

MINISTERING IN WORSHIP . . .

Presiding Elder ~ Becky Sisk
Elders ~ Linda Rex & Beth Smittkamp
Lay Reader ~ Laura Cohen
Greeters ~ Kathy Fenton & Connie Sinn
Acolyte ~ Natalie Woods
Deacons
 Chancel – Laura Cohen
 *Jake Cohen, Dana Powers & Tim Dougherty
* = Head Deacon (**Please count attendance**)
Counters ~ Mike & Laura Buckley

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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

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Calendar

- TODAY**
9:00 a.m. - Studies/Adult SS
10:30 a.m. - Worship Service (S)
11:45 p.m. - Elders Meeting
7:00 p.m. - Private Group (Landes) (110)
- MONDAY**
6:00 p.m. - Peoria Players (FH)
6:30 p.m. – Stewardship Committee (CR)
- TUESDAY**
6:00 p.m. - Peoria Players (FH)
- WEDNESDAY**
6:00 p.m. - Peoria Players (FH)
- THURSDAY**
6:00 p.m. - Peoria Players (FH)
- FRIDAY**
6:00 p.m. - Peoria Players (FH)
- SATURDAY**
7:00 a.m. - Private Group (Landes) (110)
- NEXT SUNDAY**
9:00 a.m. - Studies/Adult SS
10:30 a.m. - Worship Service (S)
12:00 p.m. - Get Acquainted with Hank
7:00 p.m. - Private Group (Landes) (110)



August 06, 2023

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Founded in 1845



Today's Meditation

The greatest joys are found not only in what we do and feel, but also in what we hope for. – Bryant H. McGill

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 – *Glory and Grace* – Lemmel/Schram

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

A Moment of Silence

*Gathering Praise – *Rejoice, You Pure in Heart* #15

*Call to Worship

Leader: Our souls wait in silence.

People: Our hope rests in God, we will not be shaken.

Leader: In this time of worship, we pour out our hearts

People: Because we trust in God's steadfast love.

Opening Prayer

Leader: Let us pray together...

ALL: Lord, our eyes look to you in hope; for you give us what we need. We turn to you, longing to be filled with the love, peace and joy that only you can provide. May the time we spend together in your presence, nourish our hearts, and minds, and strengthen our relationship with you. For You alone are God, the source and sustainer of life. We lift this prayer to you now, 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 Readings – 1 Peter 1:6-9

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Moment for the Children Hannah Fitch

Special Music – *God Only Knows* – King & Country
Natalie Woods

Message – *Joy* Hank Anderson

*Hymn of Invitation – *Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee*

vss. 1,3,4 #102

A Time of Prayer

Communion Hymn – *Loving Lord, as Now We Gather* #427

The Lord's Supper – *Meditation* – Simper/Ryan

All: "Here we celebrate that all people are welcome at this table of God's grace."

Offering Statement

Tithes and Offerings – *Andante* – Jackson/Cooman

(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 – *This Is the Day* #286

*Postlude – *Sing Praise* - 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 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 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.
- Sunday Morning Study ~ Frank Wheeler will be teaching a class during August on Abraham and Sarah, Faithful Seekers of a Promise. We will look at the struggles of Abraham and Sarah and their family as they searched for the promise the Lord gave them. We will also see how the New Testament writers spoke of Abraham and Sarah as examples to follow. Sign up at the information desk.
- Get Acquainted with Hank ~ Another session is scheduled for August 13th following the Worship Service here at the church. If you would like to attend please sign up at the information desk.
- Fun in the Sun ~ Illinois Valley Cluster Picnic is August 19th from 12-5p.m. at Lake Wildwood, Varna IL. Sign up at the information des
- Tasting Peoria ~ August 17th at 6 p.m. at Oliver's in Peoria Heights. Sign up at the information desk if you would like to attend.
- Movie Night ~ August 25th at 7 p.m. the movie is Secretariat. Sign up at the information desk.
- Potluck ~ August 27th Please bring a dish and your own tableware to reduce waste. If you can help with prep and cleanup sign up at the information desk.
- Kathy Safford ~ Service for Kathy will be October 21st at 11:00 a.m. at Swan Lake Cemetery.