

MINISTERING IN WORSHIP . . .

Presiding Elder ~ Frank Wheeler
Elders ~ Chere Peters & Beth Smittkamp
Lay Reader ~ Connie Sinn
Greeters ~ Debbie Presnell & Geraldine Runkle
Acolyte ~ Natalie Woods
Deacons
 Chancel – Lisa Cheatham
 *John Best
 Barb Turner & Kyle Cheatham
* = Head Deacon **(Please count attendance)**
Counters ~ Steve & Monica Hinrichs
Friends of Jesus ~ Deann Anderson
Sunday School/Grades 1-8 ~ Cheryl Davis



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:
Hank Anderson, Interim Minister
Heather Woods, Coordinator of Music Ministries
Brian Woods, Organist
Mason Fitch, Social Media Coordinator
Brandy Cox, Child-Care

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

Calendar

- TODAY**
9:00 a.m. - Studies/Adult SS
10:30 a.m. - Worship Service (S)
7:00 p.m. - Private Group (Landes) (110)
- MONDAY**
7:00 p.m. - Administrative Board (110)
- TUESDAY**
6:00 p.m. - PACC (S/L/N)
- WEDNESDAY**
9:00 a.m. - Fill Easter Eggs (105)
10:30 a.m. - Bible Study (110)
- THURSDAY**
6:00 a.m. - Tasting Peoria (Off Site)
- FRIDAY**
7:00 p.m. - Movie Night (S)
- SATURDAY**
7:00 a.m. - Private Group (Landes) (110)
10:00 a.m. - Cantata Rehearsal (S)
- NEXT SUNDAY – PALM SUNDAY**
9:00 a.m. - Studies/Adult SS
10:30 a.m. - Worship Service (S)
12:30 p.m. - Jubilate Ringers (S)
1:00 p.m. - Sanctuary Choir (S)
7:00 p.m. - Private Group (Landes) (110)



March 17, 2024

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Founded in 1845



Today’s Meditation

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”
John 8:12NIV

Fellowship of the Church

(Please sign in online or on the red pad in your pew)
We want to extend a special welcome to our first-time visitors. You are invited to stop at the Greeter’s Table before you leave to receive more information about our church.

Minute for Mission

Becky Sisk

Music for Meditation – *Come Unto His Presence* – Lynn Baird
(Please use the music and the moment of silence to prepare your hearts and minds for worship)

A Moment of Silence

*Gathering Praise – *Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus* #613

*Call to Worship
Leader: Let us worship God, who has done great things.
People: We rejoice in our God, who made a way through the desert of this world.
Leader: Let us worship God, who has caused streams of mercy to flow in the wasteland.
People: We are the people God has formed through Christ; we worship God, and we rejoice!
Leader: Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.
People: We praise God for the grace that has saved us.
ALL: Alleluia! We rejoice!

*Opening Prayer
Leader: Let us pray together...
ALL: Good and gracious God, we come today seeking you. It is easy to lose sight of you in the routine moments of every day life. But together, we lift up our spirits and call on your name that you might abide with us. Bless this our worship of you, that we might sing for joy under the shadow of your wings. We pray this in the name of the One who taught us to pray... Our Father...
(The Lord’s prayer may be found in the hymnal #307)

*Glory Be to the Father (Gloria Patri) #36

Scripture Reading – Matthew 16:24-26
This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Moment for the Children

Hannah Fitch

Anthem
How Beautiful – arr. Benjamin Harlan
Sanctuary Choir

Message – *Giving Up Our Lives* Hank Anderson

*Hymn of Invitation – *O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go*
vss. 1,2 #540

A Time of Prayer

Communion Hymn – *Beneath the Cross of Jesus* #197

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 – *El Shaddai* – Lee Evans
(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 – *My Tribute* #39

*Postlude – *Great is the Lord* – Michael W. Smith

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. 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 the pews. They can be put in the offering plate, hung on the prayer wall in 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.
- Bible Study ~ Wednesday Morning Bible Study at 10:30 a.m. with Hank. The study is on the Book of Mark.
- Tasting Peoria ~ March 21st at 6 p.m. We will be going to PO-Boys, 6736 Frostwood Pkwy, Peoria. Sign up at the information desk or online.
- Movie Night ~ March 22nd at 7 p.m. The movie is *This Beautiful Fantastic*. Sign up at the information desk or online.
- Easter Celebration ~ March 30th at 10 a.m. There will be a story time, Easter egg hunt and refreshments. Check the information desk for help needed for this event or go online.
- Easter Brunch ~ March 31st at 8 a.m. We need a few food items and some help with setup and cleanup. Please check the information desk sign up or online.
- Regional Disciple Women Event ~ April 13th at 9 a.m. *The Ties that Bind* with guest speaker Rev. Petie Mclean. We will be quilting. Registration forms are available at the information desk. Some help is also needed please check the information desk sign up.
- Office help is needed April 1st through the 5th. Just answering the phone. Sign up at the information desk or call the office if you can help. Thank you!