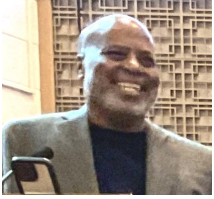


THE CHRISTIAN ECHO

December

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
Goodland, Kansas

2023



Blessings to you in the name of our Lord, Christ Jesus, as we prepare ourselves, our church, and our homes to celebrate the season of His birth once again!

For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; and the government will rest on His shoulders; and His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.

- Isaiah 9:6

How do you prepare for this season? And, when? Is the hanging of lights and decorating the house a one-day event for you? Or is it also a season of building up to the big day? For the Warren House in the past, it was a little bit of both. It was usually one day of lights, and a separate day of decorations. Those events usually took place just after Thanksgiving, and almost never happen on the same day. This season seems to be taking a different shape. It is now the grandkids. Christmas music was playing as soon as the leftovers were wrapped up, foiled up and put up.

And, as I am writing this just a few days after Thanksgiving, I can say that our Christmas Tree is not up and lit, and the house has no, we decided to wait for Harriet and the girls to come so that we can start a new tradition in our new home in Goodland. I feel like there is something special in the air this Advent/Christmas season. Perhaps it's just snow, but I like to think it's something more!

As you start to prepare for this season, in whatever special way you do, I pray it invites a season of reflection on how powerful a thing God did for humankind, when he became man and dwelt among us. While we can never fully fathom the enormity of all that is Jesus' birth, we are blessed in understanding that it means there is hope in this world; that, as mixed-up and messed-up this world may sometimes seem, Christ was born so that we may be re-born in his Spirit. That means that You are also a living representative of hope in this world! You've already been given the greatest Christmas gift. May we look forward to this season of sharing that gift with the world!



Just Don



FOR YOUR INFORMATION!

Extended Prayerful Considerations:

Please include in your ongoing prayers the following:

Roger Collins	Galen Cooper
Lois Cossman	Robert Dodge Family
Glenda Hamilton	
Charley & Janet (Chatfield) Johnson	
Lonnie Kerr	Braxton Meier & family
Vetha Petty	Bob & Mary Smith
Bernie Taylor	Don Warren family



Please pray for our Active Military:

Tyson Reed, Chris Elliott, Nathan Craig, D J Glassman

Happy Birthday

12/4	Terry Webb
12/5	Abby (Jolly) Hutson Joseph Von Lintel Thatcher Jones
12/6	Tori Jones
12/8	Amy Griffith Fenner
12/12	Moira Romine Jeff Vignery Tharon Barber
12/14	Debbie Martin
12/15	Trent Coon
12/16	Jesse Cooper Kevin Kibel
12/17	Sam Rethmann
12/18	Cindy Bowman Tony Martin
12/20	Conner Keith Hayden Blochlinger Halie Blochlinger
12/21	Erin Snider Biernacki
12/23	Nicole Smith Ploeger
12/26	Reese Hillmer Isabella Duncan
12/27	Kim Cole
12/29	Brenner Guyer
12/30	Joy Hayden

GENERAL FUND GIVING

Date	Amt Needed	Offering	Over/Short	In-Person
11/5	\$2452.77	\$1894.00	-\$558.77	64
11/12	\$2452.77	\$3613.00	+\$1160.23	66
11/19	\$2452.77	\$868.00	-\$1584.77	63
11/26	\$2452.77	\$1110.00	-\$1342.77	43

Christmas Eve

Dec. 24th CANDLELIGHT SERVICE 5:00pm

!Come celebrate with us!

Lighting of the Advent Wreath Schedule

- Dec 3 Jeff & Nona Mason**
- Dec 10 Mary Daise & Lois Cossman**
- Dec 17 Greg & Barb Moreland, Moira Romaine**
- Dec 24 Elders & families**



Happy Anniversary

12/5	Lon & Carolyn Kerr
12/14	Gil & Bernie Taylor
12/22	Chris & Amanda Ross
12/23	Jon & Jennifer Goin
12/28	Doug & Belinda Amend
12/30	Lynn & Dee Ann Ihrig

Snippets from the last Board Meeting



- ◆ Veronica Peña was baptized on Nov 11th and had her son, Zeke, dedicated on the 12th.
- ◆ The undesignated giving for October was \$8,438.50 which made us fall short of the budget by \$3,825.35. The total monthly expenses were \$10,704.23. The designated expenses paid totaled \$3,258.51. The beginning balance for November was \$502.53.
- ◆ We are ordering Christmas season banners to be paid for from Elders' Fund and look through what we have.
- ◆ The Harvest Dinner on Nov 12th brought in \$1,012.00.
- ◆ Advent reading planning has been in the works and vestment colors were discussed.
- ◆ Property report stated that the sprinklers are shut off, and the lawn is plugged and fertilized. Basketball goal is back up and tire swing is repaired. The shed door was repaired and Don volunteered to paint the baptismal. The Garbage disposal needs replaced and will be disabling the system. Kevin Rasure is installing a special book shelf for a special book of Don's.
- ◆ There is a need to establish a procedure for changing dates for activities in the life of the church. Be mindful of making changes and making sure that the calendar is up to date.

Ongoing playground update~

The border for the playground is in. The playground equipment is still on back order.



USDA Commodities Distribution

The commodities distributions will be on a monthly basis for the time being. The next distribution will be:

Dec (?), 2023 @ 1:30pm



If you would like to help, please let the office know. Our Lord asked us to feed the hungry, and so we shall!!

CWF Events

The next meeting will be Dec 6th & 7th @ the Goodland Public Library. You will get to do a fun holiday activity with the children during their story time. Watch for upcoming emails for times available!



Christmas for Kids Donors Needed

Hope's Place Pregnancy and Family Support Center is looking for donors to sponsor a family (or part of a family) who is needing some help to provide Christmas for their children. Hope's Place will provide you with a child's first name, age, clothing size and interests.

Their recommendation is to provide an outfit or item of clothing, something to read and one toy per child. If you are interested please contact Hope's Place to receive more information.

785-890-HOPE (4673)
902 W Hwy 24, Goodland, KS 67735
info@hopesplace-goodland.com



A Special Thank You

We would like to give a Thank You to the Family of Leslie Bertels for sending the church such beautiful Thank You Cards. We appreciate your kindness. May God continue to be with your family in this time of need.



Congregational Annual Meeting

**Sunday December 10th
Following Worship Service**

*Be sure to attend the Annual Congregational Meeting after church Dec 10th. Items on Agenda are Election of Directors and Approval of annual budget.
Hope to see you there!*

2024 Calendars & Notepads Have Arrived!

**Beautiful Calendars- \$8.00 each
Magnetic Notepads- \$4.00 each**

Buy for yourself, your friends, your family! Please support the ministries of the Membership and Evangelism Committee. See Connie Grieve, Debbie Martin or leave word with the church office.



Who Am I?

(Last month's "Who am I?" was Taylor Schulte)

1. What is your favorite Christmas tradition?
Putting gifts under the Christmas tree on Christmas Eve after everyone has gone to bed.
2. Do you have a favorite memory of Christmas or favorite gift that you received?
Best Christmas memories are when my kids still believed in Santa Claus and seeing their excitement on their faces on Christmas morning.
3. What is your favorite Christmas food?
Prime rib and cookies. Lots of cookies
4. Where were you born? Where have you lived?
I was born at home in Reuver, Holland. My father delivered me.
5. What do you like to do in your spare time?
I enjoy gardening, working on my car, big game hunting and relaxing on a beach.
6. Tell us something we would be surprised to know about you.
I attended 12 years of private school. Eight years at Saint Francis De Sales Grade School and 4 years at Regis Jesuit High School. I was an altar boy from fourth to eighth grade, serving mass Monday through Sunday.
7. Do you have a favorite movie/ book/ app?
Forest Gump is a movie I can watch over and over.
8. Can you put into a few words what the birth of Jesus Christ means to you? Or What drew you to FCC and what intrigued you to stay?
To me the birth of Jesus Christ is when all of mankind was saved.

Who am I?

Christmas

Find words that are forward, up and down. No diagonal or backwards words.

1. LIGHTS
2. SNOWMAN
3. BELLS
4. JOYFUL
5. FRUITCAKE
6. JESUS
7. MANGER
8. PRESENTS
9. GIVING
10. FAMILY

11. FRIENDSHIP
12. BETHLEHEM
13. CHURCH
14. SINGING
15. JINGLEBELLS
16. THANKFUL
17. NATIVITY
18. SANTA
19. RUDOLPH
20. CHIMNEY



Poinsettia Donations

If you would like to purchase a poinsettia at Walmart or local flower shop to donate to the church we would greatly appreciate it. Please contact the church office to let them know who is donating and for whom it is in honor of. Thanks!



Our Weekly Church Sign

(wisdom that blesses our community weekly)

“Interested In Going To Heaven? Apply Here For Flight Insurance!”



“The Church: Band Of The Free Home Of The Saved”

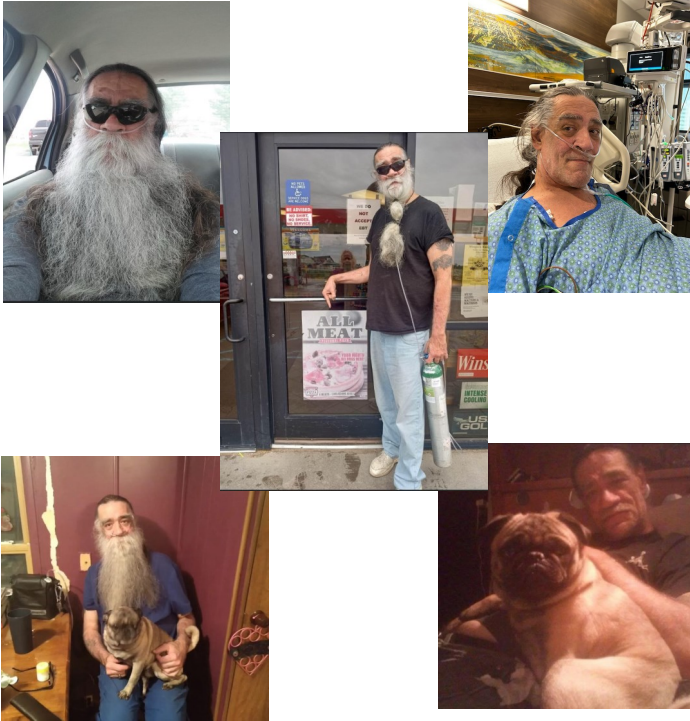
“Praying Will Give You A Calm-Plex!”

“Give Thanks To The Lord!”

“No One Ever Regretted Christianity On A Deathbed!”

Only gone from our sight...

We lost one of our own this week, Robert Dodge. We are sad to see him go, but he has fought a difficult battle with his health. Prayers he is at peace with our Lord, and prayers for his friends and family during this difficult time. Funeral services will be Tuesday December 5th at 11am at Goodland First Christian Church.



Nifty Needlers

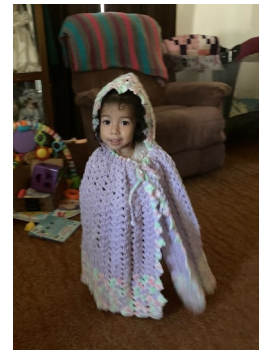
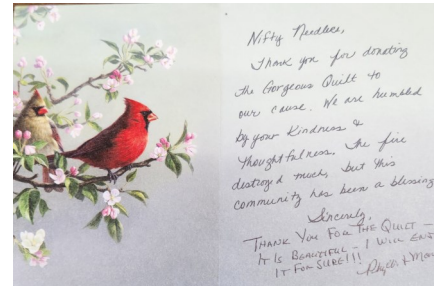
Every Tuesday @ 2 p.m. in the Church's Sewing Room .



This month the group gave a special young man a Spiderman quilt for his dedication. Congratulations Zeke!

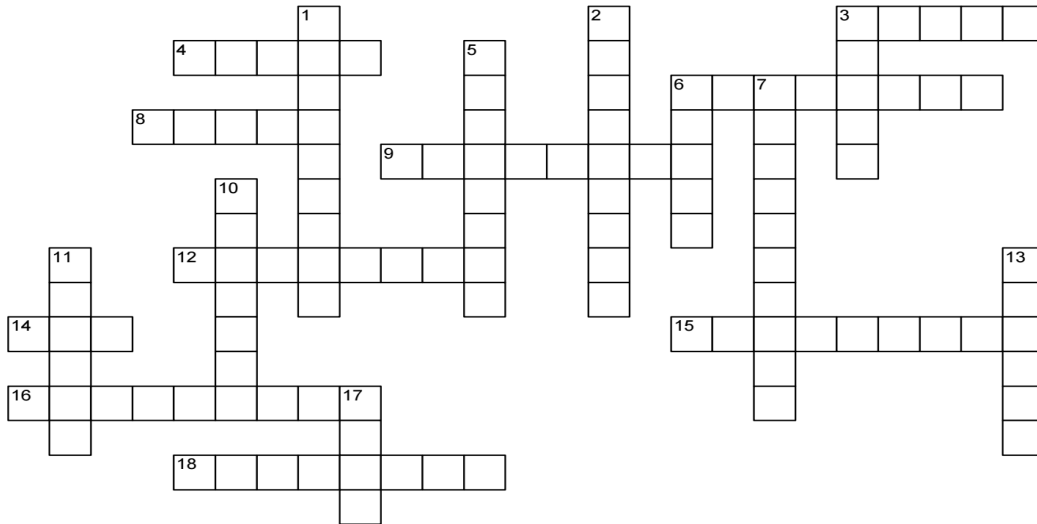


Some other fun highlights from this month and a Thank You card to the group.



THE BIRTH OF JESUS (THE CHRISTMAS STORY)

Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 2:1-20



Across

- 3 Bethlehem was in this province (Matthew 2:1)
- 4 Joseph was of the house and line of _____. (Luke 2:4)
- 6 "In those days Caesar _____ issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world." (Luke 2:1)
- 8 What were the shepherds watching that night? (Luke 2:8)
- 9 When the shepherds saw the child in the manger, they returned _____ God. (Luke 2:20)
- 12 When the census was ordered, who went to register? (Luke 2:3)
- 14 Joseph and Mary slept in a manger because there was no room for them in the _____. (Luke 2:7)
- 15 Who was the governor of Syria at the time of the census? (Luke 2:2)
- 16 Jesus was born in this town. (Luke 2:4)
- 18 In what town was Mary living when she first heard the "good news"? (Luke 1:26)

Down

- 1 Mary gave birth to her _____, a son. (Luke 2:7)
- 2 The shepherds were _____ when the angel announced the birth of Jesus. (Luke 2:9)
- 3 What name did the angel tell Joseph to give the child? (Matthew 1:20-21)
- 5 Name means "God with us" (Matthew 1:23)
- 6 Who announced the birth of Jesus to the shepherds? (Luke 2:9-11)
- 7 When the shepherds saw the child in the manger, they returned _____ God. (Luke 2:20)
- 10 What did Joseph want to do with Mary when he first learned that she was pregnant? (Matthew 1:19)
- 11 The shepherds were told they would find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a _____. (Luke 2:16)
- 13 Who was the husband of Mary? (Matthew 1:20)
- 17 Who was the mother of Jesus? (Matthew 1:20-21)



All Church Thanksgiving Dinner

On Sunday November 12th, the church members and guests enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving meal of turkey, ham, dressing, and all the fixings. CWF served about 60 people. Many thanks to the men who prepared and cooked the potatoes; to the many families who brought delicious side dishes, relish trays, desserts to enjoy. Shout out to “Hey You”, (Paul) for helping Lois with the dressing, and Debbie M for assisting with the gravy. Thanks to the women who sliced pies and cakes, and put out the food dishes to serve. Thanks Betty for the extra plates. Thanks to LaDona for preparing and serving the drink stations. We appreciate our Pastor Don working the crowd and gathering dirty plates. Thanks to those who cleaned up the tables and the kitchen dishes and work areas. Thanks to those who picked up tables and chairs for the area to be swept and moped by Megan, (she was pleased to have them put away). And last I forget to mention, thanks to Kenny Griffith for changing the clock above the sink in the kitchen. There were so many helpers to assist and “you” are appreciated. We had a great day of food, friends and fellowship.

Happy Holidays to all, Connie Grieve



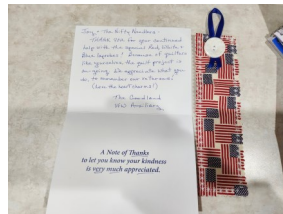
CWF Fellowship

The ladies of CWF met Thursday Nov 8 at Wheat Ridge for a meet & greet with music & games. The ladies pictured are: Shirley Miller, Connie Grieve (CWF President), Judi Vignery (member), Marie Marsh (member), Jeannie Pyles (member & resident), Donna Ruddell (member & resident), Lois, Cossman (member), Mary Daise (member), LaDona Frerichs (member), Jo Simmons (member), Birkley Barnes (member, pianist, sing leader) and multiple Wheat Ridge residents.



Honoring Our Veterans

On Saturday November 11th (Veterans Day), the Goodland VFW hosted their Annual Veterans Day Program with guest speakers and lunch. Our very own Veteran Lieutenant Ron Vignery who served four years as Judge Advocate General in the Navy was a guest speaker. The Nifty Needlers donated some beautiful quilts that were given out to some of our local Veterans that day.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Bible Study

Looking for a study of God's word? Look no further. Pastor Don will be teaching two classes on Tuesdays—10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. It doesn't matter if this is your first Bible study or you are a bit seasoned, you will be met where you are and encouraged to grow!



Friendship Class Sunday Mornings @ 9:15am

Reading Through
The Bible In One Year



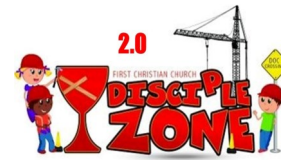
!!Calling All MEN!!

Pastor Don has started a:

Men's Fellowship
Monthly
here at the church

What will happen?? – There will be coffee (of course), fellowship, and enlightenment!

Come and enjoy each other's company and learn a few things as well!



!!ALL NEW!!

DISCIPLE ZONE 2.0

Every Sunday @ 10:30 a.m.,
Toddler—5th Grade

Disciple Zone will be held each Sunday during the 10:30am Church Service. If you cannot be present, we still hope you will bring your kiddos!

ON HOLD

FCC



YOUTH

GROUP

ON HOLD

@ 5:30-6:30pm
at the church

<<Game Day Group>>

Ever wanted to get together with others and play different (and familiar) card games, dominos, or any other type of game?? Well, this is your day, because that is what this group is doing!



Please come join in whenever you can.

Every Thursday @ 1:00 p.m.
Church Parlor



**POSTPONED UNTIL
JANUARY**



December 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 9:00am Exercise	2
3 9:15am Friendship Class 10:00am Fellowship Time 10:30am Worship Service	4 9:00am Exercise	5 11:00am Robert Dodge Funeral 2:00pm Nifty Needlers Bible Study Canceled All Day	6 9:00am Exercise 7:00pm Choir Practice CWF @ Goodland Public Library– See email for times	7 1:00pm Game Day-Group (Postponed) 7:00pm Praise Team Practice CWF @ Goodland Public Library– See	8 9:00am Exercise	9
10 7:30am Board Meeting 9:15am Friendship Class 10:00am Fellowship Time 10:30am Worship Service Following Service: Congregational Annual Meeting	11 9:00am Exercise	12 10:00am Bible Study 2:00pm Nifty Needlers 7:00pm Bible Study	13 9:00am Exercise 7:00pm Choir Practice	14 1:00pm Game Day-Group (Postponed) 7:00pm Praise Team Practice	15 9:00am Exercise	16
17 9:15am Friendship Class 10:00am Fellowship Time 10:30am Worship Service 1:30pm Wheat Ridge Service 2:30pm Topside Manner Service	18 9:00am Exercise	19 10:00am Bible Study 2:00pm Nifty Needlers 7:00pm Bible Study	20 9:00am Exercise 7:00pm Choir Practice	21 1:00pm Game Day-Group (Postponed) 7:00pm Praise Team Practice	22 9:00am Exercise	23
24 9:15am Friendship Class 10:00am Fellowship Time 10:30am Worship Service 5:00pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 	25 Merry Christmas  Church Closed	26 10:00am Bible Study 2:00pm Nifty Needlers (Canceled) 7:00pm Bible Study	27 9:00am Exercise 7:00pm Choir Practice	28 1:00pm Game Day-Group (Postponed) 7:00pm Praise Team Practice	29 9:00am Exercise	30
31 9:15am Friendship Class 10:00am Fellowship Time 10:30am Worship Service						

First Christian Church
 (Disciples of Christ)
 711 Arcade, P.O.Box 335
 Goodland, KS 67735



Church (785) 890-5233
 Pastor's Cell (870) 692-7242 (Pastor Don Warren)
 Church E-mail: fccdoc@st-tel.net

Friendship Class 9:15 a.m.
 Fellowship Time 10:00 a.m. (Refreshments served)
 Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
 Disciple Zone 2.0 on Sunday mornings during worship.
 Fcc Youth Group Sunday evening.

The Christian Echo is sent to you as a member or friend of
 First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Goodland, Ks

CHECK IT OUT!
www.goodlandfccdoc.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Vision Statement

To be a faithful, growing church,
 that demonstrates true community,
 deep Christian Spirituality,
 and a passion for justice.

(Micah 6:8)

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Mission Statement

To be and to share the Good News
 of Jesus Christ, witnessing, loving,
 and serving from our doorsteps
 "to the ends of the earth."

(Acts 1:8)

December 2023

	3	10	17	24	31
Elders	Terry Smith, Off Ron Vignery, Com	Dick Hayden, Off Kenny Griffith, Com	Tim Armknecht, Off Debbie Martin, Com	Debbie Martin, Off- AM Kim Cole, Com- AM Terry Smith, Off- PM Kim Cole, Com- PM	Debbie Griffith, Off Dick Hayden, Com
Worship Leader	Joy Hayden	Connie Grieve	<i>Volunteers Needed</i>	<i>Volunteers Needed</i>	<i>Volunteers Needed</i>
Greeter(s):	<i>Volunteers Needed</i>	<i>Volunteers Needed</i>	<i>Volunteers Needed</i>	<i>Volunteers Needed</i>	<i>Volunteers Needed</i>
A/V Tech-Closer	Terry Smith	Andrew Luna	Kenny Griffith	Andrew Luna- AM Terry Smith- PM	Kenny Griffith
Nursery	Kay Lea Carri	Pam Sheldon	Nona Mason	Kara Smith-AM	Debbie Martin

