

Potluck - TODAY after worship

Bible Study - Wednesday @ 10:30am



Check out our full calendar of events here



Please always check with the church office if you are wanting to use the church building. Thank you!

A Beautiful Mess

Wobbling Toward Grace

Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. 'You of little faith,' he said, 'why did you doubt?' Matthew 14:31

Faith is rarely smooth. Like a first lap around a roller rink, it's shaky, awkward, sometimes full of falls. The disciples knew this well. They stumbled, misunderstood, denied, doubted; and still, Jesus never let go of them.

The beauty of a roller rink is that everyone's wobbling together. No one expects perfection. The joy is in moving, in trying, in laughing when you fall and getting back up again. Faith works like that, too. It isn't about flawless steps. It's about keeping at it, learning balance, and trusting the One who holds you steady when you slip.

Resilience doesn't mean never falling. It means refusing to quit. It means choosing grace over shame. It means remembering that community is the place where we steady one another. The disciples didn't always get it right, but together, they kept moving.

That's what makes faith beautiful in the first place: not that it's perfect, but that it's shared - wobbly and wonderful, held together by grace.

This Week's Practice: Try a New AngleRecall a time you "fell" in faith or life. What did you learn when you got back up?

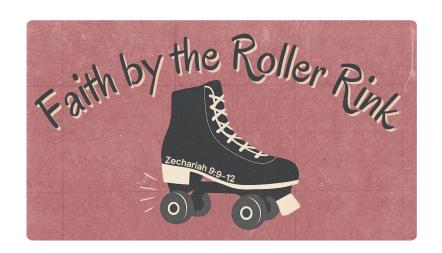
Encourage someone else who's struggling —

remind them that wobbling is part of growing.

Try something new this week that scares you just a little. Let it remind you that God meets us in the trying.

Before You Go...

Your faith doesn't have to glide to be real. Even if it wobbles, even if you fall - Jesus is steady, grace is sure, and the Spirit will keep you moving forward.



August 31, 2025 10:30am

First Christian Church



socials: @FCCPeoriaIL

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

+ indicates standing, if able

Today's Meditation

Grace is not a reward for faith; faith is the result of grace.

-John Blanchard

†Fellowship of the Church

(Please sign in online or on the red pad in your pew)

Music for Meditation

Fairest Lord Jesus - Gawthrop
Please use the music and the moment of silence to prepare
your hearts and minds for worship.

A Moment of Silence

†Opening Hymn

#522

Standing on the Promises

†Call to Worship

Leader: Come, all you wobbly, weary, well-intentioned

People: We've fallen. We've spun in circles. But we're still here.

Leader: Faith isn't about flawless form. It's about showing up and rolling forward.

People: We bring our scraped knees and stubborn hope.

Leader: The Spirit doesn't wait for perfect balance.

People: God meets us in the motion, the noise, the trying again.

Leader: So lace up your trust, lean into grace, and let's worship the One

People: who never lets us fall without reaching out a hand.

†Opening Prayer

Leader: Let us pray together...

All: God, you know how often we fall; how often we doubt, stumble, hesitate, or spin in the wrong direction. But still, you invite us to move forward. You steady us with grace, and remind us that falling isn't failure. It's part of the journey. Thank you for second chances, for community that skates beside us, and for love that never lets go. With faith that's in motion, we sing together...

The Lord's Prayer may be found in the hymnal #307

Scripture Reading Zechariah 9:9–12 *This is the word of the Lord.* **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Message Rev. Emily Williams

Special Music Natalie Woods, horn

Canon In D Pachelbel/arr. Bill Galliford

Sermon Rev. Mason Fitch

Faith by the Roller Rink

†Hymn of Commitment #622 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

A Time of Prayer

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Communion Hymn #557

Just a Closer Walk with Thee vss 1-2

The Lord's Supper

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

Communion Meditation on "Bread of Life"
- Sherwin/Penfield

Offering Statement

Tithes & Offerings

If you are able, please come forward at this time to place your offering in the plate in front of the communion table.

Many and Great - arr. Giamanco

†Doxology #46

†Dedication of Offering

+Benediction

+Congregational Response #323

Wonderful Words of Life vs 2

Postlude

Postlude on "Ein feste Burg" - Luther/Gay

Ministering Today

Presiding Elder Mike Buckley Linda Rex Beth Smittkamp

Deacons

Chancel Joe Rex Head John Best Dan Cox

Debbie Presnell

Lay Reader Acolyte Greeters

Becky Sisk Natalie Woods Connie Sinn Debbie Presnell

Counters

Mike & Laura Buckley Dave Sinn

Adult SS Youth SS Preschool

Kathleen Wheeler

chool Linda Rex

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

Staff

Rev. Mason Fitch Heather Woods Brian Woods Brandy Cox Diane Pfoff Lynn Hutton Sung Kim Pastor Music Ministry Coordinator Organist Child Care Office Manager Bookkeeper Custodian