



# THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH



**FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 8, 2023**

Friends,

## **A NOTE FROM YOUR PASTOR**

Lent. It is a season of intention. I hope you are finding some meaningful ways to connect with it. And I am always interested to hear what you do find meaningful and helpful in such seasons.

I have to admit that at the beginning of the season I am often too caught up in planning for the season to dive right into my intentions. As Lent begins, your church staff is both in the midst of leading (and trying to model) Lenten practices and also continuing to plan for the rest of the season including Holy Week and Easter.

Isn't that the way life is whether in our workplaces, family lives, or any aspect? We are simultaneously living in the midst of each day and also anticipating what is yet to come (with memories also finding their way into the rhythm). It is here where we seek to find balance...to be present in this moment, this day...to be ready for what comes tomorrow...to carry with us what has mattered before. While this can sometimes seem like a lot, it is also the work of living, and the work of Lent.

What I didn't anticipate this year was spending some of my Lent in isolation due to COVID. Having gone three years without catching it, I found myself hopeful I would be one of the lucky ones who never did. Having now had it, I am grateful that my case was light (thanks, no doubt, to a combination of vaccines and good genetics). And, in spite of the unexpected disruption, I am finding myself grateful for the forced slow down, for some days when I just needed to lay low and to be still. While I don't recommend illness as the way to start each Lenten season, I do recognize that sometimes it can be helpful to have our best laid plans go awry. Sometimes the greatest gifts arrive in what we haven't planned.

However your Lent is going, I hope that you are finding some beautiful gifts in the midst of it. And, thanks to each of you for your care and prayers.

With care, *Jill*

**P.S. Don't forget we change clocks this weekend as Daylight Saving Time begins.** So many clocks automatically reset, but make sure yours are all correct. You don't want to be late to church!!

Also, I will be out of town next week. Pastors Kara and Laura are on call if you need anything.

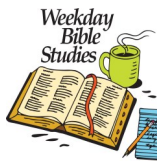
## **SUMMER MINISTRY PLANNING TEAM**

Do you have creative ideas for summer ministry? Do you love to think outside the box and try new things? Summer is a great season for trying new things, spending time outdoors, connecting in new ways. And, around First Christian, it is time to start planning for summer.

If you would like to be part of our Ministry Planning Team (MPT) that works on planning for May through August, we would love to have you! You might remember last year's MPT planned a summer's worth of "Mondays on the Lawn" and what a great time we had. This year's group is welcome to continue those experiences, come with all new ideas, or anything in between. If you love to plan anything from mission opportunities to worship to fellowship to learning—we would love to have you on this team!

**To participate, call or email Pastor Jill ([icdisciple.pastor@gmail.com](mailto:icdisciple.pastor@gmail.com)) by March 18 and let her know you want to be part of the Summer MPT. Questions? She'll be happy to answer those, too!**

# MARK YOUR CALENDARS



## BIBLE STUDY

Join us using Zoom. We meet at **12noon each Wednesday.**

Upcoming scriptures:

**March 8:** John 9:1-41

**March 15:** John 11:1-45

## FCC CONNECT - March 9 @ 6:30pm

Join us for a time of visiting with friends from FCC. We gather on Zoom for this once a month time of conversation.

## STRINGS AND SINGERS



All musicians are invited to be part of Disciples Strings and Singers. Want to join? You are welcome! Upcoming rehearsal dates are **March 15 and 29** at 6pm.

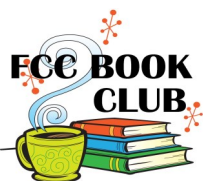
## LADIES' NIGHT OUT



Ladies' Night Out in March will be at 5:30pm on Thursday, **March 16** at Reunion Brewery (516 2nd St., Coralville).

## HANNAH CIRCLE

Hannah Circle will meet on Monday, **March 20** at 1pm.



## FCC'S BOOK CLUB

Join the First Christian Book Club on **March 23** for a discussion of

Marianne Cronin's book *The One Hundred Years of Lenni and Margot*. This story of relationships across generations will remind you that there is life left to live even when one's days are short.

## 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.

#### 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



All 3rd - 5th graders are invited to JYF on **March 26** at noon.

## 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"!

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

Content covered to protect privacy.

## THANK YOU!

Thank you to those who joined our staff in leading worship on March 5: Julie & Spencer King (Greeters); John & Carla Melby-Oetken (Ushers); Strings & Singers (Musicians); Alana Seaton (Acolyte); Pam Ries (Scripture Reader); David Klein, Marian Hart, Marcus Seaton, and Tanvi Vibhakar (Communion servers); Laurie & Terry Dahms (Communion preparation); David Klein (Elder); Jim Michel and Maya Seaton (A/V); John & Nancy McKinstry (Fellowship Time Host); Steve Strah (Valet Parking).

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

## 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) with questions or to sign up for these roles.



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.

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

## WORSHIP - MARCH 12, 2023 (3RD SUNDAY IN LENT)

**Hymns** - We All Come Thirsty; Eat This Bread; Nurtured By the Spirit

**Scripture** - John 4:5-42

**Sermon** - Will You Give Me a Drink?

## IS IT TIME FOR SPRING CLEANING?

If you are doing some spring cleaning and come across items you could consign at the Coralville store *Stuff*, you can donate the proceeds to First Christian Church. First Christian has an account (25144) and if you leave them under our account number, the church will get the proceeds from the sale.

Remember, you can take one tote at a time or five large items.

Proceeds from *Stuff* are used to support people in need.

## COMMUNION DELIVERY AT HOME

Once a month our Elders deliver communion to people in their homes. If you are unable to get out, whether temporarily or on an ongoing basis, and would like to receive communion, let Pastor Jill know.



## SHELTER HOUSE BOOK SALE IS COMING

The Shelter House Book Sale will take place **March 25-26**. There are many ways you can prepare to participate:

**Donate:** Gather books, CDs, DVDs, vinyl records, and puzzles you are ready to part with. They can be dropped off (Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays 10am - 2pm;

Sundays 2 - 4pm) through March 22 at 860 Quarry Rd, Coralville.

**Volunteer:** [Sign up to work a shift](#) either setting up before or working during the event.

**Shop:** Mark your calendar to shop at the sale March 25 or 26 from 10:30am - 4pm.

## BOOK AND PUZZLE EXCHANGE TABLE

Do you have a book you read and loved? Ready to share it with someone else, but don't know who?

Are you looking for a good book and could use a recommendation?

Do you have a jigsaw puzzle you enjoyed but don't need to put together a second time?

Do you enjoy a good jigsaw puzzle and could use a new one?

Visit the Book and Puzzle Exchange Table in the narthex at church!

What's on the table changes all the time...see if there is something there you might enjoy!

## 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
			<b>1</b> Bible Study @ Zoom 12 Noon Disciples Strings & Singers 6 PM Spiritual Life Group @ Jill Michel home 6:30PM	<b>2</b> Spiritual Life Group @ Dahms' 11 AM	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> Worship 10 AM Faith Formation 11:15 AM Handbells 12 noon SLG Zoom 2:30PM Troop 270 5:30 PM Troop 2000 7 PM	<b>6</b> Capital Campaign Team 6:30 PM	<b>7</b> Spiritual Life Group @ Anderson/ Dohrmann home 7 PM	<b>8</b> Bible Study @ Zoom 12 Noon Spiritual Life Group @ Jill Michel home 6:30PM	<b>9</b> Spiritual Life Group @ Dahms' 11 AM Clergy Cluster 12 Noon FCC Connect @ Zoom 6:30PM Arrow Chapter 7PM	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>  <b>Change your clocks            before bed!</b>
<b>12</b> Worship 10 AM Faith Formation 11:15 AM Handbells 12 noon SLG Zoom 2:30PM Troop 270 5:30 PM Troop 2000 7 PM	<b>13</b> Finance Team 6 PM	<b>14</b> Spiritual Life Group @ Anderson/ Dohrmann home 7 PM	<b>15</b> Bible Study @ Zoom 12 Noon Disciples Strings & Singers 6 PM	<b>16</b> Spiritual Life Group @ Dahms' 11 AM Ladies Night Out @Reunion Brewery 5:30 PM Kara's PST 6:30 PM	<b>17</b> 	<b>18</b>
Pastor Jill on vacation (March 13-18)						
<b>19</b> Worship 10 AM Faith Formation 11:15 AM Handbells 12 noon SLG Zoom 2:30PM Troop 270 5:30 PM	<b>20</b> Hannah Circle @ Zoom 1 PM Capital Campaign Team 6:30 PM	<b>21</b> Staff Meeting 10AM Spiritual Life Group @ Anderson/ Dohrmann home 7 PM	<b>22</b> Bible Study @ Zoom 12 Noon Spiritual Life Group @ Jill Michel home 6:30PM	<b>23</b> Women Clergy @ Zoom 10 AM Spiritual Life Group @ Dahms' 11 AM FCC Book Club 7 PM	<b>24</b> Scout Troop 2000 Overnight Lock-in 7PM	<b>25</b> Scout Troop 2000 Overnight Lock-in 1PM Dismissal
<b>26</b> Worship 10 AM Faith Form 11:15 AM JYF 12 noon SLG Zoom 2:30PM Troop 270 5:30 PM Troop 2000 7 PM	<b>27</b> Fellowship Hall in use 6:30 PM	<b>28</b> Spiritual Life Group @ Anderson/ Dohrmann home 7 PM	<b>29</b> Bible Study @ Zoom 12 Noon Spiritual Life Group @ Jill Michel home 6:30PM	<b>30</b> Spiritual Life Group @ Dahms' 11 AM	<b>31</b>	



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

900 Lincolnshire Place  
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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.