

JUNE 2026

THIS MONTH @ FCC

A Note from the Pastor

Dear Friends,

First, on a personal note, I want to say thank you for all the ways you helped Teegan and our whole family celebrate his graduation. And even more than just celebrating graduation, this is a time when I am again reminded of the joy of church community and how lucky my kids have been throughout their lives to have church people of all ages who get to know them, cheer them on, and invest in them. Thanks for being those people not only for my kids, but for all of our kids.

With summer now here, I want to remind you of several things (many of which you can read more about in this newsletter:

- Laura's sabbatical begins June 1. Thank you for this commitment of care for your pastors and for allowing her the space to rest and grow. She will return September 1.
- Malinda Thomas will be our Sabbatical Music Director. We are grateful for her and look forward to her serving in this way.
- We have lots of kids and adults going to church camp. One of the ways you can support them is by sending notes to them at camp. Details on are [page 8](#).
- There's a great learning opportunity this summer as the Explore and Grow Team offers a [book study](#) on "The Will of God." It comes from a sermon series by Leslie Weatherhead amidst WWII. Some of the language in the sermons is out of date, but I have always found the way he talks about God's will to be really helpful.
- We will be present at [Iowa City Pride](#), serving at [Free Lunch Program](#), and working on a [Habitat Build](#) this summer.

There are so many ways for you to connect, serve, and grow. I really hope you'll take time to consider the opportunities and to get involved.

With Care, *Jill*

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connect with us



Announcements

A Word from Our Moderator

Greetings church family, Heading into a year of service as your Board Moderator, I'm inviting anyone interested in joining Board meetings to join us via Zoom or at church. Board meetings will be held on June 16, Aug. 18, Oct. 20, Dec. 15, and Feb. 16 at 6:00. If you'd like to receive the agenda and packet of reports in advance, please contact [Malinda](#) or I. You are always welcome. I am so happy to be a part of this body as we answer our collective call to be Jesus' followers in many faithful and gifted ways. – [Marian](#)

Eat and Support Camp



JUNE 14, 11:15AM

Plan to stay after worship on Sunday, June 14 for a meal whose proceeds will help support those from FCC going to camp.

Our campers are preparing a Baked Potato Bar. You are invited to eat lunch and to make a Love Offering to support church camp scholarships.

General Assembly is Coming in July

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) gathers as a denomination periodically. Historically we have done this every other year at a common location. You might remember last summer several of us went to Memphis for the gathering of the General Assembly.

A change in our structure invites us to gather every year. The new rotation will mean that we gather in 2026 and 2027 online and then in 2028 at a common location. The hope is to give more people the opportunity to participate and to connect with Disciples from beyond our local congregation. Dates this year are July 10-11, 2026.

There are two ways you can participate:

- If you would like to simply attend the General Assembly, [registration](#) is open. The cost is \$30. You can read an [overview here](#). You can see the [schedule here](#). Participating is a great way to get a taste of General Assembly.
- If you would be interested in being a voting delegate for our congregation, please let Pastor Jill or Marian Hart know. Delegates will generally serve a 3-year term, but with the new structure we will start with staggered (1-year, 2-year, and 3-year) terms. Let us know about your interest or questions.



Support Young Leaders!

Attend Simpson Youth Academy worship

When: 7:00pm any night **June 22-26**

Where: Simpson College

How: RSVP to eric.rucker@simpson.edu

Pastors Jill and Kara will be participating in worship with SYA on Friday, June 26. If you would like to join them, they'd welcome your company.



At First Christian

Our Ministry Together

JUNE 4, 6:00PM

FCC's four Ministry Teams help dream, plan, and carry out the work of our church. Teams meet monthly, with the next gathering on Thursday, June 4 at 6pm. Future meetings are planned for July 2, August 6 and September 3. Come see where your gifts might fit or contact a team chair to learn more.

FCC's Ministry Teams



Connections Crew
Hospitality & Fellowship
Chair: Chris



Faith in Action
Missions & Outreach
Chair: Suzanne



Explore and Grow
Christian Ed for All Ages
Chair: Jay



Worship Team
Meaningful Worship
Chair: Dave

Habitat for Humanity Build

SATURDAY, JULY 18, 8AM-NOON

Habitat for Humanity is hard at work in Iowa City and First Christian is filling a half-day build shift on July 18 from 8am-noon. Volunteers (ages 16+) can [sign up online](#) or call the office. Contact [John](#) with any questions.



Mondays on the Lawn

AT 7PM BEGINNING JUNE 8

Summer Mondays mean activities at First Christian Church. This begins in June with Monday Game Nights:

- June 8: Outdoor Yard Games (bocce, bags, croquet, and more)
- June 15: Card Games in Fellowship Hall (bring your favorite)
- June 22: Indoor Escape Rooms (Can you solve the riddles and beat the clock?)
- June 29: Water Games on the Lawn

In July, we will welcome our immigrant neighbors again this year and enjoy their performances. More details are coming, but mark your calendars for those wonderful events!

In August, Free Ice Cream will again be served every Monday evening



Where's Jesus Now?

The Thomases took Tiny Jesus to Ohio Northern University to help move Spencer home for the summer.

Where will you take him next? Share your pictures with [the office](#) or the church Facebook group.



Go Green Tip:



While reusing and recycling are important, reducing is the best way to minimize waste. "[Let's Go Green](#)" has some tips to help you reduce waste. There are even specific tips for reducing waste with [different kinds of materials](#).



Worship

SUNDAYS AT 10:00AM

All are invited and welcome to worship week. Worship is available onsite in the sanctuary and online at [youtube/@icdisciples](https://youtube.com/icdisciples)

Upcoming Sermons

June 7 - 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26, *Called to Care*

June 14 - 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

Matthew 9:35-10:4, *Called to Compassion*

June 21- 4th Sunday after Pentecost

Matthew 10:24-39, *Called to Truth*

June 28 - 5th Sunday after Pentecost

Matthew 10:40-42, *Called to Welcome*

Nursery

Childcare is offered on Sundays from 9:30am through the end of worship. Care is available for infants up to kindergartners and older children as needed. The nursery is located in the lower-level east classroom.

“The Will of God” Summer Study

SUNDAYS, 4PM

In the early-1940's amidst WWII, Pastor Leslie Weatherhead preached a series of sermons on the will of God. These have since been published and have continued to speak across generations.

Join the Explore and Grow team for a six-week study based on these sermons. Show up every week or whenever you can. We will meet on Sundays from 4-5:15pm on Zoom on June 7, 14, 21, 28, July 12 and 19. Links to each week's reading will be in the prior Monday email.

Faith Formation takes a break during the summer. It will return after Labor Day.

Sunday Mornings



There's a role for everyone on Sunday mornings! To learn how you can serve, call the church office or visit the link below.

ICDISCIPLES.ORG/VOLUNTEERS



Vincent & Jacob offering Communion during Youth Sunday



Disciples Ringers providing Special Music on May 3



Baptism on May 17



FCC Seniors on Graduate Recognition Sunday

Bible Study



WEDNESDAYS AT 12 NOON

CONTACT OFFICE FOR ZOOM LINK

Upcoming Scriptures

June 3: Matthew 9:35-10:4

June 10: Matthew 10:24-39

June 17: Matthew 10:40-42

June 24: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

Faith Together



JYF enjoy a bowling outing



Children's Moment on May 10

Music Opportunities @ FCC

Music ministry continues over the summer and all levels of experience are welcome. We hope you will get involved:

- Strings & Singers help lead worship music. Rehearsals are Wednesdays at 6pm and Sundays at 9:30am.
- Disciples Ringers resume rehearsals on June 7. No experience or musical knowledge is required to join. Practice will follow worship on Sundays. On days with a meal or event after worship, it will begin at 12:15pm.
- We hope to make special music a regular part of summer worship. Whether you sing or play an instrument, we'd love to schedule a date for you to share.

Malinda Thomas is our Sabbatical Music Director, so please contact her with questions or to indicate interest in participating.



Grayson shares music on Youth Sunday

Youth Groups



The youth at FCC pause their regular gatherings during the sunny summer months for adventures with family, friends, and going to church camp! Watch for pop-up events, and get ready to jump back in when meetings resume in September!



Coffee with Friends

TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 9:00AM

You are invited for coffee and conversation at HyVee (812 S. 1st Ave, Iowa City). This gathering happens on the 2nd Tuesday of each month and is sponsored by Disciples Women. All are invited!

FCC Connect

THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 6:30PM

CONTACT OFFICE FOR ZOOM LINK

Enjoy visiting with others? FCC Connect is an online opportunity to do just that. Sign on and join the conversation!

Ladies Night Out

THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 5:30PM

All women of the church are invited to attend to Ladies Night Out! Enjoy an evening out as we meet for dinner at Shakespeare's (819 S. 1st Ave, Iowa City). If you plan to attend, please RSVP to [Nancy](#).

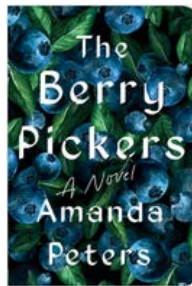
Book Club

THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 7PM

CONTACT OFFICE FOR ZOOM LINK

This month's book is *The Berry Pickers* by Amanda Peters. This story, inspired by the author's family history, follows two families over decades as they grapple with the disappearance of a 4-year-old Mi'kmaq girl and its aftermath. Questions? Contact [Nancy](#).

**Note: There has been a schedule change. The August and September books will swap months.*



Learning about Legacy giving with Kirby Hughs Marks

Keeping Connected



Flamingos visit Barb Smith & great-grandkids

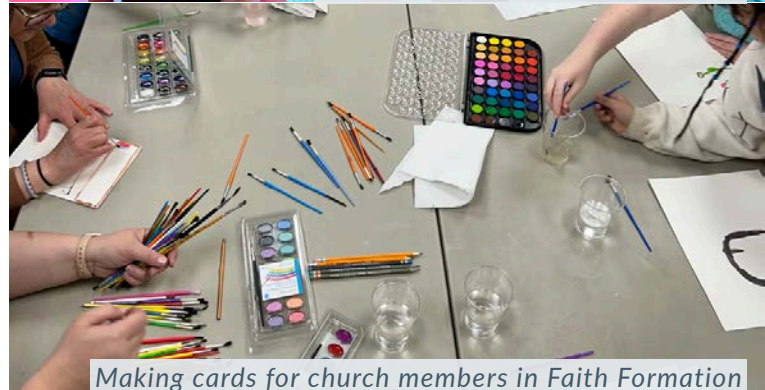


Pastor Kara and Steve w/ JYF kids

Disciples Women

SUMMER UPDATES

Disciples Women are hosting a Scone Making class in June - thanks to all who registered. Their next scheduled business meeting is August 17 at 6:30pm. And they are planning a fun social event for September 21...more to come. Questions about Disciples Women? Contact [Mary](#).



Making cards for church members in Faith Formation



In the Community

JOIN US @ IOWA CITY PRIDEFEST!

SATURDAY, JUNE 20 11AM-6PM

SIGN UP

First Christian Church will once again celebrate and support the LGBTQIA+ community by participating in the Iowa City Pride parade and hosting a booth at the festival. We'd love for you to be part of this meaningful day! Please use this [sign-up link](#) to:

- Donate non-chocolate candy (don't want it to melt in the heat!). There is a container inside the front doors at church ready for your donations.
- Walk (or ride) in the parade with FCC.
- Volunteer for a time slot to be a host at our booth.

Pride is a powerful way to extend the message of love, welcome, and inclusion to the broader community.

FCC @ FREE LUNCH PROGRAM

SIGN UP



IOWA CITY
Free Lunch Program

SATURDAY, JUNE 27

Saturday, June 27 is our next date to serve at Free Lunch Program. Our summer menu includes: Kirkland All Beef hot dogs and baked potato (with option of chili and cheese), Italian pasta salad with vegetables, green salad, chips, cookies or cupcakes, granola bar, banana, juice or milk and coffee. We expect to serve 130 meals.

To donate food items or work on free lunch day, use [Signup Genius](#). Please purchase potato donations after June 13. Non-perishable items may be placed in the Free Lunch Box in the narthex anytime. Perishable items may be placed in the FCC kitchen fridge/freezer. Items may also be delivered to church on Friday, June 26 between 11:30 am - 1:00 pm. All items need to be at church no later than 1 pm on Friday.

Remaining 2026 dates are: August 22, October 24 and December 26. The guests at Free Lunch truly appreciate your generosity!

Other ways to support Free Lunch Program include: donate clean take-home containers (e.g., used cottage cheese or yogurt containers) to share leftovers with guests at FLP, volunteer for [other shifts at FLP](#), donate money to FCC's Free Lunch fund to help purchase food items.



Above: 2025 PrideFest



Above: Serving at FLP in April



FCC @ Summer Camp



We're excited to kick off camping season at the Christian Conference Center in Newton! This summer, our church is sending 32 campers and volunteers to experience a week of faith, fun, and community. So you may be wondering, "How can I support our campers?" Here are a few meaningful ways to get involved:

Send a Note

Mail at camp brings big smiles! You can:

- Mail or email cards (addresses below)
- Write a note on the cards available at church—our office will send them weekly.

Pray for Campers

Each week, keep our campers and volunteers in your prayers. Camp is exciting but can also be challenging, for campers and our leaders.

Connect

Start conversations with our campers!

- Before they go, let them know you're excited for their journey.
- After they return, ask about their favorite moments, new friends, or what they learned. Your interest helps show them how valued they are in our church family.

Give to Support Camp

Our church covers 50% of the registration cost for each camper—sometimes more. Donations help make camp accessible for all.

You may make a financial gift through:

- Offering box (please note "youth camp")
- Mailed check (please note "youth camp")
- [Give online](#) (Fund: Church Camp)

Thanks for helping make this a meaningful summer for our campers!



[Camper name & Camp attending]
c/o Christian Conference Center
5064 Lincoln St
Newton, IA 50208

email: campermail@newtonccc.org



June



CLICK HERE
FOR FCC'S
JUNE
CALENDAR

WHO IS MY ELDER?

Last Name Your Elder

A-CI Julie F.

Co-F Nancy M.

G-Kin Al Z.

Kit-Mic Steve S.

Mo-Sch Marcus S.

Sea-Z Jane D.

First Christian Church Staff

Rev. Jill Cameron Michel
Senior Pastor

Rev. Kara Seaton
Associate Pastor

Rev. Laura Kittrell
Minister of Music & Worship
On sabbatical 6/1-8/31

Malinda Thomas
Office Administrator & Sabbatical Music Director

Michael Hull
Jenna Janssen
Custodians

Lori Smith
Bookkeeper

Cameron Michel
Technology Assistant

McKenna Geake
Teegan Michel
Kalea Seaton
Nursery Caregivers

First Christian Church
Disciples of Christ



There's Room at the Table for Everyone

Office Hours:
Monday & Wednesday:
9:00AM - 1:00PM
Tuesday & Thursday:
1:00 - 5:00PM

clergy staff available by appointment

900 Lincolnshire Place
Coralville, IA 52241
319-337-4181

icdisciples.org

connect with us

