



THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH



FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 22, 2023

A NOTE FROM YOUR PASTOR

Friends,

Did you eat your pancakes yesterday? After all it was Fat Tuesday, the day people traditionally tried to use up eggs, milk, sugar, butter (all the yummy things) before a season of fasting. Whether or not any type of fasting is part of your Lenten practice, I hope you will find ways to engage this meaningful season.

I think the beauty of Lent is that it invites us to slow down and to create space. It gives us space for honesty, for listening, for intentionality. I hope you will take advantage of that, set some rituals for the season, and engage it both individually and with our faith community.

The first opportunity for engagement comes today. It is Ash Wednesday. **Meanwhile, we have made some changes to the plan due to anticipated winter weather.** Please read carefully. We will not have worship at the church. **We will gather on Zoom for a live Ash Wednesday service at 6:30pm.** As usual, a recorded version of the service will also be on our YouTube channel. **Ashes will be available at church from 9am - 1pm only.** If you arrive between 9am and noon, please come into the church or call to have someone come out to the front drive so you can receive ashes. Between 12noon and 1pm we will have someone ready at the front drive to do drive thru ashes. There will not be ashes between 5 and 6pm. And at any time, if the weather is questionable, please call before coming over to make sure staff is present.

I'm looking forward to this season when we will ask questions and listen together for insights. Hope you are, too!

With care, *Jill*

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Our annual congregational meeting takes place on the last Sunday of February, so it is coming soon. Join us on **February 26** at 11:15am for this meeting. As we did last year, you can participate in the sanctuary or via Zoom.

At our congregational meeting we will receive the list of nominations for officers, board members, elders, and trustees. We are grateful to the Nominating Committee for their good work. Here is the slate we will approve:

Moderator (through Feb 2024) – Sally Strah

Assistant Moderator (through Feb 2024) – Jon Feaver

Board Secretary (through Feb 2024) – Pat Boelens

Treasurer (through Feb 2024) – Terry Dahms

Financial Secretary (through Feb 2024) – Malinda Thomas

Ass't Financial Secretary (through Feb 2024) – Pam Ries

At-Large Board Member (through Feb 2026) – Steve Dunham

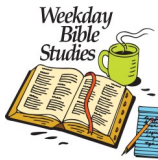
Elders (through Feb 2025) – Martha Melton, Marcus Seaton, Nancy McKinstry

Trustees (through Feb 2026) – Jim Lang

We will also hear a report from the Capital Campaign Team as they share the anticipated projects and financial goal for our 2023 capital campaign. We are grateful not only for their work, but for all of you who participated in the conversations in the fall that helped us create the list of projects for this campaign.

All members of the church are invited to vote at congregational meetings and everyone is invited to stay and participate regardless of membership.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



BIBLE STUDY

Join us using [Zoom](#). We meet at **12noon each Wednesday.**

Upcoming scriptures:

February 22: John 3:1-17

March 1: John 4:5-42

ASH WEDNESDAY - NOTE CHANGES

Join us today - **Ash Wednesday (February 22)** for

- Worship live [on Zoom](#) at 6:30 or you can find a [recorded version](#) at our You Tube page.
- If you would like to receive ashes, you may come to the church office between 9am and 12noon or drive thru at church between 12noon and 1pm. If weather is questionable, please call before you drive over.

FCC BOOK CLUB



The FCC Book Club's February book is *The Long Way Home: Detours and Discoveries* by Tom Montgomery Fate.

This book of essays takes us on a journey of places from Iowa to Nicaragua to the Pine Ridge Reservation, but also along "detours of self-discovery." The meeting to discuss this book will be [on Zoom](#) on Thursday, **February 23.**

FCC AT FREE LUNCH

PROGRAM - FEBRUARY 25

We are serving at Free Lunch on Saturday, February 25. Items can be brought to church during office hours today or tomorrow. There is also a drop off time **February 24** from 11:30am-1pm.

FAITH FORMATION

(AKA: SUNDAY SCHOOL)

Each Sunday there are classes for children (age 4) through adults and a nursery for younger children. Classes go from 11:15am - 12noon.

February 26:

Congregational meeting (youth and adults)
Faith Formation/nursery for young children.

March 5 - April 2:

Plenty Good Room: A Lenten Bible Study based on African American Spirituals (youth and adults)

Stories of Jesus (Pre-K through 5th grades)

Nursery for our younger kiddos



AED FOLLOW UP

Thanks to the 29 people who attended AED/CPR Training on Sunday. It was a great event and we all learned something new.

We would encourage everyone, whether you attended Sunday's training or not, to familiarize yourself with the location of our AED (near the elevator) and the contents of the storage box (in addition to the AED and adult pads, there are child-sized pads, scissors, and more in that box).

WORSHIP FYI...

You might have noticed recently your ushers encouraging you to find your seats in the sanctuary before 10am. When the bell rings to call us to worship, the next thing that happens is that one of our wonderful musicians plays a prelude. In an effort to honor the preparation they do, we are working to encourage folks to find their seats by 10am so we all can listen. And if you missed visiting with someone, remember, there is more time visit after worship!

PRAYERS & PRAISE

- We pray for Diane Hertel who was again hospitalized this past weekend but is now home.
- We pray for Laura Kittrell who is recovering following a fall.
- We pray for all who are grieving including the Jensen-Fitzpatrick family upon the death of Julie's uncle and the Korroch-Donnoe family upon the death of Vickie's brother-in-law.
- We pray for all those living in the aftermath of gun violence.
- We pray for those in Turkey and Syria living in the aftermath of a recent earthquake.
- We continue to pray for those who are in a nursing home, homebound, have emotional and physical needs.

Please always let your pastors know about surgeries, hospitalizations, or other pastoral care needs.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to those who joined our staff in leading worship on February 19: Gene Hansen and Laurie Dahms (Greeters); Payton Steeples and AJ Kronstein-Steeples (Ushers); Al Zimmerman, Tim Fees, and Disciple Strings & Singers (Musicians); Jaida'Rose Kronstein-Steeples (Acolyte); Krista Kronstein (Scripture Reader); Julie Fitzpatrick, Krista Kronstein, and Payton Steeples (Communion servers); Julie Fitzpatrick (Elder); David Klein and Grayson Seaton (A/V); Sally Strah (Fellowship Time Host); Steve Strah (Valet Parking).

Thank You, Church Family!

I appreciate those who have said prayers, sent flowers, cards and phone calls, and helped in my recuperation. Thank you, Diane Hertel

WE NEED YOU!

Sundays rely on volunteers to go smoothly! If you are willing to serve as a Greeter, Usher, Scripture Reader, Fellowship Time Host or Acolyte (K-6th grade), please [choose your dates and sign up here](#) (use the drop down menu in the upper right to toggle between various roles). You can also contact Nancy McKinstry (nancy.a.mckinstry@gmail.com, 319-400-1380) with questions or to sign up for these roles. **There are many available opportunities in this new year!** If you are interested in doing Children's Moments, speak with Pastor Kara (icdisciple.kids@gmail.com). If you would like to be trained to run sound or PowerPoint, speak with Laurie Dahms (laurie.dahms@gmail.com).



Remember, you can join us in person at church or worship with us on [YouTube](#) each Sunday at 10am.

WORSHIP - FEBRUARY 26, 2023 (1ST SUNDAY IN LENT)

Hymns - Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days; Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ; Who Will You Listen To?

Scripture - Matthew 4:1-11

Sermon - Who Will You Listen To?

TWO SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FROM FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

There are two scholarships available through First Christian annually and the scholarship application is ready for you! Applications for both scholarship are due April 3. To read more and find the applications, use the links below:

First Christian scholarship: [First Christian Church Scholarship | First Christian Church \(Disciples of Christ\) \(icdisciples.org\)](#)

Sunier scholarship (English language literature or poetry) [Sunier Scholarship | First Christian Church \(Disciples of Christ\) \(icdisciples.org\)](#)

IT'S TIME TO GET REGISTERED FOR CHURCH CAMP!

Every year our region offers a summer full of camps. Children and youth (grades 2 - 12) can go to camp with their peers. There is also Family Camp and Grand Camps (for grandparents and children). There is even a camp for Senior Adults (age 55+).

Pastor Kara will be directing Grand Camp 1 and Pastor Jill will be directing CYF 2. We have other adults who attend these and other camps as counselors, as well.

To learn more information and to register [visit the Christian Conference Center's website](#). And, remember, the church pays 1/2 of the registration fee for FCC campers, so be sure to use the code "church50"!



SHELTER HOUSE BOOK SALE IS COMING

The Shelter House Book

Sale will take place **March 25-26** with donation drop off beginning Feb. 19. For more information about how you can participate visit [their website](#).

FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

We encourage you to participate in a local event if you are able.

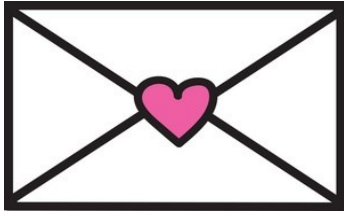
The University of Iowa is holding various activities: [black-history-month](#).

Film Scene is showing "Black Is...Black Ain't" on Monday, February 27 at 7:00 p.m. [info.aspx](#)



As the relief, refugee, and development mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), **Week of Compassion** works with partners to alleviate suffering throughout the world.

We will continue to receive our Week of Compassion offering on Sunday, **February 26**. Your gifts are a witness to God's compassion and make a difference to people in the midst of difficult times in their lives. Whether you give by check or online giving, please be sure to identify your gifts for Week of Compassion.



FEBRUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	6					
19 Worship 10 AM AED/CPR training 11 AM JYF 12 noon Handbells 12 noon Troop 270 5:30 PM Troop 2000 7 PM	20 Hannah Circle @ Zoom 1 PM Elders 7 PM	21 Staff Meeting 10AM Kara's PST 6:30 PM	22 Bible Study @ Zoom 12 Noon Drive-thru Ashes 12noon-1 PM and 5-6 PM Ash Wed. Worship 6:30 PM	23 Women Clergy @ Zoom 10 AM Spiritual Life Group @ Dahms' 11 AM FCC Book Club 7 PM	24	25 FCC Serve at Free Lunch Program
26 Worship 10 AM Congregational Meeting 11:15 AM Kids' Faith For- mation 11:15 AM SLG Zoom 2:30PM Troop 270 5:30 PM Troop 2000 7 PM	27 Capital Campaign Team 6 PM	28 Spiritual Life Group @ Anderson/ Dohrmann home 7 PM	ANNIVERSARIES Jill & Jim Michel -5 Gayle & Joann Cuppy -7 Rachel & Bob Bogs - 11 Malinda & Jay Thomas -17	BIRTHDAYS Shannon Yost -3 Grayson Seaton -4 Armani Kronstein- Steeple -7 Elain Donnoe -8 Jayden Mohr -11 Frank Williams -12 Joy Clark -14	Sharon Pickens -16 Dennis Arnold -16 Beth Smith -18 Nancy Ream -19 Marilyn Woodin -23 JohnMcKinstry -23	Maya Seaton -24 Carla Melby-Oetkin -24 Emily Steeples -25 Kristia Kronstein -27 Maggie Keyser -27 Teegan Michel -27



March

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Bible Study @ Zoom 12 Noon Disciples Strings & Singers 6 PM Spiritual Life Group @ Jill Michel home 6:30PM	2 Spiritual Life Group @ Dahms' 11 AM	3	4
5 Worship 10 AM Faith Formation 11:15 AM Handbells 12 noon SLG Zoom 2:30PM Troop 270 5:30 PM Troop 2000 7 PM	6	7 Spiritual Life Group @ Anderson/ Dohrmann home 7 PM	8 Bible Study @ Zoom 12 Noon Jill's PST (Zoom) 5:30PM Spiritual Life Group @ Jill Michel home 6:30PM	9 Spiritual Life Group @ Dahms' 11 AM Clergy Cluster 12 Noon FCC Connect @ Zoom 6:30PM Arrow Chapter	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
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**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)**

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Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday, 9am to noon

Staff:

Rev. Jill Cameron Michel, Sr. Pastor

Home Phone: 319-665-2276

Rev. Kara Seaton, Minister of Children, Youth & Families

Rev. Laura Kittrell, Minister of Music and Worship

Carol Mertens, Interim Office Assistant

Michael Hull, Custodian

Lori Smith, Bookkeeper

Damian Dorta, Technology & Communications

Kalea Seaton, Nursery Caregiver

Caitie Klein-Lester, Nursery Caregiver

Participants learning and practicing at AED/CPR training on Sunday.

