



The Caller

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First Christian Church Chico

(Disciples of Christ)

Agree to Differ • Resolve to Love • Unite to Serve

Holy Week



- Palm Sunday, March 29th
- Maundy Thursday, April 2nd, 7 p.m. service in FCC Sanctuary, with Chico First Baptist!
- Easter Sunday, April 5th Sunrise Service at 6:45 a.m. at First Baptist Church, and 10 a.m. service in our FCC Chico

10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship Service in Sanctuary and Online

Visit fccchico.com for details

First Christian Church Chico • 295 E. Washington Ave Chico CA 95926 • 530-343-3727 • chicodisciples@gmail.com



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FCCChico

First Christian Church

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Mission Statement: Chico First Christian Church is an inclusive, loving community of believers in Jesus Christ who wish to explore and follow his teachings. We strive to provide opportunities to freely develop our faith through worship, Christian education, fellowship, and pastoral care. The Holy Spirit guides us in our personal and congregational outreach and mission, where we proclaim the good news and serve in Christ's name. We work for peace as embodied in the person of Jesus Christ. We help ourselves and others fulfill God's calling by discovering wholeness in our daily lives and by putting faith into action.

Staff:

- Pastor Jesse Kearns, pastorkearns@gmail.com
- Administrative Assistant: Briony Gniechwitz, chicodisciples@gmail.com
- Custodian: Connor Kearns
- Custodian: Sherrie Wells
- Custodian: Scott Hall
- Bookkeeper: Marie Grandeen

2026 Elected Church Leadership:

- **Moderator**-Maxwell Erwin
- **Vice-Moderator**-Cynthia Cantwell
- **Secretary**-Carolyn Driscoll
- **Treasurer**-Nancy Thompson
- **Congregational Life Ministry Leader**-Peggy Davidson
- **Outreach Ministry Leader**-Georgia Nelson
- **Administrative Ministry Leader**- Georgeanne Bennett
- **Member At Large**-Leslie Moore
- **Financial Secretary**-Georgeanne Bennett
- **Assistant Financial Secretary**-Carolyn Driscoll
- **Personnel Committee**- Kathy Moran, Amber McGill, Lori Terrell-Adrian
- **Elders:** Mary Kearns (chair), Georgia Nelson, Kevin Zeitler, Dave Hoppe, Nancy Morgans-

Ferguson, Barbara Poetker, Jean McKay, Georgeanne Bennett, Bill Peterson

- **Endowment Trustees:** Nancy Thompson, Marie Grandeen, Blaine Roberts, Carolyn Hicks
- **Deacons (not elected):** Georgeanne Bennett, Peggy Davidson, Carolyn Driscoll, Marie Grandeen, Nancy Morgans-Ferguson, Barbara Poetker

Email Lists

- **Prayer Chain:** Be sure to have permission to share names and any specifics with the prayer chain.
- **Sermons:** Have last Sunday's sermon and YouTube video emailed to you.
- **The Caller. Monthly newsletter, available by email and/or mail by request**
- **The Callerito: Weekly (mostly) email.** This is also the list we use for the bulletin and meeting reminders.

Small Group Opportunities

- **Blue Cloud Arts Production** meets on the 4th Monday at 7 p.m. in the Chapel. Blue Cloud Art Productions is our in-house devotional creation group. We invite contributions from across our church—art, poetry, prose, and reflections that speak to your faith journey. All forms of creativity are welcome: quilts, knitting, embroidery, paintings, photography, writing—whatever is beautiful and meaningful to you.
- **Upbeats Music Jam** meets at 10:45 a.m. on Tuesdays. It is open to musicians of all levels, and all are welcome.
- **DWM (Disciple Women's Ministry)** is a service group open to all women of the church and meets on the third Tuesday of each month from 2:00-4:00 p.m., September

through May. This circle serves the church and its congregation by reaching out to homebound members at Christmas and Easter and wherever needed. The primary fundraiser is the annual bazaar (1st Saturday in November). Funds from the bazaar cover church kitchen supply expenses, and a part of the proceeds go to various outreach ministries.

- **Koinonia Krafters** meets on the second Tuesday of each month from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room. Participants work on a crafting project of their choice and spend time in fellowship.
- **Healing Circle** meets each month on the fourth Friday from 1:00 pm.-3:00 p.m. in the Bethany Room. This circle is open to all members of the church. Participants may be journeying through a chronic illness, be a caregiver, or may simply be going through a stressful period in their lives. Experiences and feelings shared in the meetings are confidential and not shared outside the group.
- **Women's Bunco Group** meets at 7:00 p.m. on the fourth Friday of each month.
- **Weekly Evening Bible Study** is offered at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom and in person in Room 6. Several 6 to 10-week sessions are offered throughout the year.
- **Sacred Grounds** is a faith-forming discussion group that meets on Sundays at 8:30 a.m.
- We offer **Sunday School** for children in 4th grade and younger. The class meets during the weekly 10:00 a.m. service.
- For more information and contact information, please contact the church office at **530-343-3727** or chicodisciples@gmail.com

Congregational Life Ministry



“Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.”

– 1 Peter 4:10
NRSVU

From Pastor Jesse

What would it look like if our church building were used for ministry **every single day of the week**? In many ways, that vision has already been taking shape here for years. And now we have an opportunity to strengthen it even more. This month we begin a Capital Campaign called **“Imagine More: A Vision for Everyday Ministry.”** Through this campaign we will raise funds to install an improved security system, upgrade our HVAC system, and make improvements that reflect warmth, hospitality, and good stewardship of our resources. For now, I want to focus on its tagline: **“For every day. For everyone. For what’s next.”**

In 2006, a year before I was called to be your pastor, our denomination’s Board of Church Extension conducted a study of our congregation called **“New Beginnings.”** They examined our church’s history, compared it with national trends, and studied the demographics of Chico and Butte County to better understand the ministry needs in our community. Their findings were both encouraging and challenging. They noted that one of our congregation’s greatest assets is our facilities. Compared

with other churches our size, we have exceptional space that can serve community groups and ministries. They also recognized that we are a genuinely loving and welcoming congregation. At the same time, like many mainline churches, we had been experiencing a steady decline since the early 1990s.

Congregations facing decline usually follow one of three paths: they continue as they always have until their resources are gone; they intentionally use their remaining assets to support or launch another ministry; or they become what some call a **“reaching congregation,”** focusing their resources on meeting the needs of their surrounding community. We chose the third option.

Because the *New Beginnings* study identified our facilities as one of our strongest tools for ministry, we made a simple commitment: **every room in our building would serve a ministry purpose, and something meaningful would happen here every day of the week.** A recent example is Room 10. It had gradually become a storage space that few people actually used. Around the same time, we learned about a need in our community. **The Forgotten Initiative**, which supports foster

Congregational Life Ministry

Sacred Grounds, Adult Faith Formation Class

Day: Sundays, Time: 8:30 a.m.
Where: Room 6 and on Zoom

Live Streaming Sunday Worship Service

- Zoom (Open the Zoom app. If you need to download it, go to zoom.us.)
 - Meeting ID: 3976292568.
 - Password: 5303433727
- Facebook Live: <https://www.facebook.com/fccchico/>

Meeting Dates

Tuesday, April 7th
7:00 p.m.—Church Board Hybrid Meeting, Chapel, and on Zoom

Tuesday, April 21st
7:00 p.m.—Elders’ Hybrid Meeting, Chapel and on Zoom

Pastor Jesse’s Schedule

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday
8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
The Church Office will be closed Friday, April 3rd and Monday, April 6th



Sunday from the Lectionary

April 2nd
*John 13:1-35
“Even Judas”
Maundy Thursday
Service at FCC Chico

April 5th
Acts 10:34-43 or
Jeremiah 31:1-6
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Colossians 3:1-4 or
Acts 10:34-43
John 20:1-18 or
*Matthew 28:1-10
“Good News is Alive in the World”
6:45 a.m. Sunrise Service at First Baptist Church
10:00 a.m. Service at FCC Chico


April 12th
Acts 2:14, 22-32
Psalm 16
1 Peter 1:3-9
John 20:19-31
*Ephesians 3:14-20
“Imagine More”

April 19th
Acts 2:14, 36-41
Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
1 Peter 1:17-23
Luke 24:13-35
*Matthew 21:18-20

April 26th
Acts 2:42-47
Psalm 23
1 Peter 2:19-25
John 10:1-10
*Matthew 21:21-22
“With Prayer and Faith”



All texts and sermons are subject to change as the Spirit leads.

Sermons are available on the website: fccchico.com,  [FCCChico](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFCCChico), and by email by request (contact the church office, chicodisciples@gmail.com)

April				
	5 Easter Sunday	12	19	26
Elder	Kevin Zeitler	Mary Kearns	Jean McKay	Bill Peterson
Musician	Josh Hegg	Nancy Thompson	Josh Hegg	Nancy Thompson
Worship Leader	Dave Hoppe	Georgeanne Bennett	Dave Hoppe	Carolyn Driscoll
Deacon	Peggy Davidson	Carolyn Driscoll	Marie Grandeen	Nancy Morgans-Ferguson

Congregational Life Ministry

(Pastor Jesse's article continued from page 3)

families, was looking for space to host a clothing boutique for foster children and their caregivers. We said yes—and remodeled the room to make it possible.

Today, foster families can visit the boutique to receive clothing, diapers, cleaning supplies, and other essentials. But something unexpected happened as well: the volunteers discovered it had become a wonderful place of fellowship. People linger, share conversation, and enjoy time together. We even added a coffee maker because sometimes there are more people there enjoying fellowship than there are scheduled volunteers.

That's how ministry often works. We set out to do one good thing, and it becomes more than we imagined. This capital campaign is about continuing that kind of ministry. By caring for our building and improving its systems, we are strengthening one of our congregation's most important tools for serving our community. Together, we are investing in ministry that happens **every day, for everyone, and for whatever comes next.**

See you in church!



Congregational Life Ministries

There has been an enthusiastic response to favorite hymn suggestions. Here are the ones suggested:

- Joyful Joyful We Adore Thee
- How Great Thou Art
- Nearer My God to Thee
- I Know Whom I Have Believed
- Are You Washed in the Blood
- Great Is Thy Faithfulness
- He Lives
- At Calvary
- What a Friend We Have in Jesus
- Just As I Am
- There is a Balm in Gilead
- I'll Fly Away
- It is Well With My Soul
- In the Garden
- Amazing Grace
- There is Something About That Name
- This is my Father's World
- On Eagles' Wings
- His Eye is on the Sparrow
- Pass it On
- Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus
- Rock of Ages
- The Church's One Foundation
- In the Bulb There is a Flower

Thank you, everyone, for your suggestions.

We are taking memorial or in honor donations for Easter flowers for the sanctuary.

Easter Sunday, First Baptist, and we will have the sunrise service at Chico First Baptist.

At 10:00 a.m., we will celebrate Easter in our sanctuary. Fellowship following the service will be provided by the Elders. There will be an

Congregational Life Ministry

egg hunt and cookie decorating for the children.

--Peggy Davidson

Congregational Life Ministry Leader

- **Easter Sunday, April**

5th Sunrise Service at 6:45 a.m. at First Baptist Church, and 10 a.m. service in our FCC Chico Sanctuary

April Birthdays

04/01	Michaela Campos
04/01	Corky LeTellier
04/01	Dave Hoppe
04/05	Merrienne Rawlins
04/09	Angela Rawlins
04/11	Norma Dietz
04/12	Sally Scott
04/15	Carolyn Hicks
04/16	Glenn Story
04/19	Jill Monson
04/20	Jean McKay
04/21	Lucy Erwin
04/24	Diane Steffy
04/25	Barbara Kemper



Faith in Films

This month's Faith and Films will feature *Rental Family* starring Brendan Fraser as a down-on-his-luck American actor living in Tokyo who finds an unexpected new career working for a rental family agency. The service allows lonely clients to hire actors to play specific roles in their lives -- from a surrogate father for a school interview to a best friend for a grieving stranger. As Phillip immerses himself in these scripted relationships, the boundaries between his performance and a real emotion begin to blur, leading to a heartfelt exploration of loneliness and the need for human connection. The movie will be shown on Monday, April 20 at a location to be determined, with discussion on Wednesday, April 22 at 7:00 in Room 7.



Holy Week



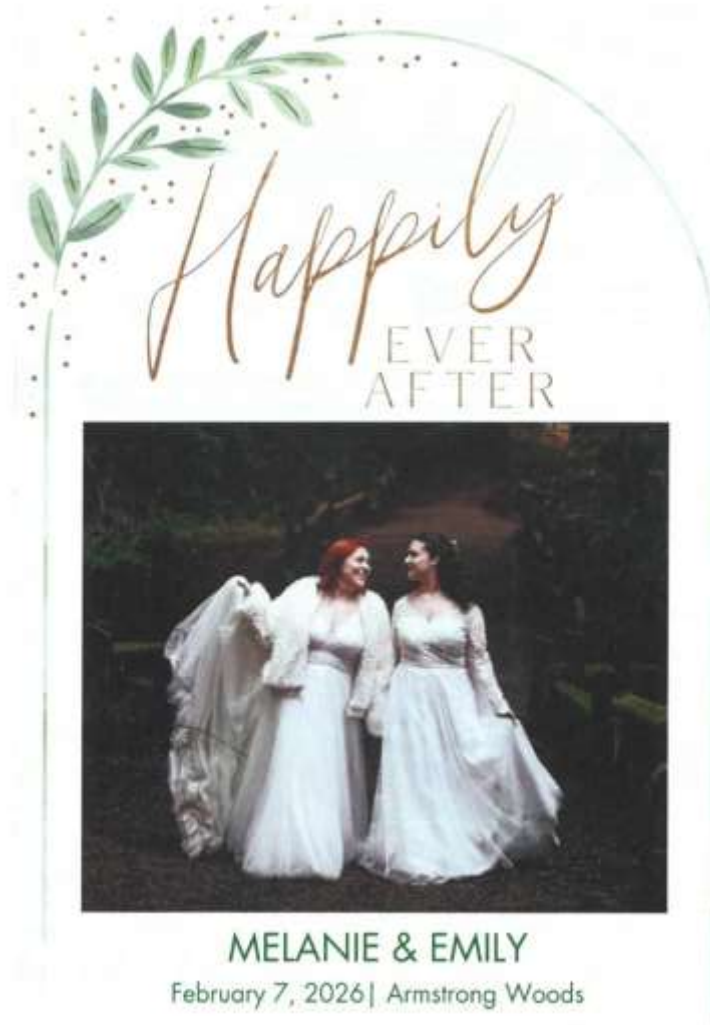
the good news is.

so good, it catches us by surprise

- **Palm Sunday**, March 29th
- **Maundy Thursday**, April 2nd, 7 p.m. service in FCC Sanctuary, with Chico First Baptist!



Congregational Life & Administrative Ministry



You're Invited!

Ann & Jay Nelson, along with Marie & Jim Conley, are pleased to share that our beautiful daughters Emily & Melanie were married in an intimate ceremony in the Armstrong Woods on February 7th, 2026.

Now they would like to celebrate with you! Please join us **Saturday, April 11, 2026, at 3 pm at First Christian Church, 295 E. Washington Ave, Chico, CA, 95926.**

Please RSVP by text to [530-513-4556](tel:530-513-4556)

Your love and support mean the world to Emily & Melanie. If you feel moved to contribute to their next chapter together, they would be grateful, but please know that your presence is gift enough.

Blue Cloud Art Productions Blue Cloud Arts Production Capital Campaign Edition for April 5th, 2026



- Campaign Vision and Theme: Imagine More: A Vision for Everyday Ministry
- Tagline: “For Every Day. For Everyone. For What’s Next”
- Lectio Devina: Matthew 5: 13 - 20

KEY CONCEPTS:

- You are the salt of the Earth
- You are the light of the World
- A lamp stand gives light to all in the House
- Let your light shine before others
- Give glory to God

Congregational Life Ministry & Administrative Ministry

IMAGINE MORE image to be inspired by:

- Church
- Beaming Sun behind Church
- Cross
- Heart
- Green Hills
- Sun rays
- Cross on church steeple

Colors in Capital Campaign Logo:

- Bright Yellow Sun
- Navy Blue Church with Steeple with Navy Blue cross on top of Steeple
- Yellow Heart icon on Church
- Green Hills surrounding Church

Submissions to be emailed to Leslie Moore:

LMooreLeslie@gmail.com

Email to Leslie no later than Friday, March 27th, by 5 p.m.

Seeking: Prose, Poetry, Short Memoir, Personal Testimonies, Short Creative Nonfiction, Songs, Music, Collage, Paper Craft, Fine Art, Textile Art, and other forms of Visual and Literary Art.

Tell your story, testimony, or experience in connecting with God, reflecting on the Bible Verse / Lectio Devina above.

Blessings and Love

Leslie M

Send submissions to:

Leslie Moore — LMooreLeslie@gmail.com

CONTACT ME:

Text: 1-707-529-3195

Email: LMooreLeslie@gmail.com

Administrative Ministry

Water Leak

Not long ago, we received notice from the city that there was likely a water leak on our property. A review of our water usage showed an unusual pattern—rather than rising in summer and dropping in winter, usage had remained consistently high since last summer.

We contacted our longtime plumber, who sent a team to investigate. They discovered that our building did not have a nearby shutoff valve, which made locating the leak more difficult. Before the problem could be identified, a new shutoff valve had to be installed, requiring excavation in the alley. Once that was completed, the team was able to pinpoint the issue. They found several small leaks in the K-Hall bathrooms and kitchen, along with a significant leak in the main line near the back door (see photos on the next page). After repairing that section, a larger leak developed farther down the same line, about five feet closer to the meter. That section was also repaired.

All leaks have now been repaired, and we expect our water usage to return to normal. Thank you for your patience during the temporary water interruptions.

Administrative Ministry & Outreach Ministry



New water shut-off valves



The leak, with water barely turned on



A new, larger leak was repaired about five feet away from the original, smaller leak

Missions and Outreach Corner!

Our FCC Mission at Everhart Village

Our congregation members are diligently supplying meals for the 20 individuals living in the tiny homes at Everhart Village.

Joe Rogers and his group supply a meal monthly, and love to include a home-cooked entree.

Lisa Currier and her helpers also bring a meal once a month on a different day. Here are some pictures of her latest delicious meal!

Bon appétit!



--Georgia Nelson,
Outreach Ministry Coordinator

Outreach Ministry



Easter Special Offering **This Day: When Love Answers**

On that first day of the week, grief and uncertainty were met with resurrection hope. Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and proclaimed, "I saw the Master!", bearing witness to a love that answered her sorrow with new life. What began as confusion and loss became a world-changing encounter with the risen Christ.

"This day" was unlike any other. Love answered Peter's searching. Love answered Mary's longing. Love answered with presence, promise, and purpose.

Through the Easter Offering, we respond to God's resurrection love by sharing in God's work in the world. As we give, we proclaim with Mary: love still answers.

The Easter Offering, received by most congregations on March 29 and April 5, 2026, provides vital support for the general ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Your generous gift helps equip college students for leadership, strengthens global mission partnerships, sustains health and social service ministries, supports the formation of new congregations, cares for pastors and chaplains, and so much more.

Your gift has the power to transform lives and extend the love of Christ around the world. Thank you for making a difference.

Offering envelopes will be in the Sunday bulletins on Sunday, March 29th and April 5th.

Outreach Ministry

Giving

Your Support Matters: Your support through giving is crucial for sustaining the ministry and outreach efforts of our church. We are grateful for your generosity and commitment to First Christian Church. You can donate either online at fccchico.com or by mail. You don't need any special envelopes. If you want to designate your funds for a Special Offering, Pastor's Discretionary Fund, or anything else, just put that on the memo line of your check.

Thank you for supporting the church in time, talents, and tithes!

Monthly *The Caller* deadline:

15th of the month

Sunday Bulletin deadline:

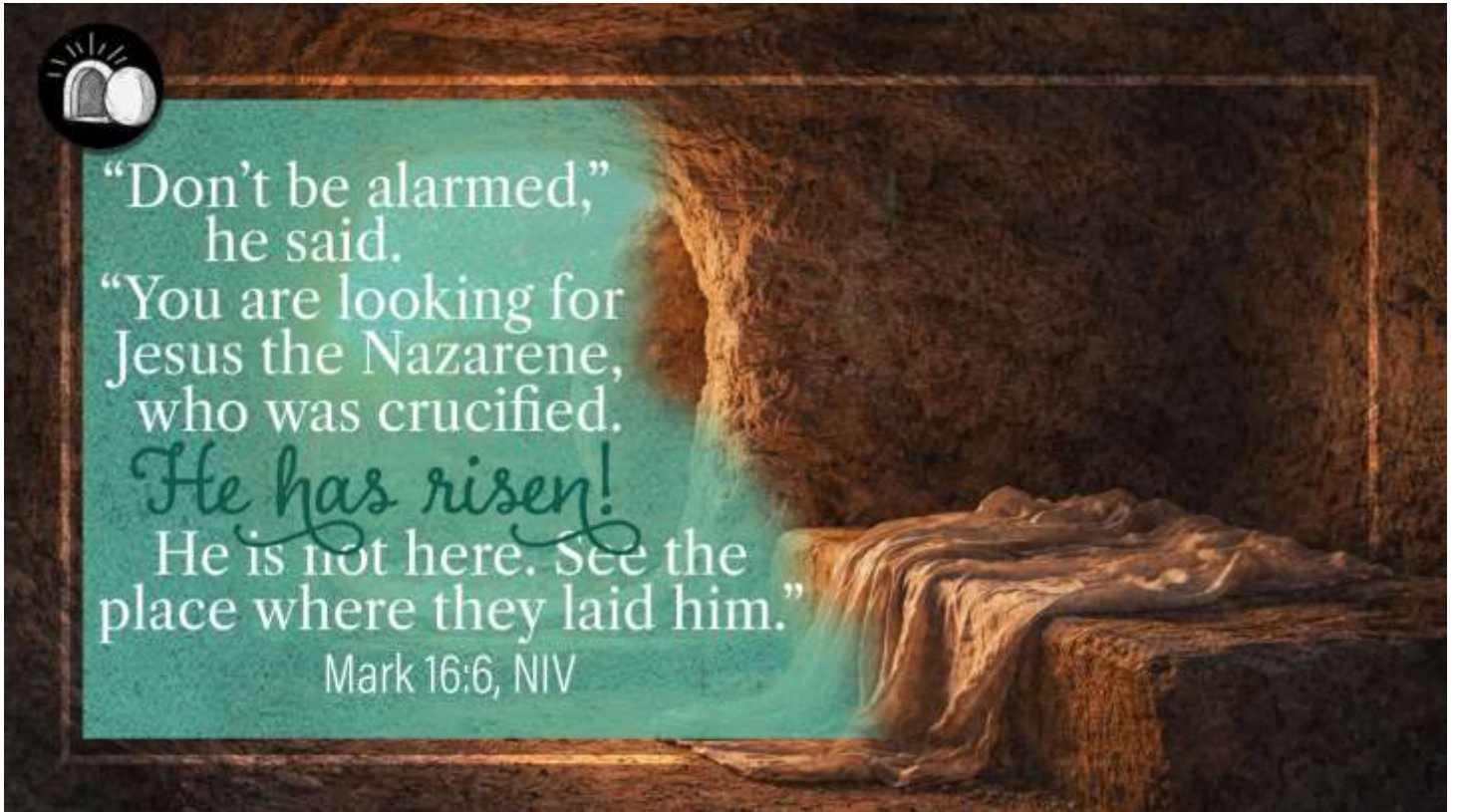
Wednesdays, 10 a.m.

Weekly *The Callerito* deadline:

Thursdays, 10 a.m.


To be included in any mailing, contact the church office at 530-343-3727, or chicodisciples@gmail.com.
Donations of \$13/yr. appreciated but not necessary.

FCC Chico
Donation QR
Code:





APRIL 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 10 am-Uplift Boutique, 10 6 pm BSA Troop 2, Koinonia Hall (Khall), Fireside (FS)	2 8:30 am Worship Team Breakfast, Cozy Diner 5:30 am BSA Pack 2, Khall, FS 7 pm Maundy Thursday Service with Chico First Baptist, FCC Sanctuary	3 Good Friday Church Office Closed 	4 10 am Uplift Boutique, 10 1 pm Bereavement Alumni Potluck, FS Evening NVIG Comedy Night, Khall
5 Easter Sunday 6:45 am Sunrise Service, Chico First Baptist Church 10 am Worship, Sanctuary, Zoom/FB 1 pm Agua Viva, Sanctuary 2 pm Journeys of the Heart Bereavement Group, Spiritual Care Center (SCC)	6 Church Office Closed	7 10:45 am Music Practice, 4 7 pm Church Board Hybrid Meeting, Chapel, Zoom	8 10 am-Uplift Boutique, 10 11:30 am Chico Area Interfaith Council, FS 6 pm BSA Troop 2, Khall, FS	9 8:30 am Worship Team Breakfast, Cozy Diner 5:30 am BSA Pack 2, Khall, FS 6:30 pm Bible Study, FCC, 6, Zoom	10 	11 10 am Uplift Boutique, 10 3 pm Emily (nee Nelson) and Melanie's wedding celebration, Khall, FS, Kitchen Evening Iglesia de Cristo Agua Viva Prayer Vigil, Chapel
12 10 am Worship, Sanctuary, Zoom/FB 1 pm Agua Viva, Sanctuary	13 	14 9:30 am Koinonia Krafters, FS 10:45 am Music Practice, 4	15 The Caller Deadline 10 am Uplift Boutique, 10 6 pm BSA Troop 2, Khall, FS	16 8:30 am Worship Team Breakfast, Cozy Diner 5:30 am BSA Pack 2, Khall, FS 6:30 pm Bible Study, FCC, 6, Zoom	17 	18 10 am Uplift Boutique, 10
19 10 am Worship, Sanctuary, Zoom/FB 10 am FCC Coming Sunday, service at 11 1 pm Agua Viva, Sanctuary	20 7 pm Faith in Films, TBD	21 10:45 am Music Practice, 4 2 pm Disciple Women's Ministry, Bethany 7 pm Elders, Zoom, Chapel	22 9:30 am PEO, FS 10 am-Uplift Boutique, 10 6 pm BSA Troop 2, Khall, FS 7 pm Faith in Films Discussion, 6	23 8:30 am Worship Team Breakfast, Cozy Diner 5:30 am BSA Pack 2, Khall, FS Annual Gathering at FCC Concord	24 1 pm Healing Circle, Bethany PEO Chapter LV, Khall Annual Gathering at FCC Concord	25 11 am PEO Chapter LE, Fireside, Kitchen 10 am Uplift Boutique, 10 Annual Gathering at FCC Concord
26 10 am Worship, Sanctuary, Zoom/FB After Church Capital Campaign meeting, 6 1 pm Agua Viva, Sanctuary Annual Gathering at FCC Concord	27 7 pm Blue Cloud Art Productions, Chapel	28 10:45 am Music Practice, 4 	29 10 am-Uplift Boutique, 10 Social Worker Training, Khall 6 pm BSA Troop 2, Khall, FS	30 8:30 am Worship Team Breakfast, Cozy Diner 5:30 am BSA Pack 2, Khall, FS		