

Christian Women's Fellowship

Summer is over and Fall is upon us. Our next CWF general meeting is 1:30 pm, December 1 in the parlor. The morning group will present "The Christmas Story as told by the Innkeeper." Treats will be served in the Fellowship Hall after the program. Our group meetings will be held on the third Thursdays in November and December due to Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. As always, all women of the church are welcome to come!

LaVonne Rogakis and Sandy Beiser

Watch the Broncos in Fellowship Hall

We'll be showing three early Broncos games in Fellowship Hall starting at 11:00 (after worship) November 13, November 27, and December 4. The first game will begin during our Thanksgiving potluck. What goes better with a Thanksgiving meal than football? Just sit near the giant TV if you want to watch the game. The beginning of the other two games will be shown during fellowship time. We'll order lunch at half-time for those who want to stay for the whole game. Wear your Broncos gear and cheer for the team (they need it)!

Life After Fifty-Five (LAFF) Group Christmas Party—December 6

The LAFF Group will gather at the College Green Gardens Clubhouse, 4500 Pioneer Court for their Christmas get-together on December 6, 2022, 4:30-8:30 pm. Drinks, soup, and crackers will be provided by the hostesses. Please bring either a relish dish or a dessert to share. Everything else is provided. Bring a white elephant gift (under \$5.00) to exchange. A sign-up sheet will be posted at the church. Call Phyllis Hansberry for more information. No child care will be provided. Please mark your calendars and join us for a fun evening as we begin the "most wonderful time of the year," the birth of our Lord.



The Christian Caller Newsletter

November 2022

A Message from Mark

Gratitude

"Always be rejoicing. Give Thanks for everything" 1 Thessalonians 5:16

EVERYTHING— come on Paul. Surely I get to make my gratitude list. I get to decide who I am grateful for and what I like. "No"— says Paul—EVERYTHING.

In AA there is a saying that a grateful heart won't drink. Which is to say when our heart is full we don't look for 'something else' to fill the void. Our culture has set aside November as a time to be grateful. It's not a bad idea to have a time to focus on what we have, who we are, where we are, and how God would have us be.

You might try for the month each day of setting down and writing out a "gratitude list." Put on your list any and every thing you are grateful for. Then take one more step- read the list to God and say thank you at the end.

I am truly grateful for each and every one of you,

Blessings,

Pastor Mark

Church Thanksgiving Potluck Meal- November 13!!

Our annual Thanksgiving potluck is back by popular demand! We'll be eating immediately after our congregation photo, which will be taken after worship. Worried about missing the early Broncos game? Not a problem! We'll be showing the game on the big TV in Fellowship Hall. Bring a dish or two to share with church family and guests. Please see the sign-up sheet across from Fellowship Hall to let us know what kind of dish(es) you'll be bringing. Turkey, ham, mashed potatoes and gravy, and rolls will be provided. Come with family, friends, and an appetite!

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First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
2230 13th Street
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First Christian Church Greeley (Disciples of Christ) holds Sunday worship services in the sanctuary at 10:00 am.

Child care is provided during the service.

Find more information at www.fccgreeley.com.



Contact Us

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Danke Schön!

Your Mission Team thanks the congregation for their tremendous support of our Oktoberfest celebration to raise funds for the Habitat for Humanity Interfaith Build. It took many hands to put on the event. The Loschens, Recors, Ikenouyes, Pastor Judi Ring, Mardy Gerwig, and Gerre Tjardes provided our fantastic German spread, while Geneva Clark and her son Rod donated delicious homemade root beer for Root Biergarten floats. Auction items were provided by the Pumphreys, Recors, Ikenouyes, and Marla Johnson. Rich Recor managed the sound. Many thanks to Fellowship Team members Marla Johnson, the Englands, Janean Beaman, and Ken Thompson for their invaluable support with decorating, serving, and photography. We also appreciate the many volunteers who helped with setup and cleanup. Most of all, thank you to all those who attended and donated and bid on auction items. We raised over \$3,000 for Habitat Interfaith Build for Unity!

Book Club

The Evening Book Club chose Marilynne Robinson's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel *Gilead* for the November read. The group will meet Monday, November 7, at 6:00 p.m. in the church parlor for discussion.

Bereavement

Anthony "Billy" Gallegos passed away on October 7, 2022. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family.

November Birthdays

- 02 Jack Ring
- 03 Bob Gibson
- 05 Elgetta Hummel
- 06 Pyper Evans
- 06 Shawn Skow
- 08 Darren Berg
- 09 Sandy Varley
- 14 Caitlin Berg
- 20 Elizabeth Armstrong
- 21 Becky Linenbroker
- 24 Gary Ikenouye
- 29 Lori Chevont

Elder's Message

—Jodi Hartmann

When we walk with the Lord
in the light of His word,
what a glory He sheds on our way!
While we do His good will,
He abides with us still,
and with all who will trust and obey.

Refrain:

Trust and obey, for there's no other way
to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.

This hymn is known either by the first line ("When we walk with the Lord") or the phrase that ends every stanza and begins and ends the refrain ("Trust and obey"). The hymn was inspired by a story from one of Dwight L. Moody's evangelistic meetings, held in Brockton, Massachusetts, in the mid-1880's, where Daniel B. Towner heard a young man say "I am not quite sure – but I am going to trust, and I am going to obey." Towner wrote down that sentence, and sent it, with the story about the young man, to a Presbyterian minister named John H. Sammis, who wrote the refrain and then the stanzas of this hymn (Ira Sankey, *My Life and the Story of the Gospel Hymn*, 1907, p. 326). It was published, along with Towner's tune, in *Hymns Old and New* in 1887.

This hymn paints a picture of communion with God in which fear and gloom have disappeared, and delight and joy saturate one's existence. However, this attractive life is not free – the Christian must totally surrender control of his life to God, and commit to trusting obedience of God's wishes, as the final stanza says – "what He says we will do, where He sends we will go." Jesus said, "Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." (Matthew 11:29-30 ESV).

Trust and obey. Somehow those simple truths, bound together, bring me great peace and calmness while all about are signs of darkness, evil, and despair. Recently John sent me a simple text, "God is the power, beyond all darkness in this world." He sent this knowing how overcome I often become with apprehension about the conflict and hatred we see all around us. But God does not leave us to be overcome by the forces of this world. He gives us rest, peace, and comfort when we "Trust and Obey." Look it up in your old hymnals if you don't know this precious hymn. It's one of my favorites!

First Christian Church Governance

Ministries Cabinet, 5:30 pm: Nov 8

CWF Board, 9:30 am: Nov 10

General Board, 5:30 pm: Nov 17

Read the Leadership Transition Team's October update at www.fccgreeley.com or call the church office for more information.

Mission Matters

“Those who bring thanksgiving as their sacrifice honor me.”--Psalm 50:23a

Month of Undie Sundays – November

Weld's Way Home, facilitated by United Way of Weld County, is once again asking for our help as they work to end homelessness in our county. As part of Homeless Awareness Month, we will be collecting **NEW socks, t-shirts, undergarments, thermal gloves, and snow hats** for men and women living in shelters and out-of-doors. A collection barrel from United Way will be at the church during the entire month of November for a **Month of Undie Sundays**. For monetary donations, please write your check to FCC with "Undie Sunday" in the memo line.

Salvation Army Angel Tree

The Salvation Army Angel Tree program helps provide Christmas gifts for hundreds of thousands of children around the country each year. Once a child or senior adult has been registered and accepted as an Angel, their Christmas wish list is shared with donors in our community who purchase gifts of new clothing and toys. Appointments to sign up should be made as soon as possible. Call 970-346-1661 to schedule an appointment.



Guadalupe Shelter's Thanksgiving Non-Event Charity Ball – November

Celebrate Thanksgiving by participating in the Guadalupe Community Shelter's Non-Event Charity Ball and never leave your home! Support a homeless family in our city during the month of November by making a [donation](#) to this "non-event." **There is no physical event to attend**, so 100% of your donation goes toward helping house, feed, and improve the lives of those experiencing homelessness in our community. You may also send a check to Catholic Charities, 1442 N 11th Ave., Greeley, CO 80631. Contributions of \$100 or more qualify for a 25% state income tax credit for enterprise zones.

Special Offerings

• Right Here, Right Now Benevolence Fund – November 6

All \$1 bills and checks written to FCC with "RH/RN" in the memo line go toward meeting immediate needs within our church family or community.

• Thanksgiving Special Offering – November 13 & 20

Our annual Thanksgiving Special Offering will be collected November 13 and 20. Donations support **Disciples colleges and seminaries** as they develop leaders for our communities and the church.



Upcoming Community Events/Needs

• Good Neighbor Clean-up in Greeley/Evans – November 4 & December 2

Volunteers are needed to help pick up litter and trash in locations in close proximity to areas frequented by individuals experiencing housing instability, such as the Housing Navigation Center and the downtown area. Shifts run from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon. More days will be added as needed. Register [online](#) to volunteer.

• 25th Annual NCMC Turkey Trot – November 24

The NCMC Foundation along with the CardioVascular Institute of North Colorado, will host the 25th Annual Turkey Trot Thanksgiving Race on Thursday, November 24, at 9:00 a.m. The race is open to participants of all ages and abilities and includes a 5K (3.1 miles) Turkey Trot and a 2K (1.2 miles) Gobbler Trek Fun Run/Walk. Register [online](#) or at the event.

• Cold Weather Shelter Meals – November-April

The Housing Navigation Center operates a cold weather shelter during the winter season for adults living out of doors. Volunteers to prepare and/or serve meals are needed. Talk to Carla Ikenouye if you would like to be involved in this humanitarian effort.