



# THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH



**FOR THE WEEKS OF APRIL 26 AND MAY 3, 2023**

*(next newsletter will come out May 10)*

## **A NOTE FROM KARA**

Dear Friends,

I hope this message finds you all well. I want to take a moment to share some news with you. With my youngest child starting kindergarten this year and my position at the church being half-time, I have been seeking opportunities to expand my employment. As such, I would like to share that I have accepted a position as a paraeducator at Shimek Elementary and that I will begin this week.

As a paraeducator, I look forward to supporting students' learning and working in a meaningful role. Although I will be working school day hours at Shimek, I want to reassure you all that I am still fully committed to my responsibilities in the church. My hours for church work will shift to evenings and weekends.

I am thankful for your continued support and understanding as I navigate this transition. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, and I look forward to continuing to serve our church community.

Warm regards, Kara

## *A Place for Everyone*

A Capital Campaign for First Christian Church

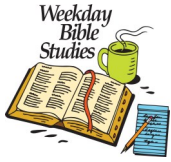
Thank you to everyone for your participation in our "A Place for Everyone" Capital Campaign. You have participated in conversations, listened with intention, asked good questions, and shown gratitude to those who are leading this effort. Some of you stepped up before our official Commitment Sunday to pledge your financial support. All of these acts matter.

**Commitment Sunday** is coming this Sunday - **April 30**. This is when you are invited to bring your pledge cards for the "A Place for Everyone" Capital Campaign to worship. By now you should have received the mailing with your pledge card and some other information about levels of giving and ways you can give. We hope that is helpful to you as you pray about your commitment. If you can't be in worship on Sunday or simply prefer to make your commitment electronically, you can use our electronic pledge card through Realm. Sign in to Realm, click on "Giving" and then click on "+ Pledge." Or simply [use this link](#) to fill out the electronic pledge card.

Also remember that **Celebration Sunday**, when we announce our total pledged toward this campaign, will be on **May 7**. That day you are invited to stay after worship for a congregational meal. This is a catered event, so [please RSVP here](#) or by calling the church. Make sure to indicate if you need a vegetarian or gluten free meal. **Please RSVP by Sunday, April 30.**



# MARK YOUR CALENDARS



## BIBLE STUDY

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

Upcoming scriptures:

**April 26:** John 14:15-21

**May 3:** Acts 17:22-28

**May 10:** Acts 1:6-14



## CELEBRATING GRADUATES

Are you graduating from high school or college? Is someone else in your household doing so? Are you bursting with pride over your child's accomplishment? Please share info (name, degree/diploma being received, accomplishments and future plans) with Kara (icdisciple.kids@gmail.com) **by May 5**.



## STRINGS AND SINGERS

All musicians are invited to be part of Disciples Strings & Singers. Join us **tonight at 6pm**.

## FCC'S BOOK CLUB



It's almost time for the **April 27**

Book Club meeting. This month's book is *Our Missing Hearts* by

Celeste Ng. This will be a hybrid meeting so attend at church or [join via Zoom](#).

And it's almost time to start reading for the May 25 meeting. May's book is *No Time Like the Future* by Michael J. Fox.



## LET'S SHOW OUR PRIDE

As an Open & Affirming congregation, where else would we be on **June 17** than at Iowa City Pridefest? If you are willing to commit part of the day on June 17 to walking in the parade on behalf of FCC or working at our table, please [sign up at this link](#).

**Ladies Night Out** will gather at Blackstone (503 Westbury Dr., IC) at 5:30pm on **May 18**. No RSVP needed, just join if you can.

## FAITH FORMATION

Intergenerational Faith Formation continues **each Sunday** (with the exception of May 7) from 11:15am - 12 noon. Join people of all ages for conversations and activities around the tables in Fellowship Hall.

## FCC GAME NIGHT

Do you enjoy playing games? Would you just like to spend a casual evening with friends from church?

Join us for Friday, **May 19** at 7pm in the church Fellowship Hall.

Bring a favorite game to share with others. Board games, card games, silly games, serious games...all are welcome. Some snacks will be provided or bring a favorite snack to share.

## FCC CONNECT - May 11 @ 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.



All 3rd - 5th graders are invited to JYF on **May 21** at noon. Please RSVP to Kara. Questions? Just ask!

## CONTENT COVERED TO PROTECT PRIVACY



### 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"! Early bird registration ends **May 1!**

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

### FREE LUNCH...TO GO

While the Free Lunch Program has shifted meals back into the dining room, there are still times when patrons need containers to take home leftovers. If you have clean containers (butter tubs, cottage cheese containers, etc.) that would meet this need, please place them in the blue Free Lunch Program bin at church (it will be under the snack table).

### 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 .



## THANK YOU SUNDAY MORNING VOLUNTEERS!!

## DID YOU KNOW?

Stewardship is how we manage the resources we have been given. Many of us immediately equate our stewardship to our income. We think about the gifts we give to the church and other causes we support in relation to our annual earnings. But consider this: we are called to exercise good stewardship over all we have—and that includes our assets, not just our income. We all come together every year to support the church's ongoing ministry through our tithes and offerings. Most of us make those gifts out of our income and they collectively become the church's income.

Our capital campaign isn't a regular ongoing need: it's a point in time where we ask everyone to invest in the church's assets - our tools to do the ministry and work of the congregation. Because campaigns like this don't happen often (it's been over 20 years since First Christian had a capital campaign!) it's a good time to consider gifts out of our assets if you are able.

We have shared in recent weeks some tips for efficient ways to give; things like appreciated stock or IRA distributions. By transferring some of your assets to the church, you are making a long term investment in First Christian's witness to our community.

Kent Clark, Capital Campaign Chair

## FIRST CHRISTIAN'S YOUTUBE CHANNEL

If you haven't already subscribed to First Christian's YouTube channel, you can find us at: [@icdisciples](https://youtube.com/icdisciples)

## JOIN THE *WALK FOR DIGNITY*

The Walk for Dignity, which supports Iowa City Hospice and Visiting Nurse Association of Johnson Co., will be on Sunday, **April 30** from noon - 4pm at Willow Creek Park. A time of remembrance begins at noon, the walk begins at 1pm, and there are activities for kids, too. To learn more or register to walk [visit Iowa City Hospice's website.](#)



NAMI of Linn and Johnson counties are set to hold the annual NAMI Walk on Saturday, **May 6**, 2023 at Terry Trueblood recreational area for Johnson county. For more information, [visit NAMI's website.](#)

## CELEBRATING TIFF'S MINISTRY IN THE UPPER MIDWEST

If you have been to the Christian Conference Center in Newton, you likely know Tiff Williams. She has served as our Associate Regional Minister and Camp Director for the last seven years. She has accepted a call to serve as Pastor of a congregation in Arlington, TX and will be moving in May. If you would like to celebrate Tiff, you can attend Tiff's Closing Campfire at the CCC in Newton on **May 13** at 10am, send a card to her at 5064 Lincoln St., Newton, IA 50208, or share a memory here.



2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p><b>1</b></p> <p>Capital Campaign Team 6:30 PM</p> 	<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>Bible Study @ Zoom 12 noon</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>Summer MPT 5:30 PM</p>	<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>6</b></p>
	Jill & Kara@ Committee on Ministry					
<p><b>7</b></p> <p>Worship 10 AM Celebration Sunday Meal 11:15 AM Elders 3 PM Exploring Baptism 4:30 PM</p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p><b>DEADLINE for 5/10 Newsletter</b></p> <p>Finance Team 6 PM</p>	<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>Bible Study @ Zoom 12 noon Disciples Strings &amp; Singers 6 PM</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>Clergy Cluster 12 noon FCC Connect @ Zoom 6:30PM Arrow Chapter 7 PM</p>	<p><b>12</b></p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>Closing Campfire for Tiff Williams @ Christian Conference Center 10 AM</p>
<p><b>14</b></p> <p><b>MOTHER'S DAY</b> Worship 10 AM Faith Formation 11:15 AM Troop 270 5:30 PM Troop 2000 7 PM</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>Hannah Circle 1 PM Kara's PST 6:30 PM Capital Campaign Team 6:30 PM</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>FCC Board Meeting 6 PM</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>CRC @ St. Andrew 10 AM Bible Study @ Zoom 12 noon Jill's PST 4 PM</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>Ladies Night Out @ Blackstone in IC 5:30 PM</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>FCC Game Night 7 PM</p>	<p><b>20</b></p>
<p><b>21</b></p> <p>Worship 10 AM Faith Form 11:15 AM Handbells 12 noon JYF 12 noon Exploring Baptism 4:30 PM Laura's PST 6:30 PM</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p><b>DEADLINE for 5/24 Newsletter</b></p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>Staff Meeting 10AM</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>Bible Study @ Zoom 12 noon Disciples Strings &amp; Singers 6 PM</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>Women Clergy 10 AM Book Club 7 PM</p>	<p><b>26</b></p>	<p><b>27</b></p>
<p><b>28</b></p> <p>Worship 10 AM Handbells 12 noon Troop 270 5:30 PM Troop 2000 7 PM</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p><b>MEMORIAL DAY</b> <b>FCC OFFICE CLOSED</b></p> <p>Fellowship Hall in use 6:30 PM</p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	<p><b>31</b></p> <p>Bible Study @ Zoom 12 noon</p>			



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

THERE'S ROOM AT THE TABLE FOR EVERYONE



**First  
Christian  
Church**