



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) CASPER, WYOMING

THE CALL

**JAN.
2018**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

DEC. 17 - Music Sunday - 10:10 worship NO CHAPEL

DEC. 24 - Christmas Eve - 10:10 worship NO CHAPEL, One Service Christmas Eve 7 PM

DEC. 25 & 26 - Office Closed

DEC. 28-29 - Rev. McBride visits Wind River Reservation

DEC. 31 - Removing Christmas decorations after 10:10 service

JAN. 1 - Office closed

JAN. 4 - CWF Board meeting @ 10:00 a.m. - Lunch Bunch potluck @ 11:30 a.m.

JAN. 8 - Scholarship applications due in office by noon.

6:30 p.m. - Elders meeting

JAN. 10 - CWF #2 @ noon

JAN 11 - CWF #1 @ 10:00 - CWF #3 @ 11:30 a.m.

JAN 15 - Commissions & Board meet at usual times

JAN 22 - CALL Deadline

JAN 27 - Nathan Hawley Eagle Court of Honor @ 2:00 p.m. in sanctuary. Reception to follow.

Church Staff:

Rev. Cynthia McBride, Lead Pastor

Leigh Earle, Bookkeeper

Kathy Winders, Secretary

Annette Crain, Preschool Director

Amber French, Music Director

Cheryl Dionne, Nursery Staff

Ministers: Every Member!

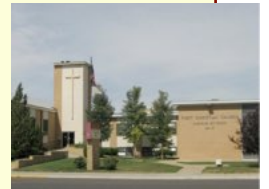
Office hours:

Mon.-Thurs.

10:30 AM - 2:30 PM

Fridays

8:30 - NOON



SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

8:15 Chapel Service

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:10 Worship & Children's Classes

11:30 Coffee Fellowship

(307) 234-8964

www.fcccasper.org

fcccasper@gmail.com

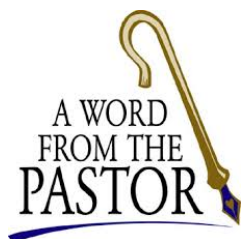
Preschool hours (Sept-May)

Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM - noon

Preschool Phone - 472-0649

JANUARY ELDERS MEETING will be Monday, January 8th @ 6:30 p.m. Further information contact Dennis Baker.

COMMISSIONS & BOARD MEETING will be on Monday, January 15th @ usual times - Further information contact Linda Mosteller.



CHANGING CALENDARS

As this issue of The Call goes to print, we are halfway through Advent - we've lit the candles for Hope and Peace, with the candles of Joy and Love yet to come. Yet at the same time, Christmas is *less* than two weeks away. That's rather unusual, but it's because this year Advent is the **SHORTEST** length possible, with Christmas Eve falling on a Sunday (and thus also being the fourth Sunday of Advent).

You'll notice there are a few dates listed for 2018 throughout this newsletter. As happens each year, we have a new team of board leaders and elders stepping up to take their turn at servant leadership in January. Recently, I've swapped out calendars that I use in my office. I've had a calendar up for much of the year that I received from the Tennyson Center in Denver. I like it because it features artwork by some of the many children Disciples and others help through the work at Tennyson, but it also annoyed me. It had an unusual format - with the dates lined up visually starting each week on Monday and ending on Sunday. All year long, when I'd glance at the calendar to quickly check a date, my brain would have to shift from the expectation of seeing Sunday at the beginning of the week.

I wonder if the calendar's format would've been any less annoying if I worked in a different setting. My work week, and surely my life, truly revolves around Sundays. On any given day, I'm thinking (at least peripherally) about what I'll be preaching on for the next Sunday. It's a rhythm of life familiar to clergy the world over. Interlaced with the repeating rhythm of weekly worship is the broader calendar of the church year... Advent and Christmas, Lent and Easter, Pentecost.

What is the rhythm of your life? If you're a school teacher or college professor, then you're used to counting the weeks of each semester and savoring some time off over summer break. If you're an accountant, the deadlines of April 15th, Dec. 31st or the end of a fiscal year no doubt influence your work schedule. Of course we all have some rhythms of leisure activity as well - sports fans relish the annual festivities of the Super Bowl or World Series. Outdoorsmen know the opening day of hunting season or when their fishing license expires. How is your life rhythm this Advent? Have you made time to read a daily devotion, light a candle or say a prayer? Are you feeling overwhelmed with plans for Christmas preparations not yet completed? Take a breath. I'm sure there are things you still need or want to do. Which of them are the most important? What can you take *off* of your list? Would letting go of some self-imposed pressure help make this Christmas season more joyous and peace-filled for you? Then Let Go...

Ultimately, you can choose the rhythm of life you'd like to live. Even with work deadlines and family commitments, events that happen beyond your control, you can choose every day to do a little less or a little more. To rest or walk, to turn off the TV or pick up a book, to pause for longer conversation, to spend more time in prayer. A new year is coming when we'll change calendars, and each of us can decide: what will be our rhythm of life? What will be at the heart of your life in 2018?

One of the songs the choir will sing in this Sunday's cantata has an excerpt from "We need a little Christmas." I think we might all need to carry a little Christmas with us all year long - a space in our hearts and lives (and calendars) set aside for Christ's presence.

May it be so. Advent Blessings. - *Pastor Cynthia*



SAVE THE DATE!!!

September 21-23, 2018 for the FALL FEAST at First Christian Church.

There will be MANY opportunities to help during the Regional Assembly next September. We will be privileged to host the Rev. Terri Hoard-Owens, General Minister & President as our guest speaker, as well as fellow Disciples from across the Central Rocky Mountain Region. Good news from the Regional planning team -- a discounted registration fee will be available to FCC Casper members!

One area that we know will need help is on the sound board, as it'll take more than our usual volunteers to help with setting up mics, running volume for speakers & musicians, preparing slides and running the computer that projects on the sanctuary screens. If you are interested in being trained to learn how the sound & projection system works, if you'd be willing to help our a.v. ministry team on Sunday mornings and during next year's Regional Assembly, please talk to Rick Black on Sunday mornings or contact him at rblack117@mac.com or 259-1963.

A THANK YOU FROM CALVIN DECKER.....I want to begin by thanking the congregation for entrusting me with the care of our church home for the past three years. I also want to thank all whose giving made the Capital Campaign an unqualified success. Those funds have made our church more energy efficient, safer and more comfortable. We began by creating a new valley gutter and paving the north parking lot which has improved the draining making it safer in wet and freezing weather. A concrete walk was installed around the entire building, again for drainage. We installed 17 energy efficient window, replaced the shingles on the sanctuary roof, and installed a new seamless roof with more insulation on the rest of the building. New cooling duct work and a new air conditioner were installed for the sanctuary. We also had funds to replace the original breaker panel which had many breakers that had failed, a potential fire hazard, and also landscaped around the gazebo. I want to thank the people who donated the funds to replace the lighting in the sanctuary with high efficiency LED lighting, also to the individual who paid for the LED lighting in the kitchen and fellowship hall. A big thank you to the individual who paid for the new door coming into the fellowship hall thereby stopping the cold and mice from coming in. I also want to thank everyone who has helped me with repairs, painting, cleaning and especially those who helped build and finish the frames for the stained glass windows in the sanctuary. I know many other projects were completed around the church such as mowing, cleaning the grounds, spraying weeds, shoveling snow and on and on. A special thanks to the Executive Board for trusting me to manage all the projects, to Pastor Cynthia for her spiritual guidance, to Kathy for keeping me on track, reminding me what needs to be done, taking messages, making calls and helping me be more organized and to Leigh for the great job she does keeping track of all the accounts that property is involved in. In closing all I can say is **THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU TO EVERYONE AT FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH.**

*May your **HOME** be warm, your **HOLIDAYS** grand, & May your **HEART** be held gently in the Lord's Hands*

JANUARY DIACONATE

Trudy Woodard, Phil & Becky Ostrander,
Virginia Yohn, Melanie Dowler, Wanda
Gochenour (on 1/7 & 1/21), Trisha Woods (on
1/14 & 1/28)

Communion Prep

Chapel - TBD - please sign up on Sunday
10:10 Service - Tammy Heck

Jan. GREETER
Laurie Anderson

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

Offertory Steward
TBD

**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

Robin Nelson	Jan. 2	Jane Wallace	Jan. 13
Maggie Grooms	Jan. 4	Lynda Williams	Jan. 13
Jane Baker	Jan. 6	Marcus Hayden	Jan. 19
Carol Sage	Jan. 6	Evan Woods	Jan. 19
Kelly Hover	Jan. 7	Kim Forbis	Jan. 21
Debbie Mapp	Jan. 10	Nylia Cazier	Jan. 22
David Taylor	Jan. 11	Karen Huckfeldt	Jan. 30
Dorothy Rhoades	Jan. 13		



Greg & Gayle Address
7796 Chalk Creek
Casper, WY 82604

**THANK YOU!**

To the church family, Thank you so much for all the prayers, the visit from Pastor Cynthia, phone calls and the carnation in my room when I returned from surgery. The power of prayer truly does speed the healing process. God bless everyone, **Lois Purvis**

To: Pastor Cynthia, Paul Hallock, Tom Dowler, CWF and members of FCC. Thank you so much for the beautiful service. Also for all the support and visits. Especially thank you for performing Mark's baptism, it meant so much to him. Thank you to Wanda & Darlene and the CWF ladies for their help with the reception. Also to the A.V. guys and the custodian who cleaned up after the service. I am so grateful for your friendship, support and prayers.
Love, **Pam & Jena Steinle**

Dear Church Family - Thank you to the many members who shared cards, sweets, and gifts of appreciation with Charles & I and all of our church staff during the holidays. Thank you to CWF for the Christmas gift. - **Pastor Cynthia**

**IT'S SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION TIME!**

It's time to apply for the
spring semester
scholarships. **Deadline is**
Monday, January 8, 2018 by noon in the
church office. Applications are on the
bulletin board. If you have any questions,
contact Judy Baker.

REMOVING CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

The church decorations will be removed on Sunday, December 31st after the 10:10 service. Spiritual Growth Commission asks for people to stay after service to assist in taking down the decorations. If you have any questions, contact Melanie Dowler.



ON THE TRAIL WITH TROOP 13

Troop 13 wants to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and to thank the church for their continued support. There is still some popcorn for sale — it makes excellent Christmas gifts if you are still looking for ideas. The troop will be taking a Christmas break and no scouts will be meeting between Christmas and New Year's. In 2018 January will be busy with Klondike Derby - January 19-21st. Nathan Hawley's Eagle Court of Honor will be on Saturday, January 27th @ 2:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. A reception will be held in the Fellowship Hall following the Court of Honor. The Scoutmasters want to congratulate all of the scouts for a successful year of achieving their respective rank and for making our jobs easy. ***Merry Christmas --Larry Reimann, Scoutmaster***



NEW BIBLE STUDY OFFERED Starting January 7, 2018

It seems that **women of all ages** are always busy in this day and age—raising families, caring for parents, pursuing careers, keeping up with school activities and volunteering. It's hard to find time to study God's Word. If you find this to be true, join Lani McBee during the Sunday School hour beginning **January 7, 2018** for a 10-week DVD based Bible Study "Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World" by Joanna Weaver that will focus on deepening your relationship with God and with each other. In the meantime, if you have any questions, you may call Lani @ 258-3503 or lanimcbee@gmail.com. Childcare will be available.

MISSION COMMISSION UPDATE

We will be collecting warm clothing for those in need through the winter months. The Women's Shelter is especially in need of new socks for their residents. If you have socks, gloves, hats, scarves or other warm clothes you would like to donate they can be placed in a box under the coat rack upstairs or on the stage in fellowship hall. The Sandwich Ministry will be making lunches on Christmas Day. If anyone would like to help, contact Debbie Mestas. We are also raffling off 2 blankets to raise funds for the Fleece Blanket project. The tickets are \$5 a piece or 5 for \$20. The drawing will take place on December 23rd. Tickets are available at the Nativity Display downtown on Saturdays from 10-3 and on Mondays from 5-8 or contact Debbie Mestas. The blanket project will celebrate two years on January 30th. We will be making blankets on December 16th from 10-3. The finished blankets are stored at the church so they can be given out as needed. If you know of someone in need of a warm blanket, contact Debbie Mestas. The CROP walk will be April 28th and we will start planning in January. More details later. We want to thank everyone at FCC for their support in helping those in need in Casper and around the world.

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Highland Park Community Church is coordinating a "Night to Shine" event on February 9, 2018. This will be a prom dance with honored guests with special needs, ages 14 & older, sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation. Interested volunteers may contact Barbara Flinn @ bflinn@hpcc.cc or call Highland church office @ 265-4073.

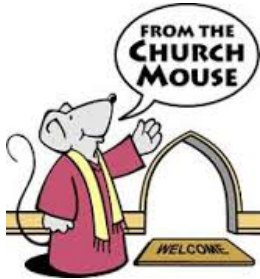




DIACONATE MEETING

The Diaconate will have an orientation meeting after the 10:10 service on Sunday, January 14th in the sanctuary. All currently serving and newly elected Deacons are encouraged to attend. There will be sign up sheets for the serving schedule for the 2018 year, a training for new members of the diaconate, and a review of communion prep and serving procedures for all continuing deacons. If you cannot attend, please contact Tammy Heck @ 262-2892 and let her know so you can be scheduled to serve in 2018.

REQUESTS FROM THE "MOUSE"



1. It will soon be a new year and time for the 2018 Church Directory. If you have had any address, phone or email changes within the past year and are unable to attend church, would you contact the church office with those changes?
2. Cold and flu season is upon us so please check your pews when you leave the sanctuary and make sure that no used kleenex is left in the pew. As our scouts are always taught, let's "Leave no trace." The church mouse will be grateful.

POINSETTIAS FOR THE SANCTUARY

The Spiritual Growth Commission will be decorating the sanctuary with poinsettias on Monday, December 18th. If you would like to purchase a poinsettia @ \$8.00 in honor of or in memory of a loved one, you can contact the church office with the name by Friday, December 15th so it can be included in the bulletin for the 10:10 service on Christmas Eve morning. You can mail your check to the attention of Leigh Earle, 520 CY 82601. If you wish to take your poinsettia home, they can be removed after worship on Sunday, January 7, 2018.



REMINDER FOR ALL ELDERS

The annual Elder's Christmas dinner will be on Thursday, December 21 @ 6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. The meal will be catered by Bernard and cost is \$18. Please come and help recognize our new elder class and enjoy an evening of fun, friends and great food. Please call the church to RSVP by Wednesday, Dec. 13th. Any questions, contact Dennis Baker.



We have had an amazing month of December in the preschool. The kids have enjoyed learning the true meaning of Christmas. Last week we had field trips to see the nativity displays and Pastor Cynthia shared with us the story of Jesus' birth. We dressed up in nativity costumes to show what we learned and celebrate. This week we will have gingerbread day and continue making gifts for our families. Our school Christmas Party will be on Friday with a special guest. We will be on Christmas vacation from Dec. 18th - January 2nd. We are also collecting PB&J, hats and gloves for the Sandwich Ministry. Our box is overflowing with gifts from our families. Best wishes this holiday season, MERRY CHRISTMAS & A BLESSED NEW YEAR to our families and friends of the preschool. -Teacher Annette Crain

January 2018

FCC CASPER CALL

JANUARY, 2018

December 2017							January 2018							February 2018									
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S			
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23							21	22	23	24	25	26	27				
24	25	26	27	28	29	30							28	29	30	31							
31																							

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>31</p> <p>New Year's Eve</p> <p>NEW YEAR'S EVE</p> <p>8:15 AM Chapel</p> <p>9:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL</p> <p>10:10 AM Worship</p> <p>11:30 AM Coffee Fellowship</p>	<p>1</p> <p>PRESCHOOL BREAK</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p> <p>New Year's Day</p>	<p>2</p> <p>11:30 AM BETA SIGMA PI</p> <p>7:00 PM AA</p>	<p>3</p> <p>6:30 AM T.O.P.S. #35</p> <p>9:00 AM Quilters</p> <p>12:00 PM Staff Meeting</p> <p>7:00 PM CHOIR PRACTICE</p>	<p>4</p> <p>10:00 AM CWF Board meeting</p> <p>11:30 AM Lunch Bunch</p> <p>Potluck</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7:30 AM Men's Bible Study</p> <p>8:15 AM Sandwich Ministry</p>
<p>7</p> <p>8:15 AM Chapel</p> <p>9:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL</p> <p>10:10 AM Worship</p> <p>11:30 AM Coffee Fellowship</p>	<p>8</p> <p>12:00 PM Scholarship Deadline</p> <p>6:00 PM Cub Scouts</p> <p>6:30 PM Elders</p> <p>7:00 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>9</p> <p>7:00 PM AA</p>	<p>10</p> <p>6:30 AM T.O.P.S. #35</p> <p>9:00 AM Quilters</p> <p>12:00 PM CWF #2</p> <p>7:00 PM CHOIR PRACTICE</p>	<p>11</p> <p>10:00 AM CWF #1</p> <p>11:30 AM CWF #3</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>7:30 AM Men's Bible Study</p> <p>8:15 AM Sandwich Ministry</p> <p>10:00 AM State Quilters</p>
<p>14</p> <p>8:15 AM Chapel</p> <p>9:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL</p> <p>10:10 AM Worship</p> <p>11:30 AM Coffee Fellowship</p> <p>11:30 AM DIACONATE TRAINING</p>	<p>15</p> <p>NO SCHOOL</p> <p>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</p> <p>6:00 PM Cub Scouts</p> <p>6:30 PM Spiritual Growth</p> <p>7:00 PM Boy Scouts</p> <p>7:00 PM Commissions</p> <p>8:00 PM Board Meeting</p>	<p>16</p> <p>11:30 AM BETA SIGMA PI</p> <p>7:00 PM AA</p>	<p>17</p> <p>6:30 AM T.O.P.S. #35</p> <p>9:00 AM Quilters</p> <p>7:00 PM CHOIR PRACTICE</p>	<p>18</p> <p>6:30 PM BSA Committee Mtg</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>7:30 AM Men's Bible Study</p> <p>8:15 AM Sandwich Ministry</p>
<p>21</p> <p>8:15 AM Chapel</p> <p>9:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL</p> <p>10:10 AM Worship</p> <p>11:30 AM Coffee Fellowship</p>	<p>22</p> <p>12:00 PM CALL Deadline</p> <p>6:00 PM Cub Scouts</p> <p>7:00 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7:00 PM AA</p>	<p>24</p> <p>6:30 AM T.O.P.S. #35</p> <p>9:00 AM Quilters</p> <p>9:30 AM CALL Folders</p> <p>7:00 PM CHOIR PRACTICE</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>7:30 AM Men's Bible Study</p> <p>8:15 AM Sandwich Ministry</p> <p>12:00 PM Set up for Court of Honor - F.H.</p> <p>2:00 PM NATHAN HAWLEY EAGLE SCOUT COURT OF HONOR</p>
<p>28</p> <p>8:15 AM Chapel</p> <p>9:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL</p> <p>10:10 AM Worship</p> <p>11:30 AM Coffee Fellowship</p>	<p>29</p> <p>6:00 PM Cub Scouts</p> <p>7:00 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>30</p> <p>7:00 PM AA</p>	<p>31</p> <p>6:30 AM T.O.P.S. #35</p> <p>9:00 AM Quilters</p> <p>7:00 PM CHOIR PRACTICE</p>	<p>1</p> <p>10:00 AM CWF Board meeting</p> <p>11:30 AM Lunch Bunch</p> <p>Potluck</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Groundhog Day</p>	<p>3</p> <p>7:30 AM Men's Bible Study</p> <p>8:15 AM Sandwich Ministry</p>

First Christian Church
520 CY Ave
Casper WY, 82601

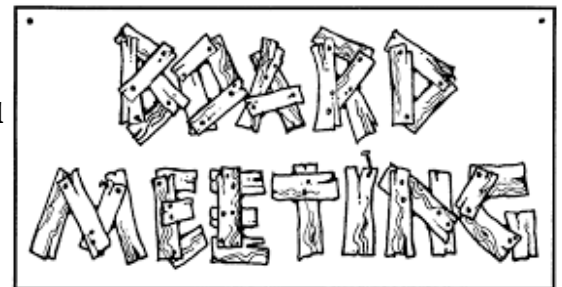
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CASPER WY
PERMIT NO. 129

Monday, January 15th. The Commissions will meet at their usual times and the Board will meet at 8:00 p.m. The church board regularly meets on the 2nd Monday of the month but due to January 1st being on a Monday, the meeting has been changed. Please mark this change on your calendar. If you cannot attend, please contact Board president, Linda Mosteller.



At the congregational meeting held on December 3rd, the following officers were elected to serve First Christian Church for the year 2018:

President - Linda Mosteller

Vice President - Dan Coey

Secretary - Elaine Singleton

Members - at - large- Terri Morrison & Stan McIrvin

If you would like to serve on a commission for the 2018 year, you are invited to attend the commission meetings on Monday night. The Spiritual Growth commission meets at 6:30 p.m. and the others meet at 7:00 p.m. Our spiritual growth commission (which coordinates both worship planning & membership/evangelism events) is in need of co-chairs for 2018. If you feel called to help in this area, please contact Linda Mosteller, Pastor Cynthia or outgoing commission chair Melanie Dowler as soon as possible.