

Internet Evangelism?

Do you have a Facebook or Instagram account? If so, have you “Liked” the FCC Greeley page? If not, go to the following links and “Like” or “Follow” the page to get ongoing updates on what is happening in our congregation and community. Next, to help spread the news from FCC Greeley to those you are “friends” with, like the posts, events and advertisements you see from FCC Greeley.... or better yet, forward them to your timeline (hit the arrow/share button, then click on “share to feed”). There are many in our community who want to find a church but are overwhelmed with going to a place they don’t know. Letting your Facebook & Instagram friends know that you go to an active church may be just the low-pressure invite that they are looking for.

<https://www.facebook.com/FCCGreeley>

https://www.instagram.com/fcc_greeley/

Sunday School



Sunday School will start back up after Summer Break on August 11. Classes meet at 9 am.

- ❖ Adult Sunday School meets in the Parlor, facilitated by Tammy Shafer
- ❖ High Schoolers meet in the Youth office for a self-led time of fellowship and learning
- ❖ Middle School Sunday School will meet in the prayer room led by Shawn Loschen and Emi Martin
- ❖ Harold Carlson teaches kids in grades 3-5.
- ❖ Tammi Wright teaches Bible class for kids in Kinder-2nd grade
- ❖ Children ages birth to pre-k can play with Pyper Evans during the Sunday School hour



It's Stewardship Season!

A moment of reflection about your stewardship participation.

- ✚ Stewardship fosters a spirit of generosity and the realization that we have only temporary access to our worldly possessions and they will not follow you in the after-life.
- ✚ Stewardship takes the long view. Just as we have received the benefit of the contributions of previous generations, the decisions we make in supporting the church leave behind a legacy for future generations.
- ✚ Stewardship means we relinquish control or ownership and have a partnership with all congregants in our goal to maintain our place of worship.

Casa Cleansing Kick-Off

We are very excited to help you get your home de-cluttered by donating to the church garage sale Saturday, Sept 21st (and possibly Friday Sept 20th if we have enough volunteers!) You can start bringing your sellable items to the church on August 4th and put them in the extra east end office any time the church is open.

What does a church need for a successful sale?

- VOLUNTEERS! We'll begin organizing items one week before- details coming soon. A sign-up will be available by August. Ask your friends too who need some charitable work ☺
- BAGS! Small boxes/wrapping papers/grocery bags
- Sellable items! Garage sales have only a few hours to operate. We need items that will likely sell that day, not items that "could" sell if they were marketed over time. Likely we all have something in the home that will certainly sell in one day. Begin that treasure hunt in your home!

TIPS and guidelines below

1. Only new clothing/shoes items or clean, gently used, undamaged coats. Jeans will be the exception.
2. Only newer, working, undamaged small kitchen appliances will be accepted.
3. No mattresses/old pillows- check with Verna or Carolyn about furniture items you want to contribute to determine if it can be accommodated
4. Please- No old technology/electronics: such as old TVs, computers, printers, etc.



First Christian Church

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

2230 13th St, Greeley, CO 970-352-1292 fccgreeley.com

The Christian Caller Newsletter

August 2024

Pastor Vince's Message

This past month we talked a lot about demons! I let you know that Jesus casting out demons is an important theme in the gospel of Mark; in my first sermon last month I spoke to you about demons in New Testament times and demons today: demons of loneliness and depression, demons of anger and hate, demons of selfishness and self-centeredness. The next week we looked at a passage in Mark 3 when Jesus mentions a sin he calls, “blasphemy of the Holy Spirit,” and indicates that this is the worst of all sins. In fact, he says it is unforgiveable. So, what is this sin, and is it really unforgiveable?

This sin of blasphemy against the Holy Spirit is actually very intimately linked with the theme of demons. In fact, Jesus indicates that blasphemy against the Holy Spirit is not being able to recognize demons for what they are: evil. Instead, our culture today teaches us that hatred of one’s enemies is good, that helping the less fortunate is bad and only serves to make them lazy, and that the smartest thing we all can do is to look out for our own interests. A giant part of Jesus’ mission was to cast out demons, but it was *also* to send out his disciples to cast out demons. This becomes extremely difficult if we can’t recognize them! Further, while God can and does forgive any and every sin, becoming blinded to good and evil is a very difficult sin to forgive because the victims of this sin rarely confess it. Once you stop being able to recognize evil, it’s hard to find your way back.

Because our culture seems to glorify evil and foster demons, how do we make sure we don’t fall into the trap of blasphemy? This was the topic of my final sermon last month. To make sure we never confuse evil with good and good with evil, we need to make sure we are grounded in rich soil. This can be done through prayer. This can be done through daily devotions and reading the Bible. But this is mostly done through finding a good church and committing ourselves to it. You members of First Christian Church, Greeley, have found a very good church. We are a church that is immersed in the teachings of Christ; we are a church deeply rooted in the love and acceptance of all of our neighbors; we are a church that stands up for the values of God and that decries evil in all forms. So, let us follow the advice of the letter of Hebrews that says “Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching” (Hebrews 10:24-25).

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

Childcare is provided during the service.

Find more information at www.fccgreeley.com



Contact Us

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Paula Armstrong	03
LaShonda Cordova	06
David Haining	09
Sandy Beiser	10
Isaiah Gray	10
Ronell Heitman	13
Caren Haining	15
Phyllis Hansberry	27
Sam McMichael	31

Church Finances

We have combined our checking accounts into one interest-bearing account at First National Bank of Omaha. If you need the new account information for direct deposits for Giving, please contact Gary Ikenouye.

- + In Person
- + E-mail: fccbookkeeper@comcast.net
- + Phone: 970-371-8501

Financial Update as of June 30, 2024

Income Budget \$142,165
Actual \$104,398
Under Budget \$37,767 *

Expenses Budget \$142,165
Actual \$123,808
Under Budget \$18,357 (Congratulations!)

*Income Under Budget explanation:

Pledges	\$410 over
Other income (oil & gas, rent, etc.)	\$13,012 under
Church savings	\$23,665 under
Permanent Fund income (remains in PF)	\$1,500 under
	<hr/>
	\$37,767 under

\$25,000 from Church savings was transferred to the operating account in July. With this transfer, we will have used \$30,000 of the \$33,446 budgeted.

Elder's Message

In mid-June, the camps for Discovery, Junior, Chi Rho and CYF were all held in the same week at LaForet. I went as a counselor for Junior Camp and I think that makes my fourteenth year as a camp counselor. I remember when our daughters were so excited to go to camp every summer and I was always amazed at how much impact it had in their lives. Now I have gone to camp as a counselor more years than they went as campers; I didn't see that happening! Also, my daughter, Taylor, and I have had the pleasure of being camp counselors together a few of those years. Greeley was well represented with several campers, adults volunteering their time, and church members sponsoring snacks.

One of my favorite memories from this year was from our evening vesper service. One evening, instead of going to the chapel, we took the campers to the labyrinth. The evening was overcast with a light mist, which added to the atmosphere of the worship service. We had set out luminaries along the path to light the way. Everyone silently meditated and walked to the center of the labyrinth, where we sang and held the vesper service. Then everyone silently walked the path out of the labyrinth. It was a very special service. At our closing circle at the end of the week, several of the Junior Campers said this was their favorite camp memory.

Camp is such a special week. It is fun to see the campers renew friendships, make new friends, and to watch their faith and confidence grow in one week. We had a great group of adults that volunteered as directors, counselors, chaplains, doctors and nurses.

Thank you to our Church, church members and the Region for all that they do to support these camps, as these camps are a fantastic opportunity for our youth. Thank you, Thank you, Thank You!!!



-Tom Rainbolt

Save the Dates

- VBS Wild Ones Splash Day on Saturday, August 3 from 9-2; Teen Time from 3-5.
- VBS Mission Project on Sunday, August 4 from 9-10
- Field Trip to Terry Bison Ranch on Saturday, September 14

Mission Matters

**“Be doers of the word and not merely hearers who deceive themselves.”
James 1:22**



Back to School Drive – July 16-August 6

There is still time to help students in District 6 have the supplies they need to get their new school year off to a great start. Our annual school supply drive will culminate on Sunday, August 6. We are collecting school supplies for our partner school, the Fred Tjardes School of Innovation, as well as the Family Center at School District 6.

The Fred Tjardes School appreciates art supplies in particular such as 24-count crayons, 12-count colored pencils, 8-count markers, glue sticks, watercolor paint boxes, and construction paper. The Teachers' Closet provides supplies to classrooms and students across the school district and especially needs #2 wooden pencils, pens, spiral notebooks (wide and college-ruled), sharpies, glue, dry-erase markers, pocket folders, rulers, and scissors. Backpacks are also requested. Please place your donated items in any of the school-bus boxes located around the church.

New Doers of the Word Crew!



The Mission Team is recruiting a Doers of the Word crew to assist people in our church who have relatively simple jobs at their home they might need help with. No particular skills required! If you would like to volunteer to be part of this new ministry, please add your name to the sign-up sheet outside Fellowship Hall.

Immigrant Center Outreach – (July 29) August 26th

Have a 'signature' treat you could share with a special group of workers? Join us to take treats to staff at the Immigrant Center. We asked their group's management team what would be helpful to their efforts. With tight resources, complicated issues, a sea of people to help (not to mention political storms) they suggested nurturing their staff. Viola! We pop in with 20-30 breaktime goodies and a warm smile to say "thank you" for staff's challenging work. The interaction builds understanding/friendships as well as a glimpse into their important work – Win / Win! Contact Diana or Tammy to participate.



Special Offering

- **Right Here, Right Now Benevolence Fund – August 4th**
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



Enjoy your summer – Mission Team meetings will resume in September.

Join the Mission Ministry Team!!

If you have a heart for mission and would like to join the Mission Ministry Team, please talk to Diana Laws.

Choir Retreat

Choir will take a break for summer and will reconvene on September 7 for a half-day retreat at the Carlson Cabin in Estes Park, followed by a lunch in town.

