

# THE CHRISTIAN ECHO

January

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
Goodland, Kansas

2022

Jeremiah 29: 11-14a *For I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me; when you seek me with all your heart, I will be found by you, says the LORD....*



## ~In the Meantime~

We look back and remember. We look forward and dream. But what about the 'meantime'?

In looking back, we smile on memories and learn from mistakes. We are molded by how we allow our lives so far to affect us – in a positive or negative way. The positive can, and more easily does, propel us to keep going, and going, and going (borrowed from the Energizer Bunny). It can also more easily make us think that it is by our own strength that we are moving forward – warning, Will Robinson, warning (borrowed from the robot in 'Lost in Space'). The negative makes us stop and examine, in hopes that our circumstances make a turn for what we think is the better. We look for a life-giving Source and a solution. This more readily sends us to seek the One who can show us 'the way'. The negative may not be so negative after all.

In looking forward, I'm not sure there is anyone who dreams of, and longs for, the difficulties we experience. Mostly it is of an easier road, or relief from current issues, or of goals to be reached. In looking forward, we have preconceived notions as to how this will all come about and what our heart's desire REALLY is. And then we have ideas about how these things will be utilized going from there. But, how do we react when what we think should come about, doesn't?

It is good to look back, as long as it doesn't consume you. Ever try walking backwards for an extended time? That brings many things to mind which I won't go into here, but feel free to explore this for yourself. It is good to look forward, as long as we don't have blinders on. Being so focused on what we think is best, that we don't consider other options/directions or watch for pitfalls.

In all of this, what about the meantime? Our life is spent in the meantime, that "dash" between birth and death, the here and now, the present moment, or any other way you would want to say it. What we do in this time frame eventually makes up our past and affects our future. The meantime is what we *have* in which to make a difference – in our own lives and in the lives of others and for God's glory.

For me, in order to not let my selfish desires drive the bus, I have to strive to focus and refocus on letting the love of God, the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit be my guide. I fall & fail sometimes, but a daily (and sometimes moment to moment) washing of my glasses to help keep my focus and direction heading where God wants to send me. What lens are you using? Does it need cleaning for a clearer view? Which direction are you looking? ...and in the meantime... open the eyes of our hearts, Lord, so that we may yield to Your leading in 2022 and always!

Blessings as we journey together,

Debbie Griffith



# FOR YOUR INFORMATION!

## Extended Prayerful Considerations:

Please include in your ongoing prayers the following:

George Adelgren	Jason Biernacki
Roger Collins	Galen Cooper
Vetha Cormier	Alice Jackson
Charley & Janet (Chatfield) Johnson	
Lonnie Kerr	Sharon Mann
Marie Marsh	Catherine Parisi
Mike Stamm	Bernie Taylor
Emma VanVleet	Rosetta Warren

### Wheat Ridge (main building)

Etta Mae Keirns

### Please pray for our Active Military:

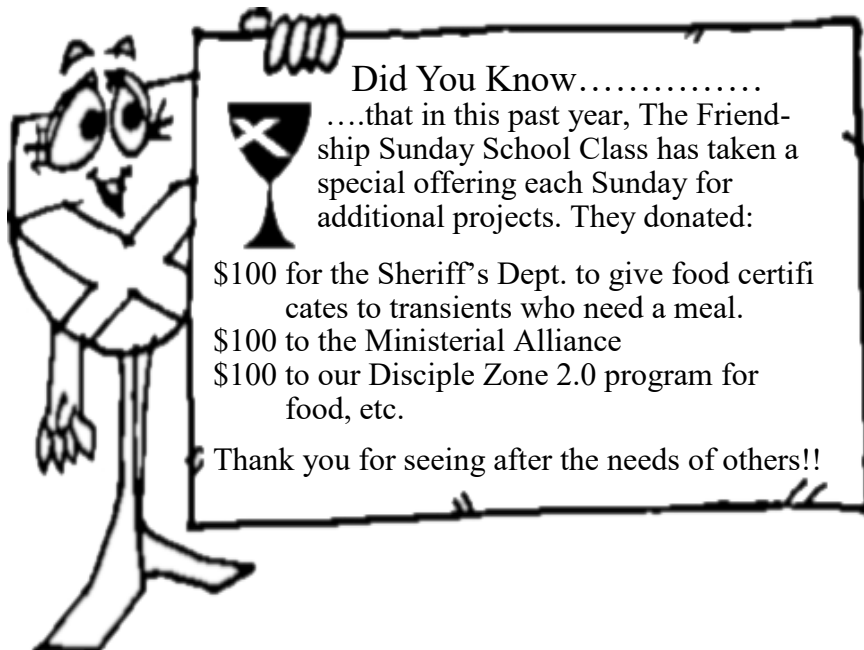
Tyson Reed, Chris Elliott, Nathan Craig, D J Glassman



1/1	Hayden Renea Mann
1/2	Jim Griffith
1/5	Eli Daigle
1/6	Richard Frerichs
1/7	Chelsea Sheldon Myers Barry Guyer
1/9	Parker Griffith
1/12	Jeric Goin Mary Daise
1/14	Andrea Roeder LaDona Frerichs
1/15	Jazlyn Fenner
1/19	Emma Van Vleet Stephanie Sheldon Marelo Terry Daise
1/20	Carolyn Kerr
1/21	Robbie Lawson
1/26	Kevin Rasure
1/27	Jay Jolly Pierce Kemp
1/29	Andrew Ploeger

## GENERAL FUND GIVING

Date	Amt Needed	Offering	Over/Short	In-Person
12/5	\$1994.75	\$971.25	-\$1023.50	43
12/12	\$1994.75	\$3756.00	+\$1761.25	65
12/19	\$1994.75	\$1165.00	-\$829.75	30
12/26	\$1994.75	\$4621.00	+\$2626.25	23



## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

1/5	Jeff & Nona Mason
1/8	Kevin & Kim Rasure
1/26	Tony & Debbie Martin
1/27	Travis & Angie Jones

## NEEDS FOR THE CHURCH:

Pinesol

A big THANK YOU to those who are so generously giving in this way!!





What a gift these children gave to us in this message of **"We Three Kings"**, so we don't forget what we are REALLY celebrating! Thanks to the leadership of Jessica Vignery, & helpers Debbie Martin, Tracy Hillmer & Andrew Luna as well!



Lower  
Right  
Picture  
L-R:

Front: Jagger Topliff, Chloe Hills  
Middle: Audra Keith, Eli Daigle, George Luckert, Annie Luckert  
Back: Kellie Brungardt, Conner Keith, Weston Brungardt, Isabella Roberts  
Due to illness, we missed Margaret & Clyde Stefan

### You better nota missa diss one!!

Yes, even the meat-a-balls are singing about this event! Be sure to mark your calendars for the annual Elderetti Spaghetti Dinner that will be held on Sunday, Jan. 30th at the famous time of 5-aclock-a (p.m., that is!).

There will be plenty of food, lots of laughter, and the choir will-a-sing-a (they'll blow your socksa-off-a).



Come, bring your friends and family, for a really great time!!



### USDA Commodities Distribution

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

**Monday, Jan. 24 @ 1:30-2:30pm**



If you have time and would like to help, please let **Tracy Hillmer** know. Our Lord asked us to feed the hungry, and so we shall!!

### CWF EVENTS



The next meeting will be on Jan. 12th at 2pm for the **"After Christmas" Party**. Bring finger food and join in on the fun as we enjoy getting back together and fellowshiping once again!!

### Thank You...

...to the Friendship Sunday School Class for the money you donated to the meals, etc. for Disciple Zone. We do appreciate your help and support! Jessica Vignery

...A heart felt thank you to the board (& congregation) for your support and monetary appreciation gift. We have all had a few rough patches to get through, but have grown in and through them!! Debbie Griffith

### Snippits from the Nov. Board Meeting

- ♦ The Elders are planning the Elderetti Spaghetti Dinner for Jan. 30th. They also did an exercise in "What Would You Do?" as we should always be ready to deal with tough situations. Appreciation was shown by the board to the elders for their work in the absence of a minister.
- ♦ Property Committee—The new lighted LED and battery backup exit signs are installed which are paid for with the Florence Vignery memorial. The playground has suffered some graffiti and some options for a plan of action were discussed. A papertowel dispenser was replaced. The carpet in the offices and parlor were discussed (fraying, staining, etc.) and will need replacing at some point. There has been an issue with the microphone on the communion table. The cause as well as replacement is being looked into.
- ♦ Christian Education—Jessica Vignery reported that Disciple Zone 2.0 attendance has increased to 14 children. They will have a Christmas program in church, go caroling in the near future. Andrew Luna is a welcomed addition to the workers. Jessica was acknowledged for her hard work in the children's education program.





## WHO AM I?

Last month's "Who am I?" was **Raelyn Hillmer**.  
This month can you guess who our congregational family member is?



1. My favorite way to spend the New Years holiday is: In the comfort of my own home with tea and either TV or a book.
2. Do you set New Year's resolutions? No, I do not set resolutions because I never follow them anyway.
3. What is your favorite way to spend quiet or free time? My favorite way to spend free time is either reading or playing a game.
4. Where were you born and raised? I was born in Fort Collins, Colo and was raised in Rexford, Ks.
5. What is your favorite dessert? My favorite is ice cream, I think. I just love sweet things.
6. How do you de-stress? By ignoring the problem and taking a nap.
7. What is your favorite outdoor activity? Playing "four-square" with my students
8. What brought you to Goodland, Ks? I was offered a teaching position at North Elementary.
9. What about FCC Goodland drew you and kept you coming? What drew me to FCC Goodland was how similar the atmosphere and people were to the church at home. The wonderful people are what keep me coming.



### **The lovely poinsettias that adorned our sanctuary this Advent/Christmas were gifted by:**

(Given by: In memory or honor of...)

**Debbie Martin:** #1 Bud and Linda Fogo

#2 Buford and Helen Hevner, Connie Hammond .

**Ron & Judy Vignery:** #1 - Glenn & Florence Vignery, Lowella Stiles

#2 - Watson & Annabelle Hevner, Tonya Armstrong Cook

**Dick & LaDona Frerichs:** Don Harding, Wm & Thelma Frerichs, Wm R. Frerichs

**Sam Rethmann:** Betty Rethmann

**Lois Cossman:** Bob Cossman

**The Griffith's:** #1 Eva Kirk, Irving Imhof, Neil & Vera Bock, Diana Imhof Jones

#2 In Celebration of: The coming of the Christ Child and the Warren Family joining us  
in Ministry!

**The Davis':** #1 Jim & Mildred Shaver

#2 John & Doris Jean Davis

**Mary Daise:** Bill Daise

**Sharon David:** Mr. & Mrs. Archie Schoonover, Lowella Stiles, Florence Vignery, Maize Sutton, Mona Wonderling





Due to technological difficulties, we didn't get to hear the very end of Rev. Carol Edling Jolly's sermon for the Christmas Eve service. In going back to revisit that message, it was a beautiful blessing that is appropriate anytime and you shouldn't miss out on it!



### **A Celtic Christmas Blessing**



The light of the Christmas star to you.  
The warmth of home & hearth to you.  
The cheer & goodwill of friends to you.  
The hope of child-like heart to you.  
The joy of a thousand angels to you.  
The love of the Son & God's peace to you. Amen.

In case you need to know:

### **Board of Directors 2022**

Kara Smith—Chair                      Jessica Vignery—Vice Chair  
Kim Cole—Church Treas.      Debbie Martin—Secretary  
Terry Smith—Financial Secretary  
Ariane Barber, Roger Collins, Lois Cossman, Janet Davis,  
Sean Davis, Connie Grieve, Kenny Grieve, Debbie  
Griffith, Kenny Griffith, Brooke Heiter, Tracy Hillmer,  
Cameron Pittman, Jo Simmons, Ron Vignery

### **Trustees**

Debbie Martin, Terry Smith, Ron Vignery

### **Elders**

Debbie Griffith—Chair, Tim Armknecht, Kim Cole, Ken-  
ny Griffith, Dick Hayden, Tracy Hillmer, Debbie Martin,  
Ron Vignery

### **Worship & Music Committee**

Pastor Don Warren (he doesn't know it yet), Debbie  
Griffith, Debbie Martin

### **Property Committee**

Ariane Barber, Sean Davis, Kenny Grieve, Kenny Griffith,  
Terry Smith, Ron Vignery

### **Membership & Evangelism Committee**

Debbie Martin-Chair, Tracy Hillmer, Emma VanVleet  
(and several ex-officio members)

### **Outreach & Mission Committee**

Tracy Hillmer

### **Stewardship Committee**

Kim Cole—Chair, Dick Hayden, Debbie Martin, Board  
Chair Kara Smith, Terry Smith, Ron Vignery,

### **Christian Education Committee**

Jessica Vignery—Chair

## **Nifty Needlers**



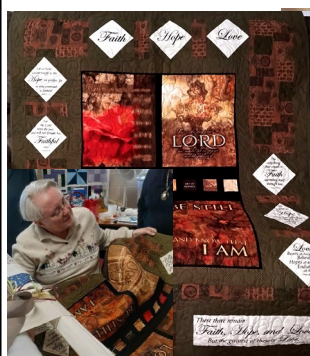
Meeting every Tuesday @ 2 p.m. in the  
Church's Sewing Room (north west cor-  
ner of the building).



Even with all the 'consulting' & snacking, much gets  
accomplished and most are given as gifts.



What a loving group of ladies who give and receive ❤️  
"group therapy"!!



Many thanks to the excellent leadership of Joy Hay-  
den with the assistance of Joni Denton, this group is  
a lively, growing and productive group!! The partic-  
ipants and room are in constant growth & transfor-  
mation. Blessings all around!!

## **Reflections from our Church Sign**

(wisdom that blesses our community weekly)

- \*\*The manger was the first King-sized bed
- \*\*Mary wrapped the first Christmas present
- \*\*Wise men still seek Him!
- \*\* If your life stinks, we have a pew for you!



# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

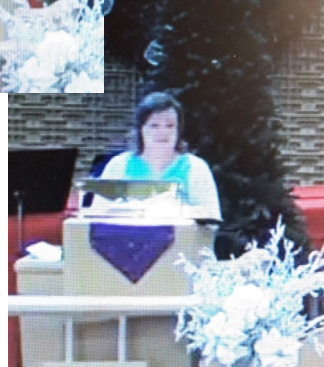
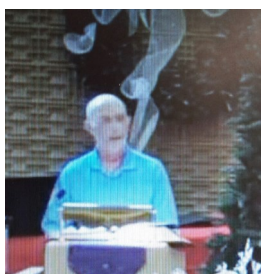
## Sermon Schedule

<b>Jan 2</b>	Drama—Debbie Martin (Joni Guyer, Nona Mason, Joy Hayden)
<b>Jan 9</b>	David Branda
<b>Jan 16</b>	Kary Zwegardt
<b>Jan 23</b>	Ron Schilling
<b>Jan 30</b>	TBA

Many thanks to those who delivered messages in December. God speaks to each of us through willing vessels like YOU!!

Children's Program

(See page 3 for Details)



## **FRIENDSHIP CLASS** **Every Sunday at 9 a.m.** **"Engage"**

**January—Wonder**  
(The Spiritual Practice of Singing)

- Jan. 2 ~ In Awe of God's Creation
- Jan. 9 ~ Coming Into God's Presence
- Jan. 16 ~ The Transfiguration
- Jan. 23 ~ Beholding God's Glory
- Jan. 30 ~ Joining the Choir of Angels

**Resuming Jan. 12, 2022**

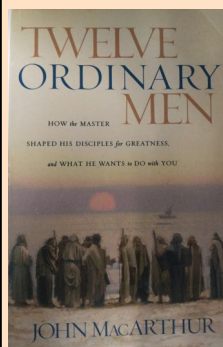
Each Wednesday evening, Disciple Zone 2.0 will meet.



It will start with a light dinner at 5:45 p.m. Following dinner, the children will begin their classes on the east end of the building and the adults will begin their class in the parlor. (See information below) As always, Disciple Zone will end at 7:00pm.

Come join in on a time of food, fellowship, and fun!!

## **NOON PRAYER CLASS**



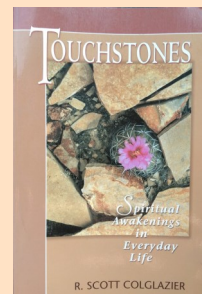
Come and be a part of this book study, prayer & fellowship. The book is "Twelve Ordinary Men" by John MacArthur. The subtitle describes it well: How the Master shaped His disciples for greatness, and what He wants to do with you.

*Every Thursday @ 12:30 p.m.*  
*Church Parlor*

## **WEDNESDAY NIGHT ADULT BOOK STUDY**

Wed. nights at 6:15 p.m.  
(following the Disciple Zone meal)

In the book Touchstones, by R. Scott Colglazier, we will be led with a blend of theology, philosophy, and psychology, in showing us how we can find precious encounters of spiritual awareness in our everyday relationships, art, work, play, community and more. Be sure to join us for great reading and meaningful discussion!! **Resumes January 5th**



**!! Available by Zoom as well !!**





# January 2022

Every end is a  
New beginning!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>2.</b> 9:00am Friendship Class 10:00am Fellowship time 10:30am Worship In-person & Online  4:00pm Elder's Meeting	<b>3.</b> 9:00am Exercise	<b>4.</b>  2:00pm Nifty Needlers	<b>5.</b> 9:00am Exercise  4:00pm Woodwinds 6:00pm Book Study 7:00pm Choir	<b>6.</b>  12:30pm Noon Prayer Class  7:00pm Property Committee Mtg	<b>7.</b> 9:00am Exercise	<b>1.</b> <b>Happy New Year!!</b>  <b>8.</b>
<b>9.</b> 7:30am Board Meeting 9:00am Friendship Class 10:00am Fellowship time 10:30am Worship In-person & Online	<b>10.</b> 9:00am Exercise	<b>11.</b>  2:00pm Nifty Needlers	<b>12.</b> 9:00am Exercise  2:00pm CWF Mtg.  4:00pm Woodwinds 5:45pm DZ 2.0 7:00pm Choir	<b>13.</b>  12:30pm Noon Prayer Class	<b>14.</b> 9:00am Exercise	<b>15.</b>
<b>16.</b> 9:00am Friendship Class 10:00am Fellowship time 10:30am Worship In-person & Online	<b>17.</b> 9:00am Exercise	<b>18.</b>  2:00pm Nifty Needlers	<b>19.</b> 9:00am Exercise  4:00pm Woodwinds 5:45pm DZ 2.0 7:00pm Choir	<b>20.</b>  12:30pm Noon Prayer Class	<b>21.</b> 9:00am Exercise	<b>22.</b>
<b>23.</b> 9:00am Friendship Class 10:00am Fellowship time 10:30am Worship In-person & Online	<b>24.</b> 9:00am Exercise  1:30-2:30 pm Commodities Distribution	<b>25.</b>  2:00pm Nifty Needlers	<b>26.</b> 9:00am Exercise  4:00pm Woodwinds 5:45pm DZ 2.0 7:00pm Choir	<b>27.</b>  12:30pm Noon Prayer Class	<b>28.</b> 9:00am Exercise	<b>29.</b>
<b>30.</b> 9:00am Friendship Class 10:00am Fellowship time 10:30am Worship In-person & Online  5:00pm Elderetti Spaghetti Supper	<b>31.</b> 9:00am Exercise					

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



Church	(785) 890-5233
Pastor's Cell	
E-mail:	fccdoc@st-tel.net
Friendship Class	9:00 a.m.
Fellowship Time	10:00 a.m. (Refreshments served)
Worship Service	10:30 a.m.
Disciple Zone 2.0 on Wednesday nights at 5:45 p.m.	
	<i>(classes for children and adults!)</i>
<i>The Christian Echo</i> is sent to you as a member or friend of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Goodland, Ks	
<b>CHECK IT OUT!</b> <b><u><a href="http://www.goodlandfccdoc.org">www.goodlandfccdoc.org</a></u></b>	

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)

## January 2022

	2	9	16	23	30
<b>Elders</b>	Kim Cole, Off Kenny Griffith, Com	Tim Armknecht, Off Dick Hayden, Com	Ron Vignery, Off Debbie Martin, Com	Tracy Hillmer, Off Kim Cole, Com	Kenny Griffith, Off Ron Vignery, Com
<b>Worship Leader</b>	Joy Hayden	Terry Smith	Jessica Vignery	Sean Davis	Jo Simmons
<b>Greeter(s):</b>	Serving Elders	Serving Elders	Serving Elders	Serving Elders	Serving Elders
<b>Servers</b>	<i>(10) Do not fear,</i>	<i>for I am with you,</i>	<i>do not be afraid,</i>	<i>for I am your God;</i>	<i>I will strengthen you,</i>
<b>Candlelighters</b>	<i>I will help you,</i>	<i>I will uphold you</i>	<i>with my victorious</i>	<i>right hand.</i>	<i>(13) For I, the Lord your God</i>
<b>Nursery</b>	<i>Hold your right hand;</i>	<i>It is I who say to you,</i>	<i>"Do not fear,</i>	<i>I will help you."</i>	<i>Isaiah 41:10 &amp; 13</i>
<b>A/V Tech-Closer</b>	Terry Smith	Kenny Griffith	Terry Smith	Kenny Griffith	Terry Smith