



THE CALL MARCH 2018

IMPORTANT DATES in MARCH

Check calendar for other important dates

March 1 - CWF Board meeting 10:00 a.m.
Lunch Bunch meets at 11:30 in Fellowship Hall. All are welcome; bring a dish to share.

March 2 - Wedding of Q & U

March 4 - Financial Peace @ 3:00 every Sun.
Hallock Shepherding Group 5:00 @ Dowlers

Wed. March 7 - Lenten Service @ 6:00 p.m.
in the Inner Room - Soup supper @ 6:30

March 8 - CWF Group #1 @ 10:00 a.m.

MARCH 11 - DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME
SPRING AHEAD - Financial Peace 3:00

March 12 - CWF #3 @ 11:30 a.m. @ Wonderful House - Commissions & Board meeting

March 13 - Girls State meeting in Board room on Tues. through May 29th @ 7:00 p.m.
HANDBELL practice each Tues. @ 6:30 p.m.

March 18 - Financial Peace @ 3:00 p.m.

MARCH 25 - PALM SUNDAY - Financial Peace 3:00

March 26-30 - SPRING BREAK

March 29 - Maundy Thursday candlelight communion 7:30 p.m. service

March 30- GOOD FRIDAY, OFFICE CLOSED

March 31 - 12 hr. Prayer Vigil 6:00 - 6:00
Easter Egg Hunt @ 11:00 p.m.

APRIL 1 - EASTER - Sunrise Service;
Chapel at 8:15 a.m. - Worship 10:10 a.m.

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

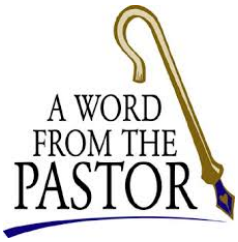
Preschool hours (Sept-May)

Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM - noon

Preschool Phone - 472-0649

CWF GROUP 3 MEETING DAY CHANGE

CWF Group 3 is changing their meeting day to the 2nd Monday of every month starting March 12. They will continue to meet at 11:30 a.m. at different restaurants throughout out the city. March meeting will be at the Wonderful House. Contact Janie Nelson if you have any questions.



A Convergence of Seasons

It happens every so often - that one special day overlaps with another. My Grandpa Dobson was born on February 14th. He also chose Valentine's Day as the time to marry Grandma Pat. (I wonder if he was being romantic, or it was just a date he could be sure to remember.) My Grandpa Graves was born on the Fourth of July. It certainly does make it easier to remember someone's birthday when it coincides with a holiday.

This year, Ash Wednesday fell on February 14th - and Easter will be on "April Fool's Day." One of my clergy colleague friends shared a Facebook post that featured humorous "combo" greeting cards... They said things like: "Roses are red. Violets are blue. Lent is beginning. No chocolate for you." and "Remember you are dust, but awfully lovable dust!" In preparing for our Ash Wednesday service, I found myself pondering a few of the many passages in scripture that talk about God's love and the human heart - like John 3:16 and Psalm 51:10 "Create in me a clean heart, oh God." They are certainly appropriate verses, as all of the season of Lent calls us to reflect on the state of our heart - and to seek again God's forgiveness for our transgressions.

It also happened, this year, that Ash Wednesday converged with another "season" in the life of our congregation. The night that 50 or more FCC'ers gathered for worship happened to fall mid-week between two funerals of FCC members - Betty Burkhart and Darlene McIrvine. The words traditionally spoken while the imposition of ashes are offered seemed especially poignant to me this year. On Ash Wednesday, we hear one of two phrases spoken over and over again as the sign of the cross is formed: "Repent and believe the Gospel" (Mark 1:15) and/or "Remember - from dust you have come and to dust you shall return" (from Genesis 3:19). Ash Wednesday intentionally calls us to be aware of our humanity, to be aware of the frailty of our finite existence on earth and our need for eternal salvation. The weekend before, while I led a funeral here in Casper, my husband Charles had traveled back to Indiana for his Uncle Joe's funeral. The night of Valentine's Day, as I looked into the eyes of this man I love, it seemed an overlapping of multiple aspects of our lives that I found myself making the sign of the cross on his forehead and speaking the refrain "from dust you have come, to dust you will return." I teared up as I thought of his beloved Uncle passing, and prayed for a respite from what felt like a season of death - of too many saints going to heaven one after another.

Perhaps like many others in our congregation, I wasn't raised going to an Ash Wednesday service (that was more a "Catholic" thing when I was growing up). Among the Lutherans, Presbyterians and Episcopalians, Ash Wednesday has been observed for many generations. But for denominations like the Disciples of Christ or American Baptists, it's really only been through the evolution of recent ecumenism that Ash Wednesday has been introduced into more of our congregations. The first time I ever attended an Ash Wednesday service was when I was in seminary. I went with a Catholic classmate to mass at her parish. I was welcomed to receive the imposition of ashes, but did not participate in the eucharist (Lord's Supper) that night. Since then, I've both attended and led multiple Ash Wednesday services. It is an intimate, holy time. As pastor, I find it very humbling to physically mark people's skin with a visible reminder of our sin and shared mortality, reminding us of the triumph we share through Jesus' death and resurrection. Ash Wednesday is a night when multiple theological themes converge.

What is overlapping in your life this Lenten season? While the cold and snow of winter still buries our Wyoming landscape, Spring lies just beneath the surface, waiting to burst forth. May you encounter Christ in the midst of converging seasons. - *Pastor Cynthia*

***"Where cross the crowded ways of life, where sound the cries of race and clan,
above the noise of selfish strife, we hear thy voice, O Son of Man." - Frank Mason North***



WEDNESDAY MORNING QUILTERS

The Wednesday Morning Quilters of FCC have been busy! In the fall, we finished four quilts. And all of our quilts are handmade by real grandmas! One was a wall hanging with sea turtles applied on it; the other was a throw with Christmas prints. We sold the turtle quilt to a woman with whom Cindy Huckfeldt used to teach and it now holds a place of honor in her home.

Christopf Atkinson won the Christmas quilt. We raffled the quilt to the kids at FCC who earned tickets by attending church, donating to the food bank, and bringing friends. We also had a more traditional raffle for a beautiful king sized quilt that was won by a very appreciative Connie Wenn. Finally, a lap quilt was donated to Wyoming Oncology for patients to use when they get chilled during chemotherapy.

With the money from the two quilts we sold, we bought some much needed supplies and tools. I mean, seriously, the lines were completely worn off our rulers! We also bought battings and a couple of bolts of plain fabric for quilt backs. Thanks again to those in the congregation who donated irons and ironing boards.

We have two queen sized quilts that are nearly done. The butterfly quilt will be raffled with all proceeds going to the Week of Compassion. We haven't found a purpose for the peach one yet. Our next project will include quilts to be donated to Quilts of Valor and Seton House.

Our thanks go out to the congregation for their support in donating fabric, equipment, and encouragement. Thank you for buying raffle tickets so that we can continue sharing fellowship and fabric. Grandma or not, any of you are welcome to join on Wednesday mornings at 9:00 a.m. If you're not an old hand with a quilter's square, we'll train you. Contact Cindy Huckfeldt or any of our Wednesday morning quilters to learn more.

Dear Pastor Cynthia and Friends at FCC:

I want to first thank Pr. Cynthia, my friend and pastor, for the cheery visits to me in the hospital and home. You bring such light and joy to me just being in your presence!

Second, I want to thank the women who made the prayer shawl which I so lovingly wear! When it is around me, I know I am surrounded by all your love and prayers for my health and recovery. It is working!! Each day my lungs grow stronger and clearer. I am thankful that I can pretty much get through daytimes without oxygen now!

Finally, to all of you who wrote those beautiful prayer cards - how I cried reading them! You all have touched my heart and life with your love and care. I cannot wait to be back among you! (FYI: I must wear a mask to protect the lungs if I go out, but I am not contagious!!)

Thank you for all being such a witness of God's Love and Presence!

With love, wishing you all our Lord's Peace in your lives! - Joan McNamara



TAMALE SALE - Once again, FCC will be taking advance orders for homemade tamales. Sign up this Sunday or next at the table downstairs. Tamales will be available for pick up on Sunday morning, March 11th between 9 and 10 a.m. Order red chili w/pork or a vegetarian option for \$18 per dozen. This partnership with the Immigration Alliance of Casper helps an area family earn a small income and get to know neighbors.

WEEK OF COMPASSION offering boxes are available at church.
Let your spare change bring life-changing HOPE to places of need.



MARCH DIACONATE

Trudy Woodward (Week 1 & 2) Sara Williams, Singletons, Melanie Dowler, Dylan Stupak, Lynda Williams (Weeks 3-4-5)

Communion Prep

Chapel: Singletons

10:10 Service - Lynda Williams



Greeter

Deb Mestas

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

March Offertory Steward: Judy Baker

Scripture Readers: Pat Buck, Belle Stapleton, Peg Jackson, Erika Stupak

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Anna 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
Cynthia McBride	Mar. 10	Trent Hover	Mar. 24
Anne Klocksiem	Mar. 12	Kevin Anderson	Mar. 25
Arlene Wagner	Mar. 12	Lori Hayden	Mar. 26
Pat Seamands	Mar. 16	Janie Nelson	Mar. 26
Eddie Atkinson	Mar. 17	Elaine Singleton	Mar. 30
David Wallace	Mar. 17	Suzy Stewart	Mar. 30
Carol Braley	Mar. 18		

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Gene & Pat Buck
March 11, 1966



Ladies; Sorry to be so long in thanking you for the nice card and cookies at Christmas time. It is nice of you to remember me in such a "sweet" way **Betty Blain**

My FCC Family - Thank you so much for the scholarship money so I can continue on with my Education. I plan to graduate with Associates in History and then plan on working towards my Bachelor's. Again, thank you for all of your support.

Keith Rouse

Dear Church Friends - Thank you all so much for the nice get well wishes, thoughts and prayers. I'm feeling better and hope I'll soon be back at church again. Sincerely, **Mena Pagett**

Dear Church Family - As Dwayne and I have aged into our 90's, we are very aware of the loving and caring Body of Christ in Casper known as First Christian Church. During the past few months we have been blessed by friendly visits, homemade soup, a live singing duo and valentine cookies. Our lives have been greatly enriched by the quiet ministry of these servants of our Lord. Thank you, **Dwayne & Betty Axworthy**



EASTER EGG HUNT

CANDY DONATIONS NEEDED

FCC's annual Easter Egg hunt will be Saturday, March 31st, at 11:00 a.m. We are asking for donations of wrapped candies that will fit in plastic eggs. Please have your donations to the church by Monday, **March 12th** as we will stuff eggs at the Christian Education commission meeting that evening. Donations can be placed in the church library.

Graduation Sunday and Bible Presentation to 2nd Grade students

Sunday, May 13th
10:10 service.





ON THE TRAIL WITH TROOP 13

CONGRATULATIONS to Brady Hover - Troop 13's newest Eagle Scout. Brady received his Eagle rank on Monday, February 12th. He is the son of Jeff and Kelly Hover and grandson of Don and Randisue Davis.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, February 26th @ 5:30 the Cub Scouts will have their Blue and Gold Banquet at the Casper Shrine Club. Congratulations to the Scouts who will cross over into the Boy Scout Troop. The Troop will be traveling to Rapid City, South Dakota next month to attend a merit badge clinic.

Congratulations to Caleb Stahl. Caleb has been chosen to be a counselor at the Boy Scout Sea Base Camp in Florida this summer. **Congratulations** to Troop 13 on their recent overall win at the annual Winter Klondike on Casper Mountain - and for taking first place in the dogsled pull.

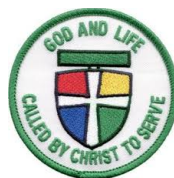
CONGRATULATIONS to Larry Reimann for being named Scoutmaster of the Year from Riverbend District.



CROP WALK

When: April 28th
 Time: Registration 1:00 p.m.
 Walk: 1:30 p.m.
 Place: Tate Pumhouse

If you wish to be involved in this year's walk, contact Keith Rouse or Debbie Mestas. Goal is raising \$5,000 to fight hunger and to have 100 walker/runners participate. Learn more about this annual event in partnership with Church World Service at crophungerwalk.org



GOD & LIFE MEETING DATES

February 28th @ 6:30 p.m.
 No class on March 14th
 Last class will be March 28th.

Participants need to complete all of their notebooks and they will be collected on February 28th. Any questions, contact Mike Ward.

PASTOR'S CLASS

Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m.
 To discuss church membership and baptism.

"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven." - Ecclesiastes 3:1



**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME
 SPRING AHEAD
 SUNDAY, MARCH 11**

YOUTH PROGRAMMING MEETING

We will have a light lunch meeting on April 29th following worship to determine the direction of Youth Programming at FCC for youth (grades 6-12) their parents, and individuals who may be interested in youth programming. Letters to families regarding potential ideas and options will be mailed out in March. Plan to come and bring your ideas for summer and fall programming.



UPDATES FROM THE PRESCHOOL ZOO

There are some very exciting things going on in the Preschool Zoo! Our staff went to the Preschool fair at the YMCA several weeks ago, which sparked a lot of interest in our school. We opened our enrollment to the public last week on Friday and it was a very busy morning. We have a few spots open for next fall. It is exciting to see us growing more in the community.

The teachers will be attending the Rocky Mountain Early Childhood Conference in Denver, March 16th & 17th. A state grant will be covering the expenses for our teachers. This is the second time we have been fortunate enough to receive a grant. The grant is available every other year so hopefully this will be the first of many educational opportunities for our preschool staff.

On March 2nd, everyone is invited to the **Preschool Wedding of Q & U** which will be held in the sanctuary Friday morning with Pastor Cynthia officiating. A reception will be held following the ceremony in the Fellowship Hall. Other activities during the month of March include going to the Teddy Bear Hospital at Casper College and having a restaurant learning center at the Preschool. We will be on Spring Break March 22-30th.

Thank you for your support and showing us how much you believe in our preschool. **Teacher Annette and the other "zookeepers"!**

MISSION COMMISSION UPDATE

The Fleece Blanket project continues to meet on the 3rd Saturday of each month. Last Saturday they made 17 blankets and on February 9th the Woods Learning Center kids made 8. There have been 713 blankets made in just over 2 years. We received a thank you from the Wyoming Medical Center for blankets that were given to the hospital nursery. There is also a thank you from the Self Help Center for the blankets received. We have a lot of blankets in the pantry so if anyone knows of someone who could use a blanket, please let Keith or Debbie know.

The Sandwich ministry is making 120 sandwiches on Saturday's starting at 8:15. The people the Sandwich ministry serves are grateful for the lunches and clothing being donated to them. Thank you to **everyone** for your help to provide these services. We always need volunteers, so if anyone is interested in helping with any project, contact Keith Rouse or Debbie Mestas. You are welcome to come and help just one time or to volunteer often.

TO THE MEMBERS OF FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH CONGREGATION!

Thank you for providing cookies and help for the funeral receptions that FCC has had the past month. Receptions were held for the families of Dottie Gray, Betty Burkhart, and Darlene McIrvin. Thank you again for your willingness to help.

"Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing." - Psalm 100:2

February 2018							March 2018							April 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3					1	2	3					1	2	3	
			4	5	6	7				4	5	6	7				8	9	10	11
			11	12	13	14				11	12	13	14				15	16	17	18
			18	19	20	21				18	19	20	21				22	23	24	25
			25	26	27	28				25	26	27	28				29	30	31	

March 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15 AM Chapel 9:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:10 AM Worship 11:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 	<p>26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leigh out of office 5:30 PM Cub Scout Blue/Gold Banquet Shrine Club 	<p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM AA 	<p>28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM Quilters 6:00 PM LENTEN Service/Soup 7:00 PM CHOIR PRACTICE 	<p>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM CWF Board meeting 11:30 AM Lunch Bunch Potluck 	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study 8:15 AM Sandwich Ministry
<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leigh out of office 8:15 AM Chapel 9:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:10 AM Worship 11:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 3:00 PM Financial Peace 5:00 PM Hallock Group - Dowlers 	<p>5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2:00 PM Circle of Caring 6:00 PM Cub Scouts 6:30 PM Elders 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 	<p>6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11:30 AM BETA SIGMA PI 7:00 PM AA 	<p>7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM Quilters 6:00 PM LENTEN Service/Soup 7:00 PM CHOIR PRACTICE 	<p>8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM CWF #1 6:00 PM Boy Scouts Round-table 	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study 8:15 AM Sandwich Ministry 10:00 AM State Quilters
<p>11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daylight Saving Time 8:15 AM Chapel 9:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:10 AM Worship 11:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 3:00 PM Financial Peace 	<p>12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11:30 AM CWF #3 6:00 PM Cub Scouts 6:30 PM Spiritual Growth 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Commissions 8:00 PM Board Meeting 	<p>13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 PM Bell Practice 7:00 PM Girls State - Board room 7:00 PM AA 	<p>14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM Quilters 12:00 PM CWF #2 6:00 PM LENTEN Service/Soup 7:00 PM CHOIR PRACTICE 	<p>15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 PM BSA Committee Mtg 	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> St. Patrick's Day 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study 8:15 AM Sandwich Ministry 10:00 AM Blanket Ministry
<p>18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15 AM Chapel 9:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:10 AM Worship 11:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 3:00 PM Financial Peace 	<p>19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12:00 PM CALL DEADLINE 6:00 PM Cub Scouts 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 	<p>20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11:30 AM BETA SIGMA PI 6:30 PM Bell Practice 7:00 PM Girls State - Board room 7:00 PM AA 	<p>21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM Quilters 9:30 AM CALL FOLDERS 6:00 PM LENTEN Service/Soup 7:00 PM CHOIR PRACTICE 	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study 8:15 AM Sandwich Ministry
<p>25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PALM SUNDAY 8:15 AM Chapel 9:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:10 AM Worship 11:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 3:00 PM Financial Peace 	<p>26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SPRING BREAK 6:00 PM Cub Scouts 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 	<p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 PM Bell Practice 7:00 PM Girls State - Board room 7:00 PM AA 	<p>28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM Quilters 6:00 PM Final God & Life Class 7:00 PM CHOIR PRACTICE 	<p>29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30 PM MAUNDY THURSDAY Service 	<p>30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GOOD FRIDAY OFFICE CLOSED 	<p>31</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study 8:15 AM Sandwich Ministry 11:00 AM Easter Egg Hunt

*First Christian Church
520 CY Ave
Casper WY, 82601*

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WEDNESDAY LENTEN WORSHIP services are held every Wednesday evening starting at 6:00 p.m. through March 21st. The elders are leading the services. The theme this year is “The Parables of Jesus.” A soup supper will be served afterwards in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30 p.m. The Maundy Thursday service is March 29th @ 7:30 p.m. and there will be NO soup supper. On this most holy of nights, we remember the Last Supper that Jesus shared with his Disciples, even as we have communion together.

12 HOUR PRAYER VIGIL. The 12 hour prayer vigil will be held on Saturday, March 31st from 6:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. The signup sheet will be posted the first week of March. Volunteers can sign up for either a 30 minute or a 1 hour time slot. More than one person can pray at a time and we would like to have ALL time slots covered. The 12 hour vigil will be in the sanctuary, with elders on site as hosts. Lenten devotional books are available on the table outside the office. Please take one for your family to use in sharing a daily time of spiritual reflection in this season leading up to Easter.

EASTER SUNDAY - APRIL 1st. There will be two worship services at FCC on Easter at 8:15 a.m. and 10:10 a.m. Dennis Baker will lead chapel on Easter Sunday at 8:15. Pastor Cynthia will preach at the 10:10 service, which will include a service of baptism and the choral anthem. We are waiting to hear more detailed plans for the annual ecumenical sunrise service and daily noon Holy Week services. We expect to share in these events as we have in the past - with a noon service each day led by Servants United and hosted at the First United Methodist Church downtown, and a sunrise service at Three Crowns Golf Course shared with members of First Methodist and First Christian.