

The Call

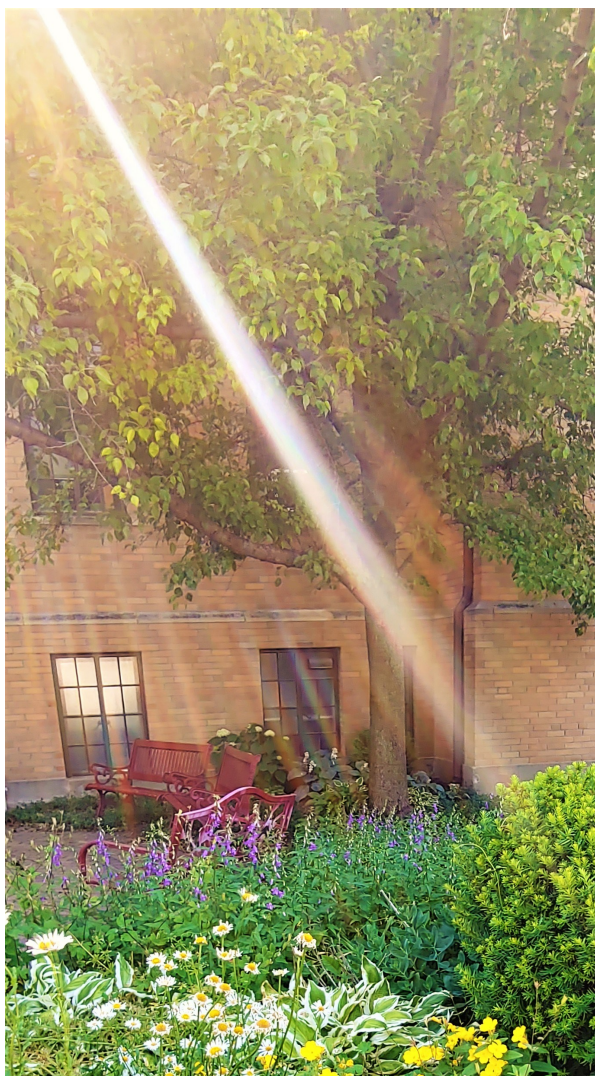
ISSUE No. 07,



Inside This Issue

Life in Exile	1
Church Calendar	2
Worship Schedule	3
COVID-19 Update	4
Parsonage Roof Update	5
Book & Poetry Reading	6
Keeping Connected	7
Poor People's Campaign	8
Opportunities to Give and Serve	9
Regional News	10
News from the Pews	12
10 Ways to Connect with FCC	13

LIFE IN EXILE, SINGING SACRED SONGS AND PLANTING GARDENS



By the rivers of Babylon—
there we sat down and there we
wept when we remembered Zion.
²On the willows there we hung up
our harps.

³For there our captors asked us for
songs, and our tormentors asked for
mirth, saying, “Sing us one of the
songs of Zion!”

⁴How could we sing the Lord’s song
in a foreign land?
-Psalm 137:1-4

⁴Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God
of Israel, to all the exiles whom I
have sent into exile from Jerusalem
to Babylon: ⁵Build houses and live in
them; plant gardens and eat what
they produce.
-Jeremiah 29:4-5

Exile is a major theme in the Bible. The threat and reality of exile comes up time and again in the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament), most notably the exile of the northern kingdom of Israel at the hands of the Assyrians around 720 BCE, followed by the exile of the elite of the southern kingdom of Israel in 597 BCE after the temple was sacked and burned

(Continued on page 2)

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by the Babylonians. At that time others fled to Egypt, and a significant number remained behind in Judah. By the sixth century B.C.E., there were pockets of Jewish exiles living in both Egypt and Mesopotamia. For these Jewish communities, living in exile posed a challenge, if not a crisis. As the Psalmist proclaims, "How could we sing the Lord's song in a foreign land?" "Living outside the Promised Land, without the temple, Jewish exiles were compelled to develop new ways of forming a community and worshipping Yahweh. Many managed not simply to survive but to thrive. Some regarded exile as Yahweh's use of foreign powers to punish his people; they called for the people to repent ("to turn back") to Yahweh so that they might be restored. In this view, exile was not simply geographic displacement but had become a reflection of the spiritual, even existential, condition of estrangement from Yahweh." (*Exile in the Hebrew Bible* by Martien A. Halvorson-Taylor)

Due to COVID 19, we are living in a kind of exile. Though we are surrounded by the familiarity of our own homes, the world in which we find ourselves has changed and the old familiar ways of expressing our faith and life look very different. None of us know how or if things will ever look the same again. That can cause much grief and we may find ourselves lamenting, "How can we sing the Lord's song in a foreign land?"

While I do not believe that God is using COVID 19 to punish us, I do very much believe "all things work together for good for those who love God." (Romans 8:28) I do believe that this time of crisis and disorientation is both a tragedy and an opportunity to get clear about the nature of our relationship to God and one another, to our neighbor, our community and God's good creation. Now is the time to draw on the resources of our faith to see how we can do more than survive – how we can thrive! How this time in exile is an opportunity to see how our imagination has limited us and the depth of relationship with God and others, and to open ourselves to the new thing God is doing.

Let's share with one another and dare to dream. Let's plant gardens and see what grows in this new terrain. Let's hold one another in love and care, and also inspire one another to live in exile with all the faith, hope, and love we can muster. God will provide the water and we will grow and bear much fruit!

—Pastor Mary Jane

Calendar

Scheduled Events:

- ♦ **Book and Poetry Reading via Zoom**
Sunday, July 26, 3-4:30 pm
- ♦ **Honk and Wave for Del Woodward's 100th Birthday**
Thursday, July 30th, 9:30-10:30 am,
Drive by 205 So. Walnut Avenue
- ♦ **Dell Woodward Zoom Birthday Open House**
Sunday, August 2, 2 pm, via Zoom

Scheduled Meetings:

- ♦ **Elder's Circle (every Monday)**
Monday, July 27, 11:30 am via Zoom
- ♦ **Leadership Group Meetings**
Mondays, August 10 & 24 at 5:30 pm
- ♦ **Faith Formation Meeting**
Tuesday, July 28 and August 18, 5:00 pm
via Zoom
- ♦ **Trustees Meeting**
Mondays, July 27 and August 17, at 7:00 pm
- ♦ **Welcome Group Meeting**
Tuesday, August 4 at 9:30 am
- ♦ **Council of Ministries**
Tuesday, August 4, 5:00 pm
- ♦ **Board Meeting**
(Details to be emailed)
Monday, August 10, 7:00 pm via Zoom
- ♦ **Property Meeting**
Monday, August 11, 7:15 pm via Zoom



Summer Worship

UPDATED Zoom Weekly Activity Schedule



July

Joint Worship with Ames United Church of Christ will explore The Lord's Prayer

26

FCC will share our Zoom Worship with UCC.
"And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one."

Aug
2

Worship will be with both First Baptist Church and Ames United Church of Christ. This service will include the 3 churches via Zoom.

Sunday

10:30 AM	Worship Online Link: fccames.org/SundayWorship	Phone connection: 1-312-626-6799 ID: 482716293#
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Wednesday

12:15 PM	Midweek Prayers Online Link: fccames.org/WednesdayPrayers	Phone Connection: 1-312-626-6799 ID: 151979297#
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6:30 PM	Anti-Racism Study Contact Pastor Mary Jane if interested maryjane@fccames.org
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Thursday

10:00 AM	Coffee Fellowship Online Link: fccames.org/CoffeeFellowship	Phone connection: 1-312-626-6799 ID: 86790917856#
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**Print this schedule
and Keep it Handy**

Updated Thursday, June 18, 2020



**WORSHIP THEME FOR
AUGUST 9 – SEPTEMBER 6
via Zoom Sundays at 10:30 am
Lessons of Faith from the...**

Last year during the time between Worship in the Park and Kick-Off Sunday, we focused on nature and "Lessons of Faith" from places we might find ourselves during the summer (Lessons of Faith from the Golf Course, Hiking Trail, Back of a Horse, and Sailboat). This year we decided to continue this idea expanding it to people's work as well as hobbies. We are still lining up those who will reflect with us on their "Lessons of Faith from the..." Come hear these unique reflections and open your imagination to discover your own!

—Pastor Mary Jane

Leadership Group Discusses COVID-19

Hello, First Christian Church congregation. It's been a while since we were all gathered together physically in worship, and you are probably wondering what's going on and when will we physically worship together again.

COVID-19 has made it necessary for FCC to restrict in-building meetings, and since late March virtually all meetings have been via Zoom. Eventually we will begin to make greater use of our beautiful church building, and when that happens, we want to make sure that we are being mindful of the health and well-being of everyone who comes in. Trying to minimize the spread of COVID-19 is a new necessity for FCC, and all of us want to make sure we are asking the right questions and identifying the best safety practices so that our building does not become a source of spreading this pandemic.

With best practices and safety for everyone in mind, FCC has formed a leadership group of eight members from all areas of church life (Trustees, Property, Elders, Deacons, Council of Ministries, Board, Personnel) to meet periodically via Zoom to discuss when we might return to sanctuary worship, what that might look like, and how we will insure a welcoming and safe worship experience.

The Leadership Group has had several Zoom meetings, and we can assure you that we have asked many more questions than we've been able to answer so far. Early on we hoped to set a specific date for returning to sanctuary worship, but we now

realize that we need to further monitor the COVID-19 numbers in our community and rely on assessments from area health professionals before deciding on a physical return date. In addition, the leadership group has concluded that the return of possibly thousands of students to the Iowa State University campus in mid-August could significantly impact COVID-19 numbers in Ames. Assuming that it will take two to three weeks to quantify the impact that the arrival of college students will have on COVID-19 numbers in our community, the Leadership Group concludes that it will probably be

mid-September before we will have enough information to make an informed decision about holding in-sanctuary worship services.

Rev. Mary Jane and the worship team will continue to provide Sunday morning worship services via Zoom, and the Leadership Group will continue to work hard to identify the questions that need to be addressed to insure that when we physically return to worship

in the sanctuary we do so in a safe and thoughtful manner that still facilitates a meaningful and personal religious experience. And we will do our best to keep you informed of what your church leaders are doing to keep FCC's ministries vibrant during these difficult times. During this entire process, the Leadership Group appreciates your patience and understanding.

FCC Leadership Group

(Randy Allman, Rev. Mary Jane Button-Harrison, David Gregory, Vern Hawkins, Derek Krebs, Amy Kuehl, Deb Lewis, Larry Mesenbrink)



"A Deacons Message to the Congregation"

Since the COVID-19 pandemic forced the shut-down of schools, restaurants, government offices, and yes – churches – in March of this year, all of us have been adjusting to changes in our lives. We have donned masks, increased the use of hand sanitizers, refrained from hugging and shaking hands, and maintained safe distances when greeting loved ones and friends.

As the planning continues for ways to safely return to some – yet undetermined – form of our worship services in the sanctuary of First Christian Church, it becomes more and more apparent that there will be a need for everyone in the congregation to embrace safety guidelines when attending worship. The task that lays before us is to help individually and as the body of Christ in keeping each other, our building, and our selves safe and healthy as we worship the Lord. A united effort will enable us to safely return to the services and people we know and love. It is likely that Deacons – as servants of the Church - will be called upon to expand their duties and responsibilities both during and after worship services. Once a safe plan for resuming worship service in the sanctuary is developed and approved, it is very likely that serving schedules and duties for Deacons will be modified and adjusted to meet the staffing and safety needs of the church. There will be much to do for the servants of the Church! We, the Deacons of First Christian Church, want to assure you, the First Christian Church congregation that we will endeavor to do all we can to help make in-sanctuary worship services as safe and meaningful as we possibly can. The way forward is still unclear but together, with the guidance of our Lord, all things are possible!

Blessings to all,
Larry Mesenbrink
Chair of the Deacons

Thank you from the Trustees

We'd like to extend a heart-felt thank you to everyone who has responded to our appeal for donations to help fund the re-shingling of our former parsonage and garage. As you'll recall, the total cost of this project was \$12,500, and the Trustees had determined that almost three-quarters of the expense (\$9,000) could be covered by existing funds. We therefore set out to raise the remaining \$3,500 through a special offering.

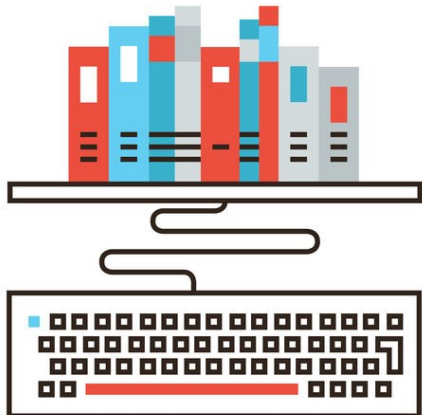


We are pleased to report that we have met and exceeded this goal, having raised \$4,326 since June 1. The re-shingling project itself was completed last week. If you had hoped to contribute to this effort, fear not—we'll continue to accept donations through the end of July, and any additional funds received will simply shore up the church's ongoing Roof Fund.

*David Gregory (Chair), Roger Bertelsen,
and DeLores Hawkins (FCC Trustees)*



Keeping Connected...



Enjoy a Book and Poetry Reading on July 26!

EVENT: SUNDAY AFTERNOON BOOK & POETRY READING (A ZOOM ROOM GATHERING)

***WHEN:** SUNDAY, JULY 26, FROM 3 TO 4:30 P.M.

FOR: ALL FRIENDS AND MEMBERS OF FCC

SPONSORED BY: THE WOMEN'S GATHERING

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84852602961?pwd=OGttamE0UjhoZEJGUmxFM05rcjIMdz09>

Meeting ID: 848 5260 2961

Passcode: 779842

Phone Connection: 1-312-626-6799

ID:84852602961#

We know them as Kenny and Charissa, but the couple—both professors at Iowa State University—is known in literary circles by their professional names. K.L. Cook, novelist and poet, and Charissa Menefee, poet and playwright, will read from their latest works at a Zoom Room event from 3 to 4:30 p.m. on Sun., July 26. (During their presentation, they will share information on how to purchase autographed copies.)

Seven years ago, Charissa Menefee and K. L. (Kenny) Cook moved to Ames from Prescott, Arizona, where they taught at Prescott College, a small liberal arts college with an environmental and social justice mission. Both professors of English, they co-direct the MFA Program in Creative Writing & Environment at Iowa State University.

K. L. (Kenny) Cook is the author of six books: a novel, *The Girl of Charnelle*, and three books of short stories, *Last Call*, *Love Songs for the Quarantined*, and most recently, *Marrying Kind*. He's also the author of a collection of poems, *Lost Soliloquies*, and *The Art of Disobedience: Essays on Form, Fiction, and Influence*. His books have won the Prairie Schooner Book Prize, the Southwest Book of the Year, the Willa (Cather) Award for Contemporary Fiction, among other honors, and his stories and essays have been published widely and anthologized in *The Best American Mystery Stories*, *Best of the West*, *Teachable Moments: Essays on Experiential Education*, and *Now Write: Fiction Writing Exercises from Today's Best Writers and Teachers*. His website is www.klcook.net.

Charissa Menefee is a playwright, poet, and director. Her poetry can be found in her collections, *When I Stopped Counting* and the forthcoming *It Rains in My Sun Room*, as well as literary journals and anthologies. Her plays have recently been produced by the Philadelphia Women's Theatre Festival, Rover Dramawerks, Theatre Lawrence, Story Theatre Company, and Code Red Playwrights, among others. She is a 2020-21 recipient of an Ensemble Studio Theatre/Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Science & Technology Project Commission. She is the artistic director of The EcoTheatre Lab, and the president of the Humanities Iowa board of directors. Her website is www.charissamenefee.com.

For further information, contact co-leaders of the Women's Gathering, Janis Pyle at janispyle@yahoo.com or Deb Lewis at deb.q.lewis@gmail.com or (515) 290-6736.

...Keeping Connected



We are Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. As part of the one body of Christ we welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us.

First Christian Church



Prayers Of the People

One important way we can stay connected during this time of social distancing and shelter-in-place is to continue to pray with and for one another, our community, and the world.

You can now submit prayer requests using a new "Prayer Request Form" using this link: bit.ly/FCCPrayers. Using the form, you choose how extensive you'd like your prayer request shared.

One option is through our email prayer chain called "Prayers of the People." If you'd like to be part of that email prayer chain so you receive and can offer prayers, please sign up by clicking on this link: "[Prayers of the People](#)."

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Mary Jane, Administrative Assistant Liz Collazo, or ask an FCC Elder.

FCC Has a YouTube Channel!



Worship Service
Sunday, July 19, 2020

To view past services
and other content, subscribe to us on



[First Christian Church of Ames](#)
[on YouTube](#)

We have created a YouTube channel where we will upload past video of our Zoom services for those who may have missed a Sunday, or who may want to refresh during the week. There is also video content for kids — FCC Storytime, with Mary Gregory (and created by David Gregory) — where Mary reads a children's book selection from the FCC Library. It's so much fun!



Poor People's Campaign

A NATIONAL CALL for MORAL REVIVAL

Poor People's March and Assembly on June 20, 2020: A Response...

By Janis Pyle

When Pastor Mary Jane asked me to write about my participation in the (virtual) Poor People's March and Assembly on June 20, 2020, I thought I would have an easy answer. But my response is a work in progress, a series of thoughts:

Thought 1. I was impressed enough by the collective voices of persons in poverty presented in the two-hour presentation to sign on. I believe in the movement's national call for moral revival and have begun reading the 128-page fundamental 2017 document, **The Souls of Poor Folk: Auditing America 50 Years After the Poor People's Campaign Challenged Racism, Poverty, the War Economy/Militarism and our National Morality.** (The current campaign also includes ecological devastation.)

Thought 2: How much can I risk for social change? That is my new constant question. I find myself studying the issues (like listening to the stories of poor people who are homeless and like reading the fascinating history of rain forests while they are burning) instead of acting on them. I have guilt over this, but I want to seek actions that I can take within my everyday context. For example, today, July 20, 2020, the movement is calling for persons to walk off the job in the name of justice. I happen to have a day

off, so I bypass having to make *this* decision. But I am painfully aware that I can do more to create a more just world...

Thought 3: Concurrently, another deep question accompanies full involvement in holistic change: *What do I need to let go of... to be more involved in the struggles of the poor and dispossessed?* (The question is from a Compelling Vision conversation happening in the Church of the Brethren as it considers changes to be more relevant.) I am exploring the "letting go of" question on a personal level in the enforced quiet of the Covid-19 crisis. I want to respond heart, mind, and soul to these unprecedented times, but only after a period of personal discernment and questioning. What do I

need to let go of to be effective in the coming world? What stands between me and deeper commitment? What patterns do I need to shed?

My list so far:

- I need to let go of fear, so I have more room for faith.
- I need to let go of idealizing the past, so I can embrace the imperfect present.

- I need to let go of my passive contentment with my privileged status, so I can act on my holy

discontent about inequalities locally and nationally.

- I need to let go of demonizing (however subtly) persons who think differently from me, so I can welcome all as brothers and sisters in Christ.
- I need to let go of the thought that issues are too big for me to be engaged in, so I can find my part in the Poor People's Campaign and other organizations.

Thought 4: I am grateful, as always, to be part of the First Christian Church community, as we seek to face profound social change together!



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)

- **BE FAITHFUL** in your giving. Giving is a spiritual discipline. Even while we are not gathering in our building, the work of the church continues, and expenses keep coming in. Please keep supporting FCC during this health crisis.
- **SHARE** your imaginative ideas for worship via Zoom and connecting with one another.
- **VOLUNTEER** to help Food at First on Fridays, from Noon to 3 PM, or a floater shift whenever there's a need. Persons are needed right away. Call Patty Yoder at 515-451-6967.
- **FIGHT HUNGER** by joining 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. There are new guidelines in place to keep everyone safe, and ALL meals and markets will be **TO GO** now. Food at First also needs volunteers during the week. 515-344-4357.

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.



Alternatives to the Offering Plate

- You can always send a **check** through the mail to: First Christian Church, 611 Clark Ave., Ames IA 50010. If you add "Attention: Dave or Jeanne Fitz," the envelope will be delivered directly to our Financial Secretaries.
- Now might be a good time to set up, through your bank, some form of automatic payment to FCC. This can be done either as a **direct deposit** (in which funds are transferred electronically), or as **online bill pay** (in which your bank sends an actual check to the church). Contact FCC's Financial Secretaries, Dave or Jeanne Fitz (515-232-9306), for more information.
- You can also make your offering by **debit card**, **credit card** or **PayPal**, using the **DONATE** button on the FCC website. This button is also regularly included in the electronic version of *The Call*, and in the online *Weekly Update*. It's safe, secure, and convenient! For more information, contact the church office.



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

June 25	Regional Operations Council Online
July 23	Regional Operations Council Online
Aug. 27	Regional Operations Council Online
Aug. 31	Church History Course begins Online



The pulpit at Iglesia Cristiana (Discípulos de Cristo) en La Grama, Ciales Photo: Craig Thompson, DisciplePhoto

Care For Caregivers: Trauma Care for Puerto Rico Pastors

In Puerto Rico, Disciples of Christ pastors carry the weight of multiple disasters: Hurricanes Maria and Irma (2017), from which many communities continue to rebuild; an ongoing economic crisis; multiple recent earthquakes; and now the complications of the COVID-19 pandemic. Under the weight of these crises, church leaders continue to offer faithful leadership and care for their members and neighbors. At the same time, they are experiencing significant accumulated stress, to the detriment of their own physical and mental health.

Following disasters, congregational pastors often play critical roles in recovery. Beyond caring for their own members, they take on leadership roles in the wider community as their neighbors begin to rebuild. Churches become epicenters of everything from supply distribution to volunteer coordination. This means pastors take on additional workloads, along with the emotional labor of caring for those who have just experienced devastating loss. In many cases, the pastors themselves have also been directly affected by the disaster.

When pastors become caregivers for the entire community--who cares for the caregivers?

To help ensure that leaders can maintain their own wellbeing while continuing to serve and help their communities recover, Week of Compassion worked with denominational leaders in Puerto Rico to provide a training program to support pastors. At the end of June, Dr. Carlos Velazquez Garcia, Executive Director of the Psychotraumatology Institute of Puerto Rico gave the first training for pastors of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Puerto Rico. The training addressed compassion fatigue, toxic stress, trauma risk factors, resilience, and accumulated trauma. In this first training,

(Continued from page 10)

Pastors learned skills for self-evaluation and for care of their congregations. 76 registered participants took part in the virtual event and gave positive feedback on the experience.

Since the event, many pastors have expressed their gratitude for the opportunity. General Pastor, Rev. Miguel Morales wrote a pastoral letter to congregations, asking that churches provide time for pastors and their families to rest in the weeks ahead. This much-needed sabbath time provides a welcome sense of relief to those who have been working so hard. As a result, they will be better equipped to continue caring for their congregations.

A second, more comprehensive session is scheduled for later in August, and leaders are already looking forward to this time for further learning and healing. The facilitators anticipate that some pastors will receive referrals for continued counseling or mental health care following that event.

When those who are caring for others do not receive care themselves, everyone suffers. The burden of doing ministry in the midst of compounded trauma can lead to unhealthy patterns for leaders and institutions alike. Burn-out is likely. Compassion fatigue is real.

But compassion is real, too--and it is one of the most powerful tools available in disaster recovery as we help build resilient communities. Your support for Week of Compassion means that our wider Church can be present to lift up leaders as they continue to do the critical work to which they are called. We care for our church leaders so that they can care for others--all as the one Body of Christ.

Ministry in Thailand: Update from Anne Gregory

Thailand has been one of the safest places on earth during the COVID-19 pandemic. At this writing, there have been 3,031 cases and 56 deaths. In the past week, we have even had a day or two of no new cases at all.



The country has had six weeks of lockdown, including a ban on incoming air travel, except for repatriation of Thai nationals from other countries, trade, and travel for diplomats. As of this week, some malls are being permitted to open and some street vendors have begun selling food again. There is still a strict curfew, from 11 p.m. to 4 a.m., and public transportation is taking much longer with the social distancing rules.

Yet, like other East Asian nations, Thailand has a culture which already includes some social distancing, since people do not touch one another in public (except for small children), and greeting is done in what Americans might understand as the "Namaste" style that is putting one's palms together and bowing. Mask-wearing has been around for a number of years, due to previous flu outbreaks, as well as air pollution problems. People understand implicitly that mask-wearing is, first of all, to protect others. The Thai people have an old tradition of bathing at least once a day - more often twice - so handwashing also seems to be coming naturally to most people.

Churches are attempting to worship online only (until the government eases restrictions on public gatherings) and to share food with those who need it. The congregation where I serve has started up a food pantry cupboard out in front of the church: take three things if you need food; contribute food staples such as rice if you can share. Many feel that now is the time for our culture of community and the philosophy of "Mai Pben Rai" to shine. Simply translated, it means, "Never mind," but a better translation might be, "It's OK; we're all in this together."



The Church office is currently closed to the public. But our office hours remain
9 am—2 pm , Monday-Thursday

Need anything? CALL US! 515-232-5766
Email Liz Collazo at: fccames@fccames.org

Stewardship Report

Numbers N/A at time of publication		
Income:		
Expenses:		
Difference:		

In and Out of the Hospital

Erick Wierson, Jim Lester

Our Deepest Sympathies

are with the families of Lee Hogle who passed away on Saturday, June 27, and Dorothy Hayes, who passed away on Sunday, June 28. May they find strength and comfort as the loving arms of God, and the support and prayers of their faith communities surround them at this time of loss.

Happy Birthday!!

August Birthdays

- 04 Jim Lester
- 09 Shirley Malaby
- 10 Jo Lee
- 12 Abby Schwartz
- 13 Emma Mesenbrink
- 22 David Digby
- 23 Amy Kuehl
- 23 Harrison Walker
- 27 Jean Watson



Farewell Shirley Malaby

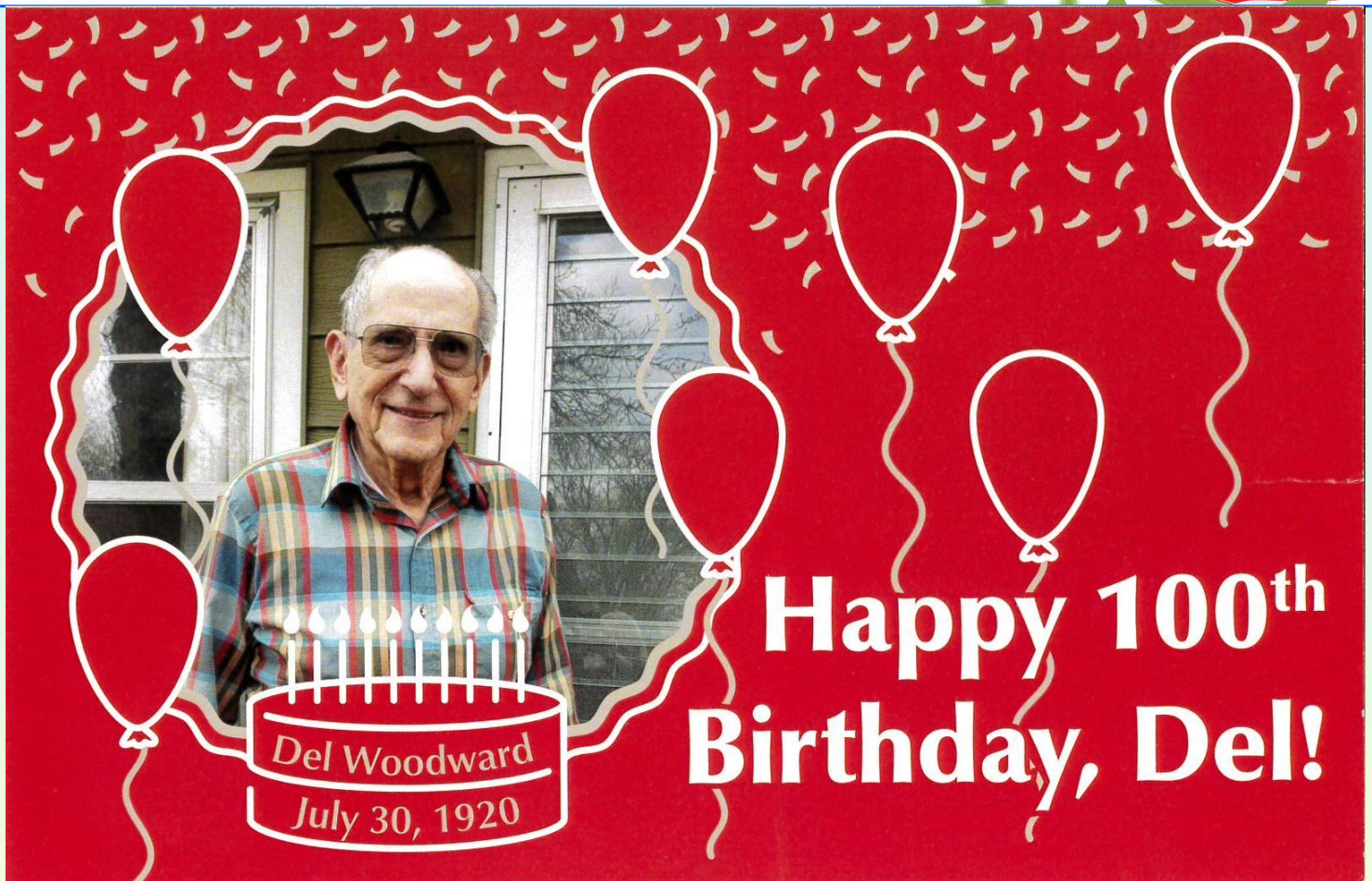
On Thursday, July 23rd, friends and members of First Christian Church of Ames came together through Zoom to bid Shirley Malaby farewell on her upcoming move to Oregon. Shirley has been a

faithful member of First Christian Church since December 4th, 1955. On July 30th she will be moving to Oregon to be with her daughter, Sarah. We will surely miss her, and we send her off with our blessing and prayers. Shirley Malaby was a Featured Member in the September 2014 issue of *The Call*. You may read it and learn more about her life and how she has been a blessing to our community [HERE](#). If you missed Shirley's Farewell Zoom gathering, you may watch a video of it [HERE](#).

Del Woodward,

one of our long-time members at who joined First Christian Church of Ames on April 4, 1954, will be celebrating his 100th birthday on Thursday, July 30th!

To celebrate this incredible milestone, Heartland Senior Services will be having a Honk and Wave Celebration for him on Thursday, July 30th, from 9:30—10:30 am, at 1523 Clark Avenue.



Del's family would LOVE for us to shower him with birthday greeting cards, which may be mailed to this address:

Delmar Woodward
1523 Clark Avenue
Ames, IA 50010

Happy Birthday, Del!

We are grateful for the bright light that is your life, and we are blessed to have you in our community. Del was a Featured Member in the October 2015 issue of *The Call*. You may learn more about Del's life and his many contributions to our community [HERE](#).

First Christian Church will be hosting a
Zoom Open House Birthday Party
for Del Woodward on

Sunday, August 2nd, at 2 PM.

Zoom Online Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82527087420?pwd=d3R2ZU85WFhWWHg3U1dHZHplQmxmZz09>

Meeting ID: 825 2708 7420
Passcode: 543193

Phone Connection: 1-312-626-6799
ID: 82527087420#

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 below.**

Weekly
News Update



The
Call



Prayers
Of
The
People



Food at
First

Free Meal Program +
Perishable Food Pantry



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Food at First currently needs a dedicated volunteer for Friday afternoons from Noon to 3 pm, to help prepare "to go" meals and market offerings. They also need a person to help as a "floater," who can fill in when a volunteer is not able to do their shift. If you are interested, please contact Patty Yoder at 515-451-6967, or email her at patty@foodatfirst.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:	Ty (Joseph) Schwartz
Building Custodian:	Sherri Khan
Nursery Attendants:	Karen LeCount
Nursery Helper:	

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