



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) CASPER, WYOMING

THE CALL

**APRIL
2017**

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH 25 - Painting the Fellowship Hall.
Helpers are needed. **Start at 8:30 a.m.**

MARCH 27-31 - SPRING BREAK - No school

MARCH 29 - Lenten Worship @ 6, soup @ 6:30
(no childcare available this night only)

APRIL 1 - CWF Hosted Brunch @ 11:30 a.m.

APRIL 3 - Elders @ 6:30 p.m.

APRIL 4 - Final Wednesday Lenten service &
soup supper (Childcare available)

APRIL 6 - 10:00 a.m. CWF Board meet

11:30 a.m. Lunch Bunch potluck

6:30 p.m. Property Commission

April 8 - Lady of the Shrine Lunch & Fashion
Show @ noon in Fellowship Hall. \$10 tickets

April 9 - PALM SUNDAY

April 10 - Commissions and Board meet

April 13 - Maundy Thursday Service @ 7:30
p.m. in the Inner Room (Childcare available)

April 14- Good Friday - Church office closed

April 15 - Prayer Vigil 6:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Easter Egg Hunt @ 10:00 a.m.

April 16 - EASTER SUNDAY

6:00 a.m. - Sunrise Service shared with
First Methodist at 3 Crowns Golf Course

NO CHAPEL

10:10 a.m. - Worship Service

Church Staff:

Rev. Cynthia McBride, Lead Pastor

Leigh Earle, Bookkeeper

Kathy Winders, Secretary

Annette Crain, Preschool Director

Amber French, Music Director

Diane Lynn, Accompanist

Ministers: Every Member!

Office hours:

Mon.-Thurs.

10:30 AM - 2:30 PM

Fridays

8:30 A.M. - Noon



SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

8:15 Chapel Service

9:00 a.m. Adult Class

10:10 Worship

& Children's Classes

11:30 Coffee Fellowship

(307) 234-8964

www.fcccasper.org

fcccasper@gmail.com

Preschool hours (Sept-May)

Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM - noon



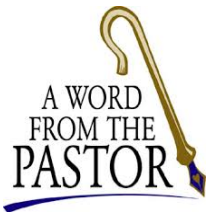
**Easter
Egg
Hunt**

THE ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT will
be on Saturday, April 15th @ 10:00 a.m. It will be
outside (weather permitting) or in the Fellowship
Hall and other rooms if weather is not cooperating.

For further information contact Jennifer Grooms.
Donations of candy can be left in the church library.

PAINT PARTY!!

We will be painting the Fellowship Hall on
Saturday, March 25th. All help is welcomed.
We are sprucing up the church for the 2018
Regional Assembly. Contact Jane Wallace if
you are interested in helping.



Sharing Baptismal Waters

Most of the time I was in seminary, I served as the “student pastor” at Morgan Christian Church, a small rural congregation in central Kentucky. The historic building with beautiful stained glass windows and carved wooden pews didn’t have a baptistry. Over my three years there, I had the privilege of baptizing young people in the congregation. Some of the baptisms took place in the cool, flowing waters of the Licking River, which ran right next to the church and eventually joins the Ohio River. One year, Easter came early and the River would be far too cold for baptisms - so we “borrowed” the baptistry at another Disciples of Christ Church in the county. (I remember that day as the host pastor loaned me his waders to wear, without realizing they had a hole in the toe...)

Recently, FCC Casper had the opportunity to “loan” our baptistry to another church in town. Obviously, if you practice baptisms by immersion, you usually don’t just pick up your baptismal tank and drive it across town - instead the guest users come to you. It’s a special opportunity to practice Christian hospitality. All those years ago, a pastor stayed late on a Sunday afternoon to open his church and welcome members from the Morgan congregation as we came to celebrate a baptism. This past Sunday, I got to “return the favor” in a sense - or at least “pass it on” to another group of Christ’s followers. The Community of Christ Church meets in a commercial setting here in Casper, so they obviously don’t have a baptistry. Last weekend they hosted a youth retreat for their denomination and there were three young people ready to be baptized. On Saturday I cleaned and filled our “tank” and made sure the heater was running. I made space between all the items stored in our dressing rooms for the candidates to change out of dripping wet clothes. Then on Sunday, I waited around after our worship and fellowship time had ended.

Pastor Barb Gardner and her husband Bill showed up first, eventually followed by a group of about 30 folks - young people, families and elders. They sang camp songs (most of which I knew), read scripture (the story of Jesus’ baptism), and celebrated the holy act of baptizing three new young Christians. It was a sacred privilege just to sit in the back pew and watch this special time of worship by some of our Christian neighbors.

Sometimes, we think of our “church family” as being the other members of First Christian Casper - the people we know well who sit next to us on Sunday, sing with us in worship, teach our children in Sunday School or make sandwiches with us on a Saturday morning. Other times, we intentionally remember the broader connection we have as part of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) - praying for other congregations in the Central Rocky Mountain Region or contributing to the Easter offering to support Disciples missionaries around the world. Yet truly, our “Christian family” is broader still - everyone who proclaims the belief that “Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God” is my sister or brother in Christ. Everyone who has been baptized “in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit” (whether sprinkled in a font, dunked in a river or immersed in a church baptistry) - every baptized believer shares the same gift of salvation and responsibility of faith that we share. What great JOY! - *Pastor Cynthia*

“There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.” - *Ephesians 4:4-6, NRSV*



CROP Hunger Walk/Run

Mark your calendars now – the **2017 Casper CROP Walk** will be Sunday afternoon April 30th. First Christian Church is the coordinating organization this year. Join the FCC walking team, led by Pastor Cynthia, to raise money to stop hunger. Sign up anytime to walk or donate at www.crophungerwalk.org. Click on the map over Casper to find our walk details. The one mile walk and a 5k run/walk will begin at the Tate Pump House patio and run along the North Platte River and around the Three Trails Golf Course. Registration will start at 1:00 p.m. and the walk will start @ 2:00 p.m. We are looking for sponsors for the walk so if you know of anyone that would like to help or need more information, contact Debbie Mestas or Pastor Cynthia. Join the planning team and get involved today!



ATTENTION HAND BELL RINGERS!!

The Handbell choir will be practicing on @ 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 28th, April 4th and April 11th. We will be playing for the 10:10 a.m. worship service on Easter Sunday, April 16th. Everyone is asked to come a little early to set up bell tables. If you have any questions or would like to play in the handbell choir, contact Amber French.

The congregation is invited to the annual handbell **Spring Ring**. Handbell choirs from the area will be putting on a concert on Saturday, April 22nd @ 2:30 p.m. at the Ramkota. There is no admission charge, but a free will offering will be accepted. FCC ringers will be participating so come support the Spring Ring and enjoy some great music!

LUNCHEON AND FASHION SHOW hosted by the Ladies of the Oriental Shrine will be in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, April 8 @ noon. The Fashion show will be from Fashion Crossroads. Tickets will be \$10 and will be on sale at the church between services or you can contact Mary Burgess @ 234-2951 for further information.



Thank you church family at FCC for the card showers, prayers, phone calls, and especially the fantastic meals that were delivered. A special thank you to Peg Jackson for her willingness to come to my house and help several times a day. *Sincerely, Gaylene Barnes*

Dear Friends in Christ, Thank you for the prayers, flower, visits, and prayer cards for my March 9th knee surgery. It went well and I am working hard on the arduous recovery to get back among you all and the rest of my life! The carnation is the most beautiful burgundy color--still fresh a week later. Your care for others is obvious in the efforts you make to pray for their healing of body, mind and spirit. I appreciate your thinking of me. Hope to see you all soon. *Peace, Leigh Earle*

Dear FCC Friends - Thank you all for the MANY lovely birthday cards & well wishes. - *Pastor Cynthia*

Your kindness means so much! We appreciate your great generosity. *Barbara Gardner, Pastor - Community of Christ Church* (The Community of Christ borrowed FCC's baptistry on March 19th.)

Let's face it, a nice creamy chocolate cake does a lot for a lot of people; it does for me -- *Audrey Hepburn*

APRIL DIACONATE

Virginia Yohn, Annette Ambrosino,
Carmen Goodman, Sara Williams

Communion Prep

Chapel - Janie Nelson
10:10 - Jo & Lyle Cox

GREETER

Nylia Cazier

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

Offertory Steward

Tom Dowler

Scripture Reader sign
up sheet on bulletin
board. Chapel Leader
sign up sheets on table
at back of sanctuary.

**LENTEN VESPERS**

Chris Rislov portrayed Andrew "fishing for people" at one of our Wednesday evening vespers. Only a few weeks left in Lent - don't miss out on these wonderful services at 6:00 P.M.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Tyler Ambrosino	Apr 3	Becky Foster	Apr 18
Kristen Atkinson	Apr 4	Dennis Baker	Apr 20
Don Davis	Apr 5	Jennifer Grooms	Apr 20
Briana Black	Apr 13	Brenda Lloyd	Apr 24
Harriet Ames	Apr 14	Paul Hallock	Apr 26
Ashley Budack	Apr 17	Jim Oliver	Apr 26

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

Casey & Sarah Brown - April 12, 2008
Darin & Crystal Rodgers - April 15, 2005
Steve & Cindy Huckfeldt - April 24, 1976
Del & Brenda Lloyd - April 24, 1999

**CONGRATULATIONS**

On Monday night, February 27th, Boy Scout Troop 1013 welcomed six new scouts crossing over from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts. This was Cubmaster Scott Hawley's last Blue and Gold as he will also be "crossing over" to Boy Scouts at the end of May. FCC wants to thank Cubmaster Hawley for his 10 years of service to Pack 13

Do you want to be baptized at Easter? Contact Rev. McBride today if you are interested.

Life is too short for self hatred and celery sticks - Marilyn Wann



PRESCHOOL UPDATES

It's spring time and we are so happy the weather is getting nice so we can play outside. Enrollment is doing well for next fall. We have just a few openings left. It is hard to believe that we will be finishing our preschool year soon. Preschool graduation will be on Wednesday, May 24th @ 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The Pre-K kids are excited to be moving on to Kindergarten. Our main fundraiser (dessert bar & auction) was a huge success. We made \$4,600. Thanks to everyone who donated items for the silent auction and to those of you that bid on the items and were lucky winners. We truly appreciate your support. - Your FCC Preschool Staff: *Teacher Annette, Teacher Chanel, Teacher Stacy, Teacher Christina & Teacher Cheryl.*

GENERAL ASSEMBLY REMINDER - This year's "General Assembly" when thousands of Disciples gather for worship & more will be in Indianapolis, IN July 8-12. Registration cost is discounted till **April 1**. Details at disciples.org. Attend & help elect the next General Minister & President.

HYMN SING FOR LIFE

Do old-time hymns make your heart sing? Don't miss *Hymn Sing for Life*, **Sunday, April 2 @ 4:00 p.m.** at First Presbyterian Church, 804 S. Wolcott. Make a joyful noise with Kansas City organist/composer Kurt Knecht. A free will offering will be taken and you can bid to have Kurt play your favorite hymn. Free Admission. Proceeds to True Care Women's Resource Center. For information, call Terry @ 473-2275.



The Youth group will meet on Wednesday, April 12th at 6:00 p.m. to fill the eggs for the annual Easter Egg hunt on Saturday, April 15th. If anyone would like to donate wrapped candy or plastic Easter eggs for the hunt, please bring them to the church prior to the 12th and place them in the Library.

The God and Life class for the youth will meet again until Wednesday, April 19th and Saturday, April 22nd. If you have any questions about the God & Life class, contact Mike Ward.

MISSION COMMISSION NEWS

The Fleece Blanket project made 16 blankets on Saturday March 18th bringing our total to 347. Boy Scouts from Troop 13 and Caleb Stahl completed 25 blankets as part of Caleb's Eagle Scout project towards the goal of making a total of 40 blankets to be donated to the Rocky Mountain Oncology Hospital. It was wonderful to see our Scouts working on such a great project!

The Sandwich Ministry is currently making 110 sack lunches every Saturday and are excited that we may have another church coming to help us in April. If you want to help with the lunches or blankets, contact Debbie Mestas or Keith Rouse. Help is always welcome.

SAVE THE DATES FOR UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

April 9 - Casper Youth for Christ Director Sharon Lockwood speaks to Homebuilders' Class

April 11 - BYU-Idaho Collegiate singers @ Wheeler Concert Hall @ 7:00 p.m. Admission free

May 4 - National Day of Prayer

June 7 & 8th - Fishing for the Mission - \$1,000 per 2-person team. Benefits Wyoming Rescue Mission.

PROPERTY UPDATES

We are always looking to save money so here are a few questions to the congregation from the Property Commission:

1. Are you interested in saving \$125 a week or an approximate total of \$2,500 on lawn care over the summer and have that money available for other needed projects for the church?
2. If so, would you be interested in taking one day a week for a month to help mow and trim the yard in order to help "trim" the church budget?
3. Would you enjoy riding on a green John Deere riding lawn mower and using a high power trimmer?

If the answer's yes and you're interested in helping or have further questions, please contact Cal Decker.

SPRUCE STREET LANDSCAPING - With removal of all the shrubs on the Spruce Street side of the parking lot, we need to look at landscaping that area this spring and summer. If anyone in the congregation is interested in helping with this project or has ideas, please contact Cal.

HOT DIGGITY DOG & BINGO- THANK YOU to everyone who brought food, stayed and ate and played bingo and contributed to the "Lightbulb fund" for the sanctuary. It was greatly appreciated - between that fundraiser and individual gifts, we've already raised over \$900 of the \$1400+ needed to update the sanctuary lighting. The side lights have already been cleaned and updated. New LED bulbs are on order for the overhead lighting in the sanctuary and will be replaced soon - this will give us brighter lighting, using less electricity, and utilize bulbs that should not need to be changed for at least the next five years!

PROPERTY COMMISSION meeting will be Thursday, April 6th @ 6:30 p.m. If you are interested in helping to keep the church in beautiful condition, please join our commission. Everyone is welcome and all help is truly appreciated - even one hour of volunteer labor can make a big difference.



The CWF-hosted **Spring Luncheon** will be Saturday April 1 at 11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. The meal will be catered by the Silver Fox and tickets are \$17. Entertainment will be provided by the Irish Dancers. Tickets are on sale every Sunday morning. Raffle tickets are being sold

for the spring quilt made by the Wednesday morning quilters. The drawing will be held at the Spring Luncheon (need not be present to win).

CARDBOARD BOXES ARE NEEDED!!!!

Congregational member Gaylene Barnes is moving to Salt Lake City May 1st and is in need of empty cardboard boxes for packing. If anyone has any empty boxes, please bring them to the church and place them on the stage and they will be delivered to Gaylene. If you're willing to volunteer an hour or two to help Gaylene pack a box, contact Carol Sage.



April 2017

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March 2017							April 2017							May 2017						
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4TH SUNDAY LENT 8:15 AM Chapel 9:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:10 AM Worship 11:30 AM Coffee Fellowship	SPRING BREAK – NO SCHOOL 6:00 PM Cub Scouts 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	7:00 PM AA 7:30 PM Girls State	6:30 AM T.O.P.S. #35 9:00 AM Quilters 6:00 PM Lenten Service/ Soup 7:00 PM choir			April Fools' Day 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study 8:15 AM Sandwich Ministry 11:00 AM PEO meet in Board Room 11:30 AM Spring CWF Lunch
5TH SUNDAY LENT 8:15 AM Chapel 9:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:10 AM Worship 11:30 AM Coffee Fellowship	2:00 PM Circle of Caring 6:00 PM Cub Scouts 6:30 PM Elders 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	6:30 PM Handbell Practice 7:00 PM AA 7:30 PM Girls State	6:30 AM T.O.P.S. #35 9:00 AM Quilters 6:00 PM Lenten Service/ Soup 7:00 PM choir	10:00 AM CWF Board Mtg 11:30 AM Lunch Bunch Potluck 6:30 PM PROPERTY COM- MISSION		7:30 AM Men's Bible Study 8:15 AM Sandwich Ministry 10:00 AM State Quilters 12:00 PM Lady Shrine Lunch/Fashion Show
PALM SUNDAY 8:15 AM Chapel 9:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:10 AM Worship 11:30 AM Coffee Fellowship	12:00 PM HOLY WEEK SER- VICES – FUM CHURCH 6:00 PM Cub Scouts 6:30 PM Spiritual Growth 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Commissions 8:00 PM Board Meeting	12:00 PM HOLY WEEK SER- VICES, FUM 6:30 PM Handbell Practice 7:00 PM AA 7:30 PM Girls State	6:30 AM T.O.P.S. #35 9:00 AM Quilters 12:00 PM CWF Group #2 12:00 PM HOLY WEEK SER- VICES, FUM 7:00 PM choir	10:00 AM CWF Group #1 11:30 AM CWF Group #3 12:00 PM HOLY WEEK SER- VICES, FUM 7:30 PM Maundy Service	GOOD FRIDAY OFFICE CLOSED 12:00 PM HOLY WEEK SER- VICES, FUM	6:00 AM 12 HR. PRAYER VICIL 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study 8:15 AM Sandwich Ministry 10:00 AM EASTER EGG HUNT
Easter 6:00 AM Sunrise Service – 3 crowns 8:15 AM NO CHAPEL 9:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:10 AM Worship 11:30 AM Coffee Fellowship	6:00 PM Cub Scouts 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	Tax Day 7:00 PM AA 7:30 PM Girls State	6:30 AM T.O.P.S. #35 9:00 AM Quilters 6:00 PM Lenten Service/ Soup 6:00 PM Cod and Life Class 7:00 PM choir	6:30 PM BSA Committee Mtg		Earth Day 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study 8:15 AM Sandwich Ministry 9:00 AM Cod and Life 2:30 PM HANDBELL SPRING RING-Rankota
8:15 AM Chapel 9:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:10 AM Worship 11:30 AM Coffee Fellowship Regional Minister in Love- land	6:00 PM Cub Scouts 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	7:00 PM AA 7:30 PM Girls State	6:30 AM T.O.P.S. #35 9:00 AM Quilters 6:00 PM Lenten Service/ Soup 7:00 PM choir			7:30 AM Men's Bible Study 8:15 AM Sandwich Ministry
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First Christian Church
520 CY Ave
Casper WY, 82601

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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HOLYWEEK EVENTS

PALM SUNDAY - Saturday April 9th - Families with children are asked to arrive a little earlier than usual for the 10:10 service. Children will “process in” waving palm branches as the choir sings. Please be sure to come so your child can receive a palm to wave. We are again using sustainably harvested “Eco-Palms” which benefit local communities in the areas where the palm forests grow in Guatemala.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES - Monday through Friday, April 10-14, the annual community Holy Week services will be held each day at First United Methodist across from the downtown library. Services are planned for 12:05 to 12:35 PM with a light lunch for purchase before and after downstairs at the church. A mass choir will sing on Good Friday, directed by Amber French. Pastor Cynthia preaches on Wed.

MAUNDY THURSDAY - Lenten Worship continues on Thursday, April 13th at 7:30 PM. The Biblical characters we’ve met during this year’s Lenten vespers will reappear as we share communion in the Inner Room. (Childcare is available - no meal that night.)

Easter Egg Hunt - Saturday April 15th at 10 a.m. for children - “BYOB” - Bring Your Own Basket. :)

12-Hour Prayer Vigil - Saturday April 15th in the sanctuary, 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sign up for your preferred time. We would like to cover the day with continual prayer. Elders will be on hand as hosts.

SPRING FLOWERS FOR EASTER - You may contribute money for Easter lilies and colorful “spring flowers” for the sanctuary in honor or in memory of a loved one. Or you may make a gift towards the *Easter Offering* in honor/memory of a loved one. The Easter offering supports Disciples Mission Finance, funding missionaries overseas and homeland ministries across the U.S. and Canada. Watch the bulletin for details on donating Easter lilies/flowers for Easter Sunday.

EASTER WORSHIP TIMES - 6 a.m. at 3 Crowns and **10:10 a.m.** at FCC