

MINISTERING IN WORSHIP . . .

Presiding Elder ~ Mason Fitch
Elders ~ Becky Sisk/Linda Rex
Layreader ~ Kate Spielman
Greeters ~ Tim Dougherty/Sarah Lamlech
Acolyte ~ Natalie Woods
Deacons
 Chancel – Beth Reynolds
 *Tim Dougherty, Debbie Presnell, Lisa Cheatham,
 Jake Cohen
* = 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. – Kevin Wolfe will be preaching
- 12:30 p.m. – Jubilate Ringers (S)
- 1:00 p.m. – Sanctuary Choir (S)
- 7:00-9:00 p.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)

MONDAY

- 5:00 p.m. – Tae Kwon Do Class (Private)
- 5:30 p.m. – Worship Meeting (110)
- 6:30 p.m. – Personnel Meeting (ECR)

TUESDAY

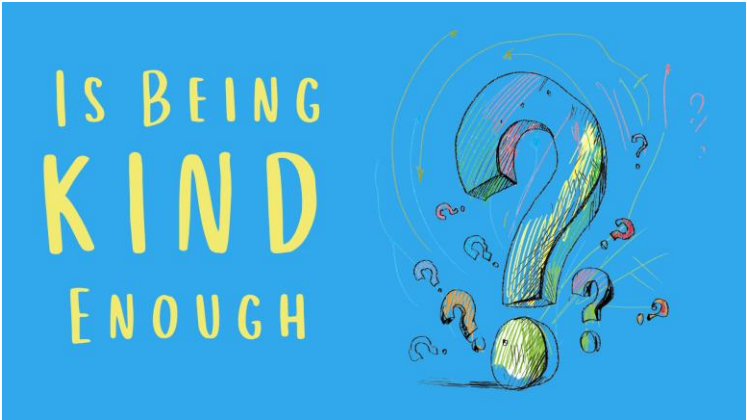
- 12:00 p.m. – Disciples Women (110)

SATURDAY

- 7:00-9:00 a.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)
- 10:30 a.m. – MLT Meeting

NEXT SUNDAY

- 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)
- 7:00-9:00 p.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)



January 8, 2023

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Founded in 1845



Today’s Meditation

Be kind whenever possible. It is always possible.

—The 14th Dalai Lama

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 – *All People That on Earth Do Dwell*
—arr. Smith
(Please use the music and the moment of silence to prepare your hearts and minds for worship.)

A Moment of Silence

[†]Gathering Praise – *As with Gladness* #173

[†]Call to Worship
Leader: Holy, God...Overwhelm us with your love
People: which casts out every fear.
Leader: Overwhelm us with your love
People: which is revealed to us by your son.
Leader: Overwhelm us with your love
People: which shows us how to love one another.
Leader: Overwhelm us with your love,
People: for you are a loving God, we worship you.

[†]Opening Prayer
Leader: Let us pray together...
God of grace, we have come for a glimpse of your kingdom of kindness, a world where love rules over all, a world where enemies embrace, a world where the distinctions between friend and foe evaporate in the light of your love. Knowing you have the power to transform us, we give our lives over to you, body, soul, mind, spirit. We pray this in the name of the one who taught us to pray, saying, 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 – Ephesians 4:1-3; 29-32
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, Kathleen Wheeler, at the front of the sanctuary to go to Sunday School.)

Special Music Jubilate Ringers
‘Twas in the Moon of Wintertime—William Ringham

Message – *Is Being Kind Enough?* Kevin Wolfe

[†]Hymn of Invitation – *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* #517

A Time of Prayer

Communion Hymn – *We Three Kings* #172

The Lord’s Supper – *Hear Now My Humble Prayer—Smith*
All: “Here we celebrate that all people are welcome at this table of God’s grace.”

Offering Statement

Tithes and Offerings – *Joyful Jig—Harris*
(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 #176
Sing of God Made Manifest (vs. 1)

[†]Postlude – *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty—arr. Kirkland*

TODAY’S ANNOUNCEMENTS (Weekly Calendar on back)

- This morning we welcome Kevin Wolfe to the pulpit.
- 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.
- January Sunday Study ~ Connie Sinn will be leading a study on the topic, “The Most Significant Teachings of the Bible.” This study will be offered on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. on January 8, 15, 22, and 29. Please sign up at the information desk.
- Disciples Women ~ We will meet on Tuesday, January 10, at 12:00 noon. Sherry Gordon-Booth from Health Alliance will share tips on downsizing and de-cluttering. Please bring your own lunch. Drinks and dessert are provided. All are welcome. Please sign up at the information desk.
- Movie Night ~ Please join us on Friday, January 20, at 7:00 p.m. for the movie, “The Butler.” Come and enjoy the movie and popcorn!
- Tasting Peoria ~ Thursday, January 26, at 6:00 p.m. Join us at Rizzi’s for some excellent Italian food and even better company. Please watch for a sign-up on the information desk.