

OCTOBER 2025

THIS MONTH @ FCC

A Note from the Pastor

Dear Friends,

We've been talking about generosity throughout the month of September. I want to share with you some of the ways that I am witnessing generosity in you.

We just changed our structure for planning ministries at FCC and we had four people who eagerly said yes to leading our new Ministry Teams and many more of you who said you are willing to serve with those teams. Thank you for sharing your gifts and time so generously.

Starting at the beginning of September, I now teach four Bible study classes each week (3 sections of Discovering the Bible and our longstanding Wednesday study). Every time I sit down at the table with you all, I am overwhelmed by the generosity of your minds and spirits. We are often introducing new concepts and looking at things in different ways and you are attending with curiosity.

Sunday a family worshiped with us. They are going through a hard time. We have been praying for their daughter who is in the children's hospital. But you aren't just praying. When you met them, you surrounded them with your love and compassion, with offers of meals and coffee and a place to do laundry. You were so generous with them.

We have had several folks join First Christian on recent Sundays. While I haven't asked this exact question, I think many of them have been drawn to FCC because of the ways you are generous with each other and with our community.

While we don't always name it exactly this way, generosity is a large part of our faith. It shapes how we interact with those who are different from us, how we honor the young and the vulnerable among us, how we take responsibility within our communities, how we offer what we have for the good of the whole. Thank you for all the ways you show generosity!

With Care, *Jill*

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connect with us





Announcements

In the Denomination

General Assembly - You Can Be a Delegate!

Starting this year, the General Assembly will meet annually—online most years, with an onsite gathering every third year.

Our congregation will have three voting delegates, serving on a rotating three-year term. This is a wonderful way to represent our church and connect with the wider church family. If you'd like to learn more about serving, please reach out to [Carla M.](#) or [Pastor Jill](#).

Special Offering

SEPTEMBER 28
& OCTOBER 5

Give to Reconciliation Ministry through October 5 to support the Disciples' 40-year commitment to dismantling racism (by mail, offering box, or [online](#) (select Special Offering - Regional, and Reconciliation Offering)).



FCC Women's Event: Share a Treasured Family Recipe

MONDAY, OCTOBER 20,
6:30PM

Explore the important role meals play in our faith, family, and fellowship activities. Bring a copy of a special family recipe and share its special story. If you don't cook, describe the where and why of a dish you've enjoyed. All attendees will receive copies of the shared recipes. Refreshments will be served and child care will be available. Hannah Circle is sponsoring this event - if you have questions, please reach out to [Mary C.](#)

Handy Helpers Needed!

We're creating a list of volunteers to help with small odd jobs around the church. If you're handy with a wrench, paintbrush, or ladder, you can help! Tasks might include minor repairs, painting, ceiling tile swaps, light bulb changes, and more. If you're willing to lend your skills occasionally, please contact [Sally S.](#) Your help keeps our church safe, functional, and welcoming!

Get Involved

Ministry Teams - How Can You Serve?

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2,
6PM

We are gathering four Ministry Teams to help plan and implement ministry at FCC. All will meet on the first Thursday of the month and you are welcome to join them:



Connections Crew
(hospitality & fellowship)
Chair: [Chris R.](#)



Faith in Action
(missions & outreach)
Chair: [Suzanne K.](#)



Explore and Grow
(Christian education-all ages)
Chair: [Jay T.](#)



Worship Team
(meaningful worship experiences)
Chair: [Dave K.](#)



Bible Study

WEDNESDAYS AT 12 NOON

CONTACT OFFICE FOR ZOOM INFO

Upcoming Scriptures

October 1: Acts 6:1-7

October 8: Ephesians 2:10

October 15: Ruth (selected sections)

October 22: Joshua 24:29-32

October 29: Psalm 73 (Romans 8:18-39)

At First Christian

Church Workday

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27
9:00 AM - NOON

Join us for a morning of fellowship and service at our upcoming Church Work Day! Whether you're a seasoned handyman or just willing to lend a hand, there's a job for everyone. From reinstalling the sanctuary furniture, to changing water fountain filters and lightbulbs, painting a wall, installing tack strips, general cleaning, and outdoor yard work—your help makes a big difference.

Many hands make light work, and together we can keep our church home beautiful and welcoming. Come for an hour or stay the whole morning—every bit helps! If you have questions, please reach out to Facilities Team Chair, [Sally S.](#)



Youth Groups

CYF

CYF (grades 9-12) meets on Sundays, 4:00 - 5:30pm. Meets at the church unless specified otherwise.

- **October 5** - Offsite activity (weather dependent)
- **October 12** - Making blankets to share with unhoused neighbors
- **October 19** - Corn Maze
- **October 26** - Progressive Dinner

CHI RHO

In October, there will be a couple of options for Chi Rho youth (grades 6-8) to gather! Families should pay attention to their emails where details and signups will be shared.

JYF

JYF (grades 2-5) meets twice a month on Sundays, 12-1:15pm at the church.

- **Oct. 12** - Nature Hike
- **Oct. 26** - Xmas Cards

Top: Learning about Ministry Teams.
Bottom: High school kids painting at youth group.



Worship

SUNDAYS AT 10:00AM

All are invited and welcome to worship each Sunday at 10:00AM. Worship is available onsite in the sanctuary and online at:

youtube/@icdisciples 

Upcoming Sermons

October is a full of month of meaningful worship as we celebrate several special days.

Oct. 5 (World Communion Sunday):

Are You Ready to Serve? Luke 17:7-10

Oct. 12 (Week of the Ministry):

Where Are You Needed? Acts 6:1-7

Oct. 19 (Children's Sabbath):

Building Beloved Community Ephesians 2:10

Oct. 26 (Commitment Sunday):

Generosity Abounds Ruth 1-4

Faith Formation: Sundays, 11:15am

Faith Formation begins again September 14.

Children (Pre-K - 5th) will gather for Children Worship & Wonder.

Adults and Youth (6th-12th) will participate in a variety of presentations and activities:

- Oct. 5: Through Movement We Find Health: Body, Mind, Emotions, Spirit with Pat A.
- Oct. 12: Sort coats for Warm Winter Wear Distribution.
- Oct. 19: Children's Sabbath Activities
- Oct. 26: Ways to Give: the Practical Side of Generosity with Kent C.

Nursery

Childcare is available on Sundays beginning at 9:30am for infants through kindergarteners, and older children if needed. The nursery is in the lower-level east classroom.

Sunday Mornings



Sunday worship brings together many hands and hearts. There's a role for everyone! To learn how you can serve, call the church office or visit the link below.

[ICDISCIPLES.ORG/VOLUNTEER](https://icdisciples.org/volunteer)



Acolyte carries the light out at the end of worship; Don and Jane lead a responsive scripture reading; Ministry Team leaders share.



Coffee with Friends

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 9:00AM

Men & women alike are invited for coffee and conversation at HyVee (3285 Crosspark Rd., Coralville). This gathering will be happening the 2nd Tuesday of each month and is sponsored by Hannah Circle. You're invited to stop by!

FCC Connect

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 6:30PM

Contact office for Zoom info.

Enjoy visiting with others? Want to make some new friends? FCC Connect is an online opportunity to do just that. Sign on and join the conversation.

Ladies Night Out

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 5:30PM

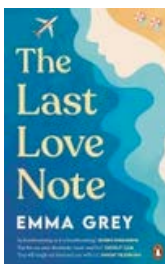
Join the FCC ladies for good food and conversation! This month we are heading to La Mexicana (1701 2nd Street, Coralville). Contact [Nancy R.](#) with any questions.

Book Club

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 7PM

Contact office for Zoom info.

October's book is *The Last Love Note* by Emma Grey. Kate, still grieving the loss of her husband, discovers that while you never stop loving who you lost, it's possible to laugh, cry, and find love again. Join this conversation at FCC or on Zoom. Questions? Contact [Nancy M.](#)



Disciples Strings & Singers

WEDNESDAYS, 6:00PM

You are invited to share in music ministry at FCC! For more information, please contact [Pastor Laura](#).



Keeping Connected



Above: Friends gather for food and fun after worship on Sept. 7 for Welcome Sunday festivities.



In the Community

IN OCTOBER, WE SERVE FREE LUNCH!

FREE LUNCH
OCT. SIGN UP



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25

The next meal FCC serves at Iowa City Free Lunch will be on Saturday, October 25. Our menu will include Chili Cheese Tater Tot Casserole, mixed vegetables, fruit salad, green salad, bread & butter, dessert, granola bars, juice or milk, and coffee. We expect to serve 145 meals.

- To donate food items or volunteer to work on Free Lunch Day, use the [Signup Genius](#) link.
- A casserole signup sheet and casserole pans with recipe will be at the church Sunday, September 28.
- Non-perishable items can be dropped in the blue Free Lunch Box anytime; perishable items should go in the FCC kitchen fridge; casseroles & desserts may be placed in the FCC freezer.
- Drop-offs are also accepted at FCC on Friday, October 24, from 11:30am to 1 pm.

ALL ITEMS MUST BE AT FCC BY 1pm ON 10/24 - at which time they are transported to FLP.

First Christian Church prepares & serves Free Lunch every other month on the 4th Saturday. In 2025, we also look forward to serving on December 27. Monetary donations are welcome anytime, either in person, by mail, or online (select Fund: Special Offering (Local) and Memo: Free Lunch Program).

WARM WINTER WEAR DISTRIBUTION



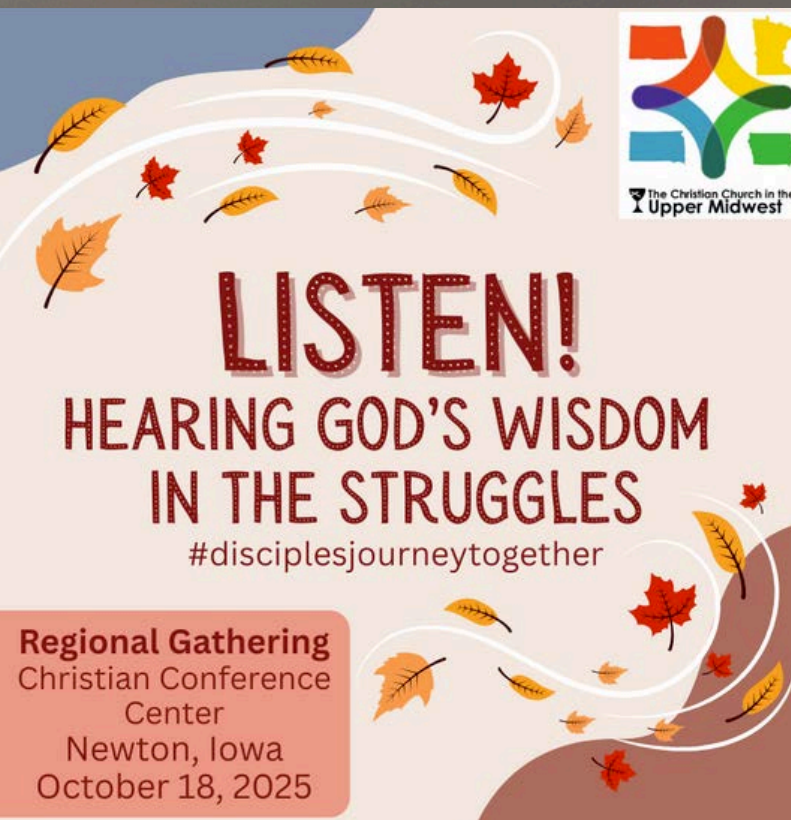
THRU OCTOBER 12

We hope you will find a way to participate in the WARM WINTER WEAR Distribution Event, an annual event that is sponsored by the Consultation of Religious Communities and the IC Police Department. This is an event which our congregation helped to found!

- Bring donations of **gently used or new coats, snow pants, hats, mittens, gloves, scarves, boots, winter shoes, heavy sweaters & sweatshirts** to the church. Put them in the collection bin or hand on the marked coat rack. We will collect items through Oct. 12.
- **Stay after worship on Oct. 12** and help sort and bag the items collected at First Christian. We will do this during the Faith Formation hour.
- **Volunteer at the event the week of Oct. 12.** There are opportunities to help organize and set up as well as opportunities to assist people who are shopping for items. [Sign up here.](#)



Traci & kids
bless coats.



LISTEN!
**HEARING GOD'S WISDOM
IN THE STRUGGLES**
#disciplesjourneytogether

Regional Gathering
Christian Conference
Center
Newton, Iowa
October 18, 2025

Come to the Regional Gathering!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18,
10AM – 4PM, NEWTON

Listen! Hearing God's Wisdom in the Struggles is the theme of this year's Regional Gathering at the Christian Conference Center in Newton. This day of worship, learning, and fellowship is a wonderful chance to connect with Disciples from across the region, grow in faith, and be renewed for ministry. Youth activities are also planned, making it a meaningful event for all ages.

[Click here](#) to learn more and register. If you plan to attend, please let the church office know—we'd love to help coordinate carpooling so we can share the journey together!

In the Region

Winter Retreats for Youth

JANUARY 23-25, 2026
CHI RHO & CYF (GRADES 6-12)

FEBRUARY 20-22, 2026
JUNIOR (GRADES 3-5)

First Christian takes youth to mid-year retreats each winter at the camp and conference center of our region, located in Newton, Iowa.

Put the above dates on your calendar, and we will share registration information when it becomes available.

Questions? Please contact [Pastor Kara](#).

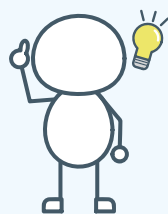


Above: Pastors Kara, Jill and John (retired) at the Cedar Rapids ICE office on Sept. 2 as part of a protective accompaniment to hold space for those attending check-in appointments.



Welcome ♥ October

CLICK HERE
FOR FCC'S
OCTOBER
CALENDAR



WHO IS MY ELDER?

Last Name Your Elder

A-CI Jon F.

Co-F Maggie K.

G-Kin Al Z.

Kit-Mic David K.

Mo-Sch Marcus S.

Sea-Z Jane D.

FCC elders through February 2026.

First Christian Church Staff

Rev. Jill Cameron Michel
Senior Pastor

Rev. Kara Seaton
Associate Pastor

Rev. Laura Kittrell
*Minister of
Music & Worship*

Carol Mertens
Office Manager

Michael Hull
Custodian

Lori Smith
Bookkeeper

Cameron Michel
Technology Assistant

McKenna Geake
Teegan Michel
Ella Romero
Nursery Caregivers

**First
Christian
Church**
Disciples of Christ

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Coralville, IA 52241
319-337-4181

icdisciples.org

*There's Room
at the Table
for Everyone*

Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday
9:00AM to 12:00PM
clergy staff available by appointment



connect with us

