

AUGUST 2026

THIS MONTH @ FCC

A Note from the Pastor

Dear Friends,

Several of us from First Christian Church recently attended the first digital General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) along with 2,300 others from across the denomination. This is a new way of meeting for us, having only previously gathered as a General Assembly onsite at a common physical location. Moving forward the rotation will be digital General Assemblies (2026, 2027) followed by onsite General Assembly (2028, which will be in Chicago). That pattern of two digital and one onsite gatherings will continue moving forward.

I was excited to see how this would work. As most of us have, I've done a lot of Zoom meetings. But, I had not previously done any gathering of this size and with this many moving parts. While there were a few technical glitches, overall I was impressed both with the platform they used and with how things were handled. In addition to meaningful worship, we heard great speakers, had opportunities to visit with folks from our general ministries and institutions of higher education, were challenged to think deeply and talk together in small groups about issues of economic justice.

I am excited to see how the digital General Assemblies of the future continue to transform and help us be more connected as a denomination. And I hope that more of us will participate. If you would like to hear more, just ask. You can talk to me or to any of our voting delegates: Whitney, Sally, and Malinda.

Meanwhile, keep reading this newsletter to learn more about what's coming up at FCC. This month we serve meals with Coralville Food Pantry & Free Lunch Program as well as ice cream on the front lawn (we're looking for hosts, so see page 3 to volunteer), we will share in some special times of worship, and have plenty of opportunities to be together. I hope you'll find ways to connect.

With Care, *Jill*

This Issue

Announcements
[PAGE 02](#)

At First Christian
[PAGE 03](#)

Sunday Mornings
[PAGE 04](#)

Faith Together
[PAGE 05](#)

Keeping Connected
[PAGE 06](#)

In the Community
[PAGE 07](#)

Mondays on the Lawn
[PAGE 08](#)

August Calendar Link
Your Elder
[PAGE 09](#)

connect with us





School Supply Drive

PLEASE BRING ALL DONATIONS TO THE CHURCH BY SUNDAY, AUGUST 2

First Christian is partnering with Ready Set School, a community outreach event that provides free school supplies to local children. Requested items include:

- Round-tipped scissors
- 24-count boxes of crayons
- 12-count pkgs of colored pencils
- Glue sticks
- Pencil pouches



We're Having a Picnic Potluck!

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, 11:15AM

Plan to stay after worship on August 9 for a Picnic Potluck! Bring your favorite picnic foods to share, and if you have a favorite picnic tablecloth, bring it along to dress up one of the tables in Fellowship Hall.

Even potlucks need helpers to make them go smoothly. Please sign up if you can lend a hand, especially if you're able to stay afterward to help with cleanup and washing and drying dishes. As part of our commitment as a Green Chalice congregation, we use reusable trays that need a little extra care after the meal.

Questions? Contact Chris.

Announcements

Welcome Sunday
@First Christian Church

SEPTEMBER 13

Each year on the Sunday after Labor Day we celebrate "Welcome Sunday." This is a time to gather together as friends, invite guests, and simply enjoy being together. It is also the time when we acknowledge that the rhythm of our life together changes with fall. Join us for worship at 10AM, then plan to stay after to share a meal, enjoy conversation and games, and even win prizes! ALL are welcome!

Looking Ahead: Fall Programs by Disciples Women

3RD MONDAYS, 6:30PM

- **Sept. 21** - Sip & Paint w/Julie Fitzpatrick. Bring your creative spirit to this women's event enjoying painting and mocktails with friends from FCC.
- **Oct. 19** - Quilting Program with Pat Boelens, Susan Davis, Maggie Keyser, & Sally Strah. Join four of FCC's quilters as they share the beauty and craftsmanship of quilting.
- **Nov. 16** - Card-Making Workshop (embossing, die-cutting, envelope lining & embellishments) with Heather Woodin. Learn tricks and tips to create your own cards.



At First Christian

Our Ministry Together

AUG. 6, 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, August 6 at 6pm. The next meetings are planned for September 3 and October 1. 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](#)

MONDAYS *on the* LAWN

AT 7:00PM CONTINUING IN AUGUST

We have had exciting events as part of our Mondays on the Lawn series. In August, Mondays are for friendship and frozen treats! Come by FCC to grab a frozen treat to go or bring a chair and stay a while enjoying conversation with old and new friends.

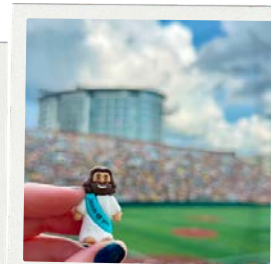
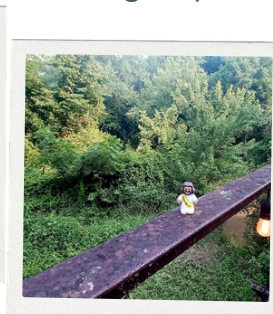
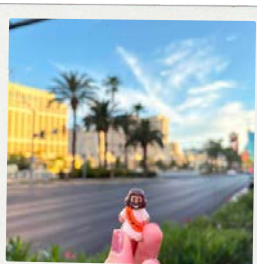
And if you would like to host one Monday evening (treats are provided, all you need to do is serve), you can [sign up here](#).



Where's Jesus Now?

Jesus continues to show up in all sorts of places. In July he spent time exploring Las Vegas, listening to music at Bunker Mill Bridge in Kalona, at Kinnick for Banana Ball, and even did a hospital visit.

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



Speaking of the church Facebook group...if you are on Facebook and not yet part of it, send a Facebook friend request to Pastor Jill or Pastor Kara and they can help you connect. This private group is a place where announcements, pictures, and conversation are shared.



Go Green Tip:



Do you ever get overwhelmed by the chemical smells of cleaning products? "[Let's Go Green](#)" has some tips for eco-friendly cleaning products that are gentler to our environment and to your nose - check them out [here](#).



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 

Upcoming Sermons

August 2 - 10^h Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm 32:1-7, *Happily Confessing? a Service of Confession*

August 9 - 11^h Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm 30:1-5 and 2 Kings 5:1-14, *Healing and Wholeness, a Service of Healing*

August 16 - 12^h Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm 30:1-5 and 2 Kings 5:1-14, *Don't Hesitate, a Service of Praise*

August 23 - 13th Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm 139:7-12, *God is Already Here*

August 30 - 14th Sunday after Pentecost

John 1:35-42, *Taize Worship*

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.

Back-to-School Blessing

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23

As we anticipate the beginning of a new school year, you are invited to join us in worship on August 23rd for a back-to-school blessing. Together, we will pray for courage, curiosity, and compassion in the year ahead as we celebrate new beginnings and God's presence with us on the journey.

Faith Formation 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



Lighting the candle on July 5



Singing a solo on July 26



Jesus comes to worship, too!



Worshipping with Simpson Youth Academy

Bible Study

WEDNESDAYS AT 12 NOON

CONTACT OFFICE FOR ZOOM LINK

Upcoming Scriptures

August 5: Psalm 30:1-5 & 2 Kings 5:1-14

August 12: Psalm 139:7-12

August 19: John 1:35-42

August 26: 2 Timothy 1:1-5

Faith Together

Music Opportunities @ FCC

Thank you to Maya for her special music last Sunday that was absolutely beautiful! Special Music is welcome from anyone who would like to share. Please contact our interim Music Director, Malinda Thomas, with questions or to indicate interest in sharing your musical gifts.

The Disciples Ringers will be sharing music on August 16, then will go on hiatus while the bells get lavished with a spa treatment! The bells will be returning to their origins at Malmark in Pennsylvania for a complete restoration & repair. We have taken good care of them, but after more than 50 years, they deserve some pampering! Many thanks to Jim, Heather, & Marilyn for making this possible.



at ADAM Camp



at disability & ministry event



at CYF Camp



FCC Connect

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 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!

Coffee with Friends

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 9:00AM

Everyone is invited to stop by for coffee and conversation at the Iowa City HyVee on 812 S First Ave. This gathering happens on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. FUTURE LOCATION CHANGE: Susan and Paul will host Coffee with Friends in their garden on Tuesday, Sept 8 after which we will move to Crosspark HyVee in Coralville. This event is sponsored by Disciples Women. All are invited!

Ladies Night Out

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 5:30PM

It's road trip! All women of the church are invited to join Ladies Night Out as we head out of town to the Northside Diner (106 Main St., Washington, IA). If you plan to attend, please RSVP to [Nancy](#).

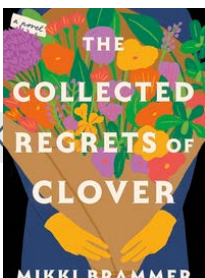
Book Club

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 7PM

CONTACT OFFICE FOR ZOOM LINK

Maggie is leading discussion of this month's book *The Collected Regrets of Clover* by Mikki Brammer.

A big-hearted and life-affirming novel about a death doula who, in caring for others at the end of their life, has forgotten how to live her own. Questions? Contact [Nancy](#). *Note: This is swapped with the September book "The Briar Club."



Disciples Women

MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 6:30PM

CONTACT OFFICE FOR ZOOM LINK

Individuals interested in offering or planning FCC women's fellowship events are encouraged to attend this planning meeting on Zoom.



Meet Your Elder event 6/28

Keeping Connected



Meet Your Elder event 6/28



Coffee with Friends 7/14



Coffee with Friends 7/14



In the Community

SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM



THURSDAY, AUGUST 13

SIGN UP

On August 13, FCC partners with the Coralville Community Food Pantry to serve lunch to children and their families. Most shifts are from 11am to 1pm. Local restaurants provide the meals. Sign up now through the FCC office to be part of this event in service to the young families in our wider community!



FCC at Habitat Build July 18

SCHOLARSHIP OFFERING

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23

Join us Sunday, August 23 when we will receive a special offering for the First Christian Church Scholarship Fund, which supports individuals in our community pursuing post-secondary education or training. Gifts can be made anytime in August—during worship, by mail, or online (select Directed Contribution and FCC Scholarship). Please note “scholarship” on all donations. Thank you for helping us support students and invest in their future!



FCC at Free Lunch Program June 27

FCC SERVES @FLP

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22

SIGN UP HERE



IOWA CITY
Free Lunch Program

FCC's next Free Lunch serving date is on August 22. This is a hot dog meal with baked potato and other sides. It is expected that 130 meals will be served. Please visit the online sign up or call the office to volunteer to bring food items or to serve that day. Items may be delivered to the church on Friday, August 21 between 11:30am-1:30pm. The remaining 2026 dates for FCC to serve is Oct. 24 and Dec. 26.



FCC at Habitat Build July 18



Mondays on the Lawn

During July, we enjoyed sharing music, culture, and connection with our immigrant neighbors. Together, we also supported organizations serving immigrant communities, raising more than \$1,600:

- Open Heartland: \$465
- Immigrant Welcome Network: \$408
- Prytula Foundation USA: \$409
- Escucha Mi Voz: \$346

Thank you for celebrating the rich diversity of our community and for your generous support!



Sudanese musicians, dancers and a shared potluck



Open Heartland's Children's Folklorico dancers



Svitlana - Reflections on Home (Ukraine)



Mondays on the Lawn



Andy and Carol lead resistance singing

August

**CLICK HERE FOR FCC'S
AUGUST CALENDAR**



WHO IS MY ELDER?



Last Name Your Elder

A-CI Julie

Co-F Nancy

G-Kin Maggie

Kit-Mic Steve

Mo-Sch Marcus

Sea-Z Jane

First Christian Church Staff

Rev. Jill Cameron Michel

Senior Pastor

417-439-7391

Rev. Kara Seaton

Associate Pastor

319-530-3255

Rev. Laura Kittrell

Minister of

Music & Worship

On sabbatical 6/1-8/31

Malinda Thomas

*Office Administrator &
Sabbatical Music Director*

Michael

Jenna

Custodians

Lori

Bookkeeper

Cameron

Technology Assistant

McKenna

Teegan

Kalea

Sophia

Ella

Nursery Caregivers

connect with us



**First
Christian
Church**
Disciples of Christ

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

icdisciples.org



*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*