



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) CASPER, WYOMING

THE CALL



December 2025

WE WISH
YOU A
MERRY
LITTLE
CHRISTMAS!

*Pastor Bryan, Pastor Rhonda
Kathy*



Church Staff:

Bryan Elliott: Lead Pastor

Rhonda Padilla: Associate
Pastor

Kathy Winders, Secretary

Donna Osterholt, Nursery

Michelle Griebel, Custodian

Ministers: Every Member!



OFFICE HOURS

Mon.-Thurs.

9:30 AM - 2:00 PM

Fridays: CLOSED

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

8:15 Worship Service

9:00 Adult Sunday School

10:10 - Worship Service

11:30 - Coffee Fellowship

11:30-Choir Rehearsal

12:30 Handbell Rehearsal

(307) 234-8964

www.fcccasper.org

fcccasper@gmail.com

Parade

Christmas is for giving
And for showing that we care,
For honoring the Christ Child
With the loving gifts we share.
The wise men gave of riches;
The shepherds, faith and love.
Each gift, in its own measure,
Was smiled on from above.

– Iris W. Bray



Dear Church Family,

I'm excited to celebrate my fifth Advent and Christmas season with you! Over the next few weeks, we'll journey through Advent together—looking forward with hope and then celebrating the incredible moment when Jesus stepped into our world. This is one of those rare seasons when the sacred quietly slips into the everyday. You see it everywhere: bell ringers outside grocery stores, invitations to give and serve, school programs, work parties, community events, and of course, the wonderful gatherings here at church.

We have several special moments ahead:

- The Children's Program on December 14th, reminding us just how gifted, funny, and heartfelt our kids and youth truly are—followed by a delicious dinner right after the 10:10 AM service.**
- Our Candlelight and Communion Christmas Eve Service on Wednesday, December 24th at 7:00 PM—always a beautiful, holy time together.**

Every year the church walks through Advent and Christmas, telling the same story: the birth of Jesus and the lighting of the candles of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. We decorate, we reflect, we prepare our hearts.

But how do we keep anticipating something we already know so well?

I've asked myself that many times as the years roll by. And the answer that always rises to the surface is this: the story isn't finished. We know the beginning—the anticipation, the manger, the miracle. But God is still writing the next chapter, and we get to be part of it. We get to create new moments, new memories, new acts of compassion and love that all point back to Jesus.

So come celebrate the Story again. Let your life touch someone else's. And let your own heart be touched by the One who is still shaping our story.

Happy New Year—because Advent begins the church year for Christians all around the world. I can't wait to share this season of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love with you.

In Anticipation, Pastor Bryan





The Greatest Love Story

As we journey through Advent together remembering God's gift of love, may it steady us, reshape us, and send us into the world as bearers of His light. For the same love that once split the skies over Bethlehem is still breaking into the darkness—one heart at a time. No-one is forgotten.

Long ago the world waited in silence for four hundred years. Hope seemed to be slipping away. There were no prophets, not visions and no new word from God. Faith seemed to be hanging on by a thread of hope in the steadfast traditions that were passed down through sharing the promises of God, spoken so long ago.

God was not absent, Heaven itself was not asleep. God was preparing the greatest gift of love for all creation. Into the silence, God breathed a word—a name. The willingness to accept the call of God brought forth the promise to the world. The declaration of the King most high did not come from the throne of heaven but through the cry of a newborn child. Not the roar of an army, but the whisper of love wrapped in swaddling cloths.

This experience of Advent: Hope, Peace, Joy, Love & Christ is not soft or sentimental. This love crossed galaxies to reach a forgotten manger. This love broke through the darkness with the flicker of a single star. This love moved shepherds from their hillsides and kings from their palaces. This love turns the world upside down—starting with our hearts.

It is fierce.

It is determined.

It is unapologetic and undeniable.

It is the love that steps into a weary world and says,

“I am here. I will not leave you. I will make all things new.”

In this season, have hope, be at peace, choose joy and remember the greatest love story of all.

Love came down.

Love walks with us.

Love will come again.

May that light of Christ shine on in truth and hold you close this Advent season.

On a pastoral note: I wanted to thank this congregation for your continued support. I continue to grow and love getting to know everyone. I have had many joyful experiences since I have been here and found I truly enjoy visiting our people at Primrose and Mountain Plaza. I am now preaching at each facility and you are all welcome to come out. Primrose is on the 2nd Sunday of every month and Mountain Plaza is every 3rd Sunday. I hope in turn that you are getting to know me and my heart for people.

I would like to thank the choir and the bells for the great music season they have brought to us. As this season is at a close, I would like to encourage anyone who feels a call to share special music with us, or is interested instrumentally or vocally helping us with both services of worship, to please contact me directly at 720-422-4331.

Please remember, we are better together in the love of Christ



ANNUAL THANKSGIVING FEAST

With Fall in the air it is time again for our Thanksgiving Feast. The date is November 23rd after second service. Any questions, contact Jane Wallace @ 258-2063.



We will be decorating the church
for Christmas after the Thanksgiving
Feast on Sunday, Nov 23rd.
Please stay and help!!!



The annual Youth Christmas Party will be held on Dec. 13th from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. All church youth can join us for a fun celebration of the season and fellowship. If anyone would like to help out at the Christmas Party or be part of the planning, please contact Michelle Elser @ 307-259-1166. I am hoping to make this event even more fun than the past couple of years. All ages of youth are invited so I am looking at breaking up the age groups with different activities and **WOULD LOVE THE HELP!!** Thank you and Christmas Blessings —Michelle



THE CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT AND

POTLUCK will be on December 14th. Jennifer Grooms is the pageant director and will be working with the kids during Children's Church/Worship & Wonder. The pageant will be held during the children's moment at 10:10 service.

Christmas Potluck



CHURCH POTLUCK FELLOWSHIP HALL

**DECEMBER 14, 2025 AFTER THE 10:10
SERVICE.**

SIGN UP SHEET ON THE BULLETIN BOARD
Main dish, Side dish or dessert.

POINSETTIA ORDERS

Spiritual Growth will be taking poinsettia orders again for Christmas. The cost is \$10. Deadline is Sunday December 14th. If you wish to purchase a poinsettia in honor or memory of a loved one, please fill out the form that will be in the bulletin or contact the church office or mail the information and your check to FCC. Please put in the memo portion of your check "poinsettias". Thank you.



DWM Christmas luncheon
December 9th - noon
Chicken provided--Bring a side or a dessert
Gift exchange - Christmas Decoration or ornament
cost no more than \$15
Contact: Carla Schanck @ 267-2415
if you have questions



**DIACONATE FOR DECEMBER, 2025**

8:15 - Pat Seamands

10:10 Trisha Whitcomb & Caleb Woods

Contact Belle Stapleton if you cannot serve

OFFERING STEWARD

Ted Grooms

ELDERS

Nov. 30 - Dewey Smith & Nicholas Grooms

Dec. 7 - Steve Huckfeldt (Both)

Dec. 14 - Dewey Smith & Teresa Elliott

Dec. 21 - Teresa Elliott & Nicholas Grooms

Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve - TBD

Dec. 29 - Nancy Thomas (both)

Olivia Wardell Dec. 1

Lyle Cox Dec. 6

Rob Knaus Dec. 14

Holly O'Brien Dec. 15

Bryan Elliott Dec. 18

Paul Maddox Dec. 18

Althea Wardell Dec. 19

Jolene Knaus Dec. 23

Rita Petersen Dec. 25



Nicholas & Maggie Grooms

Dec. 7, 2003

Carol Sage & Bruce Postema

Dec. 17, 1999

Lyle & Jo Cox

Dec. 22, 1990



The First Christian Church congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, December 7th at 9:15 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. We will be voting on the 2026 Budget and approving the new 2026 board members, elders and deacons of FCC.

December 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div>30</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15AM Worship 9:10AM Adult's Sunday School 10:10AM Worship 11:30AM Coffee Fellowship 	<div>1</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00AM Paper Piecing Quilters 6:00PM Commissions 6:00PM Cub Scouts 7:00PM board meeting 7:00PM Boy Scouts 	<div>2</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00PM AA 	<div>3</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00AM QUILTERS 10:00AM Sermon in the Round 	<div>4</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30PM Elders Meeting 	<div>5</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> OFFICE CLOSED 10:00AM Quilters 1:00PM Sandwich making 	<div>6</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30AM Men's BS 8:15AM SANDWICH MIN-ISTRY
<div>7</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15AM Worship 9:15AM Congregational Meeting 10:10AM Worship 11:30AM Coffee Fellowship 	<div>8</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00PM Cub Scouts 7:00PM Boy Scouts 	<div>9</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00PM DWM Fellowship Potluck 7:00PM AA 	<div>10</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00AM QUILTERS 10:00AM Sermon in the Round 	<div>11</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> OFFICE CLOSED 10:00AM Quilters 1:00PM Sandwich making 	<div>12</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> OFFICE CLOSED 10:00AM Quilters 1:00PM Sandwich making 	<div>13</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30AM Men's BS 8:15AM SANDWICH MIN-ISTRY 1:00PM Youth Christmas Party
<div>14</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15AM Worship 9:10AM Adult's Sunday School 10:10AM Worship 11:30AM Christmas Pageant and Potluck 3:00PM Primrose Service 	<div>15</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hanukkah (1st day) 12:00PM CALL deadline 6:00PM Cub Scouts 7:00PM Boy Scouts 	<div>16</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00PM AA 	<div>17</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00AM QUILTERS 10:00AM Sermon in the Round 	<div>18</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> OFFICE CLOSED 10:00AM Quilters 1:00PM Sandwich making 	<div>19</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> OFFICE CLOSED 10:00AM Quilters 1:00PM Sandwich making 	<div>20</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30AM Men's BS 8:15AM SANDWICH MIN-ISTRY 9:00AM 3 D's quilters 9:00AM Men's Group 10:00AM blanket ministry
<div>21</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15AM Worship 9:10AM Adult's Sunday School 10:10AM Worship 11:30AM Coffee Fellowship 1:00PM Mtn. Plaza Service 	<div>22</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00PM Cub Scouts 7:00PM Boy Scouts 	<div>23</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00PM AA 	<div>24</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Office closed Christmas Eve 	<div>25</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pastor Bryan vacation Christmas Day 	<div>26</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> OFFICE CLOSED Kwanzaa 10:00AM Quilters 1:00PM Sandwich making 5:00PM Mission Meal 	<div>27</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30AM Men's BS 8:15AM SANDWICH MIN-ISTRY
<div>28</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pastor Bryan vacation 8:15AM Worship 9:10AM Adult's Sunday School 10:10AM Worship 11:30AM Coffee Fellowship 	<div>29</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00PM Cub Scouts 7:00PM Boy Scouts 	<div>30</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00PM AA 	<div>31</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Year's Eve 9:00AM QUILTERS 	<div>1</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Year's Day 	<div>2</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> OFFICE CLOSED 10:00AM Quilters 1:00PM Sandwich making 	<div>3</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30AM Men's BS 8:15AM SANDWICH MIN-ISTRY



Our 5th Sunday Mission Emphasis for November 30 is the school lunch debt at our three high schools. There is significant need to help students pay for their school lunches. This year there are 350 students at NCHS (some carry-over from Dean Morgan JHS), 172 students at KWHS, and 72 students at Roosevelt who have been unable to pay for their school lunches. This has resulted in an average school lunch debt of \$22.00, which builds up and follows these students through high school and may have consequences at graduation. Please join the Mission Commission and DWM in this special mission emphasis to help these students. The money we donate will go directly to Food Services at the three high schools. Please make checks to FCC, designate school lunch debt and a specific school if you wish, or place cash donations in an envelope and mark school lunch debt. Thank you for your care and concern for our students and for your generous contributions to this specific need.

We've received a thank you note for our previous 5th Sunday Mission Emphasis to Shepherd of the Valley Care Center. "Thank you so much for your very generous donation of \$235 to the SVCC Auxiliary. This will help so much in purchasing items for the ice cream room and very soon for secret santa gifts for residents. I am so grateful." Sincerely, Martha Wallace.

Given the added burden created by the recent government shut-down, we have increased the number of lunches we make for the Sandwich Ministry from 80 to 85. When these lunches are distributed every Saturday from the Methodist Church downtown, we see the gratitude in the faces of the recipients and hear their words of thankful blessing. Indeed, we who make and distribute the lunches feel blessed that we can help individuals and families who face food insecurity. Join us in this blessed work. Contact Nancy Thomas (2025 Mission Chair) or Carla Schanck (2026 Mission Chair) and we'll set you up to make sandwiches on Fridays at 1:00, pack lunches Saturdays at 8:00, or distribute lunches on Saturdays from 10-12.

First Christian serves the evening meal at the Wyoming Rescue Mission every 4th Friday from 4:30-6:30. Contact Nancy or Carla to be scheduled for this amazing ministry.

Fleece blankets are tied every third Saturday at 10:00 in the fellowship hall.

Mission Commission gives you several different ways to show your love for your neighbor.



TROOP 13'S



FESTIVE FIRS

SUPPORT THE TROOP WITH A CHRISTMAS
TREE THIS SEASON

AVAILABLE NOVEMBER 28

PLEASE CONTACT ERIKA FOR DETAILS 307-277-8620

The Troop is going to sell Christmas Trees this year... Our lot will be on the corner of 12th and Beverly. Opening Friday Nov 28. We will have 6 and 7 foot Firs as well as a limited number of wreathes. If you ave any questions contact Erika at the phone number above.