

First Christian Church
P.O. Box 832
Sterling, CO 80751

July 5, 2020

FCC CONNECTIONS

FCC Scholarship Applications

First Christian Church offers a scholarship to participating youth members seeking continuing post high school education. The main requirements are to be an active participant in the Church, a high school or college graduate, or have earned a GED and must have a minimum 3.00 grade point average on 4.0 scale. Please e-mail Gene Russell to obtain an application. If you are a present scholarship winner and desire to renew, please submit a letter to the committee expressing this. The content of the letter should include your current school activities and current grade point average. The completed applications or letters should be forwarded to the attention of Gene Russell, scholarship chair, at the church or the email address that follows. The deadline is July 15, 2020. Further information you may contact me at 522-5255 or email at russgena@yahoo.com

Fireworks are On

Happy 4th of July!

We still have our property about by Pioneer Park. Anyone who wants to come and watch fireworks at our old church is welcome.

There are no bathrooms and no water. Please bring chairs /blankets and water or drinks.



Happy Independence Day



Worship—July 5th

Call to Worship

Song—"Greatness of Our God"

Prayer

America the Beautiful

Scripture— Romans 7: 14-25a

Sermon— Free At Last

Song—"Indescribable"

Prayer Concerns

Prayer for America

Lord's Prayer

Communion Song—"Together"

Words of Institution & Prayer

Communion

Thanksgivings

Song—"God Bless America"

Closing Blessing





Baby Bottle Offering

Please join us this summer in bringing hope to expectant mothers in our community. Making a difference is as easy as 1-2-3. Step 1: Pick up a baby bottle. Step 2: Fill it with change, cash, or checks. Step 3: Return the bottle. Every bottle counts! Please bring your bottles, no matter how full. Every little bit helps. Funds raised help A Caring Pregnancy Resource Center offer hope and no-cost, confidential services such as: pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, loving guidance, unconditional acceptance, material support, parenting help, and vital information for young women struggling with a crisis pregnancy.

Your name:

Address:

City, State, Zip Code:

Amount of Donation:

Return Bottle to:

P.O. Box 304

Brush, CO 80723

Phone: 970-842-4324

Prayer Concerns

Healing—Tom Helbert, Samantha Mahaffey, Myron Graybill, Bill Mason, Brandon Nielson, Neil Lindstrom, Iris Parker, Keri, Tom, Christian, & Mallory Myers

Cancer—John Sonnenberg, Darrell Smith, Arlie Pelton, Sue Van Pelt. Peggy Nielsen's cancer has returned to her lungs.

Updates—Iris Parker will have her surgery this week. Prayers please. Also, the C virus is once again afflict-

ing thousands. Several minister friends including two in Colorado have it. Please pray.



Anniversaries & Birthdays

Anniversaries:

7/08 Dana Parmer: 40 years

Birthdays:

7/05 Ruth Dykman

7/09 Emily Lovell

7/09 Eric Lovell

7/09 Neil Lovell



Sermon



The Sermon is based on
Romans 7: 14-25a
Sunday's Sermon—Free At
Last

Pentecost Offering Total

The total for our Pentecost Offering for new church development was \$625.

The offering for food for the orphanage in Africa was over \$500.

Thank you all for your faithful giving.



Under the Fig Tree

I wake up every morning and go through a list of blessings for which I am grateful. I do this to excite my love for God. It is an action borne out of that love which yields an affection that is emotion, mental thought, and will. It is a good way for me to begin the day. As we approach July 4th it has been easy for me to make that morning list, because I am so grateful that I was born in America in the latter half of the 20th century.

The four essential freedoms, outlined by President Roosevelt in his January 1941 State of the Union have been given to most of us. I have never awakened to the sound of drums, listened for incoming missiles in the night, watched as occupying troupes marched our streets, or feared death and destruction for myself, my family and the places I have lived. I have had freedom from fear.

I have never experienced food shortage, or been hungry without the possibility of food. I have always had a shelter over my head and clothes to wear. I have not lacked for anything I really needed. Though we grew up poor we always had enough of what we needed. Freedom from want has been the most difficult gift to understand when so much of the world experiences a lack of food and shelter. I have tried to never take that for granted.

We have freedom of speech in this country. A lot is made of fake news and this is a time when there is a lot of anger for the press. I have been misquoted and misrepresented in the press but not in any harmful way. Never-the-less, I am grateful for this first amendment guarantee, even when it is abused. The freedom of the press is the greatest guard against tyranny we have. You can complain about fake news all you want but freedom of speech has done more for our democracy than any other amendment, including the second.

Finally, I am grateful for the freedom of religion we have. I don't know what it is like to not have this freedom. If I had been born in another country I would have been whatever faith was the state sponsored faith. I don't know what that would be like, except that many have been persecuted if they try to step out of the state sanctioned faith. We have the freedom to choose without fear.

I don't believe faith is just a matter of personal choice. It is a gift to us but it is a divinely given gift not one imposed by the state. I am not Catholic, or Anglican, or Lutheran, Buddhist, Hindu, or Muslim, because I grew up in a state that was one of those. I am also not a Christian because I am an American. I am what I am because God has shaped my life and I have not had to fear persecution to answer the call of God on my life.

Today I thank God for my birthplace. My heart is full of gratitude.

Bible Studies

We are studying the Gospel of Matthew. Bible Study is at 10 a.m. Every Wednesday at the Worship Center.

Tithes & Offerings

Please remember to send your offerings c/o Pam Ferdig, 519 Pawnee Drive, Sterling, CO. Thanks for your faithful giving!

Media

Check out our media for more updates!
Website Link:
www.fcsterling.com

Instagram:

Fcc Sterling

First Christian Church

Our Mission—To make more and better Christians for the sake of the world

Our Vision—We seek to be a faithful and witnessing community of love for God and others

the text this week

Lectionary Readings in July

July 5, 2020
5th Sunday after Pentecost

Green

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67;

Psalms 45:10-17 or Psalm 72 (UMH 795);

Romans 7:15-25a;

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

July 12, 2020
6th Sunday after Pentecost

Green

Genesis 25:19-34;

Psalms 119:105-112 or Psalm 25 (UMH 756);

Romans 8:1-11;

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Serving in July

Date	Ushers	Preparing Deacon	Elders
July 5	Peni Carson	Dorothy Schreyer	Tim Sonnenberg
July 12	Peni Carson	Dorothy Schreyer	Chris Merkl
July 19	Peni Carson	Dorothy Schreyer	Dorothy Schreyer
July 26	Peni Carson	Dorothy Schreyer	Julie Sonnenberg

Disciple's Women's News

Thursday, July 16th, at 6 p.m. LADIES SALAD SUPPER! Hosted by the CWF Executive Committee. All women invited for an evening of food and fellowship.



Disciple's Men's News

Tuesday, July 7th, at 7:30 a.m. MEN'S BREAKFAST! Served at the new worship center.



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