

## Throughout the Church...

**Missions & Service Meeting - TODAY**  
**Bible Study - Wednesday @ 10:30am**  
**NEXT SUNDAY IS COMMITMENT SUNDAY**



**Movie Night**  
**Thursday @ 6pm**

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!

## When Courage Becomes Faithfulness

*But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the  
king of Egypt commanded them, but let the boys live.*  
Exodus 1:17

The story of Shiphrah and Puah begins in the  
machinery of empire; a system built on fear, control,  
and violence. These two women were given an order  
to participate in death. Instead, they chose life.

They didn't have armies, titles, or political power.  
What they had was moral clarity: the quiet, stubborn  
conviction that God's command to protect life  
mattered more than Pharaoh's command to end it.  
Their defiance was not loud or public, but it was  
faithful, and it changed the course of history.

The Church still stands in that lineage of holy defiance.  
Every time we choose compassion over convenience,  
truth over silence, justice over comfort, we stand with  
them. Their courage echoes in the voices that feed  
the hungry, welcome the stranger, challenge injustice,  
and create communities where dignity is protected.

We are stewards of that same courage. To give, to  
serve, to stand up - these are not small acts. They are  
the ways we resist apathy and despair. They are how  
we make God's love visible in a world that too easily  
forgets it.

### This Week's Practice: Acts of Courage

- Speak a gentle truth where silence feels easier.
- Support someone who's taking a risk for justice or kindness.
- Pray each morning: *God, give me the courage to choose life today.*

### Before You Go...

The story of courage isn't finished. It continues  
in you. Stand firm. Do good. And let your  
ordinary faithfulness become someone else's  
liberation.



**October 19, 2025**  
**10:30am**

**First Christian Church**



**fccpeoria.org**  
**socials: @FCCPeoriaIL**

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

† indicates standing, if able

Today’s Meditation

You can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending.

- C.S. Lewis

†Fellowship of the Church

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

Music for Meditation

Song of Adoration - DeMorest

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

A Moment of Silence

†Call to Worship

One: When the world says “stay silent,” God calls us to speak.

Many: We come to worship the One who gives courage.

One: When the world says “go along,” God calls us to resist.

Many: We come to follow the One who brings life.

One: This is the call of faith: quiet courage, bold action, holy defiance.

All: Let us worship with justice, love, and hope.

†Opening Hymn

Let the Whole Creation Cry

#21

†Opening Prayer

Leader: Let us pray together...

All: God of courage and life, You have always raised up ordinary people to do extraordinary things. When power threatened destruction, You gave the strength to resist. When the world demanded silence, You gave the words of life. Give us that same courage today: to stand for justice, to nurture hope, and to choose life. With boldness and trust, we pray as Jesus taught us...Our Father...

†Vision Response

We Call Ourselves Disciples vs 4

#357

Scripture Reading

Exodus 1:15–21

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

Children’s Message

Rev. Emily Williams

Special Music

Sanctuary Choir

One Day Soon, We'll See Jesus arr. Crouch/McDonald

Sermon

Rev. Mason Fitch

Holy Defiance

†Hymn of Commitment

To Us All, to Every Nation

#634

A Time of Prayer

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Communion Hymn

His Eye Is on the Sparrow

#82

The Lord’s Supper

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

In the Sanctuary - Bizet/Wilson

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.

Our Prayers We Raise - Martin

†Doxology

#46

†Dedication of Offering

†Benediction

†Congregational Response

Sweet, Sweet Spirit

#261

Postlude

Song of the Faithful - Hughes

Ministering Today

Elders

Vickie Baker

Roger Baker

Deacons

Chancel Head

Laura Cohen

Jake Cohen

Connie Julien

Laura Buckley

Dan Cox

Lay Reader

Acolyte

Greeters

Kevin Wolfe

Natalie Woods

Peter & Lindsey Hinshaw

Counters

Roger & Vickie Baker

Adult SS

Youth SS

Preschool

Dave Sinn

Kathleen Wheeler

TBD

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. Adam Bradley

Rev. Mason Fitch

Heather Woods

Brian Woods

Brandy Cox

Diane Pfoff

Lynn Hutton

Sung Kim

Lead Pastor

Pastor

Music Ministry Coordinator

Organist

Child Care

Office Manager

Bookkeeper

Custodian