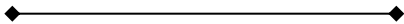


MINISTERING IN WORSHIP . . .

Presiding Elder ~ Becky Sisk
Elders ~ Jerry & Val Hornbacker
Layreader ~ Connie Sinn
Greeters ~ Jerry & Val Hornbacker
Acolyte ~ Natalie Woods
Deacons
 Chancel – Jim Smittkamp
 *Jake Cohen, Tom Davis, Cheryl Davis
* = 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 will be preaching
- 12:30 p.m. – Jubilate Ringers (S)
- 1:00 p.m. – Sanctuary Choir (S)
- 2:30-4:00 p.m. – IGSMA District 2 Directors Meeting (Woods) (110)
- 7:00-9:00 p.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)

MONDAY

- 5:00 p.m. – Tae Kwon Do Class (classroom)
- 7:00 p.m. – Administrative Board Meeting (110)

TUESDAY

- 1:00 p.m. – Faith in Justice Task Force
- 6:00-7:45 p.m. – PACC Rehearsal (110)
- 6:00-9:30 p.m. – PACC Rehearsal / New Member Night (S/L)

WEDNESDAY

- 6:30 p.m. – Search Committee (110)

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY

- 7:00-9:00 a.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)
- 9:00 a.m. – Tasting Peoria (The Fox Pub)

NEXT SUNDAY

- 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 join us for good food and fellowship.
- 12:30 p.m. – Jubilate Ringers (S)
- 1:00 p.m. – Sanctuary Choir (S)
- 3:00-5:30 p.m. – Cluster Wiener Roast (Colburn Farm in Eureka)
- 7:00-9:00 p.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)



September 18, 2022

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Founded in 1845



Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
10:30 a.m. September 18, 2022
[†]*indicates standing, if able*

Today's Meditation
Every man is entitled to be valued by his best moment.
 —Ralph Waldo Emerson

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.

A Minute for Mission ~ Reconciliation Offering Becky Sisk

Music for Meditation – *Morning Meditation—Krug*
(Please use the music and the moment of silence to
prepare your hearts and minds for worship.)

A Moment of Silence

†Gathering Praise – *Let the Whole Creation Cry* #21

†Call to Worship
Leader: Here we are this day, gathered together so we can worship our God.

People: We want to begin our new week centered in our faith.

Leader: Some of us are here for the music, and some for the friends, and some for the coffee...

People: ...and we are all here because we love God.

Leader: Now is the time to give thanks, to unload our hearts, to share our lives, and to hear the Story again.

People: So let us worship God.

†Opening Prayer
Leader: Let us pray together ...
Loving God, we pray that you would now speak a word of peace, a word of hope, a word of healing and a word that will nurture and sustain us. Our hearts are tuned to you, as we pray together, 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 – Matthew 7:1-5
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, Laura Buckley,
 at the front of the sanctuary to go to Sunday School.)*

Special Music – *Gather by the River to Pray*—arr. Pepper Choplin
Ange Bertucci, Cindy Bridges, Laura Buckley, Mason Fitch

Message Karen Merrick
Jesus Didn't Say That: "Love the Sinner; Hate the Sin"

[†]Hymn of Commitment – *They'll Know We Are Christians* #494

A Time of Prayer

Communion Hymn – *His Eye Is on the Sparrow* #82

The Lord's Supper – *Jesus, Lover of My Soul*—Parry/Wagner
**All: “Here we celebrate that all people are welcome at
 this table of God’s grace.”**

Offering Statement

Tithes and Offerings – *Prayer—Lau*
(If you are able, please come forward at this time to place your gift in the plate on the communion table.)

†Doxology #46

[†]Dedication of Offering

[†]Benediction

[†]Congregational Response – *Sweet, Sweet Spirit* #261

[†]Postlude – *Rejoice!*—Giamanco

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.
- Tasting Peoria ~ Breakfast is back at The Fox Pub. On Saturday, September 24, at 9:00 a.m. we will be enjoying the Fox's full English breakfast. Please sign up at the information desk.
- End-of-the-Month Potluck – Help Needed ~ Our End-of-the-Month Potluck is next Sunday, September 25, immediately following the worship service. Please sign up at the information desk if you can help.
- Illinois Valley Cluster – Wiener Roast and Hayrides at the Colburn Farm, Eureka ~ Sunday, September 25, 3:00-5:30 p.m. Please RSVP by Wednesday, September 21. Sign up at the information desk.
- New Book Club at First Christian Church ~ Our first Book Club will meet on Wednesday, September 28, at 7:00 p.m. at the church. This month's book is "Home to Harmony" by Phillip Gulley. All are welcome!
- Pet Blessing – Coming Soon! ~ Saturday morning, October 1, at 10:30.
- Midwest Food Bank – Volunteer Project ~ First Christian Church is putting together a group to do a volunteer project at Midwest Food Bank of Peoria on Thursday, October 27, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. We will be packaging bulk food items so they can be readied for distribution to local food pantries. Please sign up at the information desk.