

MINISTERING IN WORSHIP . . .

Presiding Elder ~ Jenny Tripses
Elders ~ Linda Rex/Beth Smittkamp
Layreader ~ Sandy Surface
Greeters ~ Carney Lewis/Geraldine Runkle
Acolyte ~
Deacons
 Chancel – Beth Reynolds
 *Tim Dougherty, Oliver Truelove, Victoria Truelove
* = Head Deacon (**Please count attendance**)
Counters ~ Steve West/Ralph Tegg



OUR WELCOMING STATEMENT

First Christian Church Peoria, as an open and affirming church, believes that all people are sacred creations of a loving God. We affirm the diversity that exists among us. We strive to answer the call of Christ by extending his love, compassion, and acceptance to all. In that spirit, we open our family of faith to people of every religious background, sexual orientation, family structure, physical and mental ability, race, socio-economic status, age, and gender identity. We welcome all people to participate fully in the life and ministry of First Christian Church.

Ministry Programming Staff:
The Rev. Karen Merrick, Pastor
Heather Woods, Coordinator of Music Ministries
Brian Woods, Organist
Mason Fitch, Social Media Coordinator
Brandy Cox, Child-Care

www.fccpeoria.org
www.facebook.com/fccpeoria

Calendar

TODAY

- 9:00 a.m. – Studies/Adult SS
- 10:30 a.m. – Rev. Karen Merrick preaching
- 7:00-9:00 p.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)

MONDAY

- 5:00 p.m. – Tae Kwon Do Class
- 7:00 p.m. – Administrative Board (110). *Voting members are encouraged to attend.*

TUESDAY

- 1:00 p.m. – Faith in Justice meeting
- 6:00-9:30 p.m. – PACC Rehearsal (S/110)

THURSDAY

- 6:00 p.m. – Tasting Peoria (Osaka Hibachi & Sushi Bar)

FRIDAY

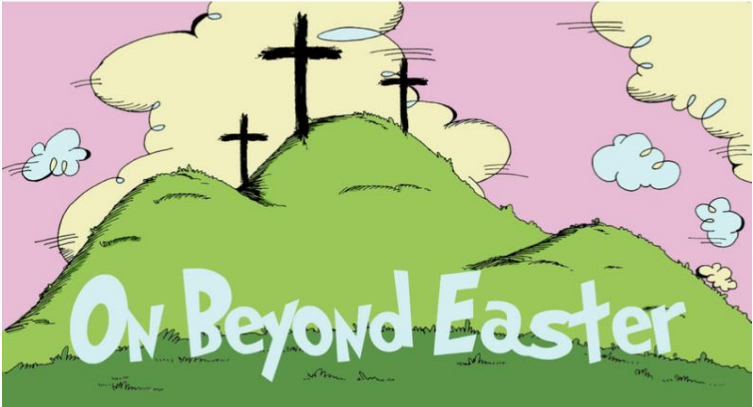
- 6:00-8:30 p.m. – Tamil School (Classrooms)

SATURDAY

- 7:00-9:00 a.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)

NEXT SUNDAY

- 9:00 a.m. – Studies/Adult SS
- 10:30 a.m. – Rev. Karen Merrick preaching
- 12:30 p.m. – Jubilate Ringers (S)
- 1:00 p.m. – Sanctuary Choir (S)
- 7:00-9:00 p.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)



April 16, 2023

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Founded in 1845



Today’s Meditation

God is at home; it is we who have gone for a walk.

—Meister Eckhart, 14th century

Fellowship of the Church

(Please register on pads at end of each pew.)

We want to extend a special welcome to our first-time visitors. You are invited to stop at the Visitor’s Table before you leave to receive more information about our church and a little something extra.

Good News from Camp Walter Scott

Nora Robinson—Camp Walter Scott Ambassador

Music for Meditation

(Please use the music and the moment of silence to prepare your hearts and minds for worship.)

A Moment of Silence

[†]Gathering Praise – *Crown Him with Many Crowns* #234

[†]Call to Worship

Leader: For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them. (Matthew 18:20)

People: We need your presence on the long road, Lord. The road between fear and hope, the road between the place where all is lost and the place of resurrection. Like the disciples walking the road to Emmaus, we are in need of your company! Jesus, stand among us, be known to us in the breaking of the bread.

Leader: Let us pray together the prayer Jesus taught us...Our Father...

(Words to The Lord’s Prayer may be found in the hymnal – #307)

[†]Glory Be to the Father (Gloria Patri) #36

Scripture Reading – Luke 24:13-35

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Moment for the Children Hannah Fitch

(Following the children’s message, children ages 5 and up are welcome to meet their teacher, Lexy Buckley, at the front of the sanctuary to go to Sunday School.)

Special Music Jubilate Ringers

Christ Is Alive!—arr. Lloyd Larson

Message – On Beyond Easter Karen Merrick

[†]Hymn of Invitation words on screen

Come to Us, Beloved Stranger

A Time of Prayer

Communion Hymn – *Sweet Hour of Prayer!* (vss. 1, 3) #570

The Lord’s Supper

All: “Here we celebrate that all people are welcome at this table of God’s grace.”

Offering Statement

Tithes and Offerings

(If you are able, please come forward at this time to place your offering in the plate on the communion table.)

[†]Doxology #46

[†]Dedication of Offering

[†]Benediction

[†]Congregational Response – *Living for Jesus* (vs. 1) #610

[†]Postlude

TODAY’S ANNOUNCEMENTS (Weekly Calendar on back)

- Communion Elements ~ For those who feel they need an extra level of protection, there are sealed bread and juice containers with the bread sealed in clear plastic on top of the foil lid for the juice. We ask that everyone else use the double-cupped wafer and juice that will be passed through the pews.
- We are a church of prayer. There are prayer request forms in your bulletin. They can be put in the offering plate, hung on the prayer wall in the east end of the lounge, or if you want to maintain confidentiality, hand directly to the pastor. If you want your prayer concern shared via the prayer chain, please indicate that on your form.
- Our sound system is equipped with a hearing assistance technology system. Pick up a receiver at the sound booth prior to worship. After the service, please return the receiver to the sound booth.
- April Sunday Morning Study ~ We will study some of Jesus’ most puzzling passages using the book, The Difficult Words of Jesus. We will meet in the Community Room at 9:00 a.m. Books are available in the church office and can be purchased for \$15. Jenny Tripses will facilitate the class. All are still welcomed!
- Support Small Business ~ Today the Faith in Justice ministry brings samples from Popcorn Heaven, 609 W. Lake Street, in Peoria. They have an amazing selection of gourmet popcorns. Please enjoy a sample!
- Tasting Peoria ~ Join us at Osaka Hibachi & Sushi Bar on Thursday, April 20, at 6:00 p.m. This is one you don’t want to miss! Please sign up at the information desk.
- End-of-the-Month Potluck ~ We will be celebrating Rev. Karen Merrick’s retirement at our potluck on Sunday, April 30, at 12:00 noon. Please sign up at the information desk if you plan to attend the potluck (we need a head count). Please sign up by April 23rd. Please bring a dish to share and your own table service.
- Monthly Book Club ~ We will meet at Margaret Goulden’s home on Tuesday, April 25, at 7:00 p.m. The book we will be discussing is, “People of the Book” by Geraldine Brooks. Please sign up at the information desk.