



# **THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**



**FOR THE WEEKS OF MARCH 29 AND APRIL 5, 2023**

## **A NOTE FROM YOUR PASTOR**

Friends,

Last week I talked about transitions. One thing that is transitioning around here is the frequency of our newsletters. For some of you this isn't a big deal. For others it may feel like a friend is visiting less frequently. It is our intention to continue to communicate regularly. Meanwhile, we also know that repetitive communication can get tiring.

Here's our intention:

Throughout the months of April and May we are going to shift from a weekly newsletter to sending one every other week. The next newsletters will come out April 12 and 26, as well as May 10 and 24. We are exploring moving to a monthly newsletter starting in June. What this means is that we ask everyone who has information to communicate about groups and ministries at First Christian to get the next month's information to us by the end of the current month. For example, we would love to know all the May details no later than April 24 so they can be included in the newsletter that goes out April 26. Likewise, June details will be included in the May 24 newsletter and should be to the office no later than May 22. We are hoping that this slow move from weekly to bi-weekly to monthly will help make this transition smooth.

But, what about when things come up between newsletters? We still have several other opportunities for communication:

- Our Saturday email always has the listing of the upcoming week's events. We will begin mailing that via USPS to those without email on the weeks when a newsletter is not being published.
- If you are on Facebook, make sure you are part of the "First Christian Church of Iowa City Connection" group. If you aren't, please talk to myself or one of the other pastors and we'll get you connected. We share lots of information there and you all can post things as well. We also have a "First Christian Church (Disciples) of Iowa City" page. This is a public page so we don't put personal information on it, but do announce events. If you are on Facebook, I hope you have or will "like" it.
- Each Sunday we print a handout with prayer concerns and upcoming events.
- We periodically send out additional emails if there is something urgent. If you know of people who don't have email, I'd encourage you to share information that you know they would care about when these emails arrive.

We appreciate both your patience and your feedback in this transition.

With care, *Jill*

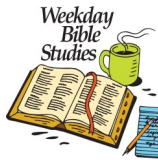
P.S. Holy Week and Easter are coming quickly! Read page 2 of this newsletter for all the details!

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Marketers of all kinds of consumer services price their products in small monthly amounts, rather than an annual total. The thinking is that we will gladly pay \$4.99 per month for something we wouldn't dream of paying \$60 a year! Put that same principle to work when thinking about your stewardship of the resources you've been given.

For our annual stewardship emphasis for the church—and for things like our upcoming capital campaign—think about what you can commit in weekly or monthly increments. Think about how much more you could do per week if you forego one nice lunch out per week. When you multiply that to an annual total, or for the campaign a three-year total, you might be surprised that you're able to give more than you thought.

# MARK YOUR CALENDARS



## BIBLE STUDY

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

Upcoming scriptures:

**March 29:** John 20:1-18

**April 5:** 2 Kings 22 & 23

**April 12:** I Chronicles 29:1-9



## STRINGS AND SINGERS

All musicians are invited to be part of Disciples Strings & Singers. Want to join? You are welcome! Upcoming rehearsals are: **March 29, April 12 and April 26** at 6pm.

## 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.

**April 2:** Lenten studies will conclude.

**April 9 (Easter):** No Faith Formation

**April 16 - May 21:** Intergenerational Faith Formation

## LEADERSHIP VISIONING RETREAT

All current board members and elders are invited to a visioning retreat and board orientation on Sunday, **April 2**. This will take place after Faith Formation, beginning at 12noon and ending at 3pm. Lunch will be served. If you haven't already responded to the email, please RSVP today!

Questions? Contact Sally Strah, Board Moderator, or Jill Michel.



All 3rd - 5th graders are invited to JYF on **April 16** at noon. Please RSVP to Kara. Questions? Just ask!

## HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

**Holy Week Worship** will take place on Thursday, April 6 at 7pm in the sanctuary.

**Easter Sunrise Service** will take place at 6:15am at the church. We will begin worship inside and end outside in the sunshine!

**In-Person Easter Worship** will happen at 8am and 10am at the church. The two services will be identical, so choose the one that fits your schedule.

**Online Easter Worship** will be posted to our YouTube channel beginning at 8am Easter morning: [First Christian Church, Iowa City, IA - YouTube](#)

**Time of Fellowship** at 9am with light breakfast (finger foods) and a selection of simple hands-on activities. You are invited to stay after the 8am service or come early for the 10am service to participate.

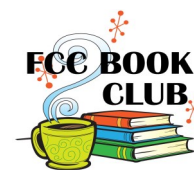


## SPRING YOUTH RETREAT

A youth retreat for 6th-12th graders is planned at the Christian Conference Center on **April 21-23**. Youth are invited to spend time away on Holy Ground as we plan to connect, eat, laugh, learn and do some light work. Talk to Kara to sign up or for more information.

## FREE LUNCH - APRIL 22

It's almost time for Free Lunch. Most information coming soon! For now, mark your calendars.



## FCC'S BOOK CLUB

It's time to start reading for the **April 27** Book Club meeting. This month's book is *Our Missing Hearts* by Celeste Ng.

# CONTENT COVERED TO PROTECT PRIVACY

## THANK YOU!

Thank you to those who joined our staff in leading worship on March 26: Tom & Judy Glau (Greeters); Gene Hansen and Maggie Keyser (Ushers); Disciples Ringers, Malinda Thomas, Sara Klosterboer and Strings & Singers (Musicians); Lumen Brandsmeier (Acolyte); Sara Klosterboer (Scripture Reader); Nancy McKinstry, Cameron Michel, Teegan Michel Communion servers); Nancy McKinstry (Elder); David Klein and Maya Seaton (A/V); Sally Strah (Fellowship Time Host); Steve Strah and Paul Bly (Valet Parking).

## LET'S GET READY FOR EASTER

Easter is April 9. It's a big Sunday in the church. What better time to spruce the place up?

Instead of having a spring cleaning day, we are inviting people to choose a cleaning task to complete. You can do this on your own time the week of April 2. We will have the supplies you need available and ready. Come on your own or with a friend.

[Choose a task using this sign up](#) or call the church office for more information.

## 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 the church office with questions or to sign up for these roles.

If you are interested in doing Children's Moments, speak with Pastor Kara.

If you would like to be trained to run sound or PowerPoint, speak with Laurie Dahms



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

### WORSHIP - APRIL 2, 2023 (6TH SUNDAY IN LENT/PALM SUNDAY)

**Scripture** - Matthew 21:1-11

**Sermon** - Where Are You Headed?

### WORSHIP - APRIL 9, 2023 (EASTER SUNDAY)

**Scripture** - John 20:1-18

**Sermon** - Who Are You Looking For?



## TIME TO REGISTER FOR CHURCH CAMP!

Children and youth (grades 2 - 12) can go to church camp with their peers. There is also Family Camp and Grand Camp (for grandparents and children). There is even a camp for Senior Adults (age 55+).

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

Church camp is a great experience! If you have questions, just ask!

## 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.

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 \(Disciples of Christ\) \(icdisciples.org\)](#)



NAMI is the nation's largest grassroots mental health organization. They provide many services and opportunities in our community. NAMI Family-to-Family (F2F) Spring 2023 program is beginning tomorrow and will meet every Thursday **from March 30 to May 18** (6 - 8:30 p.m.). F2F is a free, 8-session educational program for family, significant others and friends of people with mental health conditions. The course aims to increase understanding and advocacy skills while helping participants maintain their own well-being. [Visit this website to sign up.](#)



## CORALVILLE COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY EXCITING NEWS FROM CORALVILLE FOOD PANTRY

While they have been serving from there for two months now, the Grand Opening Ceremony and Ribbon Cutting of Coralville Community Food Pantry's new facility will be on Thursday, **April 6** from 4 - 5:30pm. All are invited! Plan to attend? [RSVP here.](#)

Also, there next Global Community Meal is Friday, **March 31**. For more information, [visit here.](#)

## FIRST CHRISTIAN'S YOUTUBE CHANNEL

If you haven't already subscribed to it, visit it today. YouTube has simplified the web address so you can find it at: <https://youtube.com/@icdisciples>

# March

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	6		15			
26 Worship 10 AM Faith Form 11:15 AM JYF 12 noon SLG Zoom 2:30PM Troop 270 5:30 PM Troop 2000 7 PM	27 Fellowship Hall in use 6:30 PM	28 Spiritual Life Group @ Anderson/Dohrmann home 7 PM	29 Bible Study @ Zoom 12 Noon Spiritual Life Group @ Jill Michel home 6:30PM	30 Spiritual Life Group @ Dahms' 11 AM	31	Birthdays Mark Smith 3/31  Anniversaries Kent & Rebecca Clark 3/31

# April

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Worship 10 AM Faith Formation 11:15 AM Handbells 12 noon Visioning Retreat 12 noon	3 Capital Campaign 6:30 PM Fellowship Hall in Use 6:30	4 Personnel Committee 9:30 AM Spiritual Life Group Anderson/Dohrmann home 7PM	5 Bible Study @ Zoom 12 Noon Spiritual Life Group Jill Michel home 6:30 PM	6 Spiritual Life Group Terry & Laurie Dahms' home 11AM Holy Week Worship 7PM	7	8 Fellowship Hall In Use 9AM-noon
9 Sunrise Worship 6:15AM Worship 8AM Easter Activities	10 Finance Team 6 PM	11 Kara's PST 6:30 PM	12 Bible Study @ Zoom 12 Noon Disciples Strings & Singers 6 PM	13 FCC Connect @ Zoom 6:30PM Arrow Chapter 7 PM	14	15
16 Worship 10 AM Faith Formation 11:15 AM Handbells 12 noon JYF 12 noon Troop 270 5:30 PM	17 Hannah Circle 1 PM Capital Campaign 6:30 PM	18 Staff Meeting 10AM	19 Bible Study @ Zoom 12 Noon Jill's PST 5:30PM	20 Ladies Night Out KAVA House Swisher 5:30 PM	21	22 FCC @ Free Lunch 10 AM
23/20	24	25	26	27	28	29



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)  
900 LINCOLNSHIRE PLACE  
CORALVILLE, IA 52241-3615

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

900 Lincolnshire Place  
Coralville, IA 52241  
319-337-4181

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

**FCC's WELCOME STATEMENT**

*Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. Romans 15:7*

At First Christian Church of Iowa City/Coralville, we aspire to share God's expansive and unconditional love with all, with respect and positive regard for our human differences. Whatever your lived experience, skin color, native tongue or dialect, ethnicity or nationality, gender identity, sexual orientation, relationship or family status, age, size, physical or mental health, economic situation, addiction, ability or disability, education level, profession, faith history, and politics ...there is room for you at the table. It is God's welcome and is without limitations.

By God's grace and following Jesus' example, we invite you to join us in community and communion. We embrace you as a fellow child of God, equally and deeply loved and with full access to the kin-dom that we strive to inhabit.

If you are among us, you are one of us.