



First Congregational Church United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation

The Epistle

June 2025

"Grace and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."

(Paul's Epistle to the Philippians 1:2)

God is Still Speaking



Pondering Pastor on Welcome

*Jesus said "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me,
and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me." Matthew 10:40*

Part of our ministry is welcoming people into our community. Scripture tells us that the followers of Jesus are to share the Good News (*gospel*) with other people. We are also to welcome those who hear the gospel into our community! The people who come to us may be like us or they may be different from us. That is how it was always supposed to be! We are called to be a community of people with similarities and differences.

I often find myself talking to people about our church. The first thing people ask is "what kind of church is this?" It is not a strange question. Christian communities in different places have often understood the gospel and Jesus differently. This is also the way it has been since the days of Jesus. I believe what people really want to know is 'what do you believe?' and 'am I welcome?' What I tell people is that we are a mainline Protestant church, with roots going back to the Pilgrims. I say that we welcome all people. Then I invite them to join us at 10:30 on Sunday mornings.

Welcoming people means many things. Scripture tells us that welcoming people means providing hospitality and food to those who need it. Practically speaking hospitality and welcome have also come to mean being prepared to help diverse people feel at home. This may mean that transgender persons or same-sex couples can simply be themselves without being stared at. Hospitality to families means having classes and activities for children and youth. Hospitality to people with disabilities means having accessible bathrooms, large print, and using microphones so verbally shared information can be easily heard. I am happy to say all these forms of welcome are here at FCC! And, I wonder how we can increase our welcome as we move into the future. If you have thoughts please let me know--what would make you feel at home?.

Pastor Kelli

1275 Adams Ave
Rock Springs, WY 82901
307-362-3530

Church Email: churchfirstrock@gmail.com
www.firstrockucc.org

Office Hours: Mon 3:30-4:30 Tues-Thurs 12:30-4:30

Worship: Sunday 10:30 a.m.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:
MONDAY 3:30-4:30 PM, TUESDAY-THURSDAY 12:30-4:30 PM

June 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 WORSHIP 10:30 AM GROWING FAITH NOISY CHANGE	2 BIBLE STUDY 2PM	3	4	5	6	7 RS PRIDE 11-4 BUNNING PARK
8 DIACONATE 9:15 AM PENTECOST WORSHIP 10:30 AM	9 WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP 12:30 PM BIBLE STUDY 2 PM	10	11	12 Men's Fellowship 6:30 pm	13	14
15 WORSHIP 10:30 AM	16	17 Pilgrim Room rental	18	19 TRUSTEES 6:30 pm	20	21
<div></div> <div>PASTOR KELLI GONE</div> <div></div>						
22 WORSHIP 10:30 AM	23 BIBLE STUDY 2PM	24	25 COUNCIL MEETING 6:00 PM	26	27	28
29 ONA WORSHIP 10:30 AM MISSION 11:45 AM	30 BIBLE STUDY 2PM	WEEKLY CHURCH USE: LA HERMOSA- TH 7:00 PM, SAT & SUN 3:00 PM BOY SCOUT TROOP 4- TUES 6:00 PM MIA's LEARNING TREE: MON-THURS 8:30 AM- 2:00 PM				

THANK YOU!!!

It takes a congregation to make things run smoothly at church. Thank You to:

- ♦ Growing Faith, Mary Ruth P., and Penni H. for being worship leaders.
- ♦ Lynne F., Liz S., Bill and Cheryl W., Sharon P., Michele O., and the Legerski/Godfrey families for hosting coffee hour.
- ♦ Sophia H. for displaying her artwork in the narthex.



PRIDE

Rock Springs Pride will be held
June 7th at Bunning Park 11am-4pm



The Mission Board will be hosting a booth and we need volunteers to talk to the people about our church. Please sign up to help at the booth!



Offering Date: Pentecost Sunday, June 8th, 2025



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

**Thursday, June 12th
6:30 PM**

Worship & Scriptures for June

June 1, 2025

Luke 24:36-53

Acts 1:1-11

June 8, 2025

Pentecost

Genesis 11:1-9

Acts 2:1-21

June 15, 2025

**Trinity Sunday &
Fathers Day**

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

Romans 5:1-5

John 16:12-15

John 14:8-17

June 22, 2025

Psalm 42

1 Kings 19:1-15a

June 29, 2025

**Open and Affirming
Sunday**

2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14

Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

**988
SUICIDE
& CRISIS
LIFELINE**

Women's Fellowship

June 9th at
12:30 P.M.

All women welcome.



WHERE IS PASTOR KELLI?

Pastor Kelli will be on study leave
June 16-18 to attend the Institute of
Disability and Theology in Denver. She
will be at the Rocky Mountain Conference
Annual Celebration in Loveland
June 19-21st.

(Please contact her by email or cell for
emergencies during this time.)



Join us Mondays at 2pm. We are
reading the Letters of Paul
starting with 1 Thessalonians.



CONGRATULATIONS 2025 GRADUATES!

Rock Springs High School

Kayla Glover
Jacean Godfrey
Aliza Ransom

Food Pantry

Our food pantry continues to serve local
families in need. On average we have given
out 25 bags of groceries feeding 78 people
per month this year.

If you would like to make a donation to
the food pantry saltine crackers and canned
fruit are needed. You may also make a
monetary donation so we can
restock when supplies run low
or a case sale happens. Thank
you to all who contribute to
this ministry.



IT'S FINALLY THAT TIME
OF YEAR AGAIN... PLEASE
SIGN UP TO HELP TAKE
CARE OF THE LAWN FOR
A WEEK!

WHAT IS PENTECOST?



What is Pentecost?

Pentecost (from the Greek word
"Pentecoste" meaning "50th day") is one
of the most prominent feast days in the
Christian calendar. It is often referred to
as the "birthday of the Church".

It marks the day when the Holy Spirit
descended upon the Apostles, who had
been living in fear for fifty days following
the resurrection of Jesus Christ on
Easter Sunday.

Emboldened with the Holy Spirit, the
Apostles set forth to tell all people in
Jerusalem of the Resurrection. As they
spoke in tongues given to them by the
Holy Spirit, all those present could
understand them in their own language.

CANCER CARE

A project we are working on is "Cancer Care Bags" for the Sweetwater Oncology Center.

We are still looking for :

- ♦ 4 lotions (8 oz Aquaphor, Cetaphil, Eucerin, Lubriderm, Avenno, or CeraVe)
- ♦ 8 Sunblocks (5 oz 100% mineral based)
- ♦ 12 pair of fuzzy warm socks (medium or large)
- ♦ 11 decks of playing cards
- ♦ 12 boxes of organic non-caffeinated tea (loose ok)

Donations of items or funds can be brought to the church. We hope to complete this project by the end of the month.



COMMUNITY GARDEN

Troop 4 is hard at work building two new garden beds near the labyrinth! As we told you last month Rooted in Wyoming gave us a grant to build one. The BSA Troop 4 got a donation of materials from Bloedorns to build a second.

Thank You Troop 4!



Stop by and check out our new sign for the Labyrinth & Community Garden.
It is beautiful!

Each ton of recycled paper can
save 17 trees,
380 gallons of oil,
3 cubic yards of landfill space,
4000 kilowatts of energy,
and 7000 gallons of water



WAIT..
I can save
the world

COLLECTING CANS AND BOTTLES

We continue to collect cans and bottles for recycling. Please bring in rinsed-out food cans--we actually get a higher price for these than the drink cans. The funds from this collection are add to our discretionary fund.

Remember to take your tabs off the cans and bring them to the office for the Ronald McDonald House.



St. Christopher's Highway

PO Box 567 Rock Springs, WY 82902

307-922-2380

Travel Assistance
Rock Springs & Green River



Type of Assistance:

Lodging Food
Transportation Clothing

Volunteer on call
7:00am - 9:00pm

**St. Christopher's Highway Needs
Volunteers!**

**Please reach out to Pastor Kelli if you
can volunteer to help this ministry!**

