

MINISTERING IN WORSHIP . . .

Presiding Elder ~ Mike Buckley
Elders ~ Carmen Nicoll & Sandy Surface
Lay Reader ~ Sandy Surface
Greeters ~ Jerry & Val Hornbacker
Acolyte ~ Natalie Woods

Deacons
Chancel – Monica Hinrichs
*Steve Hinrichs
Tom & Cheryl Davis
* = Head Deacon **(Please count attendance)**
Counters ~ Steve & Monica Hinrichs
Preschool Sunday School ~ Linda Rex



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

www.fccpeoria.org
www.facebook.com/fccpeorail

Calendar

- TODAY**
9:00 a.m. - Studies/Adult SS
10:30 a.m. - Worship Service (S)
1:00 p.m. - IGSMA/Heather Woods (110)
7:00 p.m. - Private Group (Landes) (110)
- MONDAY**
5:30 p.m. - Worship Meeting (110)
6:30 p.m. - Peoria Players (FH)
6:30 p.m. - Personnel Meeting (CR)
- TUESDAY**
11:00 a.m. - Faith and Justice Task Force
12:00 p.m. - Disciples Women (FH)
6:00 p.m. - PACC Rehearsal (S/N/FH)
6:30 p.m. - Peoria Players (FH)
- WEDNESDAY**
10:30 a.m. - Bible Study (110)
6:30 p.m. - Peoria Players (FH)
7:00 p.m. - Bible Study (110)
- THURSDAY**
6:30 p.m. - Peoria Players (FH)
- FRIDAY**
6:00 p.m. - Tamil School (Classrooms)
- SATURDAY**
7:00 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. - Worship Service (S)
12:30 p.m. - Jubilate Ringers (S)
1:00 p.m. - Sanctuary Choir (S)
7:00 p.m. - Private Group (Landes) (110)



September 10, 2023

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Founded in 1845



Today's Meditation
You are creating through your choices, even now. Choose wisely.
-- Bryant 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 – *In Quiet Faith* – arr. Broughton
(Please use the music and the moment of silence to prepare your hearts and minds for worship.)

A Moment of Silence

**Gathering Praise – Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* #2

**Call to Worship*
Leader: Sustaining God, we gather in your name to worship you.
People: We celebrate the loving presence of God in our life.
Leader: As we grow in faith, trust and love for God,
People: May our worship, witness and service bring honor to God's Holy Name.

Opening Prayer
Leader: Let us pray together...
ALL: O God, we come together this morning to praise you, and to remember the goodness and unfailing love you have shown toward us. Through all time, you have been there encouraging, strengthening, and blessing. We continue to trust in your unfailing love, confident that you will guide us in the days ahead as you have guided us in the past. We pray this 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 Kings 18:36-39
This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Moment for the Children Mason Fitch

Special Music – *There is Joy in the Lord* – Cheri Keaggy
Praise Team

Message – Elijah and the Fire of the Lord Hank Anderson

**Hymn of Invitation – Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*
vs.1 #517

A Time of Prayer

Communion Hymn – *Bread of the World, in Mercy Broken*
#387

The Lord's Supper – *Aria* - Sergisson
All: "Here we celebrate that all people are welcome at this table of God's grace."

Offering Statement

Tithes and Offerings – *Flute Melody* – Peterson
(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 – Help Us Accept Each Other*
vs. 1 #487

**Postlude – The Way of the Lord* – Ritter

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 ~ Becky Sisk is leading the class in September on The Call: The Life and Message of The Apostle Paul by Adam Hamilton. Sign up at the information desk if you would like to attend.
- Bible Study ~ Hank is leading a Bible Study on Wednesday's, through November 15th. There are two classes available, one at 10:30 a.m. and the other at 7:00 p.m. The study is on the "The Gospel According to Mark".
- Disciples Women ~ Will resume on September 12th at 12:00 p.m. Please come join the group.
- Tasting Peoria ~ September 21st at 6p.m. at Kuchie's On the Water. Sign up at the information desk.
- Movie Night ~ September 22nd at 7p.m. The movie is My Big Fat Greek Wedding. If you would like to attend sign up at the information desk.
- Potluck ~ September 24th. 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.