

The Call

ISSUE NO. 12,
DECEMBER 2019

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for
UNTO you
is born THIS day
IN THE City OF
David A Saviour,
which
IS Christ
the Lord.

LUKE 2:11 KJV

Merry Christmas from

Mary Jane Button-Harrison
Tim Button-Harrison
Janet Lott
Lizmarie M. Collazo

Sherri Khan
Joseph Schwartz
Karen LeCount
Eiley Misfeldt

Epiphany and Lent Worship

Like a child love would send
to reveal and to mend,
like a child and a friend, Jesus comes
like a child we may find
claiming heart soul and mind,
like a child strong and kind, Jesus comes
Chalice Hymnal #133

For Christians, Jesus is the revelation of God's love and God's vision for all creation. Our theme for the 2019-20 year is "Resistance, Revelation, Revival: Journey to the Common Good". We have heard about the two sides of resistance – 1. Resistance as a faith response (resisting evil and life-diminishing ways) and 2. Resistance as turning away from God (resisting God's ways). In Epiphany and Lent, as we explore Jesus' life, teachings, and ministry through the eyes of Luke's gospel, we will see the two sides of revelation – 1. Revelation of God's way through Jesus and 2. In the revealing of God's way, evil and that which diminishes life is also revealed.

"There is nothing hidden that won't be revealed, and there is nothing secret that won't become known and come to light." – Luke 8:17

—Pastor Mary Jane

A Voice Cries Out—Can We Hear?

Advent and Christmas Worship

Dec. 22	A Voice Cries Out: The Voice of Love Isaiah 35:1-10
Dec. 29	Resistance, Revelation, Revival: The Saga of God's Salvation Matthew 2:1-16
Jan. 5	Jesus' Sermon on the Mount Matthew 5-7

God's Love Revealed Epiphany, Lent, and Easter Worship

Jan. 12	What then shall we do? Luke 3:1-16
Jan. 19	Bringing Good News Luke 4:14-30
Jan. 26	Put Out into the Deep Luke 5:1-11
Feb. 2	Good Or Harm—Save Life or Destroy it? Luke 6:1-16
Feb. 9	Are you the one? Luke 7:18-35
Feb. 16	Your Faith has Saved You Luke 7:36-50
Feb. 23	Listen to Jesus! Luke 9:28-45
March 1	Who Is My Neighbor? Luke 10:25-42
March 8	Casting Out Demons and Performing Cures Luke 13:1-9; 31-35
Mar. 15	Rejoice with Me Luke 15:1-32
Mar. 22	Have Mercy on Me Luke 16:19-31
Mar. 29	Seeing Jesus Luke 18:31-19-10
April 5	The Stones Would Shout Out Luke 19:29-44
Apr. 12	Why Do You Look for the Living Among the Dead? Luke 24:1-12
Apr. 19	Their Eyes Were Opened Luke 24:13-35



**The Christmas Offering
will be received on Sunday,
December 22. 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.](#)**



Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship

Come as you are, you belong!

Tuesday, Dec. 24 at 7PM



**First Christian Church
611 Clark Avenue**

Free Community- WIDE Christmas Meal

**First Christian Church,
Fellowship Hall**

**Wednesday,
December 25**

11:30-1:30 PM *

**[Sign Up to
Volunteer!](#)**

Spots go fast!



Looking Back,

Moving Forward...

As we approach the end of 2019 and the beginning of 2020, I want to remember some of what we have done together and anticipate some of what the new year might hold for us.

In 2019 we gathered around tables and practiced listening and sharing with one another, honing our skills along the way. We celebrated the baptism of Mark Holliday. We shared food, fellowship, and fun at our Church Family Picnic. We got new carpet and paint for the church's first floor and stairways. We worked hard to prepare the building and all the details to be a host site for General Assembly worship in July. We've welcomed many new people into the church. We have a youth group meeting Sunday mornings and monthly for learning, relationship building, and fun. The first Saturday of each month we've planned, prepared, served, and cleaned up after the Food at First meal.

We pooled together our individual reflections into a Stewardship Devotional booklet. For the first time, we received our budget in narrative form learning not just the numbers, but what those numbers represent in terms of ministry. And we finally got our pictures taken and anticipate receiving our new church pictorial directories in 2020!

We have made many memories together in 2019 - through our weekly worship, learning, and praying together, 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 creating a climate for growing in faith and discipleship, 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 prepared Christmas stockings to give the children!

Some of the memories we have made are a mix of joy and sorrow. While we have been blessed to get to know new friends at FCC, we have also said good-bye to some of our beloved members. In 2019, we celebrated the lives of Mel Popelka and Ellen Landon. 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 2019 and look to 2020!

—Pastor Mary Jane

We Remember

- In Honor of Our Parents
Norman & Ferne Bertelsen
Albert & Alma Brouwer
— Corry & Roger Bertelsen
- In Memory of Our Parents
Ansel & Stella Bolt
Art & Joy Digby
— David & Meg Digby
- In Memory of Our Loved Ones
Delmar Spitzli
Helen Louse Spitzli
Baby Spitzli 2016
— Adelheid & Matt Spitzli
- In Memory of Our Loved Ones
Jim Gaunt (Husband)
Loyd & Jeannette Quinn (Parents)
Iola Gaunt (Mother in law)
— Cynthia Gaunt
- In Memory of Art Heggen (Brother and
Uncle), and Edna Heggen (Mother and
Grandmother)
— Eileen Sambos & Judy Koplin



The Epiphany

You may notice a particularly colorful bulletin cover for Sunday's worship, on December 29th. It is a painting by Puerto Rican artist [Wichie Torres](#), called *Orto* (meaning east or orient). The history of honoring and celebrating the Three Wise Men (or Magi) is a very old Puerto Rican tradition stemming back more than 500 years to colonial days. Puerto Ricans honor the Magi with parades, pageants, gift giving, and many artisanal creations with a particular nod to Puerto Rican cultural traditions.



THREE KINGS DAY PARADE

Many home towns will host parades and gift giving events for families. One particular town, Juana Díaz — my father's hometown — has been holding a Three Kings Day parade and worship service on January 6, since 1884. The parade features many floats, including pageant scenes, and ends with the Three Wise Men greeting families and children as they make their way to the town plaza for a community-wide worship service. Thousands of people flood this little town, all decked out in their pageantry best.



The tradition of Epiphany day dress-up is a long-standing part of my family. My father and his brothers all dressed up as wise men, as did their fathers and uncles before them. It is considered an honor to be selected for such a role. The small town of Juana Díaz, which is on the southern side of the island, even boasts a Three Kings Day Museum, just north of land that used to be my family's property.

If you ever want to run away from Iowa winters in January, stop by this little town off-the-beaten-path. You may even hit the "Museo de Arte de Ponce," in Ponce, Puerto Rico, which is the next town over. Just make sure to dress the part and bring that sunscreen.

—Liz Collazo, FCC Administrative Assistant

NEW Books in the FCC Library

Another batch of new books has been added to the FCC Library. As usual, each newly acquired book will have a “New Book” label on its cover and will initially be displayed on the countertop or the New Book wire-rack. New and selected books will also be rolled into the narthex on Sunday mornings on the “FCC Bookmobile.” If you need help locating a book, or would like to recommend books for purchase, please contact David Gregory, the FCC Librarian. Enjoy!

Angelou, Maya. *Amazing Peace: A Christmas Poem* (2005)

Barber, William J. II. *Revive Us Again: Vision and Action in Moral Organizing* (2018)

Beck, John A. *God as Storyteller: Seeking Meaning in Biblical Narrative* (2008)

Buckley, Ray. *Dancing with Words: Storytelling as Legacy, Culture & Faith* (2003)

Cardwell, Brenda M. & William K. Fox, Sr. *Journey Toward Wholeness: A History of Black Disciples in the Mission of the Christian Church* (1990)

Carter, Terrell. *Healing Racial Divides: Finding Strength in Our Diversity* (2018)

Chittister, Joan D. *Following the Path: The Search for a Life of Passion, Purpose, and Joy* (2012)

Claiborne, Shane. *Executing Grace: How the Death Penalty Killed Jesus and Why It's Killing Us* (2016)

Diebel, Timothy Cap. *Home by Another Way: Harvesting Taproot's Wisdom* (2019)

Funk, Robert W. et al. *The Five Gospels: Search for the Authentic Words of Jesus* (1993)

Meredith, Cara. *The Color of Life: A Journey Toward Love & Racial Justice* (2019)

Merritt, Carol Howard. *I am Mary: Advent Devotional* (2018)

Mulligan, Mary Alice & Ronald J. Allen. *Make the Word Come Alive: Lessons from Laity* (2005)

Nhat Hanh, Thich. *Understanding Our Mind* (2006)



Pavlovitz, John. *Low: An Honest Advent Devotional* (2019)

Piatt, Christian. *Banned Questions about Jesus* (2011)

Poling, James Newton. *Understanding Male Violence: Pastoral Care Issues* (2003)

Rogerson, John et al. *Beginning Old Testament Study* (1998)

Sawyer, Kem Knapp. *Harriet Tubman: A Photographic Story of a Life* (2010)

Schott, Lee Roorda

- *Foolish Church: Messy, Raw, Real, and Making Room* (2019)
- *The Fools' Manual: A Study & Practice Guide for Foolish Church* (2019)

Smith, Dennis E. (Editor). *Chalice Introduction to the New Testament* (2004)

Taylor, Barbara Brown

- *God in Pain: Teaching Sermons on Suffering* (1998)
- *Learning to Walk in the Dark* (2014)
- *Leaving Church: A Memoir of Faith* (2006)
- *The Luminous Web: Essays on Science and Religion* (2000)

Townley, Cathy. *Missional Worship: Increasing Attendance & Expanding the Boundaries of Your Church* (2011)

Turner, Mary Donovan. *The God We Seek: Portraits of God in the Old Testament* (2010)

Williams, Layton E. *Holy Disunity: How What Separates Us Can Save Us* (2019)

New Children's Books in the FCC Library

Buckley, Ray. *God's Love is Like* (1998)

Ganeri, Anita. *The Story of Christmas: A Nativity Tale for Children* (1995)

Neale, John Mason. *Good King Wenceslas* (1994)



--- David Gregory,
FCC Librarian



Community Thanksgiving Dinner Another Big Success!

The 32nd Annual Food at First and FCC Community Thanksgiving Dinner provided a wonderful, traditional Thanksgiving meal to guests in FCC's Fellowship Hall or those who received delivered or carry-out meals. The estimated total of meals served this year was 570. As coordinator of the dining room, I enjoyed working with enthusiastic volunteers and also receiving the smiles, Thanksgiving greetings and gratitude given by so many guests. I am grateful that Doan Schmitz supervised groups of volunteers (including children) in getting the tables and chairs set up and in cleaning the dining room after the meal; Jim Lester was on hand to take care of any building needs; and Pastor Mary Jane was present throughout the meal to help make everyone feel welcome – my thanks to each of you!

If you wish to get involved next year, sign up early since the sign-up slots fill quickly! The Thanksgiving Dinner is truly a gift to and by the Ames community due to FCC's 32 years of vision and involvement!

—Deb Lewis

Share your gift of welcome as an FCC greeter or usher in 2020



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 2020. 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 2020, please let Stacey Maifeld know on Sunday morning, or you may contact her at staceymaifeld@gmail.com or 515-520-9844. Thank you!

Report on the 2019 Congregational Meeting

The 2019 Annual Congregational meeting was held on Sunday, December 8. Those in attendance voted to approve the following slate of officers and budget for 2020:

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

(*three year positions*)

Deacons

Mark Holliday, Meg Knol-Digby (1 year term),
Kris Mesenbrink, Larry Mesenbrink, Abby
Schwartz, Jean Watson

Elders

Darla Ewalt, Mary Gregory, Vern Hawkins, Sue
Prins

Trustees

DeLores Hawkins



2020 BUDGET

Income:

Pledges	\$185,000
Increased Giving Needed for 2020	\$13,330
Loose Offering	\$ 3,000
Donation from Food at First	\$ 24,000
Interest	\$ 25
Faith Factor (9.2% of written pledges)	\$ 17,000
Total Income:	\$242,355

Expenses:

Administration	\$ 10,500
Payroll	\$151,255
Utilities	\$ 29,000
Property	\$ 23,000
Council of Ministries	\$ 8,600
Outreach (10% of cash receipts)	\$ 20,500
Total:	\$242,355

Income/Expense Difference: \$ 0



I HAVE A DREAM

Annual Interfaith Service honoring
Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

WHEN: Sunday, January 19,
2020, at 2:00 PM

WHERE: Unitarian
Universalist Fellowship
1015 N. Hyland, Ames, IA

- There will be a love offering for the Dream Seed Scholarship during the service. Checks can be made out to YSS/AMP with Dream Seed on the memo line.
- A time of fellowship will follow.

DARKNESS CAN NOT **DARKNESS**
DRIVE OUT
ONLY light
CAN DO THAT.
HATE CAN NOT **HATE**
DRIVE OUT
ONLY love
CAN DO THAT.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

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. 19	Regional Operations Council Online
Jan. 23	Regional Operations Council Online
Jan. 26-29	Minister's Institute @ CCC
Feb. 7-8	Committee on Ministry
Feb. 7-9	Junior Retreat @ CCC

Save the Date:

Wednesday, January 15, 2020 @ 5:45pm-9pm

We Must Do M.O.R.E National Tour Mobilizing, Organizing, Registering, Educating

First Christian Church

2500 University Ave., Des Moines, IA

Register online at <http://bit.ly/34xqjTk>.



This year's event will be facilitated by a phenomenal teaching core with Rev. April Johnson from Reconciliation Ministry and Rev. Sandhya Jha, founder and director of the Oakland Peace Center, at the lead. The event will include the usual opportunities for rest and renewal, good food, fellowship, and meaningful worship.

Attending the event in full will meet the Anti-Racism/Pro-Reconciliation requirement included on the 2020 standing form (due January of 2021).

[Register today!](#)

Poor People's Campaign

A NATIONAL CALL for MORAL REVIVAL

IOWA

We Must Do MORE
*Mobilizing, Organizing,
Registering, Educating*

NATIONAL TOUR

The Rev. Dr. William J. Barber, II
National Co-Chair,
Poor People's Campaign:
A National Call for Moral Revival
President, Repairers of the Breach



Rev. Dr. Liz Theoharis
National Co-Chair,
Poor People's Campaign:
A National Call for Moral Revival
Co-Director, Kairos Center

Leading
towards the
Mass Poor People's
Assembly &
Moral March
on Washington
June 20, 2020

Registering people
for a movement
that votes!

SAVE THE DATE

**WED., JANUARY 15
DES MOINES**

7:00 pm • Mass Meeting

REPAIRERS
OF THE BREACH

KAIROS

Poor People's Campaign
A NATIONAL CALL for MORAL REVIVAL

For more information, visit iowa@poorpeoplescampaign.org



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)

- **EMPOWER** the mission and vision of First Christian Church by prayerfully considering pledging your financial support for the 2020 Stewardship Campaign. Together as the body of the Church, we can continue our work. We cannot do it without you.
- **SUPPORT** the mission and vision of the Upper Midwest Region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) by giving generously to the Christmas Offering.
- **VOLUNTEER** to help take down Christmas decorations once the holiday season has passed.
- **WELCOME** folks on Sunday mornings, by volunteering to be an Usher or a Greeter. Contact Stacey Maifeld at 515-520-9844.
- **GET INVOLVED** in worship with reading, or with sound or video on Sundays. For more information, contact Janet Lott at jalott@isunet.net.
- **FIGHT HUNGER.** Join FCC's core team of Food at First Volunteers by helping to serve a meal every first Saturday of the month. For more information, you may contact Cynthia Gaunt at cygaunt@hotmail.com.

Thank you so much for what you do! 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.

Help with Fellowship Dinner

Become a part of the regular team of volunteers who prep, cook, serve, and clean up after the meal, in Fellowship Hall. **They NEED YOUR HELP! YES, YOU!** Please contact Jeannie Fitz at 232-9306, or Jake Clark, at 460-8822, **TODAY.**



The Annual Community Wide Free Christmas Dinner

Wednesday, December 25th

sponsored by

First Christian Church and
Food at First, is fast approaching!

If you would like to volunteer to help, you may contact Food at First, at 515-344-4357, or sign up on their website. If you do not already have an account with them (a LOGIN) you will need to create one at <https://foodatfirst.wordpress.com/>.

News from the Pews



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

Have a question?
Email Liz Collazo at: fccames@fccames.org

Stewardship Report

	November	2019 YTD
Income:	\$24,492	\$225,990
Expenses:	\$17,382	\$221,119
Difference:	\$7,110	\$4,871
CWS Special Offering	\$294	
Thanksgiving Offering	\$710	

In and Out of the Hospital

Gwen Mitzel, Darla Ewalt, Mary Lou Harrison,
Cathy Krebs



The Christmas Offering will be
received on Sunday,
December 22nd.

Liz Collazo will be on vacation
from Monday, December 23rd
through Monday, January 6th.

Limited Church Office Hours

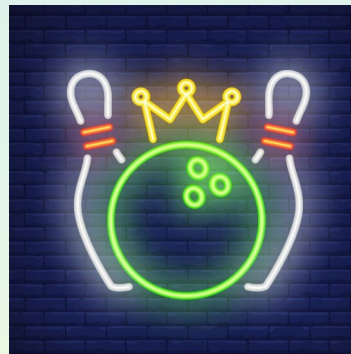
The Church Office will be open from 9
am to 2 pm on Monday, Dec. 23 and
24 and on Dec. 30 and 31. It will be
closed Dec. 25, 26, and Jan. 1 and 2.

Leadership Sunday

will be on Sunday, January 19th.
On this Sunday, we will thank our
outgoing leaders and commission
our leaders for 2020.

Office Closed

The Church Office will be closed on
Monday, January 20th, in observance
of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.



Youth Group Bowling and Pizza Outing!

WHEN: Sunday,
January 5th, after
worship.

WHERE: Perfect
Games, 1320 Dickinson
Ave, Ames, IA



WHAT: We'll provide
ALL the fun at NO cost
to you.

**CLICK on this link to let us
know if you're coming and if
you need a ride.**

Thank You!

Well done faithful servants! The Higher Education program of the General Church will receive \$710. due to your generosity, a serious gift from us collectively to Disciples expectation for educated clergy.

—Appreciatively, Mark Love

Thank You!



Emergency Residence Project

On my first day at the Emergency Residence Project, I saw a woman walking outside my window. She was a wisp of a woman, and she had a severe limp. Often, she paused to rest.

I asked my staff about her later that day. I learned her name was Marie, she was in her fifties, and she was a client in our shelter. Due to domestic violence, she was experiencing homelessness. A few days later, I spoke to Marie for the first time, and I learned she grew up in the south and moved here with her boyfriend.

Over the next few weeks, I would occasionally run into Marie, and we would talk. I learned that she was looking for a job and an apartment.

"This will be the first time I've ever had an apartment in my name," she said.

Marie spent 62 days in our shelter. On that 62nd day, I found Marie in her basement room, packing her belongings: She was leaving us. She had found not only a job, but her own apartment. As she told me about her plans, her eyes sparkled with hope.

You are the reason Marie found that hope. By sharing your time or your money, you have changed the future for people in our community, people are desperately searching for hope and another chance.

Thank you from me. Thank you from Marie. And thank you from everyone at Emergency Residence Project. We wish you happiness and an overabundance of hope this holiday season.

Sincerely,

Jodi Stumbo
Executive Director
Emergency Residence Project
Jodi@amesshelter.org

Homelessness Prevention:

- Short-term funds to keep families in their current homes have significantly reduced the number of people who need to enter the shelter.
- 1,350 individuals received support that prevented them from becoming homeless.
- 73% were families with children
- 91% of individuals who entered the shelter did not have to repeat their stay.

Providing Shelter:

- Nearly 40% of those needing shelter were single women.
- We are seeing more evidence that some of our residents are victims of human trafficking.
- Families experiencing homelessness are remaining sheltered for a longer amount of time, but returns to the shelter are decreasing.

Finding a Home:

- An increasing number of single men are coming through our program. The program helps them quickly move from either an emergency shelter or place not meant for habitation to affordable housing, all while receiving one-on-one support services.
- The average time for moving families from homeless to transitional housing is eight days.
- More than 71% of those who went through the discharge process exited into transitional or permanent housing.

Community Partners:

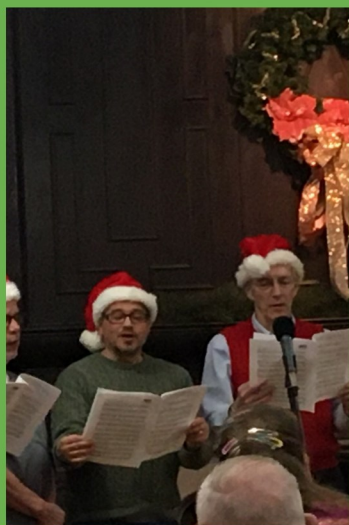
- Our homeless outreach team works with local police officers to provide support and services to help community members who are experiencing homelessness.
- ASSET provided nearly \$215,000 through funding from the city of Ames, Story County and United Way of Story County.
- Four faith groups—Ames United Church of Christ, St. John's by the Campus Episcopal Church, Collegiate Presbyterian Church and St. Thomas Aquinas Church—provided nearly 50% of the meals needed for individuals experiencing homelessness.
- Volunteers and interns contributed \$3,273 hours, equivalent to \$45,822 in wages, to assist with tasks such as answering phones, preparing meals, painting and cleaning.

Because of You:

- 10,673 nights of shelter provided
- 632 individuals helped
 - More than 21% were children younger than 18
 - 24 were veterans
- More than 4,000 meals were served to people in shelter



Hanging of the Greens Party, Sunday, November 24, 2019



FCC Singers, Christmas Party, December 11, 2019



FCC Children's Christmas Pageant, December 15, 2019

What we do as Disciples, Together!



Wednesdays, 5:15 pm to 5:50 pm, Great Room

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.

- | | |
|----------|--|
| 12:15 pm | Wednesday Prayers (Coffee House) |
| 5:15 pm | Spiritual Practices (Great Room):
Labyrinth Walking, Posting Prayers,
and other Spiritual Practices –
Great Room. |
| 5:30 pm | Worship – Great Room |
| 6:30 pm | Meeting Jesus Midweek, The Hub (just off
the elevator, on 2nd Floor) |



Thursdays, 5:30—7pm, Great Room

“God’s first language was silence. Anything else is a bad translation!” — Thomas Keating

Listening to God is a group of people seeking a deeper relationship with God. The group meets every Thursday at 5:30 pm with a short check in time followed by a 20 minute Centering Prayer time and a study period. All are invited to join this small group as we practice simply resting in God. If you have never practiced Centering Prayer, we’ll help you. For more information contact Darla Ewalt at (gsjoey69@hotmail.com).

Sundays at FCC:

- | | |
|----------|---------------|
| 9:15 AM | Learning Time |
| 10:30 AM | Worship |

Coffee Fellowship:
First Sunday of the month,
following worship

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Join us!



IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE WORSHIP SERVICE
Make yourself at home!

Fellowship Dinner:
Third Sunday of the month,
following worship

Fellowship Dinner



Calendar and Servant Schedule

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursd	Friday	Saturday
<h1>January 2020</h1>				* Denotes birthday Chapel – 2nd Floor BT = Bell Tower CH = Coffee House FH = Fellowship Hall LIB = Library CR = Conf. Room GR = Great Room H = Hub, 2 nd Floor S = Sanctuary B = Balcony		
29 10:30 am Worship *Kyle LeCount	30 Liz Collazo on vacation through January 6	31 *Jackie Haley <i>Happy New Year!</i>	1 New Year's Day – Office Closed *Ginny Khan *Guillermo Vélez	2	3	4 9:30-1:00 pm FCC volunteers for Food at First *Keith Sambos
5 9:15 am Learning Time 10:30 am Worship followed by Coffee Fellowship (CH) Followed by the Youth Group Bowling and Pizza Outing	6 Epiphany 10-11:30 am Ukulele's Play (CH) 11:00 am Elder's Circle, (LIB) 6:00 pm Faith Formation Team Mtg. (CH)	7 9:30 am Welcome Grp Mtg (LIB) 5:00 pm Council of Ministries Meeting (CH) 6:00 pm Bells Practice (B) 7:10 pm Singers Practice (S)	8 12:15 Prayers (CH) Wed. Church Night 5:15 pm Spiritual Practices 5:30 pm Worship 6:30 pm Meeting Jesus Midweek (H)	9 5:30-7pm Listening to God (GR) *Randy Allman	10	11 *Thelma Miller
12 9:15 am Learning Time 10:30 am Worship	13 10-11:30 am Ukulele's Play (CH) 11:00 am Elder's Circle, (LIB) *Tiffany Walker	14 10:00 AM – Communications Team Mtg. (LIB) 6:00 pm Bells Practice (B) 7:10 pm Singers Practice (S) 7:15 pm Property Mtg. (LIB)	15 12:15 Prayers (CH) Wed. Church Night 5:15 pm Spiritual Practices 5:30 pm Worship 6:30 pm Meeting Jesus Midweek (H)	16 5:30-7pm Listening to God (GR) Noon – Call Deadline	17 *Traverse Harrison	18 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins *Nathan Schmitz
19 Leadership Sunday 9:15 am Learning Time 10:30 am Worship followed by Fellowship Dinner (FH) 12:45 pm Elder's Meeting (CH) 2:00 pm MLK Interfaith Service, at Unitarian Universalist Church *Don Withers	20 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – Office Closed 7 pm Trustees (CR)	21 6:00 pm Bells Practice (B) 7:10 pm Singers Practice (S)	22 12:15 Prayers (CH) Wed. Church Night 5:15 pm Spiritual Practices 5:30 pm Worship 6:30 pm Meeting Jesus Midweek (H)	23 5:30-7pm Listening to God (GR)	24	25 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity ends *Janis Pyle
26 9:15 am Learning Time 10:30 am Worship *Kris Mesenbrink	27	28 6:00 pm Bells Practice (B) 7:10 pm Singers Practice (S)	29 12:15 Prayers (CH) Wed. Church Night 5:15 pm Spiritual Practices 5:30 pm Worship 6:30 pm Meeting Jesus Midweek (H)	30 5:30-7pm Listening to God (GR)	31	1

Servant Schedule

A new servant schedule for 2020 is not yet available. If you would like to serve as an usher or a greeter, you may contact Stacey Maifeld. See page 8 for more details.

Deacons Serving in January

Captain*: Chris & Jackie Haley

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1. Dianne Brown | 3. Jocelyn Digby |
| 2. Suzanne Clark | 4. Michael Ewalt |

Elder's Serving in January

Offering: John Lott

Communion: Larry Mesenbrink

10 Ways to Know What's Happening at FCC

- The Call Newsletter – 3rd 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

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



The
Call



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.

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.

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:	Eiley Misfeldt

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