



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) CASPER, WYOMING

THE CALL



January 2024



Church Staff:

Bryan Elliott: Lead Pastor
Kathy Winders, Secretary
Daniel Galbreath, Music Director
Teresa Elliott & Shannon Jerding, Directors
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

(307) 234-8964

www.fcccasper.org

fcccasper@gmail.com

Preschool - M-F 8:30 - 5:30 P.M.

CLOSED JUNE-AUG.

Preschool Phone - 472-0649





Dear Friends,

As of this writing and weather permitting Teresa and I will be spending the day after Christmas with our son, daughter and son-in-law, but more importantly with our three granddaughters. We have not been able to do Christmas with them for the last several years, so this will be our new Christmas time with family. I know I keep telling you all that we have a daughter and son-in-law and three granddaughters but as of now you have not met them. But for the first time our daughter said they may come out this summer, for us, this would be a Christmas/summer miracle!

It used to be that our children were able to come and go pretty much at will, our will, yet as they have grown that has become increasingly difficult as they now have lives that are very much separate from us. Some of you know what this is like because you have been experiencing it for years, others of you still have children at home and my conversation is very foreign to you. But with the passage of time, we will increasingly have this common life understanding, be our children near or far. With that said, how are you showing those you love, that you love them? This has been particularly on my heart and mind these past several months. With the passing of my parents and Teresa's increasing in age, coupled with all the loss we have experienced as a church these past few months, it has helped me to focus on what is important and constant in life. For me these things hold true, God and his abiding presence, His church and family both kin and adopted, friends and their fellowship and laughter. These are constants in our lives.

I know that many of us go into the New Year with hopeful expectations of weight loss, changing bad habits into good ones, spending more time with family, etc. But when all is said and done, those weight loss items (the ones in the corner of the room with all the clothes hanging on them!) become increasingly un-used, and habits remain pretty much the way they were and spending time with family can become texts and emails. By the way, texting is how my son and daughter send Birthday wishes and other greetings, not that I'm complaining mind you, but how about a phone call or a visit or maybe even a card or note sent through the US Postal system. That gets me to what this last year has taught me - life is precious, life spent with loved ones is extremely valuable. Time spent with God is what sustains and keeps me moving forward. What have you learned from this past year that you wish to take into the next year teaching you to change or sustain you going into 2024?

Pastor Bryan continued:

Several years ago both Teresa and I's parents said that they missed us, wanted to see us, and as they aged, getting out became and becomes more and more difficult. What happened after that "miss you" conversation is that my mother and my father slipped into dementia and then passed a few years later. And as Teresa's parents age and become less mobile, it gets me to thinking, "How am I really spending time with loved ones, be they family or friends?" I think those in our lives value time with us more than we realize, and I am hoping we don't realize the value of getting together when it is too late. That brings me to our gatherings each Sunday, do we value that time with one another? Because as my children and parents have reminded me, time, precious time is running out and it will become so very valuable when it slips away. Take care and thank you for all the gifts and blessings you have showered on Teresa and I this Christmas season as well as this past year. You are our friends and we hope that we will grow into relationships that will show greater love and support as we learn and continue to grow in our friendship with one another.

Blessings for you and yours this New Year, and see you soon!

Pastor Bryan



7 PRAYERS FOR THE NEW YEAR

1. May your finances multiply
2. May your health improve
3. May your friends prosper
4. May your family be loved.
5. May your pains be less.
6. May your worries disappear.
7. May God Bless You!!

AMEN!!

**JANUARY
DIACONATE**

8:15 -Pat Seamands

**10:10 - Trudy Woodard & Melanie Dowler
Contact Trudy Woodard @ 259-4370
to sign up if you haven't already.**

OFFERING STEWARD

Randisue Davis

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Jennifer Grooms

ELDERS

December

Dec. 24 - Teresa Elliott (both)

7:00 - Christmas Eve - Nancy Thomas

Dec. 31 - Robin Nelson, Colin Hogan

January

Jan. 7 - Nancy Thomas (both)

Jan. 14 - Teresa Elliott, Gloria Monroe

Jan. 21 - Teresa Elliott & Nancy Thomas

Jan. 28 - Teresa Elliott (both)



Max Jacobson	Jan. 1	Dave Taylor	Jan 11
Robin Nelson	Jan. 2	Jane Perez	Jan. 13
Maggie Grooms	Jan. 4	Lynda Williams	Jan. 13
Jane Baker	Jan. 6	Marcus Hayden	Jan. 19
Carol Sage	Jan .6	Evan Woods	Jan. 19
Kelly Hover	Jan. 7	Nylia Cazier	Jan. 22
Debbie Mapp	Jan 10		

No January Anniversaries

CONGRATULATIONS!!

Zach Hawley has signed with Casper College to play soccer. His position is Keeper. Go Zach!

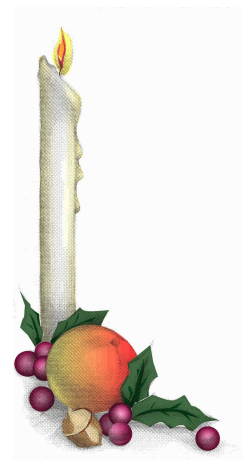


Evan Woods will be playing baseball this spring for Miles City Community College in Miles City, MT.



Thank you for the flowers, candy, cookies and cards we received over the holidays. Your thoughtfulness is appreciated.

Blessings for a Happy and Prosperous 2024. FCC Staff





The following board and commission members were installed for the 2024 year on Sunday, Dec. 3, 2023 at the annual congregational meeting.

BOARD PRESIDENT - Erika Stupak
SECRETARY - Kathy Winders

VICE PRESIDENT - Trisha Whitcomb
MEMBERS AT LARGE - Jane Perez & Elaine Gross

NOMINATING COMMITTEE = 2024 Teresa Elliott & Max Jacobson
 2025 Gary Jacobson & Belle Stapleton
 2026 Cindy Huckfeldt & Dennis Baker

COMMISSION LEADERS

Christian Education - Michelle Elser
 Mission Commission - Annette Ambrosino & Wanda Hogan
 Spiritual Growth - Kimberly Ireland
 Property - Colin Hogan
 WTM&S - to be appointed
 Stewardship - Ted Grooms
 Chair of the Elders - Nancy Thomas
 Chair of the Diaconate - Trudy Woodard.

Welcome to the new Board and the first meeting will be Monday, January 8th @ 8:00 p.m. in Board Room. There will be a short orientation during the meeting.



As we move forward through the end of 2023, we start looking toward the new year. I am honored to be the 2024 Board Chair for FCC. I am excited for the opportunity to serve the church that I grew up in. Our first board meeting is Monday January 8th at 8pm. I would like to extend my personal appreciation to all our members that accepted new positions this year, especially Trisha Whitcomb, who has stepped out of her comfort zone and accepted to be the vice-chair. I hope that we can all be inspired to step out of our comfort zone and step into something new at FCC in 2024! I am looking forward to a wonderful year with all of you!



It is with a heavy heart that I am announcing my resignation as FCC Preschool Director. I have cherished every moment I've spent with your children, whether they are in my class or not. This decision was very difficult but has been made with careful thought, many prayers and a few tears. I will not be coming back after our Christmas break. I am working hard with Church leadership to create a plan for the remainder of the year to limit the disruption for your children.

I have been recommended for a position at another facility. I will have some opportunities and projects that I am excited to be part of. I want to ensure you that this is a personal decision and I am confident in the remaining staff members to care for and educate your precious children.

I am grateful to have spent the last nearly two years learning and growing alongside our students. I have so many memories and I will cherish them. Thank you for sharing them. It's truly an honor to spend such formative days with your little ones.

With Love,
Megan Jones

The Personnel Committee and myself and the teachers, Teresa and Shannon, want you to know that the preschool will move forward. Our teachers will co-direct and we have reached out to the State and have filed paperwork with them and are in full compliance moving forward. We will miss Megan. Her gifts were very valuable to our church and the preschool.

We are thankful for your children and know that they we will be cared for with our current staff. If you have any questions you can reach me on my cell (307) 355-9232. We are blessed to have wonderful families and their children in FCC Preschool and are so thankful for you choosing to share your children with us.

In His Grace,

Pastor Bryan



FCC Elders
PRESENT & PAST
JOIN US
JAN. 4, 2024
6:30 P.M.



ATTENTION ALL PRESENT AND CURRENT SERVING ELDERS.

The annual Elder dinner will be on January 4, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. A baked potato bar will be provided. Elders are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share. There will be a brief meeting of the current elders, but this will mostly be a celebratory time of worship. If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Nancy, Elder Chair.



New plans!
New Hopes!
New Blessings!
for the
New Year!

Join us for the first DWM meeting of the
year on **January 9th, Tuesday, at 1:00 p.m.**
in Fellowship Hall!

We will begin our Bible study
with **Ephesians.**
Please read the first chapter

Continue to use your **Blessing Jars**
throughout the year!

**Happy
New
Year**



UNDECORATE
the church

**EVERYONE IS ASKED TO STAY AFTER THE 10:10 SERVICE
ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2024 AND HELP UNDECORATE
THE CHURCH FROM CHRISTMAS.**

**EVERYONE IS INVITED!!!
Spiritual Growth Commission**

January 2024

December 2023							January 2024							February 2024								
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
				1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6										
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	31	25	26	27	28	29							
31																						

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>31</p> <p>PASTOR BRYAN VACATION</p> <p>New Year's Eve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15AM Worship 9:00AM Adult's Sunday School 10:10AM Worship 11:30AM Coffee Fellowship 11:40AM CHOIR PRACTICE 	<p>1</p> <p>New Year's Day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00AM Paper Piecing Quilters 	<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00PM AA 	<p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00AM QUILTERS 	<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00PM Elder Dinner 	<p>5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> OFFICE CLOSED 10:00AM Quilters 1:00PM Sandwich making 	<p>6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30AM Men's BS 8:15AM SANDWICH MINISTRY
<p>7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15AM Worship 9:00AM Adult's Sunday School 10:10AM Worship 11:30AM Coffee Fellowship 11:40AM CHOIR PRACTICE 	<p>8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00PM Cub Scouts 6:30PM STEWARDSHIP 7:00PM Boy Scouts 7:00PM Commissions 8:00PM Board Meeting 	<p>9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11:00AM Sermon in the Round 1:00PM DWM Fellowship 7:00PM AA 	<p>10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00AM QUILTERS 	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> OFFICE CLOSED 10:00AM Quilters 1:00PM Sandwich making 	<p>13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30AM Men's BS 8:15AM SANDWICH MINISTRY
<p>14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15AM Worship 9:00AM Adult's Sunday School 10:10AM Worship 11:30AM Coffee Fellowship 11:40AM CHOIR PRACTICE 	<p>15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Martin Luther King Jr. Day 12:00PM CALL deadline 6:00PM Cub Scouts 7:00PM Boy Scouts 	<p>16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11:00AM Sermon in the Round 7:00PM AA 	<p>17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00AM QUILTERS 	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> OFFICE CLOSED 10:00AM Quilters 1:00PM Sandwich making 	<p>20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30AM Men's BS 8:15AM SANDWICH MINISTRY 9:00AM 3 D's quilters 9:00AM Men's Group 10:00AM Blanket Ministry
<p>21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15AM Worship 9:00AM Adult's Sunday School 10:10AM Worship 11:30AM Coffee Fellowship 11:40AM CHOIR PRACTICE 	<p>22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00PM Cub Scouts 7:00PM Boy Scouts 	<p>23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11:00AM Sermon in the Round 7:00PM AA 	<p>24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00AM QUILTERS 	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> OFFICE CLOSED 10:00AM Quilters 1:00PM Sandwich making 5:00PM Mission Meal 	<p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30AM Men's BS 8:15AM SANDWICH MINISTRY
<p>28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15AM Worship 9:00AM Adult's Sunday School 10:10AM Worship 11:30AM Coffee Fellowship 11:40AM CHOIR PRACTICE 	<p>29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00PM Cub Scouts 7:00PM Boy Scouts 	<p>30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11:00AM Sermon in the Round 7:00PM AA 	<p>31</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00AM QUILTERS 	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> OFFICE CLOSED Groundhog Day 10:00AM Quilters 1:00PM Sandwich making 	<p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30AM Men's BS 8:15AM SANDWICH MINISTRY

CRMR Youth Midwinter Retreat

Feb. 16 – 19, 2024

La Foret



See what great love God has lavished upon us, that we should be called children of God! 1 John 3:1

6th – 12th grade - \$230

Registration deadline: January 24

Forms are available from your church, or at crmrdoc.org
or by emailing your request to Shelly at skgarrison50@gmail.com

**REGISTRATIONS
DUE TO THE CHURCH
BY NOON**

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2024

CONTACT MICHELLE ELSER IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.



Alice Kraft
921 Donegal
Casper, WY. 82609
alicek@tribcsp.com

259-7919

Merry Christmas!

