of your support through cards, flowers, prayers and friendship over the last 10 years. Your caring and thoughtfulness meant a lot to Donna while she was at LifeCare. Thank you also for your thoughts and prayers when Donna went “home” to be with loved ones.

Sincerely, Mike Ward, Erika, Spencer Stupak & Family, Arlen & Amy Ward & Family, Shannon & Steve Kastner & Family.



### REMINDER.....

The dumpster is locked but the key to the dumpster is hanging on the bulletin board in the kitchen. **Please take your trash to the dumpster and don't leave it piled up by the back door for someone else to throw away.**

**ALSO - THE DUMPSTER IS FOR CHURCH USE ONLY. Please do not bring your personal trash down and place it in FCC dumpster.**

We are sorry to report that **The Case for Grace** event, previously set for this March, has been cancelled by the sponsoring company. The Homebuilders class invites you to join a course on evangelism during the month of March - “Walk Across the Room” by Bill Hybels.

### Preschool News



It is hard to believe that we have started enrolling students for next year. Church families can preregister early for next fall and receive a 10% discount on tuition. Open enrollment is March 1st.

Call the preschool office @ 472-0649 if you want to enroll or take a tour. The spring fundraiser will be March 23rd @ Casper Classical Academy. If you want to donate something to be auctioned off, please bring it to the church office or the preschool. The money raised goes toward special needs for the preschool. We will be using the funds this year to purchase a new sandbox for the playground and if enough money is raised we can purchase 4 I-pads to be used in the classrooms. This month will be the annual wedding of Q & U on February 27th at 10:00 a.m. Next week is “P” week and we will have pizza, purple & pink pancakes and Friday will be Pajama Day. Preschool is so fun...We have the best job..EVER!

We are so lucky to have a congregation that supports our program. Thanks for everything you do.....Annette Crain, Preschool Director

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Annalise Koehmstedt	Mar. 2	Kasey Stewart	Mar. 20
Kylie Stewart	Mar. 2	Madison Rouse	Mar. 22
Billy Mosteller	Mar. 5	Judy Baker	Mar. 23
Cindy Huckfeldt	Mar. 8	Jeff Hover	Mar. 24
Rev. McBride	Mar. 10	Trent Hover	Mar. 24
Kim Doyle	Mar. 12	Kevin Anderson	Mar. 25
Anne Klocksien	Mar. 12	Lori Hayden	Mar. 25
Arlene Wegner	Mar. 12	Lindy Bland	Mar. 26
Pat Seamands	Mar. 16	Janie Nelson	Mar. 26
Eddie Atkinson	Mar. 17	Elaine Singleton	Mar. 30
Carol Braley	Mar. 18	Suzy Stewart	Mar. 30
Cecelia Miller	Mar. 20		



Mar. 11, 1966  
Gene & Pat Buck

Mar 22, 1950  
Boyd & Wanda Hall



## 2015 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Disciples Soar at the 2015 General Assembly July 18-22, 2015 in Columbus, Ohio. Have you registered??? The planning is well underway. If you've been before, you'll find a bounty of new worship experiences and learning tracks. If you've never been, go to [ga.disciples.org](http://ga.disciples.org) to see the schedule, workshop offerings and register online. If you are curious about this event or possibly interested in attending, visit with Rev. McBride for further information. She and Charles plan to attend and would be thrilled to have others from our congregation join them.

### Souper Bowl of Caring Results

Seahawks = \$120.44 + 67 cans  
(total points 187)

New England Patriots = \$104.51 + 75 cans  
(total points 179)

### Seattle won our FCC SOUPer bowl

Grand total = \$225.05 and 126 food items going to Seton House and 16 jars of peanut butter for the Sandwich ministry. The FCC preschool participated as well and their canned food baskets were strongly in favor of the Seahawks while our congregation clearly had fans of both teams making contributions. Thank you to all who donated to the Souper Bowl.



## Save the Date for Mission Day April 25, 2015

Save the date of April 25 to join others in the Central Rocky Mountain Region for a day of service and mission. We are very excited that we will have something happening in every district on April 25 to celebrate Mission in the Rocky Mountain Region. The Wyoming Disciples plan to meet at the Wind River Reservation for a day of mission, service, and learning. Keep an eye out on the bulletin board for further information.

**Thank You**

First Christian Church family --- I wanted to thank you all for a beautiful service honoring Betty Walts. Betty was like a sister to me and I really appreciated what you all did for her. Please keep my brother, Jack, in your prayers and hearts always.

Thank you again --Sharon Walts

**Building Community**

The FCC Vision Statement says we are called to be “a Faithful, growing church that demonstrates true community, deep Christian spirituality and a passion for justice.”

After an extended period of reflection and conversation, the church’s executive board voted to move from two Sunday services to ONE worship service beginning on the first Sunday in Lent. It is our hope and prayer that this change in schedule will strengthen the church by building community, letting us be together in worship, getting to know each other better, and using the time and energy of volunteers to focus on reaching out in new ways. We hope that having the pews feel fuller will also be a stronger appeal to people visiting FCC for the first time.

With this Sunday being the beginning of the new schedule, you’re encouraged to be mindful of others in our church family. What you think of as “your” pew, may be someone else’s favorite place to sit - so, this is a chance to make a new friend as you share a row in worship. Those who are easily able to do so are encouraged to park across the street and leave spaces close to the building available for our older members, those with walking difficulty and guests.

**Current Financials**

Bal. on hand 1/1/2015	\$ 0.00
January income from	
Pledges & Gifts	\$35,589.78
Invested Funds	0.00
Total Cash on Hand	\$35,589.78
January expenses	(23,410.62)
Balance on hand 1/31/15	\$12,279.16

**MARCH DIACONATE**

Jennifer Hawley  
Amber Rouse  
Amanda Dowler  
Al Singleton  
Elane Burkhalter  
Becky Foster  
Tom May  
Wanda Gochenour

**Communion Prep**

10:10 a.m. - Erika Stupak

**March Greeters**

10:10 a.m. Anne Klockslem &  
Grace Sallstrom

*To volunteer as a greeter,  
call Pat Buck at 234-1829.*

March Offertory Steward  
Melanie Dowler

*“God made you to be the answer to someone else’s prayers.  
Keep your eyes open.”*



# March 2015

February 2015							March 2015							April 2015						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		1	2	3	4	5	6	7		1	2	3	4	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14		8	9	10	11	12	13	14		5	6	7	8	9
15	16	17	18	19	20	21		15	16	17	18	19	20	21		12	13	14	15	16
22	23	24	25	26	27	28		22	23	24	25	26	27	28		19	20	21	22	23
								29	30	31						26	27	28	29	30

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 8:00 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sun School 10:45 AM Worship	<b>2</b> 6:00 PM Elders 6:00 PM Cub Scouts 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	<b>3</b> 7:00 PM AA	<b>4</b> 9:00 AM Quilters 5:00 PM Lenten Service/ Soup 6:00 PM Youth group 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	<b>5</b> 10:00 AM CWF Board Mtg 11:30 AM Lunch Bunch Potluck	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study 8:30 AM Sandwich Ministry
<b>8</b> Daylight Saving Time Begins 8:00 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sun School 10:45 AM Worship	<b>9</b> 6:00 PM Cub Scouts 6:30 PM Spiritual Growth 7:00 PM Commissions 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 8:00 PM Board Meeting	<b>10</b> 12:15 PM Staff Meeting 7:00 PM AA	<b>11</b> 9:00 AM Quilters 12:00 PM CWF Group #2 5:00 PM Lenten Service/ Soup 6:00 PM Youth group 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	<b>12</b> 10:00 AM CWF Group #1 11:30 AM CWF Group #3 Potluck	<b>13</b> 6:00 PM Week of Compassion Dinner	<b>14</b> 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study 8:30 AM Sandwich Ministry 10:00 AM State Quilters
<b>15</b> 8:00 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sun School 10:45 AM Worship	<b>16</b> 6:00 PM Cub Scouts 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	<b>17</b> St Patrick's Day 7:00 PM AA	<b>18</b> 9:00 AM Quilters 6:00 PM Lenten Service/ Soup 6:00 PM Youth group 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	<b>19</b> 10:00 AM Munch Bunch Coffee 11:45 AM Serv. United luncheon - F.H.	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study 8:30 AM Sandwich Ministry
<b>22</b> 8:00 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sun School 10:45 AM Worship	<b>23</b> 6:00 PM Cub Scouts 6:00 PM Preschool Fundraiser CCA 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	<b>24</b> 7:00 PM AA	<b>25</b> 9:00 AM Quilters 6:00 PM Youth group 6:00 PM Lenten Service/ Soup 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study 8:30 AM Sandwich Ministry
<b>29</b> 8:00 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sun School 10:45 AM Worship	<b>30</b> Spring Break	<b>31</b> 7:00 PM AA	<b>1</b> April Fools Day 9:00 AM Quilters 6:00 PM Youth group 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	<b>2</b> 10:00 AM CWF Board Mtg 11:30 AM Lunch Bunch Potluck	<b>3</b> Good Friday- Office Closed	<b>4</b> 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study 8:30 AM Sandwich Ministry

### SANDWICH MINISTRY

Do you have an hour to spare on a Saturday morning? If so, the Sandwich Ministry could use your help making lunches to feed the homeless and hungry people in Casper. We meet in the Fellowship Hall around 8:15 a.m. and are usually done by 9:00 a.m. We have been blessed with a group of dedicated volunteers who are there every Saturday but they would like (and deserve) a break every now and then. The work is not hard. The crew usually has fun and you get the satisfaction of knowing that you helped make a difference in the fight against hunger. Please contact Debbie Mestas @ 785-577-4782 or [debmestas@gmail.com](mailto:debmestas@gmail.com) if you want to help. Thank you!



There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board across from the office. While most food items are obtained through the Wyoming Foodbank of the Rockies, we still need donations of 10 loaves of bread each week.

## INDULGE FOR LENT

Rather than sacrificing something for Lent—especially something easy and spiritually insignificant, such as chocolate—Patty Kirk, in Guideposts magazine, suggests finding new ways to *indulge* in God's presence. Surely one can do this by having extra devotions or attending Lenten worship services. But Kirk also offers these ideas:

1. Spend time outdoors, sensing God's magnificence.
2. Spend time with others, extending generosity and compassion. Remember Jesus' promise that when you care for others, you care for him (Matthew 25:31-46)
3. Pray for the "little things," coming before God in childlike trust and feeling peace.
4. Watch attentively for God's answers to prayer, and receive them as reminders of his presence.
5. Turn anxiety into prayer. As you frame concerns as prayers and entrust them to God, you "sacrifice" the tendency to wallow in worry.



### Week of Compassion Dinner

When: Friday, March 13, 2015

Where: Fellowship Hall

Time: 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Price: TBD (look for information in upcoming bulletins) - Catered by Silver Fox

There will be door prizes, and a 50/50 raffle with proceeds going to the Week of Compassion. Entertainment will be provided by Jordan Jones and some of his students, as well as singing by Janis Coey, Becky Foster and Charles McBride. This is a formal dinner and a maximum of 100 tickets will be sold February 22-March 8th. Come enjoy a great meal and a fun evening! For more information contact Debbie Mestas @ 785-577-4762.

Week of Compassion offering boxes are still available. Save your spare change and help change the world. Our Week of Compassion collection will be held during worship on Sunday, February 22nd, but donations are welcome anytime throughout the year. Out of every dollar given to Week of Compassion: 50 cents goes to emergency response; \$0.25 helps with sustainable development (such as wells to bring drinking water to a village); \$0.08 goes to refugee & immigration ministries; \$0.08-.10 goes to ecumenical partners, mission stations and volunteer work trip grants; \$0.6-0.8 pays administrative costs.

First Christian Church  
520 CY Ave  
Casper WY, 82601

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### **WTMS Report**

The Wills/Trusts/Memorials/ and Scholarship committee reports that this year there were two qualifying scholarship recipients for the spring 2015 semester! Both recipients have been actively involved in the church and we enjoyed seeing them in worship during the Christmas break.

Arlon Miller is currently attending UW @ Laramie. He is studying Music Education & Music Performance. Arlon plans to earn his degree in music education and has a strong desire to be a church organist and travel as a music performer.

Madison Rouse is also attending UW @ Laramie and is studying Anthropology. Madison plans to be a cultural anthropologist, teaching English abroad. She plans on incorporating her study with her desire to travel and learn about various different cultures throughout the world.



Thank you to our Scouts for participating in worship on Scout Sunday with a flag ceremony, reading scripture and serving communion. Jeff Hover and the Scouts also led "children's time" during worship. The Troop attended Cub Scout Pack 13's Blue and Gold Banquet on February 16th and welcomed new Scouts to Troop 13. Yukon Run is February 27-29. They will be camping on Casper Mountain.



**FCC ANNUAL EASTER  
EGG HUNT  
SATURDAY, APRIL 4TH  
10:00 AM.**

Donations of plastic eggs and individually wrapped candies are needed as well as help with the event. Contact Trisha Woods or Tassma Koehmstedt if you can help.