

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

May 17, 2026

FCC CONNECTIONS



Dear Partners in Ministry,

We are deeply grateful for your participation in last year's Pentecost Offering. Your generosity is a powerful witness to the living movement of the Holy Spirit within the Church and in the world.

On Pentecost, the Spirit did not stay in one place. It moved outward — across languages, across cultures, across every barrier people thought stood between them. In that moment, a new kind of community was born — one shaped by courage, generosity, and love.

That same Spirit is still moving today.

Because of your faithful support, the Pentecost Offering continues to nurture emerging and affiliating faith communities through New Church Ministry and your Region where the offering is received. Your gifts help create spaces where people can encounter God, build meaningful relationships, and serve their neighbors with compassion.

In a time when many people feel uncertain and divided, the Church is called to be a different kind of presence — one that reflects Christ's compassion, humility, and grace. Through your generosity, new communities are taking root in neighborhoods that long for connection, encouragement, and belonging.

The Prophet Micah reminds us of God's call: "*To do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with your God.*" —Micah 6:8

Your participation in the Pentecost Offering is a beautiful expression of that calling — faith live out through generosity and love in action.

Thank you for giving. Thank you for praying. Thank you for being part of a Church that continues to row in love and faithfulness.

Together, we trust that the Spirit will keep moving outward — renewing communities, inspiring courage, and bringing hope to the world.

With gratitude,
Rev. Dr. Jose R. Martinez
Minister of New Church Strategies

P.S. I hope your congregation will again participate in the Pentecost Offering on May 17 and 24. For more information please go to Pentecost-offering.com

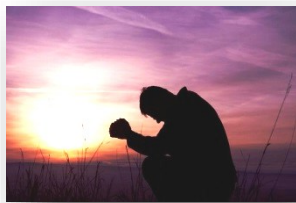


Worship
May 17, 2026

Welcome
Prayer & Lord's Prayer
Praise Song- "All My Praise"
Scripture: 1 Peter 5:6-11
Sermon: *In Due Time*
Pastor Lew Champ
Worship Song- "Friend in Jesus"
Intercessory Prayers
Communion Song- "Love Me Like I am"
Eucharist
Thanksgiving Prayer
Offering
Doxology
Announcements
Closing Song- "Made for More"
Benediction



the
text
this
week



Lectionary Readings

7th Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2026

Acts 1:6-14

Psalms 68:1-10, 32-35

1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11

John 17:1-11

*This Sunday,
May 17*

Scripture: 1 Peter 5:6-11
Sermon: In Due Time
Pastor Lew Champ



**Prayer
Intercessors**

Meet every
Sunday morning
at 9:00 am

NEW CONCERNS -

Phil Holland's got a cortisone shot for his elbow and is on a 10lbs restriction. He has to go back to get an EMG done.

Christa Barber's surgery is scheduled for 6/16.

Ellie Beede, Pat Crough's friend, fell and broke her neck a few weeks ago. She continues to improve!

Wanda Novacek will be having kidney surgery on 5/14.

JR Coberly, George Lulf's brother-in-law, is having surgery on 5/14.

Wade Gandee, Sandy Van Dusen's boss, will be having his kidney removed on 5/19.

Jim Helbert has Alzheimer's, his wife Judy is his caregiver.

Kristie Firme has asked for prayer for her Walk to Emmaus at the end of May. She will be leading the trip!

Jenesis, Carla's granddaughter, is in need of prayers.

MISSIONARY -

Pastor Julia Chen Chou is on an all liquid diet. She is in a lot of pain. It's still hard for her to talk, so she is asking for no calls at this time. Julia is struggling for strength.

CANCER -

Please pray for all those fighting cancer.

John Drury's mother, Bill Spicer, J.R. Coberly, Christina LaBlanc, Jessie, McGrew, Mike Kerker, Malita Mahali, Nora Fanelli, Emerson, Kelly Rae Churchill, Michelle, Wade Gandee, Jeanne Klemt, Gracie Dixon, Alizar Chavez Mendoza, Lew Champ, Keith Hobson, Darren Campbell, Gary Mix, Kyle Bean, Dean Meharg, Randy Richards

OUR CHURCH -

Please for and about the Search Committee. Since Chris is leaving, the Search Committee would like to have another person serve on the committee. Please pray about it and speak with Bill if you are called to do so.

DEMENTIA & ALZHEIMER'S -

Please pray for everyone who is dealing with declining memory and Alzheimer's.

WEATHER -

Please pray for rain for our land. Pray to end this drought, for the farmers, for the crops, and for the livestock.

Pray for all the crazy weather tragedies.

CONTINUING PRAYERS -

Lew Champ
Frances Mason
Ronald (Sue Lovell's Friend's brother)
Kay Gentry
Matt & Ceri Russell
Leo, AJ & Sarah Sonnenberg
Bill & Sharon Spicer
Schonefelds (Merkl's neighbors)
Adriana
Carol Graybill
Ariya Barber
Koy
Nettie Axtell
Georgia
Denise Gaynor
Addy Bacon
Renee (Sue Lovell's Friend)
Wade Pelton
Gordon Jones
Carole Wohlers
Sasaki Family
Kelly Hartman
Tim (Lovell's friend)
Maxine McFarland
Gene & Rita Uhler
Liam
Rodriquez Family

For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to people but to God. Indeed, no one understands them; they utter mysteries by the Spirit.

FAREWELL & BEST WISHES!

POTLUCK DINNER

For the Merkl's

Sunday, June 7, 2026 | Following Worship

All are invited to come and give farewell hugs and visit before they move late in June. They have been a wonderful part of our congregation and leadership team and will be missed greatly. Meat, drinks, & table service will be provided.

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 Christian community with a deep love for God and others.



05/17 Linda Merkl

05/20 Elijah Russell



Sunday, May 31, 2026

Helping Hands Offering

May 31st is the 5th Sunday of the month which means we will be collecting offerings for our Helping Hands Fund.

There will NOT be a May 31st Newsletter.

Bobbie is taking the week off for graduation. If there is something you need in that week's newsletter please get it to Bobbie by 5:00 PM Wednesday, May 20th, and it will be put in next weeks newsletter instead.

THANK YOU!

LINKS TO LAST SUNDAY'S SERVICE

Facebook FULL Service — Available for a few weeks:

<https://www.facebook.com/fccsterlingcolorado/videos/1527985865510563>

YouTube ONLY Sermon — Always Available:

https://youtu.be/_yNsi6ihwes

CONTACT US

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SERVING SCHEDULE

| Date | Usher | Preparing Deacon | Elder |
|--------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| May 17 | Della Williams | Marcia Lulf | Sandy Van Dusen |
| May 24 | Della Williams | Marcia Lulf | Lynn Lovell |

PLEASE NOTE: the emails end in .COM In your email contacts, please remove the church emails that end in .ORG as they have not been used since 2013.



Congratulations Graduates

Emma Berg

Wanda Berg's granddaughter, graduating from CSU, Engineering degree, already has a job in California lined up!

Elle Sonnenberg

Julie and Sam's granddaughter, graduating from NJC!

Chace

Linda and Chris's grandson, graduating in Castle Rock

Tyler

Linda and Mark's grandson, graduating from Prairie High School

Amelia Hupke

Bobbie and Matt's daughter, graduating from Goal High School

Kattie Williams

Kimi Williams' daughter, graduating from Sterling High School

Cashton Lewis

Ceri & Matt Russell's son, Gene & Nena's grandson, graduating from Windsor High School

Jessica Lovell

Graduating from Washington State University with a Masters of Science

Makala Holland

Phil Holland's granddaughter, graduating from UNC

Kadence Lewis

Ceri & Matt Russell's son, Gene & Nena's grandson, graduating from Murray College

Liam Royle-Grimes

Bonnie Royle's grandson, graduating from the University of Wyoming with a B.S. in astronomy and astrophysics and a B.S. in mathematics. He will go to Arizona State University for grad school in Planetary Science.



Continuing to High School:

Ariya Barber
Ayden Padilla
Colt Corman
Corbin Niblett