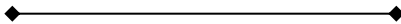


MINISTERING IN WORSHIP . . .

Presiding Elder ~
Elders ~ Chere Peters/Jenny Tripses
Layreader ~ Terrie Wronkiewicz
Greeters ~ Pete Clausen/Jan Cusac
Acolyte ~ Natalie Woods
Deacons
 Chancel – Monica Hinrichs
 *Steve Hinrichs, Oliver Truelove, Victoria Truelove
* = Head Deacon (**Please count attendance**)
Counters ~ Steve & Monica Hinrichs



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
- 12:00 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!
- 4:00 p.m. – Cluster Lenten Service here at First Christian Church, Peoria. Guest Speaker – Rev. Vy Nguyen, Week of Compassion Executive Director.
- 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)

TUESDAY

- 10:00 a.m. – Adam Hamilton DVD Lenten Study (110)
- 6:00-9:30 p.m. – PACC Rehearsal (S/110)
- 6:30 p.m. – Cluster Meeting (Sunnyland)

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)

SATURDAY

- 7:00-9:00 a.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)
- 11:00 a.m. – Fellowship Meeting

NEXT SUNDAY *Second Sunday in Lent / St. David's Day*

- 9:00 a.m. – Studies/Adult SS
- 10:30 a.m. – Rev. Karen Merrick will be preaching
- 11:45 a.m. – Elders Meeting (110)
- 12:30 p.m. – Jubilate Ringers (S)
- 1:00 p.m. – Sanctuary Choir (S)
- 4:00 p.m. – Cluster Lenten Service at Mackinaw Christian Church. Guest Speaker – Rev. Dwight Winnett.
- 7:00-9:00 p.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)



February 26, 2023

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Founded in 1845



Today’s Meditation

I have been driven many times upon my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go. My own wisdom and that of all about me seemed insufficient for that day. —Abraham Lincoln

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 – *Shout to the Lord*—Zschech
(Please use the music and the moment of silence to prepare your hearts and minds for worship.)

A Moment of Silence

[†]Gathering Praise – *All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name!* #91

[†]Call to Worship
Leader: As we gather this day, each of us brings something to worship –

People: We bring the burdens of the week.
Leader: We bring prayers of hope, and prayers of anguish.

People: We bring our voices, and our offerings, and our questions.
Leader: We bring our faith, tattered or whole as it may be.

People: We bring all this to each other and to God, whom we worship today.

[†]Opening Prayer
Leader: Let us pray together...
Eternal God, you are our Rock, you are the firm foundation for everything we build. As we meet today, we ask that you would provide wisdom, guidance and direction. Remind us that you are our loving ally, you are our fortress, you are our tower of strength and you are our rescuer. Everything we need is found in you. This we ask as we sing together the prayer Jesus taught us...Our Father...
The Lord’s Prayer - #307

Scripture Reading – 1 Samuel 1:1-18 selected verses
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, Christina Truelove, at the front of the sanctuary to go to Sunday School.)

Special Music Jubilate Ringers
Be Exalted, O God—arr. Douglas E. Wagner

Message – *What Hannah Prayed* Karen Merrick

[†]Hymn of Invitation – *My Hope Is Built* #537

A Time of Prayer

Communion Hymn #557
Just a Closer Walk with Thee (vss. 1-2)

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
On Eagle’s Wings with My Faith Looks Up to Thee
—arr. Tornquist
(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 – *Take My Life* (vs. 1) #609

[†]Postlude – *Let It Rise with O Worship the King*—arr. Tornquist

- TODAY’S ANNOUNCEMENTS (Weekly Calendar on back)**
- This morning we welcome our guest musician, Linda Betzelberger.
 - 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.
 - March Sunday Morning Study ~ Becky Sisk will be teaching our 9:00 a.m. Sunday School class in March. Her topic is “Jesus and Women”. Who were the women Jesus encountered and loved? What can we learn from Jesus and his interactions with the women he knew? Join us in March to find out! A sign-up is on the information desk.
 - Begins this Tuesday! – Adam Hamilton DVD Study for Lent – *Luke: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts, and Outlaws* ~ This study will be offered on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. on February 28, March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4. Facilitated by Karen Merrick. Please sign up at the information desk.
 - Disciples Women ~ Join us on Tuesday, March 14, at 12:00 noon. Our speaker is from the Peoria Public Library and the topic is History of Peoria. Please bring your own lunch. Drinks and dessert provided. Please sign up at the information desk. All are welcome!
 - Tasting Peoria ~ Thursday, March 16, at 6:00 p.m. at Slow Hand. Slow Hand serves up slow-smoked Midwestern BBQ. Please sign up at the information desk.