



THE CALL

APRIL
2016

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH

March 25th Good Friday - Prayer Vigil - Church will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. if you would like to come and sit in the sanctuary and pray.

March 26th - Easter Egg Hunt @ 11:00 a.m. Meet at gazebo (or Fellowship Hall if weather is inclement).

March 27th - EASTER SUNDAY

6:30 a.m. - Sunrise Service at Three Crowns. Worship shared with First Methodist. Rev. McBride preaching.

NO CHAPEL OR SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:30 a.m. - Coffee Fellowship - bring a snack to share

10:10 a.m. - Easter Service in the sanctuary with baptisms, communion and special music

APRIL

April 2 - Handbell "Spring Ring" Concert at the Ramkota Hotel at 2:00 p.m. - FCC ringers are participating

April 19- Preschool Fundraiser @ Frontier Middle School

April 22 - Parking lot closed 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for Preschool Super Hero Day (firetrucks on site)

April 27 - Youth Pizza Fundraiser @ Pizza Ranch

April 30 - Week of Compassion Dinner - 6:00 p.m. - Fellowship Hall. Meal catered by Bernard Ambrosino. More details to follow

Church Staff:

Rev. Cynthia McBride, Lead Pastor

Lois Koch, Business Manager

Kathy Winders, Secretary

Cyndi Trimmer, Nursery care

Annette Crain, Preschool Director

Amber French, Music Director

Lani McBee - Accompanist

Ministers: Every Member!

Office hours:

Mon.-Thurs.

8:30 AM - 2:30 PM

Fridays

8:30 AM - Noon



SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

8:15 Chapel Service

9:00 a.m. Adult Class

10:10 Worship

(307) 234-8964

www.fccasper.org

fccasper@gmail.com

Preschool hours (Sept-May)

Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM - noon

Preschool Phone - 472-0649

HANDBELL SPRING RING

Saturday, April 2nd @ 2:00 p.m. at the Ramkota. 7 Ringers from FCC will be participating. Come and listen!

WELCOME Rob Corbin to the staff. Rob will be the new Business Manager and started work on Monday, March 21st. He will work with Lois until the end of the month. Stop by and introduce yourself.

Pastor's Post

Entering into Holiness

Once again I am on the journey of reading through the Bible from Genesis to Revelation. Currently in the Old Testament, I've been reading the details of constructing the Tent of meeting and the description of the "Holy of Holies" - that area around the altar where ancient priests offered sacrifices on behalf of the Israelites. It's an interesting place to be in my daily devotions during Holy Week as I ponder how much the practice of worship for God's people was transformed by the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. No longer is there a physical space where only clergy are allowed. "The temple of the curtain was torn in two" when Jesus died on the cross, covering the gap between heaven and earth and allowing all believers to come close to God without an intermediary. Jesus himself became the passover lamb, and no longer is an animal sacrifice demanded as atonement for our sins.

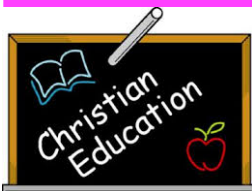
Yet, even though we do not observe a "holy of holies" space in our sanctuary, I always feel during Holy Week that we are invited into a more holy space - not one with physical dimension, but a sacred space in time designed to be at the very center of our lives as people of faith. During Holy Week, I know I will see FCC'ers at the ecumenical service every day at noon at the Methodist Church. I am looking forward to our Maundy Thursday worship around tables in Fellowship Hall, as we hear the story of Passover and share communion. On Good Friday, I expect that many of you will come to spend time in prayer in the sanctuary during an "open house" prayer vigil. On Easter Sunday, some of you will be in worship at Three Crowns at 6:30 a.m. as we share a sunrise service with the members of First Methodist. Others will worship at 10:10 in our sanctuary (and hopefully bring a friend along). Yet others of you may be on the road, sharing time in worship elsewhere with families out of town. Through all these experiences, I pray that you will truly feel closer to God, you will enter into holiness and meet Jesus Christ - pause at the cross this week and ponder his willingness to take away our sin. Enter through the door of the empty tomb and look out upon a world changed forever.

Once we enter into the place where God dwells, once we invite God to dwell within us, we are forever changed. Wherever we go, we simultaneously carry Christ to share with others *and* meet Him there - already waiting for us to see His face in the hungry and homeless, the young and the aged, the wise and the wondering. Will you enter into God's presence this Easter season? Will you let Christ's holiness enter into your life? - *praying for our shared journey, Pastor Cynthia*



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Tyler Ambrosino	Apr. 3	Ashley Budack	Apr. 17
Kristin Atkinson	Apr. 4	Becky Foster	Apr. 18
Don Davis	Apr. 5	Dennis Baker	Apr. 20
George Marble	Apr. 12	Jennifer Grooms	Apr. 20
Briana Black	Apr. 13	Brenda Lloyd	Apr. 24
Harriet Ames	Apr. 14	Paul Hallock	Apr. 26
Amy Russell	Apr. 16	Jim Oliver	Apr. 26

**YOUTH NEWS!!**

Support the Youth at Smith's. If you shop at Smith's grocery store or have a rewards card with Loaf N Jug, consider enrolling in the Community Rewards program.

The youth group of FCC Casper is registered as a non-profit organization at www.smithscommunityrewards.com. Go to the website and follow the instructions to create an account (if you don't already have one). You can enter your Smith's shoppers card (or Loaf N Jug) card number. Signing up to help in the community rewards program does not impact your coupons, point collection or gas rewards. Every time you shop and use your card (or provide your phone # or email at checkout) Smiths will make a donation to the FCC Youth. Our organization # is 18265. If you have any trouble signing up, detailed instructions are posted on the bulletin board next to the Inner Room. Look for more fundraisers from our Youth for their trip to Orlando in July.

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

Casey & Sarah Brown
Apr. 12, 2008

Darin & Crystal Rodgers
Apr. 15, 2005

Steve & Cindy Huckfeldt
Apr. 24, 1976

Del & Brenda Lloyd
April 24, 1999

NEW MEMBERS

Cheyenne Allen, Cristopf Atkinson, Zachary Hawley and Todd Shaw have completed their Pastor's Class and will be baptized on Easter Sunday. We welcome these new members!

"MEMBERS AT LARGE"

Did you know that our executive board has two members at large elected each year? Part of their role is to bring questions and feedback from the congregation to our church leadership. This year's At Large Members are Janie Nelson and Mike Ward. At a recent meeting one of them asked about the new sign in front of the church...

THE NEW SIGN

One of the additions at FCC during 2015 was an update to the sign in front of the church. Our previous sign was literally falling apart, with a metal frame rusted through in places. It had served us well for many years, but those volunteers and staff who climbed up on a ladder to physically change the letters are truly thankful they don't need to do so ever again!!! A proposal was brought forward by the property commission and approved by the church board to put our new sign in place. Its state-of-the-art electronic display is updated regularly by our office staff. The full color display is attractive as well as informative and has drawn the notice of numerous Casperites. This sign improves our visibility to drivers on CY and may help with evangelism by attracting visitors. Thank you to all who supported this project. The sign was \$13,974 + \$3,017 (installation) = \$16,991 total cost. The sign was paid for by sign gifts of \$2,550 and \$14,441 from memorials.



Thank you so much to everyone for all your thoughts, prayers & cards. I especially appreciated the card shower a few weeks ago. It really brightened our day!
Love, Laura & Kendal Chipperfield

FCC Family -- Thank you so much for the beautiful carnation and for the card shower. It means so much to have so much love, support and prayers! There is no doubt that all of the prayers are what made Rylie's outcome in Denver turn out the way it did. It's amazing that they were able to figure out what was going on and find a fix. We are lucky to have a great church family. Love Amy, Justin & Rylie



ANNUAL CHURCH EASTER EGG HUNT

The annual FCC Easter Egg Hunt will be on Saturday, March 26th for children, preschool through 5th grade. It will be at 11:00 a.m. Donations of plastic eggs and candy for this event would be appreciated. Please drop your donations off in the church library by Wednesday, March 3rd. If you have any questions, contact Jennifer Grooms.

JOB OPENING

JOB OPENING FOR PIANIST AND/ OR ORGANIST

First Christian Church has a position open for a pianist and/or organist to accompany the choir and congregation starting May 29th, 2016. Position includes playing service music for Sunday morning service (10:10 to 11:30) with the possibility of additional special services throughout the year; includes accompanying choir on Wednesday night rehearsals and Sunday anthem. Choir does not sing during the summer months. If you or someone you know might be interested in this position, contact Amber French @ 247-0338 or email batmanber1010@gmail.com A.S.A.P.

FCC PUMPKIN PATCH HELP NEEDED!!!!

Doesn't seem possible that it is time to start thinking about the Pumpkin Patch, but it will be here before you know it. We are looking for willing workers that are interested in serving on a Pumpkin Patch Committee. There are many jobs to do and our wonderful Jennifer Grooms is unable to coordinate the patch this coming fall so the Board is looking to set up a committee to put on the patch. If you are interested in serving on the committee, please call the church office 234-8964 **before April 6th**. THANK YOU! and willing workers make a successful patch.



CHURCH FINANCIALS

Bal. on hand 2/1/2016	\$ (6,841.89)
Income from Pledges & Gifts	17,089.02
Invested Funds	0.00
Total Cash on Hand	10,247.13
February expenses	(23,346.52)
Balance on hand Feb. 29, 2016	(\$14,099.23)

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Thanksgiving	\$ 492.00
Souper Bowl	\$ 135.75
Christmas Offering	\$1,068.00



CONGRATULATIONS to Eddie Atkinson on receiving his 1st class rank. Troop 13 has had a few busy months of activities. They have gone ice fishing, participated in Scout Sunday and Blue and Gold for Pack 13 and winter camping with the Yukon Run on Casper Mountain. Upcoming activities in April include an orienteering outing and in May is the Spring Camporee camp out.

The Cubs are preparing for PineWood Derby which will be Saturday, March 26th.

THANK YOU!!

Thank you for your generous donation of \$135.75. Every dollar counts and we appreciate your contribution. Please know that your gift has made a significant impact and that we remain grateful to you and also empowered by your support.

Sincerely, Wyoming Food for Thought

Dear FCC,

Thank you for the toiletries that you donated to the Youth Crisis Center. We appreciate your generosity. This donation helps many residents. Thank you again for blessing us with the toiletries.
--The Youth Crisis Center

FCC Casper; Thank you so much for the second semester scholarship at Casper College. You have helped me buy all of my textbooks. Thank you for furthering my education.....Madison Rouse

Dear FCC. Thank you so much for the birthday cakes. The residents enjoyed every morsel. The Birthday card was beautiful. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.....The Youth Crisis Center

Thank you to CWF for purchasing a new cart for the downstairs kitchen and to Chuck Germaine for putting it together.

CONGRATULATIONS to Amy Black and Justin Lavin on the birth of daughter Rylie, grandparents are Russ and Julie Black; and to Ali & Josh Dugan on the birth of Eliza Ann, grandparents are Don and Randisue Davis.

APRIL DIACONATE

Schuetz Family, Allen Singleton, Dylan Stupak, Erika Stupak

COMMUNION PREP

Chapel Service: The Deckers

10:10 Service: Greg & Deb Schuetz



APRIL GREETER

Debbie Mestas

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

APRIL

Offertory Steward

Ted Grooms

ADDRESS CHANGES

Dorothy Rhoades

12148 S. Grass River Trl
Parker, CO 80134

Grace Sallstrom

4154 Talon Dr. #130
Casper, WY 82604

Amy Black

6400 E. Mustang Trail
Evansville, WY 82636



SAVE THE DATE!

WEEK OF COMPASSION DINNER

SATURDAY, APRIL 30TH. @

6:00 p.m. more details will be forthcoming.

Why is the Easter Bunny's nose shiny?
His powder puff is on the wrong end.

GOOD FRIDAY - ANNUAL PRAYER VIGIL**"A NEW TAKE ON OLD TRADITIONS" - FRIDAY, MARCH 25, 2016****8:00 A.M. - 8:00 P.M. - Sanctuary open for prayer. "Come and go" for personal prayer and reflection....**

Did you know that it was Rev. Frank See who introduced the idea of "prayer vigil" to our congregation? Rev See pastored FCC from 1957-1964. During his tenure, he introduced the practice of a 24-hour prayer vigil before Christmas and Easter. The tradition of an Easter prayer vigil continued for many decades. In recent years, with changes in membership and different daily schedules in our members' lives, it has been challenging to maintain a "24 hour" vigil. This year the elders of FCC invite you to experience a "new take" on this beloved tradition. On Good Friday, for 12 hours, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., the sanctuary will be open for you to come and pray. Sit anywhere in the sanctuary you wish. Stay for as short or as long a time as you choose. There will be devotional materials and communion elements available for your use. Please enter and exit quietly so as not to disturb others who may be in prayer at the same time. Please use the elevator entrance and leave the door unlocked behind you. Elders and board members are serving as hosts throughout the day so no one will be alone in the building at any time.

ADULT STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday School classes are taking a one week break on Easter. All are invited to a special Easter fellowship before worship at 9:30 a.m. Bring a munchie to share if you like. Coffee will be hosted by CWF.

The Lenten video series led by Nicholas Grooms and Pastor Cynthia concluded on Palm Sunday. Another short-term adult class will begin in the board room after Easter, again using Right Now Media.

The Homebuilders class continues each week at 9:00 a.m. in the Inner Room. All are welcome.

On Wednesday evenings, resuming April 6th, Jack Walts will again lead a conversation about Bible History. They meet upstairs by the Bible Display Case.

MISSION COMMISSION UPDATE

Thank you to Jane Wallace for the donation of paint and Cal Decker for putting in new shelving and painting the shelves in the Boy Scout Storage room so it can be used for the Sandwich Ministry. The commission decided at their last meeting to cap the Sandwich making at 150. We are not at that number yet, but it was agreed that this would be the "final" cap amount to ease any concerns about future demand as the need for this ministry continues to grow. The Fleece Blanket project has made 109 blankets to date! We meet on the 3rd Saturday of each month from 10 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Our next date will be April 16th. Contact Debbie Mestas if you wish to help. We received a donation of water, juice and cookies from the Wyoming Food for Thought. These were items they were not able to use. Thank you to Cal Decker for picking them up and delivering them to the church.

BLANKET THANK YOUS!!

Dear First Christian: We love our warm and fuzzy blankets! We appreciate that you love us. --Casper Youth for Christ. Thank you to all the ladies of First Christian for the beautiful blankets. What a wonderful gift. The tweens really loved them. God Bless You. --Casper Youth for Christ Staff

Dear Friends: Words are so inadequate when confronted with such love and compassion. We talked about a group of ladies that made this blanket and then prayed for him by name before they gave it to him. What special people we have in this city. Please thank every one of them. John includes them in his nightly prayers... Love John and his great grandmother Patricia

Dear Mission Commission: Thank you for the Broncos blanket for our fundraiser. We made \$133 on just the blanket. FCC has helped us in our trip to Florida and we really appreciate it! Thank you again.....FCC Youth Group

April 2016

March 2016							April 2016							May 2016						
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						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19		10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26		17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
27	28	29	30	31				24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 Easter 6:30 AM SUNRISE SERVICE 8:15 AM NO CHAPEL 10:10 AM Worship 2:00 PM Sunrise Service 3 Crowns	28 SPRING BREAK	29 7:00 PM AA 7:30 PM GIRLS STATE	30 9:00 AM Quilters 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	31 10:00 AM CWF Board Mtg 11:30 AM Lunch Bunch Potluck	1 April Fools Day	2 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study 8:30 AM Sandwich Ministry 9:00 AM Scrapbooking 2:30 PM Spring Ring- Ramkota
3 8:15 AM Chapel 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:10 AM Worship	4 2:00 PM Circle of Caring 6:00 PM Cub Scouts 6:30 PM Elders 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	5 7:00 PM AA 7:30 PM GIRLS STATE	6 9:00 AM Quilters 6:00 PM Youth Group 7:00 PM Bible Group 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	7 10:00 AM CWF Board Mtg 11:30 AM Lunch Bunch Potluck	8 10:00 AM CWF Board Mtg 11:30 AM Lunch Bunch Potluck	9 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study 8:30 AM Sandwich Ministry 10:00 AM State Quilters
10 8:15 AM Chapel 9:00 AM Sun School 10:10 AM Worship	11 6:00 PM Cub Scouts 6:30 PM Spiritual Growth 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Commissions 8:00 PM Board Meeting	12 7:00 PM AA 7:30 PM GIRLS STATE	13 9:00 AM Quilters 12:00 PM CWF Group #2 7:00 PM Bible Group 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	14 10:00 AM CWF Group #1 11:30 AM CWF Group #3 6:30 PM BSA Committee Mtg	15 Tax Day	16 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study 8:30 AM Sandwich Ministry 10:00 AM Blanket Ministry
17 8:15 AM Chapel 9:00 AM Sun School 10:10 AM Worship	18 6:00 PM Cub Scouts 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	19 6:00 PM PRESCHOOL FUNDRAISER 7:00 PM AA 7:30 PM GIRLS STATE	20 9:00 AM Quilters 6:00 PM Youth Group 7:00 PM Bible Group 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	21 10:00 AM Munch Bunch Coffee	22 Earth Day 8:30 AM Parking Lot Closed	23 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study 8:30 AM Sandwich Ministry
24 8:15 AM Chapel 9:00 AM Sun School 10:10 AM Worship	25 6:00 PM Cub Scouts 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	26 7:00 PM AA 7:30 PM GIRLS STATE	27 9:00 AM Quilters 5:00 PM YOUTH-PIZZA RANCH 7:00 PM Bible Group 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	28 10:00 AM CWF Board Mtg 11:30 AM Lunch Bunch Potluck	29 10:00 AM CWF Board Mtg 11:30 AM Lunch Bunch Potluck	30 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study 8:30 AM Sandwich Ministry 6:00 PM Week of Compassion Dinner

First Christian Church
520 CY Ave
Casper WY, 82601

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

CASPER WY
PERMIT NO. 129

GOIN'S ON AROUND THE CHURCH!

The property commission has been very busy this past month. **A big thank you** to Cal Decker for putting up shelving and painting the sandwich ministry room; to the property commission for restacking the pallets; making a run to the dump; getting the small snowblower working (hopefully we won't need it now); painting and repairing the downstairs men's bathroom; replacing the cover on the sandbox; and working on new signs for the parking lots. (Thanks also to a donor who funded the new signs and helped move the project ahead.) Be sure to thank the property commission for their diligence in keeping FCC looking good! The summer all church cleanup will be Saturday, June 4th. Mark your calendars now and plan to pitch in! *Many hands make light work.*



PRESCHOOL NEWS

Spring time is here. The Pre-K kids just finished their trip around the world and it was so much fun! A big thank you to Pastor Cynthia and Jennifer Grooms for taking part and sharing their knowledge of Spain and France with the children. While the Pre-K kids were busy traveling, the younger classes had fun doing an author study on Eric Carle & Dr. Seuss.

Another big thank you to Cal Decker for taking on the new cover for the sandbox. The Wyoming wind took a toll on the wooden cover. Now that warmer weather is coming, the kids will again be able to play in the sandbox. It's one of their favorite activities!

The preschool will be having their Spring Program and Fund-raiser night on April 19th at Frontier Middle School. We will have a 50/50 drawing. Tickets are \$20 each and only 100 tickets will be sold. If you would like to have a chance to win a \$1,000 - stop in the preschool office and purchase your "lucky" ticket.

We currently are enrolling for next fall. If you know anyone who might be interested in preschool for next fall, have them call the preschool office at 472-0649.