

Connecting  
Us with God and  
one another

October 1, 2011

**Senior Pastor**

Rev Rebecca Heller (ext 30)

**Office Manager:**

Kirsten Bayne (ext 21)

**Christian Education Minister:**

Tracy Morgan, Director (ext 24)

**Custodians:**

Max & Marcia Peters

**Music Ministers:**

Neil Forsythe, Director (ext 23)

Troy Schuh, Pianist

**Nursery & Wedding Coordinator:**

Tammy Swartz (ext 24)

**Transportation Coordinator:**

Dennis Miller

**Volunteer Coordinator:**

Lanny Helzer

**Youth Minister:**

Rachel Nelson (ext 22)

**Licensed Ministers:**

Dennis Miller

Lanny Helzer

Pam Hilliard

Tracy Morgan

**Sunday Morning Services:**

8:30 Traditional Service

9:50 Sunday School for all ages

10:45 Contemporary Service

**If you have information for our  
Link, please e-mail that  
information to:**

**[kirsten@lovelanddisciples.org](mailto:kirsten@lovelanddisciples.org)  
see inside for deadlines.**

Fall always seems to be here too quick! As Treasurer at First Christian Church, part of my duties includes leading the church through the budget process starting in September and carrying on through the Annual Congregational Meeting in November.

I thought it would be a good time to update you on the process and let you know a few key dates to put on your calendar.

We started the 2012 budget process in the beginning of September with budget worksheets going to all the active committees and departments at our church. The Budget Committee met and is in the process of evaluating the budget requests against our expectation of income for 2012. This process generally takes several meetings of discussion until we agree on a budget proposal where our expected expenses don't exceed our expected income.

The budget committee will present the Budget proposal to Program Ministries and the General Board in mid-October. The General Board will review the proposed budget and make changes as needed. Once the budget proposal meets the Board's approval, the General Board will recommend the 2012 Budget to the Congregation.

**Here are the important dates for you to put on your calendar:**

**On Sunday October 23<sup>th</sup> at 9:45AM**, we will host an informal **Congregational Update**. This informal session will have information available to Congregation on our finances through the end of September, as well as a question and answer session with Church leadership. At this time, copies of the proposed 2012 budget should be available.

**On Sunday November 6<sup>th</sup> at 1PM**, the **FCC Annual Congregational Meeting** will be held. This meeting includes the following votes:

Election of Officers

Election of Elders, Diaconate, and Trustees

Approval of 2012 Budget

This meeting will be preceded by a dessert social at noon. Grab some pie and coffee and then join us at the Annual Meeting!

**On Sunday November 20<sup>st</sup> at noon**, we will celebrate in Christian fellowship with our annual Thanksgiving Potluck.

If you have questions or comments, please feel free to talk with our church leaders.  
Bob Freeman, Board Chair  
Matt Swartz, Vice-Chair  
Lucy Morgan, Treasurer

## “A World of Possibilities”

Our fall Stewardship Campaign, “A World of Possibilities,” kicks off on Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup>. So here are some things to get you thinking in that direction.

First, seeing yourself as God sees you. What gives meaning to your life? Naturalist Henry David Thoreau is often noted for his statement that most men “live lives of quiet desperation.” In an attempt to avoid that kind of existence, he lived alone from 1845 to 1847 in the woods of Walden Pond, Massachusetts. In 1854, he published his experiences in the book *Walden*. He wrote, “I went to the woods because I wished to live deliberately, to front only the essential facts of life, and see if I could not learn what it had to teach, and not, when I came to die, discover that I had not lived.”

It would be a shame to discover someday that the many pursuits that occupied our days here on earth were something less than God’s best for us, that we had lived lives lacking purpose and meaning. God wants so much more for each one of us!

On September 25<sup>th</sup> we will explore that idea through Jesus’ story about a man who went away and entrusted his servants with a sum of money to invest (Matthew 25:14-28). He gave them a purpose, and God has given one to you, too. Discover that purpose for yourself, and you’ll find a new level of meaning and fulfillment. You’ll discover what it truly means to live!

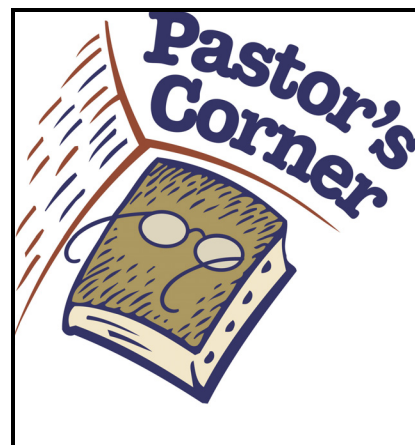
Second, seeing the potential that God sees. It is said that a one-legged schoolteacher from Scotland once came to the renowned missionary J. Hudson Taylor to offer himself for service in China. “With only one leg, why do you think of going as a missionary?” Taylor asked. “Well,” the man replied, “I don’t see those with two legs going.” He was accepted for service.

That plucky attitude is something like what Jesus displayed when he looked out over a world that was broken by sin, riddled with disease, and divided by hatred and said, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few!” We live in a world that is either hopelessly lost or ripe for salvation—depending on how you choose to look at it. Jesus viewed the world through the eyes of faith and possibility, and He calls us to join Him in the mission of bringing God’s kingdom to earth.

On October 16<sup>th</sup>, I will share a challenging message with you based on Jesus’ thrilling call to join in the harvest, Matthew 9:35-38. Let’s pray that God will indeed send His workers into the field, and that you and I may do our part in God’s grand scheme to bring the Good News to those who most need to hear it. God has called each one of us!

God has entrusted each one of us with resources in order to accomplish His purpose. Our call is to choose to fulfill the mission that God has in mind for each one of us and as a congregation. God uses our efforts to bring about the salvation of the world. Choose to take part in God’s call and plan to spread the Good News in our community, and beyond.

*Blessings, Rev. Rebecca*



## FCC Youth Ministry Mission Statement

Our Youth Ministry exists to **EXPOSE** teenagers to God's love, to **CONNECT** them with other Christians and help them **GROW** in their faith, challenging them to **SEEK** God's presence and to **SERVE** others for Christ.



# Rachel's Remarks

## Numbers and Names

Recently a couple of church members have asked me about the size and vitality of our youth program. It's true that our youth are not always very visible to our congregation on Sunday mornings, particularly to our early service. That reasonably leads to concern for the present and future health of our congregation, especially to those members who are so wonderfully dedicated to seeing our congregation thrive. So, I thought I would take this opportunity to introduce our youth to you, their congregation and church family.

**Andy** is an Eagle Scout who often best sees God in the beauty of nature, and a willing helper who naturally gives of his time in service to others. He has a beautiful ability to relate to older generations. He has been a member of our church family since he was just a baby. He is active in our youth group, Sunday school, and regional retreats and summer camps, and recently went on our mission trip to LA. Andy is also a regular attendee, lay leader and deacon for our 8:30 services, and now and then also attends our 10:45 services.

**Amber** has a quirky personality and will be the first to say it! She cares very deeply about her friends and strives to ease their pain when they are hurting. She is heavily involved in JROTC and recently received a promotion that gave her the highest rank of her class (if I understand correctly). Though her family is not involved in our church and she is rarely able to come on Sundays, Amber has been involved in our youth group for many years, and goes to camp every summer.

*(continued on next page)*

## Weekly Youth Meetings

for youth in grades 6 – 12

### Sundays: Rush Hour

Join us for faith exploration  
9:40 – 10:40 am

Middle school "Grapple" class meets  
in SW classroom

High school meets in the NW corner  
'youth room'

### Wednesdays: Xone 77

Youth Groups in Minnerly Hall,  
6:00 – 8:00 pm

Worship, faith development,  
fellowship, fun, and food!

## Upcoming Youth Events

### Mission Trip Dinner

Sept 25, 5:30 pm

This year we are going to celebrate God's work and share the good news from our CYF mission trip while enjoying Louisiana cuisine with our church family. All are invited to support our youth by your presence and participation! This will be a dinner you won't want to miss!

### CROP Walk

October 1

Once again this year the youth will be participating in Church World Service's CROP hunger Walk, raising awareness and funds for those who are hungry here at home, across our nation, and around the world. CROP walk funds don't just feed the hungry, they empower and equip with supplies and tools that help put a longer lasting stop to hunger. Join the cause (and have fun doing it) – walk with us!

### Corn Maze!

Can you believe it's almost that time again? We'll be visiting Harvest Farm in October!

### Want more info? Email

[Rachel@lovelanddisciples.org](mailto:Rachel@lovelanddisciples.org) if you'd like to join the youth e-news list for more details on upcoming events and activities. You can also now keep informed of our activity by "like"ing us on Facebook! – just search for "Xone 77 Youth" to find our new page.

**Miranda** is both gentle and loving, and sassy and fun. She is a willing helper who is very supportive of those who need it, and is gifted in her ability to relate to children. She is running cross country right now, but her real sport is swimming. Miranda is often seen on Sunday mornings working in the nursery as well as attending 10:45 worship with her family. She has grown up in our church, is active in our youth group, goes to camp every summer, and recently went on our LA mission trip.

**Vance** has a dry sense of humor, an eye (and an ear) for detail, enjoys making custom leather belts, bracelets, etc., and absolutely loves playing the tuba in marching band. He spends most weekends with his dad, so we don't see him very often on Sundays, but he is a regular participant in our youth group (outside of marching season), regional retreats, and goes to camp every summer.

**Tyner** is our newest member of the youth group, having just graduated from Reach this school year. He hasn't been able to come to Xone yet because of his new football schedule, but we are very excited to get to know him better. He has been an active member of our church for many years, involved in Sunday school, Reach, and as a frequent attendee and offering plate holder in the 10:45 services, and he goes to camp every summer.

**Lizzy** is responsible and hard working, intelligent and articulate. She is observant and kind, an encouraging friend, who loves movies and music, and has been chosen for a second term on our regional youth leadership team, ECOY (the Executive Council of Youth), through which she has been developing leadership skills, planning and leading regional youth retreats. Though her family has not been able to be active in our congregation for many years, Lizzy is an active participant in our youth group and Sunday school and is often seen in 10:45 worship, where she regularly serves as lay leader. She is also beginning service as Youth Representative to the Program Ministries Board. She goes to summer camp and participates in our mission trips every year.

I have so much to share about our dedicated and gifted youth that I am going to split this into two articles, so please be watching for more introductions (including Dana, River, Lindsey, and Brooke) next month! For now, I leave you with this thought: our youth program may not always be strong in numbers, but we are always strong in names. Our youth love their Creator and are committed to our church, where they are able to be known as a name, not just a number, where they are able to grow in relationship with each other, our leaders, and God in a way that they can depend on as family. My hope is to see even more relationships build between the youth and the adults of our church. They are sometimes shy, but ultimately would love for you to know them and to know you!

Our September 25 dinner is an excellent opportunity to better know the faces and hearts of some of our most committed youth, and support our program. We hope to see you there!

*With hope and gratitude,  
Rachel*

## Tracy's TidBits

Well, I'm back! I feel good and have energy again! I'm doing all that is needed to recover from the effects of treatment for breast cancer. I've still got radiation treatment to go through but from what I hear the worst is behind me! The best news is that all of this has worked and I have a 90% chance of remaining cancer free for ten years! WooHoo!

My church family has been awesome, showing me God's love through all of this! You have said prayers, cooked dinners, given gifts, sent cards, visited, volunteered to do work around the church to help things continue to happen when I was ill and so many other things. I have been sick, exhausted, and am still healing up from surgery but through your prayers and love I have been able to feel spiritually uplifted. This family of faith has been so good to me!

When I read Philippians 1:3-12 the words that Paul sent to the church at Philippi I felt that I could totally relate:

3 Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God.4 Whenever I pray, I make my requests for all of you with joy,5 for you have been my partners in spreading the Good News about Christ from the time you first heard it until now.6 And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.7 So it is right that I should feel as I do about all of you, for you have a special place in my heart. You share with me the special favor of God, both in my imprisonment and in defending and confirming the truth of the Good News.8 God knows how much I love you and long for you with the tender compassion of Christ Jesus.9 I pray that your love will overflow more and more, and that you will keep on growing in knowledge and understanding.10 For I want you to understand what really matters, so that you may live pure and blameless lives until the day of Christ's return.11 May you always be filled with the fruit of your salvation—the righteous character produced in your life by Jesus Christ—for this will bring much glory and praise to God.12 And I want you to know, my dear brothers and sisters, that everything that has happened to me here has helped to spread the Good News.

Yes, I've been able to spread the good news through this. Even with cancer and having my battle show on the outside people in the cancer center would tell me that my attitude and disposition gave them hope. You can't give hope if you don't have it and I believe my hope came from God through all of you!

When I hear about people leaving the church because of comments that people have made or people feeling separated from God because of actions of good Christian people I'm baffled because I can't relate to that and am thankful that my experience is very different from that. I know that it happens though.

I recently read a devotional in "Upper Room" by Jill Allen Maisch. She talks about her Native American pottery collection and that her most valued pot was one that was unfinished because it was created for her by a friend she valued highly. In Isaiah 64:8 we are reminded that God is our potter and that we are all the works of his hands. Shouldn't we then value each other if we value God highly?

I pray that all of you may have an experience like mine! Not cancer, absolutely not cancer! But the experience of being bathed in love! I also pray that we as a congregation may bathe all of God's children with the kind of love that I've experienced.

Love creates love! Hope creates hope! Positive attitudes create positive attitudes!  
Good news creates Good News!

*Tracy Morgan*

Christian Education Minister





# Bulletin Board

## Upcoming Link Deadlines

October 17, November 14, December 13  
Items must be turned in by 8am on these days in order to be included in the LINK

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## OWLS Outing

The OWLS group will gather at the church on Friday, October 14, 2011. Shari Zeiler recently visited Swaziland with her daughter Erica. Shari will share her trip at 10 AM with us. Following Shari's presentation, we will adjourn at a place to be determined for lunch and additional fellowship. All are welcome to join us.

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## First Sunday Food

In September we collected 142 cans of meat with an estimated value of \$102.00. They have been delivered to House of Neighborly Service for those in need. The food item for October 2nd will be Canned Veggies.

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## Christian Education

Dear **Team** and anyone interested in making a difference,

It's time we had a little meeting to catch up on Christian Education goings on around the church.

The details are as follows:

**Date/time:** October 4, 2011 at 7:00pm  
**Where:** The home of Tammy Swartz  
1320 East 1<sup>st</sup> Street,  
Loveland, CO 80537

Please be prepared to discuss what you have going on this year as well as what we need to try and accomplish. We'll have a little coffee and dessert or light snack while we're together.

I hope you can attend.

Blessings,  
Bob Sprague

## How to Save Money on Taxes and Retire with Riches in Heaven!

Have you ever heard the adage about not paying off your house because you will lose your tax deduction?

Did you know that you can save the same amount in taxes by giving generously to support causes you believe in?

First Christian Church is one of the causes that needs your help. Since spring, we have fallen over \$14,000 behind our operating budget for the year.

Here is where we stand as of the end of August.

Week of:	8/23/2011
Weekly Actual Giving (unrestricted)	4,089
Weekly 2011 Budget	5,538
Year to date:	
YTD Actual Giving (unrestricted)	180,217
YTD 2011 Budget	194,530

Unlike the Federal Government, we can't print money to meet our budget. We can only spend what we bring in, and we need your help to get us back on track.

Will you help with your regular support to accomplish our mission in Loveland and support the day-to-day needs of First Christian Church?

Your faithfulness and generosity is deeply appreciated.

Blessings,  
Lucy Morgan  
Treasurer

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## Once an Eagle, Always an Eagle Your Invited to the Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Andy Morgan

at First Christian Church in Minnerly Hall @  
6:30p.m. October 1, 2011

Please RSVP to 669-2808 so we can get a count for dinner to be served prior to the ceremony.

## TRUNK R' TREATING!

Trunk R' Treating will be taking place on Friday night October 28, 2011 from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. give or take depending on the weather. Please come with your trunks at 5:00 p.m. to set up in the east parking lot/field area. The children will start arriving at 5:30 p.m. This year we will be featuring trunks filled with treats for children from birth to 5<sup>th</sup> grade, smore's /campfire and a light snack will also be available. All events will be outside so please dress according and don't forget your flashlights since it will be darker by then. If you would like to open your trunk up for the children please let me know, it would be awesome to fill our parking lot with trunks of all sizes and shape. For more information on ways that you can help make this event successful contact Tammy Swartz at 970-962-9612 or [tswartz1784@comcast.net](mailto:tswartz1784@comcast.net)

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## Pictorial Directory

We are gearing up for a new pictorial directory this fall, and we are striving for 100% participation. We will have photo appointments *in October for our snowbirds* and more appointments available in November. If you head South for the winter we encourage you to please sign up for an October appointment so we can be sure to include you in our directory. If the dates do not work for you please talk to Kirsten so we can try and make other arrangements. **Sign up** before and after both services in the Narthex on September 25th and October 5th.

To help you plan ahead the appointment dates are:

October 10th from 2:00 pm - 8:20 pm  
October 11th from 1:00 pm - 8:20 pm  
October 12th from 1:00 pm - 8:20 pm  
November 11th from 2:00 pm - 8:20 pm  
November 12th from 9:30 am - 5:10 pm  
November 16th from 2:00 pm - 8:20 pm  
November 17th from 1:00 pm - 8:20 pm  
November 18th from 1:00 pm - 8:20 pm  
November 19th from 9:30 am - 5:10 pm

**We want pictures of members  
and all attendees of FCC!**

## Offering Envelopes for 2012

- If you had envelopes for 2011 and want them for 2012 you do not need to do anything, you will automatically receive them.
- If you did not receive them for 2011 and want to for 2012 let the office know.
- If you received them for 2011 and do not want them for 2012 let the office know.



A **GINORMOUS** thank you to our church family for giving us such a wonderful baby shower. We truly appreciate all of the kindness that has been poured on us and the love that has already been shown to our unborn child. We are very blessed to have each one of you in our lives. Thank you to Tammy Swartz for being such a generous and talented Hostess. Thank you to the many giving people for sharing their time, energy, food and talents that made this day successful and made us feel so special. We are so glad that you shared this momentous occasion with us! Love, Tami, Neil and Baby Forsythe

P.S. For those who did not hear the end results of the gender prediction safety pin vote:  
15 voted Girl and 15 voted Boy!



Dear helpers from FCC,  
We would like to thank you for helping in the Kids Café kitchen this summer. Because of your dedication to our program we were able to serve 27,200 meals and 1,800 snacks. In June, we saw a 24% increase in meals and snacks from last year. This would not have been possible without you. We cannot thank you enough and look forward to working with you in the future!

Food Bank for Larimer County

# October Birthdays

PERSON, Bobbie	2-Oct
UDLOCK, Jonathan	2-Oct
UDLOCK, Thomas	2-Oct
CARLSON, Barbara	3-Oct
PERRY, Lacy	4-Oct
STUART, Pat	4-Oct
BRADY, Susan	5-Oct
GAINES, Carmel	5-Oct
BRADY, James	6-Oct
DAVIS, Frances	6-Oct
MCGEE, Larry	7-Oct
YOUNG, Maxine	7-Oct
BENTLEY, Duane	8-Oct
DAHL, Phylis	9-Oct
HAYWARD, Walt	9-Oct
SCHNEIDER, E.J.	10-Oct
NOTTINGHAM, Dawn	11-Oct
YOUNG, Carol	11-Oct
OLSON, Curtis	12-Oct
SUTORIUS, Lindsey	12-Oct
BOWER, Katie	13-Oct
MCGEE, Pam	14-Oct
WHITING, Richard	14-Oct
KRINGS, LeRoy	15-Oct
LADD, David	15-Oct
BRADY, Elizabeth	18-Oct
NOTTINGHAM, Ehret	18-Oct
MORGAN, Lucy	19-Oct
MORGAN, Tracy	20-Oct
TODD, Ione	20-Oct
MYERS, Billie	21-Oct
TUXHORN JR., Jodi	23-Oct
EPPERSON, Mae	24-Oct
COLLINS, Nada	25-Oct
ADAMS, Kendra	26-Oct
SMITH, Roberta	26-Oct
FARNHAM, Braxton	28-Oct
DILL, Chuck	29-Oct
LOCKE, Dale	30-Oct
POMRANKA, Don	30-Oct
RICE, Doug	30-Oct
BENTLEY, Cheryl	31-Oct
DAYHUFF, Drew	31-Oct
KNAUS, Keith	31-Oct

# October Anniversaries

SHAFFER, Don & Joan	1-Oct
ROBERTS, Joe & Ruth	8-Oct
BYERS, Jake & Vi	20-Oct
SHARRAR, Ed & Fayeanne	20-Oct
YOUNG, David & Carol	21-Oct
HALSEY, Larry & Carol	27-Oct
KEELER, Kenneth & Cherie	29-Oct





**First Christian Church**  
**www.lovelanddisciples.org**

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## Last But Not Least

### Vision Statement

Our vision is to be a growing, welcoming, diverse community of faith that worships, shares, and expresses through our service the love of God.

### Mission Statement

Our mission is to know, grow, and show the love of God.

STATEMENT  
**Our Mission**  
STATEMENT  
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STATEMENT

