

# The Call

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*Merry Christmas*

**From: Mary Jane • Tim • Janet • Liz • Joseph • Sherri • Karen**

# These Hearts. These Hands. This Voice. These Times. The Gospel of Matthew

Advent and the Christian new year began December 2<sup>nd</sup>. The season of Christmas starts Christmas Day and lasts 12 days. Remember the song! Epiphany is January 6<sup>th</sup> and continues until Lent begins on Ash Wednesday (this year March 6<sup>th</sup>).

FCC's theme for Fall 2018-Summer 2019 is *These Hearts. These Hands. This Voice. These Times*. Since we kicked off the new program year on September 9<sup>th</sup>, we have been doing a quick sweep through the Hebrew Scripture (Old Testament) learning the stories and themes of the faith Jesus grew up with. This Sunday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>, we will turn our focus to the first book in the New Testament – the Gospel of Matthew. We will stay in Matthew through the end of April. Instead of a quick sweep (15 weeks on the entire Old Testament), we will move slowly through Matthew (19 weeks on one book with 28 chapters).

If you'd like to go deeper in your study, I invite you to read Matthew in its entirety between now and the end of April. You could look ahead to the scripture for the coming Sunday and read the chapter(s)/verses leading up to what we will focus on in worship. Then spend each week reading what's in-between. I also invite you to participate in the Adult Learning Time at 9:15-10:15 am on Sundays. That class will be taught by a 3-person teaching team: Randy Allman, David Digby, and myself.

I am also considering the possibility of a mid-week Bible Study on Matthew Wednesday evenings from 6:15-7:00 pm. If you are interested in that possibility, please let me know.

We read and learn these Gospel stories so we more deeply know the way of Jesus. The more deeply we know the way of Jesus, the more our identity and our actions will be shaped by Christ. What a great way to begin a new year of living!

—Pastor Mary Jane



## Advent & Christmas Worship

### Worship & Learning Scriptures

<b>Dec. 23</b>	<i>Fourth Sunday in Advent</i> Love — In the Flesh	Matthew 1:18-25
<b>Dec. 24</b>	Candlelight Christmas Eve Service at 7 pm	Luke 2:1-20



**Christmas Eve  
Candlelight Worship**  
*Come as you are, you belong!*  
**Monday, Dec. 24 at 7PM**  
First Christian Church  
611 Clark Avenue

<b>Dec. 30</b>	Jesus' Family Tree	Matthew 1:1-17
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## Worship & Learning Scriptures

Jan. 6	Epiphany: Magi Visit	Matt. 2:1-23
Jan. 13	Jesus' Baptism	Matt. 3:1-17
Jan. 20	Tempted in the Wilderness	Matt. 4:1-17
Jan. 27	Beatitudes	Matt. 5:1-20
Feb. 3	Treasure in Heaven	Matt. 6:7-21
Feb. 10	The Golden Rule	Matt. 7:1-14; 24-29
Feb. 17	Parables of the Kingdom	Matt. 14:24-43
Feb. 24	Feeding 5,000	Matt. 14:13-33
March 3	Transfiguration	Matt. 16:24-17:8

### Lent Worship

Marc 6	ASH WEDNESDAY Who is the Greatest?	Matt 18:1-9
March 10	Forgiveness	Matt. 18:15-35
March 17	Laborers in the Vineyard	Matt. 20:11-16
March 24	Wedding Banquet	Matt. 22:1-14
March 31	Bridesmaids (or Talents)	Matt. 25:1-13
April 7	Last Judgment	Matt. 25:31-46
April 14	PALM SUNDAY Triumphal Entry	Matt. 21:1-17
April 18	MAUNDY THURSDAY Words of Institution	Matt. 26:17-30
April 19	GOOD FRIDAY Crucifixion	Matt. 27:27-61

### EASTER WORSHIP

April 21	EASTER	Matt. 28:1-10
April 28	Great Commission	Matt. 28:16-20



**The Christmas Offering will be received on Sunday, December 23. You may give in the designated envelopes on that Sunday, or [ONLINE](#).**

Our finest gifts support the work of regional ministries this Christmas. Your regional ministry works to:

- Connect congregations to each other
- Foster faith development
- Gather Disciples in camps, conferences, and assemblies
- Nurture the development of a new generation of pastors
- Assist churches in calling new ministers
- Interpret the global mission of the Church
- Represent the Church in ecumenical gatherings
- Counsel and pray with those who are troubled of spirit
- Lead the Church to address racism
- Inspire leaders to experiment and create
- Witness to the power of God to make things new

**The Christmas Special Day offering supports all of these and many other ministries of our regions.**

**[Please give generously to this year's Christmas Offering.](#)**

# Looking Back,

# Moving Forward...

**A**s we approach the end of 2018 and the beginning of 2019, I want to remember some of what we have done together and anticipate some of what the new year might hold for us. At the beginning of 2018 we had a dozen or so leaders from FCC go to an all-day workshop hosted by AMOS called The Mechanics of Strength where we focused on developing our leadership skills to enhance the vision and ministry of the church. We looked at various styles and strategies of leadership found in the Bible and reflected on how those might apply in our time and context. It was an inspiring day!

In February and March I taught a "Pastor's Class" exploring baptism and church membership. There were 6 students and 6 mentors who were part of that learning experience that resulted in 6 young people coming forward on April 1 – Easter Sunday – to make their confession of faith and be baptized. It was truly a day of new life and celebration! From

that experience we developed a new younger "Youth Group" for grades 4-8 that has met several times.



This year the Council of Ministries (COM) has been asking some important questions such as: How do we grow as a church? How do we identify, develop, and connect the gifts and resources we have among us as a church community so we can be strong in faith and action? In "such a time as this" we are called upon not only to be deeply rooted in our faith, but also able to respond in love to the concerns within our church and beyond. That takes faith plus strong relationships and leadership skills. In the new year the COM intends to focus on calling out, supporting and strengthening leadership in a variety of areas within the church.

This has been a year full of thoughtful dialogue, looking back and moving forward, reaching out and trying new things, bringing back some old traditions and creating new ones, and enjoying the connection we have with one another through God and FCC. We have made many memories together - through our weekly worship, learning, and praying to-

gether, through weekly Wednesday evening spiritual practices, through whole church events like Fellowship Coffees and Fellowship Dinners and Annual Christmas Party, through the thousands of prayers lifted up and acts of care expressed to and for one another and people and situations all over the world, through blessing babies and creating a climate for growing in faith and discipleship, through cooking, serving, and cleaning up a Food at First meal once a month, and through the children who are such an important part of our life together, as was beautifully illustrated in Sunday's Children's Christmas Pageant! Thanks to the teachers, parents, and those who lovingly made and stuffed Christmas stockings to give them!

Some of the memories we have made are a mix of joy and sorrow. This year we have been blessed to get to know new friends at FCC, but we have also said good-bye to some of our beloved members. In 2018, we celebrated the lives of Mary Fitz, Jim Gaunt, Olene Dowell, and Evelyn Key. We are thankful for the gift of their lives among us and that they will continue to live in our hearts and memories.

May we hold one another nearly and dearly as we continue to seek God's wisdom and guidance in the coming year. May we continue to welcome newcomers in our midst and live out our motto, "Come as you are, you belong." May we continue to share authentically from the heart with one another as we deepen our connection to one another and to God. May God bless you and keep you and may the face of God shine upon you as we close 2018 and look to 2019!

Pastor Mary Jane

## We Reached Our Pledge Goal!

**W**e have met our pledge goal of \$185,000 for 2019.

Thank you to all who contribute in whatever ways you choose. In a very real way, what we are giving to First Christian Church (FCC) is also giving through FCC to help fulfill the missions of our church.

The Stewardship Team enjoyed working together in 2018 helping to release the Generosity that is Already Within Us - to do the will and the work of Spirit through First Christian Church. And we are looking forward to working together in 2019 to continue that work. Already we are pondering new ideas for the new year.

You know, this congregation of ours is really a great group of people!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from:

Don Withers, Stewardship Chair

Mary Jane Button-Harrison

Vern Hawkins

Janet Lott

Stacey Maifeld

Sue Prins



*Leadership  
Sunday*

On this day,  
we will thank our  
outgoing leaders  
and commission  
our leaders for 2019.

During worship, Sunday, January 13<sup>th</sup>

# THE WOMEN'S GATHERING



## News from the Women's Gathering!

### Save the Date: February 25, 2019

Attention all FCC members and friends! Plan now to hear David and Mary Gregory share about their two-year adventure in the Eastern Caribbean. Their presentation and a time of refreshments will be Monday, Feb. 25 at 7 p.m. in the Great Room. For more information, contact co-leaders Janis Pyle at [janispyle@yahoo.com](mailto:janispyle@yahoo.com) or Deb Lewis at [dlewis@iastate.edu](mailto:dlewis@iastate.edu).

### A Note of Thanks!

A big thank you to the youth and others who participated in the stuffing of 100 stockings for the Bethesda Food Pantry! We were also thrilled with the generous contributions of items and cash for the stockings and gifts for YSS family members!

Happy holidays to you and your families!

## Share your gift of welcome as an FCC greeter or usher in 2019



USHERS & GREETERS

One of our core values at FCC is to genuinely accept, welcome and love everyone as Jesus did. One way you can share your gifts of acceptance, welcome and

love is by serving as an FCC greeter or usher in 2019. Ushers and greeters have the role of greeting, smiling, saying hello, and warmly welcoming everyone on Sunday mornings. They also guide new visitors into the sanctuary and help them feel comfortable and pass out bulletins. Serving as Sunday morning greeters would also be a fun way that children could practice this core value with their family.

If you would be willing to serve as an usher or greeter in 2019, please let Stacey Maifeld know on Sunday morning, or you may contact her at [staceymaifeld@gmail.com](mailto:staceymaifeld@gmail.com) or 515-520-9844.

Thank you!

## FCC Contributed to Book Drive

In 2018 Raising Readers in Story County sponsored a book drive to collect 1000 new books and donate them to be given to Salvation Army Families of Story County for Christmas. The First Christian Church congregation generously donated more than 40 new children's books to this wonderful effort. The books were collected in a brightly covered box in the narthex and then delivered to Raising on December 11, 2018.



A sincere "thank you" goes out to everyone at First Christian Church who donated to this wonderful effort. FCC is always willing to step up and help our neighbors, and this book drive for families in Story County is no exception. What a way to spread Christmas cheer!

—Vern Hawkins

# Report on the 2018 Congregational Meeting

The 2018 Annual Congregational meeting was held on Sunday, December 9. Those in attendance voted to approve the following slate of officers and budget for 2019:

<b>SLATE OF OFFICERS (<i>one year positions</i>)</b>	
<b>Board Chair</b>	Vern Hawkins
<b>Vice Chair</b>	Amy Kuehl
<b>Secretary</b>	Nancy Schroeder
<b>Treasurer</b>	Amy Kuehl
<b>Financial Secretaries</b>	Dave & Jeannie Fitz
<b>Property Chairs</b>	Derek Krebs, Jim Lester, and Shirley Malaby
<b>Council of Ministries Moderator</b>	Darla Ewalt
<b>Delegate to Ecumenical Housing</b>	Vern Hawkins
<b>Delegate to the Emergency Residence Project</b>	Gwen Mitzel
<b>Delegate to Food at First</b>	Dawn Heaberlin and Linda Anderson
<b>Delegate to Good Neighbor</b>	Shirley Malaby
<b>Nominations Chair</b>	Stacey Maifeld
<b>Stewardship Chair</b>	Don Withers

## *(three year positions)*

### **Deacons**

Michael Ewalt, Cassi Hale, Jerad Hale, Kaleel Khan, Cathy Krebs (2 year term), Derek Krebs (2 year term), Dianne Brown (1 year term)

### **Elders**

Gwen Mitzel

### **Trustees**

Roger Bertelsen  
David Gregory (2 year term)



## **2019 BUDGET**

### **Income:**

Pledges	\$185,000
Loose Offering	\$ 2,550
Food at First	\$ 24,000
Building Use	\$ 500
Faith Factor	<u>\$ 11,100</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b><u>\$223,174</u></b>

### **Expenses:**

Administration	\$ 9,500
Payroll	\$149,735
Utilities	\$ 28,477
Property	\$ 21,335
Council of Ministries	\$ 8,500
Outreach (3% of cash receipts)	<u>\$ 5,627</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b><u>\$223.174</u></b>

**Income/Expense Difference:     \$     0**



# Poinsettia Dedication

- \* In Memory of our parents, Ansel & Stella Bolt, and Art & Joy Digby; Meg's sister, Arlene Wierson; nephew, DJ Abogunrin; and Meg's nephew Matt's wife Leahla Wierson  
— Meg Knol-Digby and David Digby
  
- \* In Memory of Al & Alma Brouwer, Norman & Ferne Bertelsen, our parents  
—Roger & Corry Bertelsen
  
- \* In Memory of Edna Heggen (mom/grandma), and Art Heggen (brother/uncle)  
— Eileen Sambos, Judy Koplin & Keith Sambos
  
- \* In Memory of Mary Fitz, Paul & Regina Durst, parents, and in Honor of Mardy Durst, stepmother  
— Jeannie & Dave Fitz

# 10 Ways to Know What's Happening at FCC

- The Call Newsletter – 3<sup>rd</sup> week of the month
- Weekly News Update – an email sent every Thursday
- Worship Bulletin Inserts – every Sunday
- Prayers of the People – an email sent as needed
- Video Slides before Sunday worship – every Sunday
- Announcements during Sunday worship – every Sunday
- Bulletin boards in the church - ongoing
- Word of mouth - ongoing
- Facebook – First Christian Church (Disciples) Ames
- Website - [www.fccames.org](http://www.fccames.org)

To receive a hardcopy newsletter, please contact the church office.

To receive newsletter, news updates and prayers via email **please sign up by clicking on an icon.**

Weekly  
News Update



Prayers  
Of  
The  
People

Food at  
First

Free Meal Program +  
Perishable Food Pantry



**Meals:** Sunday thru Friday 5:45 pm and Saturday at 11:30 am (7 days a week)

**Grocery Distributions:** Monday and Thursday at 4:45 pm and Saturday at 10:00 am. Sign Up to Volunteer at <http://bit.ly/1tG7Xb2>

**FCC's Volunteers the 1st Saturday of every Month!**  
Contact Cynthia Gaunt for more information, at [cygaunt@hotmail.com](mailto:cygaunt@hotmail.com).

## Around the Region — Things We Do Together

For more info or to register for events:  
<http://www.uppermidwestcc.org/regional-newsletter-dte>

Below, @CCC =  
held at the Christian Conference Center

- Dec. 30** Regional Operations Council Online
- Jan. 21** Ministerial Standing Forms Due
- Jan. 27** Regional Operations Council Online
- Jan. 28-30** Ministers Institute 2019
- Feb. 8-10 Junior Retreat
- Feb. 10 UMwYC Meeting @ CCC
- Feb. 15-16 Regional Committee on Ministry
- Feb. 24 Regional Operations Council Online
- Mar 1-3 CYF Midwinter Retreat

### ABIDE IN ME

## General Assembly 2019 Volunteers needed!

General Assembly 2019 is coming up quickly. Your Local Arrangements Committee is hard at work to prepare our Region to provide the best hospitality ever.

We still need MANY volunteers. Here are some of the volunteer opportunities to come:

- Experienced Tellers
- Registration Kiosk Workers
- Booth Staff for Transportation, Information, Special Needs, Message Center/Lost & Found, and Missions
- Pre-School Age Program Staff
- School Age Program Staff/Chaperones
- Choir Singers
- Communion Servers

You may sign up [HERE](#), or keep an eye out at for future sign-ups at [www.uppermidwest.com](http://www.uppermidwest.com).

mi2019 monday pre-event

## THE TOOLS THAT BUILD AN INCLUSIVE CHURCH open & affirming training

The "BUILDING AN INCLUSIVE CHURCH TOOLKIT" is ecumenically designed, with resources for guiding a church to become a more welcoming, affirming community. Get an in depth look at the tools including:

#### GRACEFUL ENGAGEMENT -

the core of the process -- the core of our life together as the body of Christ -- is maintaining our Christian community and respect for our sisters and brothers in Christ.

#### FINDING WELCOME IN SCRIPTURE -

The scripture is full of welcome, and centering on the welcome is the surest path to being a welcoming community.

#### STORYTELLING -

We will learn powerful ways to tell our own stories which invite others on the journey to become more welcoming.

**AND MORE** - including the use of scripture in an O&A process, the life saving ministry of affirmation, and the O&A process itself.

#### MONDAY PRE-EVENT

JAN. 28, 2019  
OPEN & AFFIRMING TRAINING  
10AM - 2:45PM  
LUNCH INCLUDED  
WITH FEE \$10



Christian Conference

Center

5064 Lincoln St.

Newton, Iowa

50208



[uppermidwestcc.org/mi2019](http://uppermidwestcc.org/mi2019)

[tinyurl.com/MinistersInstitute2019](http://tinyurl.com/MinistersInstitute2019)

ministers institute 2019

SAVE THE DATE

**JANUARY  
28-30**

featuring Rev. Justo Gonzalez II



## CROSSING THRESHOLDS

the courage to step through



PLUS! Pre-Event Info!

[Learn More](#)

[Register Now!](#)



# Living as *The Beloved Community*

Ames Interfaith Service honoring  
the Life and Legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

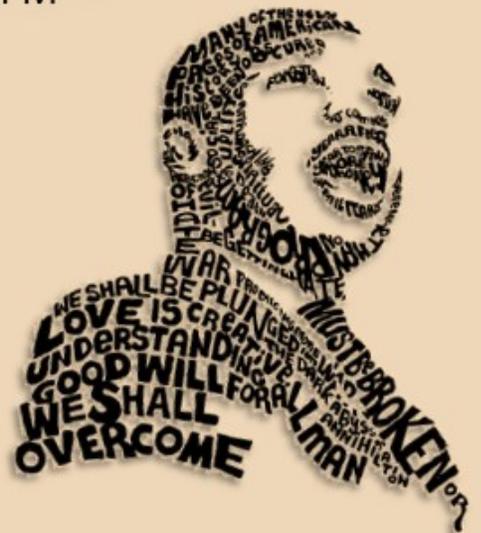
**When:** Sunday, January 20, 2019, 2:00 PM-3:00 PM

**Where:** St. John's by the Campus  
Episcopal Church  
2338 Lincoln Way  
Ames, Iowa



Interdenominational Choir  
Annual Love Offering for the YSS Dream Seed  
Scholarship/Grant

Join us to make real Dr. King's Dream of  
the Beloved Community and share a time of  
Fellowship after the service





### Opportunities to Serve

*"Each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift... The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ..." (Eph. 4:7;11)*

#### Opportunities to serve:

- Faithfully support the work of regional ministries, by giving GENEROUSLY to the Christmas Offering.
- GIVE generously to the mission and vision of First Christian Church of Ames, and prayerfully consider pledging for the year 2019's needs and operation costs.
- Share the JOY of Advent with others, by attending the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service on December 24th, at 7 pm.
- Attend the MLK Service on January 20th, at 2 pm, at the St. John's By the Campus Episcopal Church.
- Save the date to attend the Women's Gathering Hosted Event with the Gregorys on February 25th, at 7 pm, in the Coffee House.
- Be CREATIVE with music or worship arts, to be readers, writers, actors, musicians, singers, bell ringers for worship. Contact Tim Button-Harrison at 641-485-5604.
- Facilitate worship, by assisting with Sound or Video on Sundays. Contact Janet Lott at [jalott@isunet.net](mailto:jalott@isunet.net).
- Fight hunger with FCC's Food at First Core Group of Volunteers, which serve every first Saturday of the month. Contact Cynthia Gaunt at [cygaunt@hotmail.com](mailto:cygaunt@hotmail.com). You may also GIVE financially through [Givelowa.org](http://Givelowa.org). (See page 8.)

Keep watching this box and respond as you are able. It takes a lot of people contributing their gifts to keep the ministry of FCC moving, growing and vital.

## News from the Pews

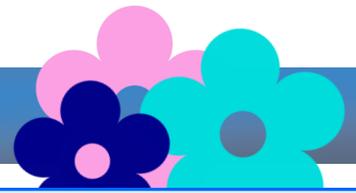


### 31st Annual Food at First Thanksgiving Meal was Thursday, Nov 22, 2018

Thanksgiving meal 2018 was so much fun and went sooooo smoothly this year. Our wonderful 100+ Food at First volunteers prepared enough food for 700+ patrons and served 635 actual meals on Thursday November 22, 2018, with 325 carry out meals delivered or picked up.

The extra meals went to good use as the head cooks cheerfully heated up the left-overs on Friday and Saturday at FAF.

By the numbers, 32 Turkeys = 384 pounds of Turkey, 140 pounds of ham, 250 pounds of sweet and regular potatoes, 85 homemade pies, and a big thank you to the 100 volunteers over two days of preparation, serving and cleanup. Did we mention the weather that day was again perfect for the 2nd year in a row, almost a sunny Fall day at 52°?



Church office hours are  
9 am—2 pm  
Monday-Thursday

Have a question?  
Email Liz Collazo at: [fccames@fccames.org](mailto:fccames@fccames.org)

## Stewardship Report

	Nov.	YTD
<b>Income:</b>	\$18,852	\$220,471
<b>Expenses:</b>	19,288	218,081
<b>Difference:</b>	(436)	2,390
<b>DMF:</b>	1,445	17,862

*In and Out of the Hospital:* Mark Love,  
Dorothy Hayes, Bob Fitz.

**The Christmas Offering will be received on Sunday, Dec. 23rd.**

Liz Collazo will be on vacation Dec. 24th through Jan. 1st. The Church Office will be closed during this time.

There will be **NO** scheduled activities during this week, including Wed. Night Services, and **NO** Learning Time on Sunday, December 30th.



### Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship

*Come as you are, you belong!*

Monday, Dec. 24 at 7PM

 First Christian Church  
611 Clark Avenue

*Leadership  
Sunday*

On this day,  
we will thank our  
outgoing leaders  
and commission  
our leaders for 2019.

During worship, Sunday, January 13<sup>th</sup>

## New Childcare Worker

First Christian Church welcomes Charlene “Charlie” Zimmerman as the new childcare worker in the nursery.

Charlie is a junior at Iowa State University majoring in Child, Adult, & family Services with an emphasis on youth. Charlie graduated high school in Council Bluffs, Iowa and has family in St. Joseph, Missouri.

Charlie has a variety of work experience, including experience at the Disciples of Christ Upper Midwest Region Christian Conference Center in Newton, working with all ages and teaching young children about God in ways they can understand. She will be working in the nursery Sunday mornings and during special services such as Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, and Easter Sunrise.

Please give Charlie a First Christian Church welcome when you meet her!

—Vern Hawkins



Women’s Gathering Stocking Stuffer preparations, on November 25, 2018.



Left:  
The FCC Annual  
Children's Christmas  
Pageant, before  
worship, on Sunday,  
December 16, 2018

Right:  
Hanging of the  
Greens Party,  
Sunday,  
November 25,  
2018.

Children help  
decorate the  
Sanctuary.





Above: The Annual FCC Christmas Party, which was held on Wednesday, December 13th, was well attended and full of fun!

# Thank You's



As we begin to enter another holiday season, I am in awe of the support we continue to receive from our community, day after day, year after year. We assisted 2,176 individuals through our various programs over this last year, and that would not be possible without you. Through volunteers donating their time and talents, and people donating goods and funds, we accomplished our 2018 goals and continue to make advancements towards alleviating homelessness in our community.

We started a new Rapid Re-Housing program this spring. Through this program and our Transitional Housing program, we now offer an array of housing services to better meet people's needs. The new program also increased our service area to include Boone, Greene, Hardin, and Marshall counties, and gave us the opportunity to add a Housing and Volunteer director position. We implemented a Coordinated Entry system and are finally able to triage and prioritize people who are experiencing homelessness to connect them with the most appropriate program the first time.

With the support of grants through United Way of Story County and Ames Morning Rotary, donations received from Christ Community Church, and work done by Ames Noon Rotary and Woodruff Construction, the

backyard play area was renovated. Through another grant offered by the City of Ames and United Way of Story County, we were able to install central air conditioning in our Transitional Housing four-plex and the office area of the shelter.

Looking towards 2019, our goals include developing additional shelter space. We have outgrown our current facilities and are exploring options to better meet our client and staff needs. Another goal is to begin a Street Outreach program with local law enforcement to better connect with people living in unsheltered situations. We will also be working on finetuning our programming to ensure we are providing the most effective services.

All our success would not be possible without the continual support we receive from people like you. On behalf of our staff and volunteer Board of Directors, we sincerely thank you from the bottom of our hearts for all you do for us.

Dear First Christian Congregation — Thank you so much for your continued support of ERP. We greatly appreciate all you do for us & wish you all a blessed holiday season!

With gratitude, Carrie Moser  
Emergency Residence Project

Thank you for your recent contribution to the Bethesda Community Food Pantry. The Christmas stockings you donated were greatly appreciated! The kids that were present were so excited. Other stockings were sent home with parents. Thanks! You are helping us meet a very real need in our community by providing to those who have limited income.

Kathy Newlon  
Food Pantry Volunteer, Bethesda Lutheran Church.

# Calendar and Servant Schedule

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="font-size: 2em; color: orange; margin-right: 20px;">January 2019</div> </div>				* Denotes birthday Chapel – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor BT = Bell Tower CH = Coffee House FH = Fellowship Hall LIB = Library CR = Conf. Room GR = Great Room		
30 NO Learning Time 10:30 am Worship	31 New Year's Eve  *Jackie Haley*  NO Elder's Circle OFFICE CLOSED	1 NEW YEAR'S DAY OFFICE CLOSED  *Ginny Khan *Guillermo Velez	2 12:15 Prayers (CH) <b>Wed. Church Night</b> 5:15 pm Spiritual Practices 5:30 pm Worship 6 pm Bells 6 pm Dinner with FAF 7 pm Singers	3 5:30-7pm Listening to God (Great Rm.)	4  *Keith Sambos	5  9:30 am – 1 pm FCC and the FCC Youth Group volunteers for Food at First (FH)
6 9:15 am Learning Time 10:30 am Worship followed by Coffee Fellowship (CH)	7 10-11:30 am Ukuleles Play 11:00 am Elder's Circle, (CH)	8 2 pm Council of Ministries Meeting (Location TBD) 6 pm, Faith Formation Team Mtg. (LIB)	9 12:15 Prayers (CH) <b>Wed. Church Night</b> 5:15 pm Spiritual Practices 5:30 pm Worship 6 pm Dinner with FAF 6 pm Bells 7 pm Singers	10 5:30-7pm Listening to God (Great Rm.)	11  *Thelma Miller	12
13 9:15 am Learning Time 10:30 am Worship and Leadership Sunday  *Tiffany Walker	14 10-11:30 am Ukuleles Play  NO Elder's Circle 12:00 pm Communications Team Meeting (LIB)	15 7:15 pm Property Meeting (LIB)	16 12:15 Prayers (CH) <b>Wed. Church Night</b> 5:15 pm Spiritual Practices 5:30 pm Worship 6 pm Dinner with FAF 6 pm Bells 7 pm Singers	17 5:30-7pm Listening to God (Great Rm.) <b>Noon – The Call Deadline</b>  *Traverce Harrison	18  <b>Pastor Mary Jane on vacation Jan 14-21<sup>st</sup>.</b>	19  *Don Withers
20 9:15 am Learning Time 10:30 am Worship followed by Fellowship Dinner (FH) 12:45 am Elder's Mtg. (CH) 2-3 PM MLK Interfaith Service, St. John's By the Campus, Episcopal Church	21 <b>MLK DAY</b> <b>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</b>  Elder's Circle will be on Tuesday, Jan 22.	22  11:00 am Elder's Circle, (CH)	23 12:15 Prayers (CH) <b>Wed. Church Night</b> 5:15 pm Spiritual Practices 5:30 pm Worship 6 pm Dinner with FAF 6 pm Bells 7 pm Singers	24 5:30-7pm Listening to God (Great Rm.)	25  *Janis Pyle	26  *Kris Mesenbrink
27 9:15 am Learning Time 10:30 am Worship	28 10-11:30 am Ukuleles Play 11:00 am Elder's Circle, (CH) 7:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship at FCC	29  <b>Pastor Mary Jane at Minister's Institute Jan. 28 – 30<sup>th</sup>.</b>	30 12:15 Prayers (CH)	31 5:30-7pm Listening to God (Great Rm.)	1  *Ed Gagnier	2  9:30 am – 1 pm FCC volunteers for Food at First (FH)  *Mark Love

## Servant Schedule

	Ushers	Narthex	West Entry
<b>December 23</b>	Kris & Larry Mesenbrink	Ron & Dee Matthews	Kay Scott
<b>December 24 Christmas Eve Service</b>	Kay Scott	Meg Knol-Digby	Cynthia Gaunt
<b>December 30</b>	Bob & Jean Watson	Ron & Dee Matthews	Corry Bertelsen

**The list for Ushers and Greeters for 2019 is in the works. If you would like to serve as an Usher or a Greeter for 2019, please speak to Stacey Maifeld on Sunday morning.**

# What we do as Disciples, Together!



## Wednesday Prayers

Wednesdays, at 12:15 PM  
Coffee House



## Spiritual Practices

Wednesday Nights, Great Room  
5:15 – 5:30 PM  
Community Worship  
5:30 – 5:50 PM



## Listening to God

Every Thursday, from 5:30–7 pm,  
in the Great Room.  
(except major holidays)



## Sunday Fellowship

Learning Time, 9:15 AM  
Worship, 10:30 AM



## Coffee Fellowship

Every First Sunday of the month, after  
worship, and the first two Sundays in July



## Fellowship Dinner

Every Third Sunday of the month,  
after worship

# wednesdaynight CHURCH

Refresh    Renew    Recharge

A mid-week time to refresh, renew, and recharge our spirits! Anyone can join in. You are invited to join us in the Great Room on second floor for experiences to recharge your spirit.

### Church Night Schedule:

5:15 pm	Spiritual Practices (Great Room): Labyrinth Walking, Posting Prayers, and other Spiritual Practices – Great Room.
5:30 – 5:50 pm	Worship – Great Room
6:-00 pm	Dinner available with Food at First – Fellowship Hall
7:00 pm	FCC Singers Practice in the Sanctuary

**NO meeting on Wednesday, December 26th.**

## First Christian Church Youth Group

The First Christian Church Youth Group meets once a month, after church, on the to engage in learning, fun, and fellowship. Meetings will be filled with getting to know each other through “bummers and blessings,” games, acting out scripture, and art projects, with sack lunches provided.

**What:** FCC Youth Group

**Who:** Kids in grades 4-8

**Next Meeting:** We will serve with Food at First on Saturday, January 5th.



*The Staff of the Christian Church in the Upper  
Midwest wishes you a Merry Christmas and  
many blessings in the New Year!*

*We look forward to serving with you in 2019!!!*

The people of First Christian Church accept these values as core...

Genuinely accept, welcome and love everyone as Jesus did.

Connect people to God and to one another.

Cultivate an environment where people grow in faith and discipleship.

Celebrate everyone's gifts for ministry and encourage people as leaders.

Minister in the community with God's healing love.

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**Staff at First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Ames, IA:**

Minister:	Mary Jane Button-Harrison
Minister of Worship & Discipleship:	Tim Button-Harrison
Minister of Worship Arts:	Janet Lott
Administrative Assistant:	Liz Collazo
Worship Musician:	Joseph Schwartz
Building Custodian:	Sherri Khan
Nursery Attendants:	Karen LeCount
Nursery Helper:	Charlene (Charlie) Zimmerman

Return Service Requested

Website: <http://www.fccames.org/>

Phone: (515) 232-5766

Ames, Iowa 50010-6137

611 Clark Avenue

(Disciples of Christ)

First Christian Church