

Sunday, August 24th, 2025



Reach Up

Reach In

Reach Out

We are here to help people know God, find freedom, discover their purpose, and make a difference in the community, near and far. No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey...

You are welcome here.

Welcome to First Christian Church



DISCIPLES  
OF CHRIST



UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST  
a just world for all

## ORDER OF SERVICE

PRELUDE.....Aletta Wilson

CALL TO WORSHIP.....Jeanne Knotts

*Please join in the responsive Call to Worship, with everyone giving voice to the bold text as found in this bulletin and on the screens.*

Children of God, we gather today to encounter God.  
**We do not come expecting to be terrified or dismayed but to be welcomed and embraced.**

We gather today to witness the gospel at work among us.  
**We come to join the assembly of the kin-dom of God, to learn to live out God's kin-dom on earth as it is in heaven.**

We gather today to declare our faith in God's unshakeable kin-dom.

**We come with grateful hearts, trusting in the secure foundation of God's steadfast love at work among us. Thanks be to God!**

### GATHERING HYMN

Come and Find the Quiet Center.....Chalice Hymnal #575  
Verses 1 & 3

1

Come and find the quiet center in  
the crowded life we lead,  
find the room for hope to enter,  
find the frame where we are freed:  
clear the chaos and the clutter,  
clear our eyes, that we can see  
all the things that really matter,  
be at peace, and simply be.





### 3

In the Spirit let us travel,  
open to each other's pain,  
let our loves and fears unravel,  
celebrate the space we gain:  
there's a place for deepest dreaming,  
there's a time for heart to care,  
in the Spirit's lively scheming  
there is always room to spare!

**UNISON PRAYER.....**Jeanne Knotts

Listening God,  
Hear our prayers as we come before you.  
Hear the ones who are crying with pain in their heart.  
Hear the ones who are weeping with grief long into the night.  
Hear the ones who are sobbing in their loneliness.  
Loving God,  
Heal their pain.  
Restore their lives.  
Mend their broken hearts.  
Leading God,  
Lead us through the dark valleys.  
Lead us through troublesome times.  
Lead us to our home with you.  
Teach us to listen to your voice,  
That we may hear the cry of the needy and respond.  
Teach us to love that we may offer care  
That brings others to you for healing.  
Teach us to lead,  
With your vision so that we lead others home in you.  
Amen

**PASS THE PEACE**.....Rev. Patrick Crocker

**PRAYER TIME**.....Rev. Patrick Crocker

**HYMN OF GRATITUDE**

Give Thanks for Life.....Chalice Hymnal #649

Verses 1 & 2

1

Give thanks for life, the measure of our days,  
mortal, we pass through beauty that decays,  
yet sing to God our hope, our love, our praise,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

2

Give thanks for those who made their life a light  
caught from the Christ-flame, bursting through the night,  
who touched the truth, who burned for what is right,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

**CELEBRATION OF GRATITUDE**.....Esther Devall

**SCRIPTURE**.....Hebrews 12:18-29 (The Inclusive Bible)

**SERMON**.....Rev. Patrick Crocker

**What Can't Be Held, But Holds Us**

**COMMUNION HYMN**

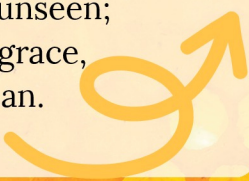
Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face.....

Chalice Hymnal #416

Verses 1, 2, & 3

1

Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face;  
here would I touch and handle things unseen;  
here grasp with firmer hand eternal grace,  
and all my weariness upon thee lean.





2

Here would I feed upon the bread of God;  
here drink with thee the royal wine of heav'n;  
here would I lay aside each earthly load;  
here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiv'n.

3

Too soon we rise; the symbols disappear;  
the feast, tho' not the love, is past and gone;  
the bread and wine remove, but thou art here—  
nearer than ever—still my shield and sun.

**CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST**.....Deb Cook

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & BENEDICTION**.....Rev. Patrick Crocker

**GOING FORTH HYMN**

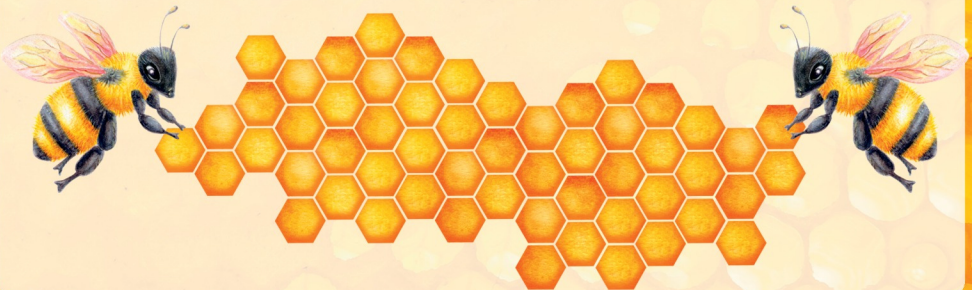
Peace Be Upon You.....Chalice Hymnal #441  
One Verse x2

**One Verse**

Peace be upon you and guard you forever.  
Go in the knowledge that God is with you.

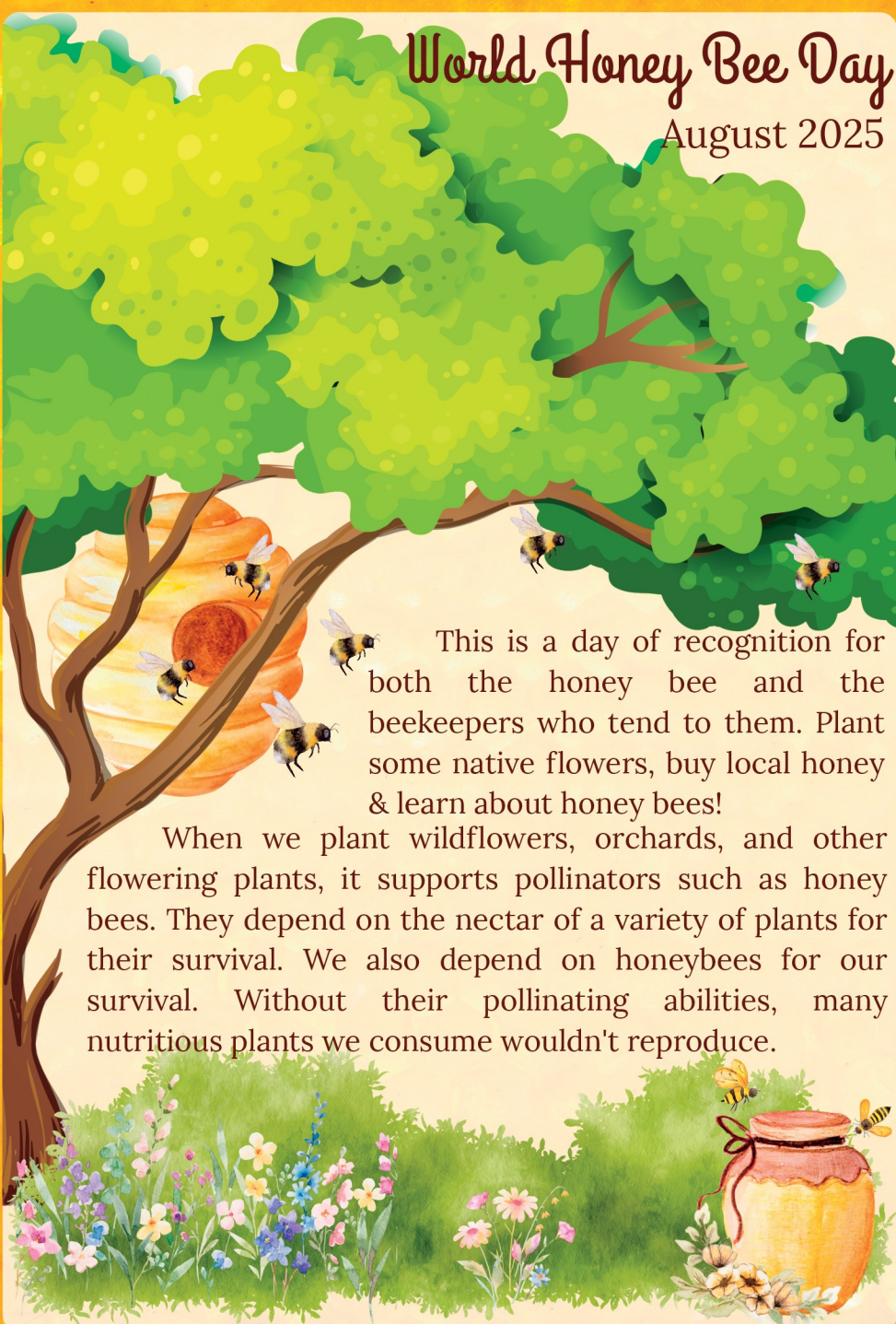
**Repeat**

**POSTLUDE**.....Aletta Wilson



# World Honey Bee Day

August 2025



This is a day of recognition for both the honey bee and the beekeepers who tend to them. Plant some native flowers, buy local honey & learn about honey bees!

When we plant wildflowers, orchards, and other flowering plants, it supports pollinators such as honey bees. They depend on the nectar of a variety of plants for their survival. We also depend on honeybees for our survival. Without their pollinating abilities, many nutritious plants we consume wouldn't reproduce.



## **ABOUT FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

We are Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. As part of the one body of Christ, we celebrate communion weekly. We welcome all to the Lord's table as God has welcomed us.

We are the United Church of Christ, committed to hearing God's ancient story anew and afresh in our lives and in the world today. Why? Because God is still speaking.

We are an Open and Affirming community. In Christ's example, we want to offer all persons, regardless of race, creed, sexual orientation, or gender identity, the opportunity to discover and develop their gifts of God's love and service.

# Welcome

**If you are visiting us today, we welcome you!**

**Please come worship with us again!**

**Global Ministries is supported by both DOC and UCC.**

For more information, visit [globalministries.org](http://globalministries.org).

**To assist with global crisis relief efforts, please visit:**

DoC: [www.weekofcompassion.org](http://www.weekofcompassion.org)

UCC: [www.ucc.org/what-we-do/wider-church-ministries/global-hope/](http://www.ucc.org/what-we-do/wider-church-ministries/global-hope/)

## WEEKLY EVENTS

<b>Bible Study</b> .....	Sunday, 9 AM
<b>Worship Service*</b> .....	Sunday, 10:15 AM
<b>Men's Breakfast (at University IHOP)</b> .....	Wednesday, 9AM
<b>Spiritual Practices</b> .....	Thursday, 9 AM

*\* Our Hybrid Worship Service is held in-person at the church,  
and live-streamed via Zoom and Facebook Live.*

## MONTHLY EVENTS

<b>Celebrate Birthdays of the Month</b> .....	First Sunday, 11:30 AM
<b>Contemplative Worship</b> .....	First Sunday, 6:30 PM
<b>Crafter's Group</b> .....	First Wednesday, 6:30 PM
<b>Potluck</b> .....	Third Sunday, 11:30 AM
<b>Brown Bag Lunch</b> .....	Third Wednesday, 11:30 AM

## STAY IN TOUCH

**Office:** (575) 524-3245      First Christian Church

**Pastor:** (575) 635-6489      1809 El Paseo Rd.

**Email:** office@fcclc.org      Las Cruces, NM 88001

**Website:** [www.fcclc.org](http://www.fcclc.org)

**Facebook:** @FirstChristianLC

**YouTube:** @FirstChristianLC

**For Text Alerts:**

Msg **FCCTextMe** to **(844) 467-1299**

## UPCOMING SERVICES

Services are at 10:15 am MDT unless otherwise noted.

August 31, 2025

**Worship Leader:** Deb Cook

**Offering:** Paul Cook

**Communion:** Esther Devall

September 7th, 2025

**Worship Leader:** Melissa McKenzie-Shaw

**Offering:** Zanté García

**Communion:** Paul Cook

September 14th, 2025

**Worship Leader:** Hilda McKee

**Offering:** TBD

**Communion:** Zanté García

September 21st, 2025

**Worship Leader:** Karen Holmes

**Offering:** Scott Hays-Strom

**Communion:** TBD