

January 2012



Let's Celebrate!

It's a new year! Did you celebrate the first new day? Wear a silly hat, laugh, and blow a noisemaker?

Did you celebrate the second new day? The third, fourth, and fifth new days of the year? No? Aren't they just as special? *"Hmmm...Not really,"* you say? What about Psalm 118:24: "This is the day the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it."

Sounds like silly hats and noisemakers could be on God's agenda for every day!

It's easy to rejoice when holidays on the calendar prompt us to but much harder when everyday life becomes...everyday life. A few days after the New Year's celebration, the hats and noisemakers usually get tossed in the trash. Often, along with them goes the joy for rejoicing in the everyday days ahead.

This year can be different. Forget the "I won't do this and I will do that" type of New Year's resolutions; try a new way of thinking instead. As part of each new day, find something to rejoice about. It could be a beautiful sunrise, encouragement from a friend, or an answered prayer. There are also the unexpected joys in everyday life, like laughing with your family when you burn the rolls (again), a spontaneous smile from a grouchy co-worker, or the friend who brings you chocolate on the moderately worst day of your life.

Our slogan as Christians should be "Just Celebrate." Celebrate because every day God desires for us to see him at work in our lives. To catch a glimpse of God, a "God sighting" in the everyday-ness of life, makes us stop and rejoice in his presence.

This year, make a new calendar—a "joy for today" calendar. Each day, write down one thing (or more) you can rejoice about. And keep that silly hat where you can see it to remind you to celebrate every day!

WOMEN'S MINISTRY GIRLFRIENDS

First Christian Church (DOC)
16 E Platte Ave
Colorado Springs, CO 80903



THE WORD

**"Each morning I will sing
with joy about your
unfailing love."**

—Psalm 59:16

THINK ABOUT IT

**Today I can sing for joy
because:**

Celebrate the Silly!

Did you know that January 3 is Fruitcake Toss Day and Festival of Sleep Day? And the 10th is Houseplant Appreciation Day?

According to internet sources, there's a silly holiday for every day of the year. And if it's on the internet, it must be real, right? Well, maybe not, but at least we can keep laughing all year! Especially if we celebrate National Kazoo Day (January 28) or Squirrel Appreciation Day (January 21). (It's the middle of winter, so perhaps squirrels need encouragement?)

Here are a few more silly holidays to add to your "joy for today" calendar this month:

- 11—Step in a Puddle and Splash Your Friends Day (Be nice!)
- 12—National Hat Day
- 13—Blame Someone Else Day
- 18—Winnie the Pooh Day
- 20—Penguin Awareness Day
- 26—Bubble Wrap Appreciation Day
- 27—Chocolate Cake Day
- 29—National Corn Chip Day



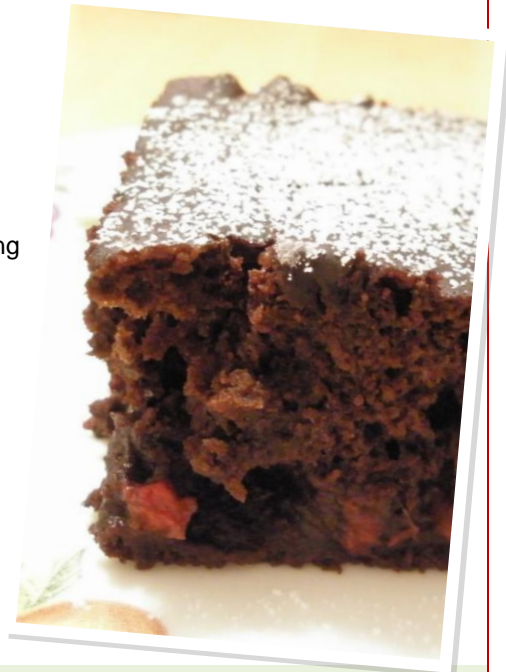
Everybody Eat Cake!

In honor of Chocolate Cake Day on January 27 (a well-known holiday to Americans as well as internationally!) here is a fabulous recipe for a yummy chocolate cake that is gluten-free, too. So there are no excuses—everybody eat cake! (Recipe courtesy of glutenfreehomemaker.com)

Cherry Chocolate Cake

- 1¾ cup regular flour OR gluten-free flour mix (available in most regular and natural grocery stores)
- 1 cup sugar
- ¾ cup cocoa powder
- 1½ teaspoons baking soda
- 1½ teaspoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1 can (21 ounces) cherry pie filling
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 teaspoon almond extract
- 1 cup boiling water

Mix the dry ingredients together in a large bowl. Add the eggs, pie filling, and extracts. Mix in the boiling water, stirring gently. Pour into a greased 9" x 13" pan. Bake for 30-35 minutes at 350 degrees. Top with powdered sugar, and enjoy!



Time Out for Fun

It's National Hobby Month, so you have permission to lay aside the to-do list for one day and spend time doing something you enjoy—quilting, photography, crafts, cooking, reading. Even taking a nap can be a hobby! Need a new idea for a hobby? Here are a few not-so-ordinary suggestions (comments added) from the website notsoboringlife.com:

- People-Watching (It's official—we can now call this a hobby!)
- Dumpster-Diving (Only for fearless treasure hunters with the right gear!)
- Pyrotechnics (Are there community classes for this?)
- Geocaching (One of the newest and most popular hobbies for all ages!)
- Tea-Tasting (Preferably with a good score!)
- Yo-yoing (With a real yo-yo, not about decisions you have to make!)
- Building a House for Habitat for Humanity (What a great idea!)

WOMEN'S MINISTRY AT FCC

We BEFRIEND women, so they feel like they BELONG. Then they will be open to hear about what we BELIEVE, which will open their hearts to BECOME someone different ... a follower of Jesus! To complete the circle, we want women to BEFRIEND others, and help them BELONG, too.

January Rebekah Meeting

Tuesday, **January 3 @ 7:00 PM** at the home of Nancy Lingbloom 3313 Birnamwood Drive 282-0384
 Our Study is **Confessing the Beatitudes**. Please read Lesson 5 (See Nancy if you need a book)
Greatly Honored Are Those Who Show Mercy
 Nancy is also our Lesson Leader. *Please call Nancy if you are unable to attend. Remember to bring your offerings and invite someone new! Questions?*
 Ginny Grant 591-6434 or GinnyG8797@aol.com

The **Searchers** welcome all FCC women to join us **Jan 4th @ 12:30 p.m.** Come for dessert and brief meeting and prayer in Fellowship Hall, then adjourn to the parlor for the study led by Donna McWhirter. Read Lesson four from **Confessing the Beatitudes**, and bring your Bible. Study may be purchased from Donna. *Questions? Contact Jan Haley janhaley@comcast.net or 598-6920.*

Bible Study (in my home)... **Mondays @ 5:45 PM – 7:30 PM** - Book: *Twelve Extraordinary Women: How God Shaped Women of the Bible, and What He Wants to Do with You –*
 Author: John MacArthur
 Call: Gwen Schulte @ 591-9317 for details.

Prayer Shawl Ministry at FCC meets Sundays between services as needed for prayer and fellowship. Shawls are created and given to console those who are grieving, comfort those who are ill, bring hope to those in despair and to celebrate life and its milestones.
Donations to purchase yarn are welcome.

Piece Makers Jan 14th @ 1:00 p.m.

LEARN TO QUILT – Learn to quilt from experienced teachers. Starting in January a Block of the Month quilt (also block or techniques can be used for smaller projects). Are you a novice or an expert wanting to refresh your skills? Join the fun! Starting in February Piece Makers will meet the third Saturday of each month. Contact: Sue Hesser 439-0569 or suehesser@yahoo.com

Dough Girls – will learn another baking

Technique. This month **LEARN TO MAKE SOPAPILLAS**. Must sign up in advance.

RSVP Juanita Lopez 321-5337 or jesusloveme60@hotmail.com to get ingredient and supply list.

*Coming up – What do you want to make? Then join us **Jan 10th 6:00 p.m.***



Red Hatters The lunch will be at "THE ELEPHANT BAR" It will be at 12:30 on **January 19 Thursday**. (Note change of time from 12:00 to 12:30) Please e-mail Beryl at folsombj@q.com or 630-2240 with your RSVP. I will need to know by Jan. 16, for an exact count for the Elephant Bar. Thanks so much.



Beryl

Treasures by Hand will meet the second Saturday of each month starting in February. *February project will be Silk Painting*. Starter kits need to be ordered so RSVPs are required. All are welcome. Let the church office know a week in advance if nursery is needed. RSVP to Lenna Fajerman 719-429-0619 or coloradogirl@pcisys.net

Slimnastics. Every Thursday at 11:00 AM in the Church Gym. Bring a small rug or a yoga mat and a water bottle. Class involves stretching exercises and strengthening exercises like crunches and curl downs. You should wear loose stretchable clothing. Every Thursday. Contact Bev Olson for more information.

Tai Chi. Open to beginners and intermediate students. Wear loose clothing. Easy movements, non-impact. Tai Chi is a Chinese method of movement exercises which is beneficial for the mind and body. You may join the class at any time. I will teach beginning movements for the first half hour, and then move into more advanced movements the rest of the time. New students may follow along or watch the harder movements. Contact Bev Olson 573-2836 for more information. Every Thursday - 12:00 PM



Quilting Group - 2nd 3rd and 4th Thursdays - 9:30 a.m. Room 210

This group meets to make quilts. If you don't know how to quilt, they'll teach you. All the proceeds from the quilters' work are generously given to missions, especially ones that help children and youth. We are working rigorously on quilts for 2012 Quilt Sale. Come help us!



Special Knit or Crochet Project - One of our youth is going on a trip with his high school to Cameroon, Africa. He would like to take knitted or crochet hats for youth and children with him. So after the holidays please consider making hats and returning them to the church by April 2012. Please help our special youth with his service project.

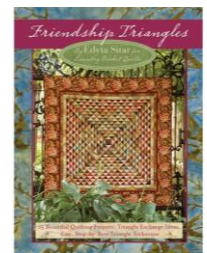


Chick Flickers This group is for gals who just want to get together to watch a movie, have some goodies and discussion with other girlfriends. Do you have a movie you want to see with your girlfriends?

Watch the church website and bulletin boards for future excursions. Or email Lenna Fajerman coloradogirl@pcisys.net to be added to contact list.

We have seen some wonderful movies.

Special Quilt Project - Be sure you have turned in your Half-Square Triangles to any Quilt Group member. We want to make a *Tree of Life* quilt for the **2012 Quilt Sale**. We are looking forward to seeing the results of your choices of fabrics.



Addie's Kitchen January 21st 1:00 pm

Fellowship Hall. Freezer meals. Make one for yourself and one for Mission. You must sign up in advance.

Attention young families of FCC! You are invited to dinner at Old Chicago downtown at 6:00 pm on **January 21st**. Please join us for fellowship, fun, and good conversation! Contact Tracy and Kermit Van Zee at 492-6815 or tnvanzee@yahoo.com for more information and to sign up!

INVITE YOUR GIRLFRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS TO OUR WOMEN'S PROGRAMS. ALL ARE WELCOME!

ANY TIME YOU NEED CHILDCARE FOR A GIRLFRIENDS EVENT YOU NEED TO CONTACT THE CHURCH ONE WEEK IN ADVANCE. PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE. 633-8888

Media Morsels

Book Review

God Sightings: The One Year Bible

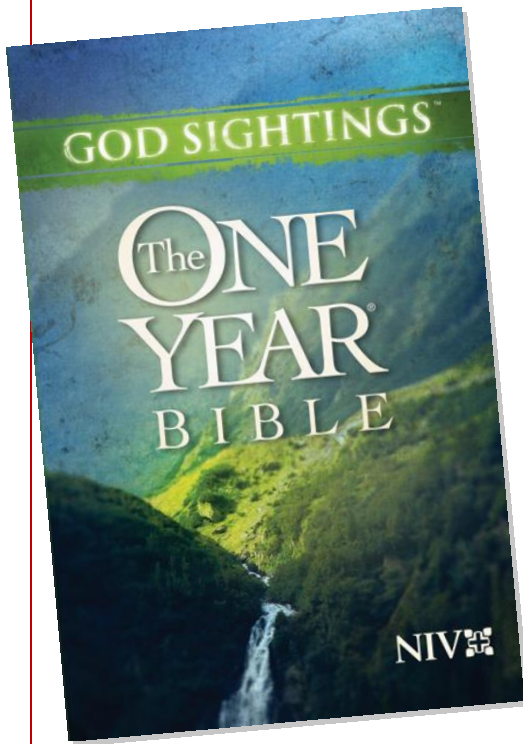
(available in NIV or NLT translations)

Catch a glimpse of God every day for the rest of the year!

Revitalize your Bible reading this year, and experience the power of God's Word each day as you study excerpts from the Old Testament, New Testament, Psalms, and Proverbs. Discover the amazing ways God expresses the truth found in the Bible to the world around you and in your own life. Read, meditate, and then celebrate the God sightings he will reveal to you every day.

Invite your family and friends to join you in reading the Bible in a year, and share your God sightings as you journey together!

God Sightings: The One Year Bible is available at Christian bookstores or online at Amazon.com, Christianbook.com, or group.com. Additional God Sightings resources for small groups can be found at group.com.



Internet Review

Internet Café Devotions

Grab a seat, and let the counter baristas at *Internet Café Devotions* serve your daily cup of inspiration!

Don't waste time on the internet this year; make the most of it by connecting to daily inspiration for your everyday life. At *Internet Café Devotions*, they have just the right blend to help you grow in your relationship with God and his Word. You'll connect each morning with a team of women sharing devotional specialties from their real life, along with Scripture nuggets of God's truth for you to savor.

Thirsty? Grab your empty cup, and join the gals at the Café for your favorite inspirational flavor! Head to internetcafedevoations.com, where you'll have the option to fill your cup via e-mail, Facebook, or Twitter.



This page is designed to inform and educate you and is not an endorsement. Our prayer is that you will make informed decisions on what you see, read, and listen to.

January

A Taste of What's Happening for Women

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	5:45 PM Bible Study – Women of the Bible	7:00 PM Rebekahs	12:30 PM Searchers	11:00 AM Slimnastics 12:00 PM Tai Chi	6:00 PM Parents' Night Out	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	5:45 PM Bible Study – Women of the Bible	6:00 PM Dough Girls	Step in a Puddle and Splash Your Friends Day (be nice!) National Human Trafficking Awareness Day	National Hat Day 9:00 AM Quilters 11:00 AM Slimnastics 12:00 PM Tai Chi	Blame Someone Else Day	1:00 PM Piece Makers
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	5:45 PM Bible Study – Women of the Bible		Winnie the Pooh Day	9:00 AM Quilters 11:00 AM Slimnastics 12:00 PM Tai Chi 12:30 PM Red Hatters	Penguin Awareness Day	1:00 PM Addie's Kitchen 6:00 PM Young Families of FCC Dinner Out
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
11:30 AM All Church Pot Luck w/Jose Morales	5:45 PM Bible Study – Women of the Bible			Bubble Wrap Appreciation Day 9:00 AM Quilters 11:00 AM Slimnastics 12:00 PM Tai Chi	Chocolate Cake Day	
29	30	31				
National Corn Chip Day	5:45 PM Bible Study – Women of the Bible					

Dates subject to change. Always check with Fencilator to confirm date and time.

Contact for more information

Name: [Lenna Fajerman](#)
 Phone: 719-429-0619 (yes, this is a long distance number)
 E-mail: coloradogirl@pcisys.net

AND
 Church Office
 @ 633-8888

We can always use more Girlfriends!

THE SPICE