

MINISTERING IN WORSHIP . . .

Presiding Elder ~ Kevin Wolfe
Elders ~ Dave & Connie Sinn
Layreader ~ Sandy Surface
Greeters ~ Debbie Presnell/Geraldine Runkle
Acolyte ~ Natalie Woods
Deacons
 Chancel – Katie Fitch
 *Laura Buckley, Jan Cusac, Nick Wronkiewicz,
 Terrie Wronkiewicz
* = Head Deacon **(Please count attendance)**
Counters ~ Mike & Laura Buckley



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
- 12:30 p.m. – Jubilate Ringers (S)
- 1:00 p.m. – Sanctuary Choir (S)
- 4:00 p.m. – Cluster Lenten Service at Eureka Christian Church. Guest Speaker – Rev. April McClure Stewart.
- 7:00-9:00 p.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)

MONDAY

- 5:00 p.m. – Tae Kwon Do Class
- 6:30-9:00 p.m. – Peoria Players (Hunt) (FH)
- 7:00 p.m. – Administrative Board (110). All voting members are encouraged to attend.

TUESDAY

- 10:00 a.m. – Adam Hamilton DVD Lenten Study (110)
- 1:00 p.m. – Faith in Justice Task Force
- 6:00-9:30 p.m. – PACC Rehearsal (S/110)

WEDNESDAY

- 6:30-9:00 p.m. – Peoria Players (Hunt) (FH)

THURSDAY

- 6:30-9:00 p.m. – Peoria Players (Hunt) (FH)

FRIDAY

- 6:00-8:30 p.m. – Tamil School (Classrooms)
- 7:00 p.m. – Movie Night ~ “Matilda” (S)

SATURDAY

- 7:00-9:00 a.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)
- 11:00 a.m. – PAMTA Recital (S)

NEXT SUNDAY *Fifth Sunday in Lent*

- 9:00 a.m. – Studies/Adult SS
- 10:30 a.m. – Rev. Karen Merrick will be preaching
- 12:00 p.m. – End-of-the-Month Potluck (FH). Please bring a dish to share and your own table service. Please join us for good food and fellowship.
- 12:30 p.m. – Jubilate Ringers (S)
- 1:00 p.m. – Sanctuary Choir (S)
- 3:15 p.m. – Peoria Rivermen Game
- 4:00 p.m. – Cluster Lenten Service at First Christian Church, Creve Coeur. Guest Speaker – Rev. Beth Rupe.
- 7:00-9:00 p.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)



March 19, 2023

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Founded in 1845



Today’s Meditation

The value of persistent prayer is not that God will hear us, but that we will finally hear God. —anonymous

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.

Music for Meditation – There Is a Balm in Gilead—Giamanco
(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: This is the day the Lord has made!

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Leader: Lord, we might have chosen to be somewhere else this morning, but we were drawn to come to worship you.

People: We bring you our joys. We bring you our faith and trust. We bring you our doubts and fears and our unanswered questions.

Leader: We come to give thanks for countless blessings and to offer our gifts.

People: We come seeking your wisdom. We come to pray for each other and for ourselves.

All: Be close to us, we pray, and speak to each of us according to your will and our personal need. We turn our eyes to you.

Leader: Let us pray together the prayer Jesus taught us, saying...

All: Our Father...

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

*Glory Be to the Father (Gloria Patri)

#36

Baby Dedication
Hattie Lynn Meier
Parents: Alex and Rachel Meier

Scripture Reading – 2 Chronicles 20:2-13
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, Tim Dougherty, at the front of the sanctuary to go to Sunday School.)

Anthem – I Will Never Fail You—Cindy Berry Sanctuary Choir

Message – What Jehoshaphat Prayed Karen Merrick

*Hymn of Invitation – We Sing Your Mighty Power, O God #64

A Time of Prayer

Communion Hymn – Beneath the Cross of Jesus #197

The Lord’s Supper – God So Loved the World
—Stainer/Leatherman
All: “Here we celebrate that all people are welcome at this table of God’s grace.”

Offering Statement

Tithes and Offerings – Christ, We Adore and Worship Thee
—arr. Wilson
(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 – Postlude on “Italian Hymn”—arr. Broughton

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.
- Easter Lilies ~ If you would like to order a Lily to decorate the chancel on Easter, please use the order form in today’s worship bulletin.
- Easter Celebration (Egg Hunt) and Easter Brunch ~ Food donations are needed as well as volunteers for set-up and clean-up. Please sign up at the information desk if you can help with these events.
- March Sunday Morning Study ~ Becky Sisk is teaching our 9:00 a.m. Sunday School class in March. Her topic is “Jesus and Women”. All are still welcome!
- Movie Night ~ Friday, March 24, at 7:00 p.m. Join us for popcorn and the movie, “Matilda”. Please sign up at the information desk.
- Monthly Book Club ~ We will meet at Margaret Goulden’s home on Tuesday, March 28, at 7:00 p.m. The book we will be discussing is “Tending Roses” by Lisa Wingate. Please sign up at the information desk.
- Sunday Funday! ~ Peoria Rivermen game on Sunday, March 26, at 3:15 p.m. Tickets are \$15.00 per person. Please sign up at the information desk. See Jake Cohen to pay for tickets and for any questions. Please respond by March 23rd.
- Our End-of-the-Month Potluck is next Sunday, March 26, immediately following the worship service. Please sign up at the information desk if you can help.