FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) CASPER, WYOMING

# THE CALL



## **Church Staff:**

Bryan Elliott: Lead Pastor Kathy Winders, Secretary Arlon Miller, Music Director

Megan Jones, Preschool Director

Alexus McKauly, Custodian

Donna Osterholt, Nursery Ministers: Every Member!



Office hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9:30 AM - 2:00 PM CLOSED

Fridays:

SUNDAY SCHEDULE: 8:15 Worship Service 9:00 Adult Sunday School 10:10 - Worship Service

(307) 234-8964 www.fcccasper.org fcccasper@gmail.com

Preschool - M-F 9:00 - Noon CLOSED JUNE-AUG. Preschool Phone - 472-0649



Mother's Day May 14, 2023

naun, **GOC** 

Micah 6:8. NRSV

### Dear Friends,



I know you find this hard to believe but May is upon us but where is Spring? Well we had a bit of it just a few days ago and then, and I know this is hard to believe but something resembling Winter just won't stop. But this you will not find hard to believe - the weather is changing and soon we will be wondering what to plant in our flower beds, how the grass is going to be cut, etc. Life moves forward. The past month we saw a great time of Palm Sunday, Easter,

and a Spring clean up day. We saw people transformed by the power of God's presence as well as the care and love experienced by the church body for one another and our community. We also saw loved ones who struggled with life be it loss or some other issue that impacted their lives.

Over the past several weeks Teresa and I have been dealing with insurance companies that just don't want to honor their obligations. They always have different reasons, all find fault in us or in some nameless entity. It is frustrating in life when we don't feel "fairly" dealt with. Frustrating because I think I am on the right side of this ordeal. I wonder if I confront other issues in life like I do this insurance stuff? Do I think God should give me all I want and desire? Do I think that because I believe in God that my life and the lives of those I love should be care free and easy, or at least not difficult or painful?

One thing I have observed in over 63 years of living - life is tough! There is nothing easy about living and often good people suffer. We may feel that there is very little we can do about much of the suffering in this life that comes to us through no fault of our own. We may not be able to solve the suffering, but we can help - we can listen, we can be available to offer resources, we can offer a cup of water and a little food. Mostly these seem like small things, but if enough of God's people walk together to meet whatever needs we can it will help some. Jesus who always told his followers the truth said that we as his people are called to "take up our crosses daily and follow him." In other words - suffering is a part of our path in this life and obedience is our vehicle. Jesus is our traveling companion because the good news is that he tells us that **he will never leave us and will always love us and hold onto us**. I like that. I may wish for an easier time in this journey called life, but companionship is comforting and welcomed.

Last year we as a church helped several ministries: children and families in Haiti, developing churches in Mongolia, feeding the hungry in our community, helping provide medical care for expectant mothers, homeless teens to have much needed resources and a quilt all their own, blankets for the vulnerable and food for those who have more month than paycheck. These and many more groups were given a special gift through our Faith Promise offering that was administered by the Mission Commission of our church family. Many have asked what we will do this year? In the Fall through Spring of next year we will start another Faith Promise commitment through the offering of unanticipated income that finds it way into your life. You will set the amount of that offering and the mission commission with oversight from the Board will share those monies both near and far.

I am so proud of our church and its selfless giving heart for those in need. You are a wonderful addition to the Body of Christ. May your generous and grateful hearts help with the suffering that we can help sooth this Spring as we find new ways to share Jesus with those around us. Spring is coming and summer is just ahead. Blessings!

In His Loving Embrace,

Bryan



"The greatest honor that a Christian Church can place on a person is to ask them to serve their Lord as an Elder. From this day forward your church will look to you for guidance and support. Be a pastor to your Pastor, a leader to our people, and a servant to our Lord." These words were written to me by my pop, J.M. "Red" Murphy, shortly after I was elected as an elder in 1988. I had been an active member of this congregation for 15 years, serving in a variety of roles and ways.

But I definitely felt greatly honored to be called to serve as Elder. I still feel that way.

The role of an Elder in the Christian Church has changed very little from the early years. According to our *Design for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)* "person elected to the eldership is authorized to exercise....ministerial functions...such as sharing in the ministration of baptism and the Lord's Supper and the conduct of worship, sharing in pastoral care and spiritual leadership of the congregation" (Colbert S. Cartwright, *People of the Chalice*).

Your current elders are Teresa Elliott, Colin Hogan, Gloria Monroe, Robin Nelson and Nancy Thomas (Chair). We are pleased to welcome Dan Coey to the eldership. We are all devoted to this congregation and greatly honored to serve you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.



Second Grade Bibles will be handed out at the 10:10 service on May 14th to Rhys Elser, Delilah Stewart, Althea Wardell and Macy Brown.

High School Graduation Bibles will be handed out on Graduation Sunday, May 21st @ the 10:10 service. Our Graduates are Evan Woods (NC) and Kylie Stupak (KW). We are going to do a slide show for our high school graduates so if parents would provide about 10 photos per student, (baby to current), it would be greatly appreciated. Please send them to Michelle Elser at swimchickmle@hotmail.com

MAY

DIACONATE 8:15 -Pat Seamands 10:10 - Belle Stapleton & Dan Bilbeisi

Contact Pat Seamands @ 262-2921 to sign up if you haven't already. \*\*\*\*\*

> OFFERING STEWARD Tom Dowler

WORSHIP & WONDER APRIL 23 - Maggie Grooms April 30 - Open \*\*\*\*\*

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP APRIL 23 - Colin & Wanda Hogan April 30 - Nancy Thomas May 7 - Gloria Monroe May 14 - open May 21 - JoAnn Neal May 28 - Kimberly Ireland & Elaine Gross

### ELDERS

Apr 23 Robin Nelson - Gloria Monroe Apr 30 Teresa Elliott - Teresa Elliott May 7 Teresa Elliott - Colin Hogan May 14 Robin Nelson, Nancy Thomas May 21 Teresa Elliott - Gloria Monroe May 28 Teresa Elliott - Teresa Elliott

Mother Nature apologizes for the late arrival of spring

Father Time was driving and refused to stop and ask for directions.



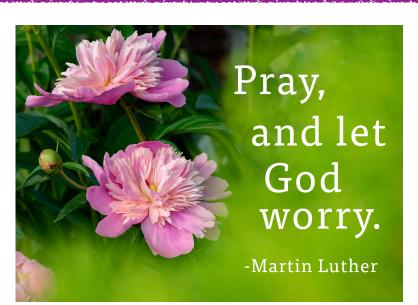


Linda Mosteller Jenny Black Dylan Stupak Darlene Bishop Brady Hover Lois Purvis Hailey Rodgers George Morrison Al Singleton Martha Wallace

May 3	Mary Lou Westman	May 16
May 4	Trisha Whitcomb	May 16
May 4	Jamie Williams	May 16
May 4	Raylan Heck	May 17
May 7	Betty Axworthy	May 18
May 11	Jared Black	May 22
May 11	Cristopf Atkinson	May 24
May 12	Amanda Kirlin	May 24
May 12	Steve Kingsolver	May 25
May 12	Travis Hayden	May 31

### **ANNIVERSARIES**

George & Terri Morrison - May 3, 1975 Kirk & Robin Nelson - May 15, 1982 Tyler & Michelle Elser - May 21, 2011 Russ & Julie Black - May 25, 1980 Dan & Janis Coey - May 26, 1984 Jeff & Tracy Padilla - May 26, 1986 Bernard & Annette Ambrosino - May 31, 1986 Ted & Jennifer Grooms - May 31, 1975





Thanks to Lani McBee, her excellent photography skills, and members of our commission for creating a wonderful informational bulletin board for our church main hall. Check out what we are all about. We always welcome more members.

The Blanket Ministry will be taking a break May through August.

We welcome members from Good Shepherd Lutheran Church as partners with the Sandwich Ministry. They will be making sandwiches on the first Friday of every month.



Theology and Fishing in the Big Horns of Wyoming June 26-30th, 2023 @ Bear Lodge Resort Theme: Amos and Isaiah: Prophetic Voices in Times of Crisis

Our guide for the Theology part will be Dr. John Hull who has taught Hebrew Bible since 2009 and is a Minister Emeritus at Beargrass Christian Church in Louisville, KY where he served as Minister of Faith Development for 21 years. He is also an outdoorsman who loves to fish, hike and enjoy God's creation.

Contact Pastor Bryan if you are interested or would like more information.



**WOW!!** The end of the school year is in sight and things have gotten quite busy around the preschool!! We are getting ready for our two evening programs. May 24th @ 6:00 p.m. our 3/4's class will demonstrate all they have learned in their Kindermusik class. On May 25th our Pre-K class will present a program that includes a song they have written and we will have a short Graduation ceremony.

Our last day of preschool is May 26th. We will have an outdoor picnic and field day.

We want to thank Max Jacobson for all her dedication to First Christian Church Preschool. We wish her well in her retirement from the preschool!!

We are working on our security doors. The main security one has been installed and the others will be done shortly.

Thank you for your continued support! Megan Jones, Director

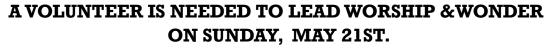


# AN IDEAL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY!!!

Volunteers are needed to sign up to help with our Veggie Tales summer program for children ages 3-grade 4, which starts on Sunday May 28th. The sign up sheet is on the bulletin board outside the secretary's office. **Pick a Sunday of your choice!** You can also bring a helper with you if you choose.

- 1. Attend church service through Children's time with Pastor Bryan
- 2. Class is in the board room which has a big TV and an air conditioner
- 3. Serve a snack (snacks provided)
- 4. Talk to the kids about their week. They like to share and it's fun
- 5. Show the Veggie Tales video.
- 6. If weather is nice and time permits, go out to the playground, sit on a bench and watch children play until church lets out. (If it's rainy there are games for indoors.)

Contact Maggie Grooms or Michelle Elser if you have any questions about this excellent FUN-filled program.



Please contact Maggie Grooms if you would like to do this Sunday. Veggie Tales program starts on Sunday, May 28th.

# May 2023

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Thursday	•	11	18	11:00 AM Preschool program	
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Sunday	30 8:15 AM Worship 9:00 AM Adut's Sunday School 10:130 AM Worship 11:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 12:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	7 8:15 AM Worship 9:00 AM Worship 10:10 AM Worship 11:30 AM Worship 12:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	14 Mother's Day 9:05 AM Adurt's sunday School 9:02 AM Adurt's sunday School 10:100 AM Adurt's sunday School 11:130 AM Coffe Fellowship 12:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	21 8:15 AM Worshp 9:00 AM Worshp 1:10 AM Worshp 11:30 AM Coffee Fellowshp 12:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	28 8:15 AM Worship 9:00 AM Worship 10:10 AM Worship 11:30 AM Coffee Fellowship

### FCC CASPER CALL

MAY 2023

First Christian Church 520 CY Ave Casper WY, 82601 **RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**  NON-PROFIT U.S. POSTAGE PAID CASPER WY PERMIT NO. 129



**Disciples Women's Ministry** 

May 9 @ 1:00 p.m. Bible Study - Mark 14 Service: Central Wyoming Hospice (monetary donations)