

MINISTERING IN WORSHIP . . .

Presiding Elder ~ Becky Sisk

Elders ~ Carmen Nicoll/

Layreader ~ Terrie Wronkiewicz

Greeters ~ Tim Dougherty/Sarah Lamlech

Acolyte ~ Natalie Woods

Deacons

Chancel – Beth Reynolds

\*Tim Dougherty, Debbie Presnell, Terrie Wronkiewicz,  
Dana Powers

\* = 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](http://www.fccpeoria.org)  
[www.facebook.com/fccpeoria](https://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)
- 7:00-9:00 p.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)

**MONDAY**

- 5:00 p.m. – Tae Kwon Do Class (Private)

**TUESDAY**

- 6:00-9:30 p.m. – PACC Rehearsal (S/110)
- 6:30 p.m. – Cluster Meeting (Sunnyland)

**THURSDAY**

- 6:00 p.m. – Tasting Peoria (Rizzi’s)

**FRIDAY**

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

**SATURDAY**

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

**NEXT SUNDAY**    *Service of Installation of New Officers*

- 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 your own table service. Please join us for good food and fellowship!
- 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 22, 2023**

**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

*Founded in 1845*



Today’s Meditation  
*The two most important days in life are the day you are born  
and the day you discover the reason why.* —Mark Twain

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 – *Be Thou My Vision*—Forrest/Wagner  
*(Please use the music and the moment of silence to prepare your hearts and minds for worship.)*

A Moment of Silence

\*Gathering Praise – *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!* #4

\*Call to Worship  
*Leader: We come into this sanctuary after a busy week.*  
**People: It is a time to center ourselves once again.**  
*Leader: We are centered in our identity as children of God.*  
**People: We are centered in our mission as followers of Christ.**  
*Leader: Jesus speaks to us of freedom, release from captivity, recovery of sight...*  
**People: ...and shows us the kind of disciples that are needed in God’s world.**

\*Opening Prayer  
*Leader: Let us pray together...*  
**Holy God, you have called us to uniquely respond to the one true mission that you have given to all of us...to love you and our neighbor. Center us in your call to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with you. This we pray 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 – Luke 4:14-20a  
*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  
*This Is the Day*—arr. Douglas E. Wagner

Message – *Centered...on God’s Blueprint* Karen Merrick

\*Hymn of Invitation words on screen  
*Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples*

A Time of Prayer

Communion Hymn – *Sweet Hour of Prayer!* (vss. 1, 3) #570

The Lord’s Supper – *Deep River*—Yon/Ryan  
**All: “Here we celebrate that all people are welcome at this table of God’s grace.”**

Offering Statement

Tithes and Offerings – *There Is No Name So Sweet*  
—Bradbury/Becket  
*(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 – *Blest Be the Tie That Binds* #433

\*Postlude – *Go Your Way with Rejoicing*—Wagner

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.
- January Sunday Study ~ Connie Sinn is leading a study on the topic, “The Most Significant Teachings of the Bible.” This study is being offered on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. on January 8, 15, 22, and 29. All are still welcome! Bring your Bible
- February and March Sunday Study ~ Frank Wheeler will be offering our Sunday School class in February and March at 9:00 a.m. His topic for February is “Getting to Know People from the Book of John”. For March, his topic is “Archaeology and the Bible”. A sign-up for the February study is on the information desk.
- 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 sign up at the information desk.
- 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 ~ Please join us on Tuesday, February 14, at 12:00 noon. Susie Ryan will help us make Christmas plates for our shut-ins (and one for yourself if you wish). Bring your own lunch. Dessert and drinks provided. Please sign up at the information desk and indicate how many plates you will make.