



THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH



FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 11, 2023

A NOTE FROM YOUR PASTOR

Friends,

I am often overwhelmed by your generosity.

Your generosity and care for our community is illustrated in so many ways. Recently, this was illustrated when our Alternative Gift Market raised nearly \$10,000 to support the work of 12 organizations in our community. This was also illustrated by the over 700 food items that were collected during our Advent food drive. This is illustrated in so many of your lives as you do important work - either through your volunteer efforts or your professional lives - caring for people. In fact, perhaps I am most aware that people from First Christian are making a difference not only in ways I am aware of, but in so many ways I don't even realize.

Your generosity and care for our faith community is also evident. We who are staff experience this in the support and generosity and appreciation you share with us. This is also evidenced in the ways that you give of your time and your money to support the ministries we share, as well as the ways you speak kindly of the faith community you call home.

Your generosity is noticed and is not taken for granted. Thank you!

I also want to encourage your participation in Faith Formation (aka: Sunday School) in coming weeks. The next two Sundays we have special guests coming and I hope we'll give them a great big welcome.

In response to the clear interest in Free Medical and Dental Clinic that was illustrated through our Alternative Gift Market, we have invited Jennie Schmidt to be with us this coming Sunday and to talk to our adults as well as youth (middle/high school aged) about the work they do and issues of justice and equity in medical care.

The next Sunday (January 22) we will have Rev. Eric Rucker here from Simpson College. You have heard us talk about Simpson Youth Academy (SYA) that they host for high school students. We have had three students participate: Quinn Thomas several years ago, along with Spencer Thomas and Kalea Seaton this year. During the Faith Formation hour Eric will talk about the work they do at Simpson Youth Academy. He will be accompanied by Spencer and Kalea who will share about their experiences and the projects they are doing as part of SYA. I'm excited for you all to hear about this.

Again, both of these presentations for will be youth (6th-12th grades) and adults. Younger children will have their regular class and a nursery will be available for those under 4.

Then, beginning January 29 we are excited to introduce an intergenerational experience to our Faith Formation time. I have long said that one of the important things that churches do is offer intergenerational relationships. While in so many areas of our lives we find ourselves divided by age, church gives us the opportunity to connect with and come to know and befriend people who are of very different age groups. When my children were young they literally had friends 100 years older than them—I loved that! And the great part of intergenerational relationships is that everyone benefits. These aren't about older people sharing their wisdom with the young (although that does often happen). They are two way relationships where both share and both receive. This Faith Formation experience, called Living in Faith Together, is about building relationships with the young, the old and everyone in between. Everyone is welcome—whether you are a household of one or a household bursting at the seams with kiddos. We hope you'll be a part of this!

With care, *Jill*

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



BIBLE STUDY

Join us using Zoom. We meet at
12noon each Wednesday.

Upcoming scriptures:

January 11: Isaiah 9:1-4 and Matthew 4:12-23

January 18: Micah 6:1-8



JOIN STRINGS AND SINGERS

All musicians are invited to be part of Disciples Strings and Singers. Want to join in the new year? January rehearsals will be **January 11 and 25** at 6pm.

This group of musicians leads music in worship weekly, bringing their mix of vocal and instrumental gifts to worship.

FCC CONNECT - January 12 @ 6:30pm

FCC Connect resumes in 2023 and will take place on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30pm (note the time change).

Join us for a time of visiting with friends from FCC. We gather on Zoom for this once a month time of conversation.

LADIES' LUNCH OUT

In January and February, Ladies' Night Out will shift to a lunch gathering in order to keep people from having to drive when it is so dark.

You are invited to gather on Thursday, **January 19 at 11:45am** at 30 Hop in the Iowa River Landing (900 E. 2nd Ave., Coralville).

If you intend to participate, please RSVP to Jan Ricklefs (by January 15 so she can make a reservation for the group.)

FAITH FORMATION (AKA: SUNDAY SCHOOL)

Each Sunday there are classes for children (age 4) through adults and a nursery for younger children. Classes go from 11:15am - 12noon.

January 15: Pre-K/Elem: We are all God's children
Youth/Adult: Guest Speaker from Free Medical Clinic

January 22: Pre-K/Elem: Exploring the Parables
Youth/Adult: Kalea Seaton, Spencer Thomas, and Eric Rucker present about Simpson Youth Academy and the projects Kalea and Spencer are doing.

January 29 - February 12: Living in Faith Together—an intergenerational learning experience.

BOOK AND PUZZLE TABLE

We are going to try something new this year. In the narthex (beginning January 15) you will find a table where we can share books and puzzles with each other.

Have a book you read and loved? Ready to share it with someone else, but don't know who?

Have a jigsaw puzzle you enjoyed but don't need to put together a second time?

Bring them to the table and leave them for someone else to take.

Please only bring complete jigsaw puzzles and books that you would recommend and are excited about. Items will be regularly vetted.



FCC BOOK CLUB

The FCC Book Club will start the year reading *Shattered Dreams: My Life as a Polygamist's Wife* by Irene Spencer.

The meeting to discuss this book will be on Thursday, **January 26** at 7pm.

Content covered to protect privacy

THANK YOU!

Thank you to those who joined our staff in leading worship on January 8: Maggie Keyser and Sheree Williams (Greeters); Suzanne Krogh and Mary Anne Schwartz (Ushers); Disciples Ringers and Disciple Strings & Singers (Musicians); Melody White-Haar (Acolyte); Jon Feaver (Scripture Reader); Tom Glau, Anna and Tesla Newnum, Jon Feaver, Vern Duba, Julie Fitzpatrick, Cameron Michel (Communion servers); Melea White (Elder); David Klein and Pam Ries (A/V); Carol Mertens and Paul Bly (Fellowship Time Host); Steve Strah, Paul Bly, Jim Michel, Cameron Michel (Valet Parking); Maggie Keyser and granddaughters, Sally Strah, Sheree Williams, Gene Hansen, Cameron and Teegan Michel (food sorting and delivery). Thanks to Pam Ries and Steve Strah who teach our children's Faith Formation class each week.

THANK YOU, FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH!

Over 700 food items were divided up and delivered this week to our three local food pantries: CommUnity Food Bank, Coralville Community Food Pantry, and North Liberty Food Pantry.

Your generosity in supporting this food drive during Advent is making a difference to our neighbors.

WE NEED YOU!

Sundays rely on volunteers to go smoothly! If you are willing to serve as a Greeter, Usher, Scripture Reader, Fellowship Time Host or Acolyte (K-6th grade), please [choose your dates and sign up here](#) (use the drop down menu in the upper right to toggle between various roles). You can also contact Nancy McKinstry with questions or to sign up for these roles. **There are many available opportunities in this new year!**



If you are interested in doing Children's Moments, speak with Pastor Kara (icdisciple.kids@gmail.com).

If you would like to be trained to run sound or PowerPoint, speak with Laurie Dahms .

Remember, you can join us in person at church or worship with us on [YouTube](#) each Sunday at 10am.

WORSHIP - JANUARY 15, 2023

Hymns - Christ, Be Our Light; Holy Light; We Are Walking

Scripture - Isaiah 49:1-7

Sermon - Bearers of God's Light

JANUARY MISSION FOCUS - IOWA CITY FREE MEDICAL AND DENTAL CLINIC

This month we are learning more about and connecting with the Iowa City Free Medical and Dental Clinic.

The work they do is based on the following principles of practice:

- To eliminate barriers to health care by offering services without cost.
- To offer services that are non-judgmental and confidential.
- To encourage the participation of patients in their own care.
- To advocate for the medically under-served in our community.

In addition to general medical care and chronic care, the Clinic offers the following specialty care services:

- Ophthalmology
- Dermatology
- Physical therapy
- Rheumatology
- Gynecology

How can you support the Clinic's work?

Donate items. We will be collecting the following items (from their most needed list) throughout the month of January: ibuprofen, pill box organizers, hand sanitizer, Depends, facial tissues, and forever stamps. These items can be brought to the church and placed in the marked bin.

Learn more. Join us after worship in Faith Formation on Sunday, **January 15** as Jennie Schmidt from the Free Medical and Dental Clinic shares a presentation about their work.

Attend a tour of the Clinic. Join others from First Christian for a tour of the Free Medical and Dental Clinic on Monday, **January 16** at 2pm. [Sign up here](#) to participate in the tour - all ages are welcome.

Volunteer at the Clinic. [Visit their website](#) and make arrangements to volunteer with them.

REALM - OUR CONNECTION TO AN ONLINE DIRECTORY

If you haven't already, we hope you will use the QR code here or just visit onrealm.org to set up your Realm account. Remember your password—you will need it for future access. Once you login, set your privacy settings to "Anyone in the church" in order for your information to be in our church directory. These settings need to be changed for each person in your household. Prefer using an app? Get Realm Connect from the App Store!

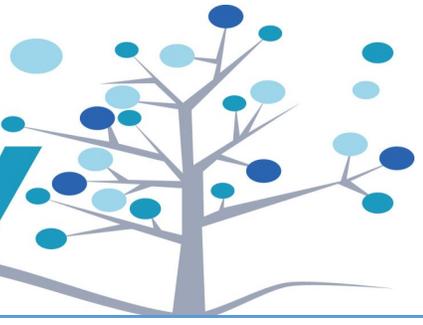


Have questions? Ask Pastor Jill or Laurie Dahms.

FIRST CHRISTIAN'S YOUTUBE CHANNEL

If you haven't already subscribed to it, visit it today. YouTube has simplified the web address so you can find it at: <https://youtube.com/@icdisciples>

january



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>Worship 10 AM</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Bible Study @ Zoom 12 Noon</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>Laura on vacation</p>		<p>Kara on vacation</p>				
<p>8</p> <p>Worship 10 AM Faith Formation 11:15 AM Handbells 12 Noon Troop 270 5:30 PM Laura PST 6:30 PM Troop 2000 7 PM</p> <p>Kara on vacation</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Kara's PST 6:30 PM</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Bible Study @ Zoom 12 Noon COVID Response Team @ Zoom 1:30 PM Disciples Strings & Singers 6 PM</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Clergy Cluster 12 Noon Nom. Coom 2 PM FCC Connect @ Zoom 6:30 PM Spring MPT 6:30 PM Arrow Chapter 7 PM</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Worship 10 AM Faith Formation 11:15 AM Handbells 12 Noon Troop 270 5:30 PM Troop 2000 7 PM</p>	<p>16</p> <p>MLK Day Office Closed</p> <p>Tour at Free Medical Clinic 2 PM</p> <p>Finance Team 6 PM</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Bible Study @ Zoom 12 Noon</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Ladies Lunch Out 11:45 AM @ 30 Hop Elders @ Zoom 7 PM</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Worship 10 AM Faith Formation 11:15 AM Handbells 12 Noon Troop 270 5:30 PM Troop 2000 7 PM</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Bible Study @ Zoom 12 Noon Jill's PST 5:30 PM Disciples Strings & Singers 6 PM</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Women Clergy @ Zoom 10 AM FCC Book Club 7 PM</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>Worship 10 AM Faith Formation 11:15 AM Handbells 12 Noon Troop 270 5:30 PM Troop 2000 7 PM</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Pastors at Minister's Institute</p>	<p>31</p>				



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Staff:

Rev. Jill Cameron Michel, Sr. Pastor

Home Phone: 319-665-2276

Rev. Kara Seaton, Minister of Children, Youth & Families

Rev. Laura Kittrell, Minister of Music and Worship

Carol Mertens, Interim Office Assistant

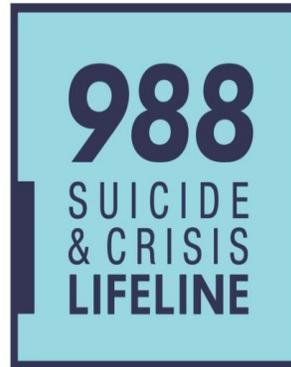
Michael Hull, Custodian

Lori Smith, Bookkeeper

Damian Dorta, Technology & Communications

Kalea Seaton, Nursery Caregiver

Caitie Klein-Lester, Nursery Caregiver



There is hope



Talk with us.



If you or someone you know
needs support now,
call or text **988**
or
chat **988lifeline.org**

