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## The Cal ISSUE NO. 08, AUGUST 2020

### Kick-Off Sunday, September 13, 2020

Sunday. In some ways, even though it may be counter-intuitive since we are still unable to meet in person, we need a Kick-Off Sunday now more than ever. The days and months and seasons don't have their usual cues. They seem to pass and maybe we're not as aware of what day, or even what month it is! But we have just about made it through our first COVID summer. And Fall and the transitions that come with it are still part of our lives - it just looks and feels different.

On Sunday, September 13, we invite you to be present with your First Christian Church faith community as we gather via Zoom. If you need help to get connected, please read the article a little later in this issue of The Call to find out how to get help doing so. The truth is, your presence is also more important than ever. We need to see each other's faces or names and to be present with and for one another as we continue to worship and learn and grow as disciples of Jesus Christ even (or especially) in these disorienting times. And children really need to be re-energized in their connection to their faith community! Their development right now will have an impact for years to come, so we want them to experience connection to the people and Bible stories that will give

We will have a Kick-Off them the foundation they need to stay grounded in faith. Toward that end, beginning with Kick-Off Sunday, there will be these opportunities:

- > Coffee Fellowship BEFORE worship beginning at 10:00 am using the Zoom Worship link. Come meet vour FCC friends and share what's up in your life and catch up with them.
- > **Discussion groups** AFTER worship where we will break out in groups to discuss questions related to the scripture story and message for the morning.
- > Sunday School "To Go" packets for children. On Sunday morning, the vounger children can be present with parents/grandparents and have activities that will engage them in the story. Stay tuned for more details!
- Youth Interactive Activities for grades 6-12. There will be digital guizzes and other interaction to engage our youth. Again, stay tuned for more details!
- > Musicians and Children's Participation. Also beginning this Fall we hope to bring in additional musicians to lead us in worship, and find ways for children to share their creations and learnings with the rest of us.

Pastor Mary Jane

## Living Faithfully in

## the Best and Worst of Times:

#### Lessons from Joseph, Ruth, and Jonah WORSHIP THEME FOR September 13 – November 22 via Zoom Sundays at 10:30 am

ately I've been thinking of the often quoted opening lines in Charles Dickens', A Tale of Two Cities, "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of light, it was the season of darkness, it was the spring of

hope, it was the winter of despair." At this point in 2020, can you relate? Or maybe you're thinking – "The worst of times, yes. The best of times, not so much."

Well, this year we've been hit by a global pandemic that has changed the way we live. In the midst of that we have witnessed racism in this country that woke up many of us who are not black to the reality of racism in 2020. There is a heightened trauma for black, brown, indigenous, and poor communities who are being hit harder by the pandemic than their white and more wealthy neighbors. And there

are growing economic and political divisions in this country.

And last week the Midwest was blasted with a rare, hurricane-like derecho which devasted trees and crops and buildings and vehicles and took out power from so many. On top of all everything, people have lost loved ones, jobs, businesses, opportunities, and

the way of life to which we had become accustomed.

The good news is, even in the worst of times there is hope. Because of all the changes and adaptations we've necessarily made, we have become more nimble, more flexible, more grateful, more aware of



what's important, what's essential, what our priorities are, and where our commitments lie. We've changed the way we worship, and while it is not necessarily our first choice, we have learned new skills and opened up possibilities for the future that will continue even after the virus has have faced been tamed. We ourselves and realize we are stronger than we thought, more patient than we used to be, more vulnerable than we have been comfortable with, yet it is oddly refreshing. We see our neighbors as friends, children of God, those with needs and strengths/gifts. We have renewed our commitment

to God, and to seeking God's kin-dom, and God's righteousness, and to the way of abundant life Jesus taught. And if we aren't quite there yet, it's not too late.

This fall we will turn to some characters – Joseph, Ruth, and Jonah – in the Hebrew Bible (aka Old Testament) to see how they dealt with extreme

#### (Continued from page 2)

times – the worst of times – and how that affected what came next. Hopefully we will learn some lessons of faith from these characters as we step into their stories. Instead of reading small passages of scripture in worship, this fall I ask that you read chapters of scripture ahead of time. In worship the story will be retold woven together with the message for the day. For those who want to dig a little deeper, beginning with Kick-Off Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, there will be an opportunity to discuss the questions raised in the story and the message in breakout groups following worship. May we be church together, living faithfully in the best and worst of times!

–Pastor Mary Jane

UPD	ATED		
Loom l	Veekly	Activity	Schedule

Sunday					
10:30 AM	Worship Online Link: <u>fccames.org/</u> <u>SundayWorship</u>	Meeting ID: 835 4977 8613 Passcode: 789716 Phone Connection: 1 312 626 6799 ID: 83549778613#			
Wednesday					
12:15 PM	Midweek Prayers Online Link: <u>fccames.org/</u> <u>WednesdayPrayers</u>	Meeting ID: 826 9816 5415 Passcode: 645905 Phone Connection: 1 312 626 6799 ID: 82698165415#			
Thursday					
10:00 AM	Coffee Fellowship Online Link: <u>fccames.org/</u> <u>CoffeeFellowship</u>	Phone Connection: 1-312-626-6788 ID: 86790917856#			
Print this schedule and Keep it Handy Updated Thursday, August 19, 2020					

#### Story of Joseph Sep. Into the Pit Genesis 37 13 From Bad to Worse Sep. 20 Genesis 39 Dreams Come True Sep. Genesis 40-41 27 **Playing with Power** Oct. Genesis 42-44 4 **Connection Restored** Oct. 11 Genesis 42-50 Story of Ruth Oct. Loss and Loyalty 18 Ruth 1 **Gleaning and Hope** Oct. Ruth 2 25 Daring to Act Nov. Ruth 3 New Life Nov. 8 Ruth 4 Story of Jonah Running from God Nov. Jonah 1-2 Nov. God's Justice and Ours 22 Jonah 3-4

### **Opportunities to Serve**

#### We are the Church...



In his many letters to churches, the Apostle Paul reminds believers that *WE are the church — We, the Body of Christ.* (Not a building.) With our talents and our gifts, we can serve one another, meet one another's needs, uplift one another, and BE Christ to one another. While for some, "church" has come to mean "building," Christians haven't always had a building in which they could worship. Instead, they had one another — the *true* Church.

While we may not be able to meet in our *building* right now, we CAN meet as the Church! Through Zoom worship, Zoom Coffee Fellowship, prayers, book studies, phone calls and letters, we can stay connected. We can BE the body.

We are here for you. Do you need ...?

- Help with Zoom or other technology
- never miss a Zoom gathering again!
- Pre-stamped offering envelopes
- Church directories
- Church library books
- Fall Devotionals (small or large)
- GroceriesErrands



Someone to talk to

**BUG ME!** Email me at fccames@fccames.org or give the church a call at 515-232-5766. We are happy to place any items in the mail, or deliver them to you. **If you need help with Zoom, you may contact David Gregory at 708-9004, or Amy Kuehl at 520-1896, and they would be THRILLED to help you.** 

We love and miss you, but we know we'll be together again soon.

— Liz Collazo FCC Administrative Assistant "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)

- **GIVE** your financial support to the Church. Giving is a spiritual discipline and a commitment to the mission and vision of the Body of Christ. Even while we are not gathering in our building, the work of the church continues, and expenses keep coming in. Please keep supporting your Church during these challenging times.
- 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.
- **REBUILD** what was lost. Abby Schwartz requests prayers for Grandpa Don Alden, age 92 or 93, who suffered tremendous damage to his farm from the recent derecho. Small silo fell on his barn, about half of his orchard is gone, and there is lots of clean-up needed. Contact Abby at 515-760-803-4130.
- 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 <u>cygaunt@hotmail.com</u>. 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.

## An Update from the FCC Trustees

nce again, we would like to thank church members and friends who have found creative ways to support FCC financially—in the absence of a weekly "offering plate." Until face-to-face worship

resumes, we will continue to remind readers of *The Call* how they can share their offerings by check, credit/debit card, or online banking (see details below.) We would also like to provide the following brief update on the church's finances.

**Income, Expenses, and our Operating Budget:** Since the pandemic halted our weekly gatherings, income continues to decline compared to previous years—and understandably. In April, we had reported a year-todate (YTD) income/expense deficit of \$372, and this deficit has now grown to over \$13,000 (as of August 1). With 58% of the calendar year elapsed, we have received about 37% of our pledges. We are hopeful that, with your continued help, we will close this gap as the year proceeds. In the meantime, we have sufficient reserves in our general fund to ensure that we can pay our bills and meet our financial obligations.

**Investments:** Beyond the general fund that supports our operating budget, we have investments with the Christian Church Foundation (CCF) that support long-range goals and special projects. These funds had declined in the first quarter of 2020 (a national trend) but have rallied in the second quarter. Our plan, like that of most investors (and following the advice of CCF) is to refrain from using invested funds until the market recovers more fully, or unless absolutely necessary.

**The Paycheck Protection Program (PPP):** In late April, the church did receive a forgivable loan through the PPP (part of the federal CARES Act), to subsidize our payroll for two months. We believe we have met the program's requirements and have submitted our application to have the loan and all accrued interest forgiven.

Thank you for your generosity, and for helping to

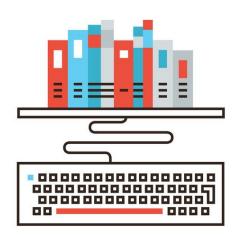
#### **Alternatives to the Offering Plate**

- You can always send a <u>check</u> 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 <u>direct deposit</u> (in which funds are transferred electronically), or as <u>online bill pay</u> (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 <u>debit</u> <u>card</u>, <u>credit card</u> or <u>PayPal</u>, 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.

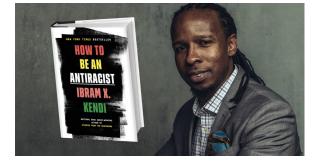
ensure that the church can continue its ministries and meet its financial obligations during these challenging times. If you have questions, comments, or concerns about the church's finances, please do not hesitate to contact any one of your Trustees.

-David Gregory (Chair), Roger Bertelsen, and DeLores Hawkins

### **Keeping Connected...**



#### Continuing To Learn How to Be Anti-Racist



This summer a group of 20-25 FCC folks gathered weekly to study the book, *White Fragility* by Robin Di Angelo. Another book that may be of interest to those seeking an understanding of racism is *How To Be An Anti-Racist* by Ibram X. Kendi. Dr. Kendi is one of America's foremost historians and leading antiracist voices. He is the Founding Director of the Boston University Center for Antiracist Research and contributor writer at The Atlantic. He will become the 2020-2021 Frances B. Cashin Fellow at the Radcliffe Institute for the Advanced Study at Harvard University.

If you are interested in being part of a group studying Dr. Kendi's book, please let me know. (<u>maryjane@fccames.org</u>) The group would begin some time after Labor Day.

-Pastor Mary Jane



One important way we can stay connected during this time of social distancing and shelter-inplace 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: <u>bit.ly/FCCPrayers</u>. 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: "<u>Prayers of the People</u>."

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





### **Scheduled Meetings:**

### **Board Meeting**

The August Meeting of the General Board has been rescheduled for Monday, August 31, 7:00 pm via Zoom. Details and zoom link will be sent out during the next week.



- **Elder's Circle** Every Monday, 11:30 am via Zoon
- **Council of Ministries** Tuesday, September 1, 5:00 pm
- Welcome Group Meeting Tuesday, September 1 at 9:30 am
- **Faith Formation Team Meeting** Tuesdays, September 8, 6 pm & September 22, 5 pm, via Zoom.
- Property Meeting Tuesday, September 8, 7:15 pm
- Leadership Group Meeting Monday, September 14 at 5:30 pm
- Trustees Meeting Monday, September 21, 7 pm



You're invited to take your own walk this October 1st and remember those who must walk long distances to access healthy food and clean water. Please don't forget to donate on our website. The Walk may be virtual, but the need is real. https://www.crophungerwalk.org/amesia

# NOMINATIONS UPDATE

he FCC Nominations Committee will meet soon to prayerfully and begin carefully preparing nominations for 2021 leadership at First Christian Church. These nominations will be submitted to the General Board at the October meeting and then to the congregation during the annual December meeting. Thank you to Rev. Mary Jane Button-Harrison, Vern Hawkins, Amy Keuhl, and Marv Prins for serving on this year's committee.

This year, we have seen how the gifts of leadership and service at FCC have helped us care for each other and our community in new ways and amidst new challenges. Your input, suggestions, and prayers during the nominations process are always invited and appreciated. A list of the FCC leadership positions is shared on the following page. If you would like to share your thoughts or have questions, please contact Stacey Maifeld at 515-520-9844 or staceymaifeld@gmail.com.

Thank you!

**Stacey Maifeld** Nominations chair

## **LEADERSHIP** POSITIONS AT FCC



The Board Chair: Presides at all meetings of the General Board and Congregation and performs other duties normally associated with the office of the Chair. Thick skin, can stay on task, well grounded, internal strength, humor, spiritual maturity, enthusiasm, good at asking the right questions, diplomacy skills, available and responsive.

The Vice-Chair: Supports the Chair, presides in the Chair's absence, and serves as Chair of the Personnel Committee. Thick skin, can stay on task, well grounded, internal strength, humor, spiritual maturity, enthusiasm, good at asking the right questions, diplomacy skills, available and responsive.

The Secretary: Keeps Minutes of all meetings of the General Board and Congregation and provides them for review and approval by the General Board. Good listener, organized, detail oriented, focused.

The Treasurer: Records expenses of the Congregation, provides written reports of income and expenses to the General Board and signs checks. Detail oriented, comfortable numbers, with selfmotivated, problem solvers.

The Financial Secretary: Records and deposits all income, tracks individual pledges and reports to the General Board. Detail oriented, comfortable with self-motivated, numbers, problem solvers.

The Property Committee Chair: Recruits committee members, leads the Property Committee, coordinates its work with the Trustees, and reports to the General Board. Mission-focused, works well with others.

The Nominations Committee Chair: Leads the Nominations Committee and reports to the General Board. Sees the big picture, empowers people, sees gifts of others, works well with a team.

Stewardship Committee Chair: Recruits committee members, leads the Stewardship Committee, coordinates its work with the Trustees, and reports to the General Board. Leads an intentional process, enthusiasm for Stewardship as it applies to the whole of life.

Elders: Seek the greatest spiritual growth of all members, preside at communion, and share with the minister(s) in pastoral responsibilities. Handles tough questions gracefully, leadership skills, ability to listen without judgement, calm during conflict or anxious situations, mature, respect for confidentiality, works well with others, openhearted, compassionate, slow to anger, "has seen it all."

Deacons: Are responsible for a ministry of service, most visibly known in communion and baptism. Caring, serves with a sense of purpose, flexible.

**Trustees:** Serve as legal agents for the Congregation and present an annual Congregational budget to the General Board in advance of the annual meeting of the Congregation. Seasoned individuals, may have served in other positions previously, sees big picture, does due diligence.

Council of Ministries Moderator: Leads the Council of Ministries and reports to the General Board. Team-oriented, organized, skilled listener, spiritually mature, encouraging, understands FCC Core Values and Future Story.

**Delegates (Ames Ecumenical Housing, Emergency Residence, Good Neighbor, and Food at First):** Represent the Congregation on Boards of these organizations. Passionate about the organizations' programs and their impact in the community.



### Iowa, Midwest Communities Struggle Following Storm

On August 10, a 40 mile wide *derecho* blew across the upper Midwest; the effects were especially devastating across a large portion of Iowa. During the derecho-- a sustained, powerful straight-line windstorm-- the winds at times exceeded 100 miles per hour. Those are wind speeds equivalent to a Category 2 hurricane.

Communities in the Midwest continue to struggle following last week's storm. While public assistance was approved on Monday, making available federal funds for things like debris removal and utility repairs, 27 counties in Iowa still await approval for federal assistance to individuals and households.

Meanwhile, recovery is complicated by COVID-19, with Iowa currently averaging 458 new cases a week across the state. Disease-prevention measures pose challenges to the usual types of response following a disaster, and because of the economic toll of the pandemic, many households have already exhausted what savings and supplies they had.

Rev. John Richardson, Interim Regional Minister in the Upper Midwest Region, says, "An estimated 10 million acres of corn and soybean crops were destroyed or heavily damaged. Barns, silos, grain bins, and houses were crushed across many counties. Countless decades old trees have been uprooted. At one point over 400,0000 people were without electric power. As of today, around the cities of Cedar Rapids and Marion, crews are still working to restore power. Cell phone service was disrupted for several days. And, as is so often the



A downed tree caused significant damage to the education wing of Marion Christian Church in last week's storm. Photo: Jim Michel, Disciples Church Extension Fund

case, the vulnerable are struggling the most. One apartment building, now deemed uninhabitable, housed 75 refugee families.

"The recovery effort will take a long time. As of today, local groups, faith communities and non profits are beginning to offer support and services. Disciples Church Extension Fund has been reaching out to Disciples congregations with damaged buildings since last week. Week of Compassion has been offering support since early last week. We are grateful for both of these vital Disciples of Christ ministries. Your prayers and gifts to Week of Compassion for disaster response are welcome."

At least 10 Disciples congregations have been directly affected--with damage to church buildings, members with damage at their homes, or both. With your help, Week of Compassion is responding to meet the needs of both congregations and families at this time.

Disciples are helping in other ways as well. Christian Conference Center, the camp facility for the Upper Midwest Region, has opened as a respite center and day shelter. They are providing a place for people to shower, do laundry, charge devices, or just cool off and rest for awhile.

#### (Continued from page 9)

With support from Week of Compassion, New Disciples Christian Church in Cedar Rapids is preparing to provide food and charging stations. And Disciples across the state have been clearing up debris, preparing meals, and opening their homes to neighbors in need of a place to cool off, charge electronics, or take showers.

Thanks for your care, concern, and continued prayers for those affected by the storm. We will continue to share updates about how Disciples are working to meet needs throughout the long recovery ahead.

### Upper Midwest Calls New Regional Minister and President



The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Upper Midwest is happy to announce the call of Rev. Joshua J. Patty as our new Regional Minister and President. Thursday, July 23, 2020, the

Regional Operations Council met in a joint inperson and on-line meeting with the Regional Search Team and Rev. Patty. The Operations Council voted unanimously to call Rev. Patty to the position.

Rev. Patty comes to the Upper Midwest from his current position serving as Senior Minister at Eastgate Christian Church in Independence, Missouri and as Chair of the Kansas City Region's Ordination and Standing Commission. He is a graduate of the University of Chicago Divinity School and brings with him experience in small, medium, and multi-racial congregations. Josh is in the process of becoming an Anti-Racism/Pro-Reconciliation Trainer, which is one of his many

### Around the Region — Things We Do Together

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

Below, **@CCC** = held at the Christian Conference Center

Aug. 27	Regional Operations Council Online
Aug. 31	Church History Class Begins Online
Sept. 11-12	Regional Committee on Ministry
Sept. 24	Regional Operations Council Online
Oct. 1	New Regional Minister and President,
Oct. 3 Oct. 22	Rev. Joshua Patty Begins All Congregational Gathering Online Regional Operations Council Online

passions in ministry. He is excited about what has been happening over the past decade in the Upper Midwest and looks forward to being a part of discerning our vision for the future.

Rev. Joshua Patty will be relocating to the Upper Midwest with his wife, Rev. Sara Patty, and their two active boys, ages 3 and 1. He will begin duties October 1, 2020.

A further bio and introduction will be posted soon on the website for the Christian Church in the Upper Midwest.



The All Congregational Gathering will take place online on Saturday Oct. 3, 2020.

### **News from the Pews**

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**

	May	June	July	YTD
Income:	\$14,844	\$13,912	\$11,774	\$119,764
Expenses:	20,486	15,364	18,221	133,393
Difference:	(5,642)	(1,452)	(6,447)	(13,629)

*In and Out of the Hospital* Eric Wierson

#### **Our Deepest Sympathies**

are with the family of Nic & Laura Pogwizd, and their children Faith, Hope and Walter, on the passing of Nic's mother, Sandra Pogwizd. Sandra passed away on July 10th at Acura HealthCare of Ames, from complications from COVID-19.



#### September Birthdays

- 01 Bonnie Smith
- 06 Nancy Schroeder
- 07 Bob Watson
- 12 Terry Lewis
- 14 Cynthia Gaunt
- 15 Diane Neal
- 15 Mary Jane Button-Harrison
- 25 Carolyn Gagnier
- 28 Jane Love
- 28 Nic Pogwizd



#### Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for all of your warm wishes and kind thoughts during my move to Oregon. I will remember all of you and the special times together. The wonderful video will be a great reminder. I'm excited and thankful for being

able to join Sarah in our new home at 5634 Denver Ave., Klamath Falls, OR 97603. I would love to hear from you, or if you happen to be out our way, I hope you will stop by for a visit.

> Blessings, Shirley Malaby





To Mark & Nancy Schroeder who will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on Saturday, August 22nd, 2020. Mark & Nancy were married at First Christian Church in 1970!

## **News from the Pews**



## Del Woodward,

celebrated his 100th birthday on Thursday, July 30th!

To celebrate this incredible milestone, he was showered with TONS of birthday cards, and Heartland Senior Services hosted a Honk and Wave Celebration were folks got to drive by his house on his day and say hello. First Christian Church also hosted a Happy Birthday Zoom Open House party for him on Sunday, August 2nd, and many video greetings were shared. If you missed it, you may view the video <u>HERE</u>.



#### 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 <u>HERE</u>.

## 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
- Prayers of the People an email sent as needed
- Announcements during Sunday worship every Sunday
- Word of mouth ongoing
- Facebook First Christian Church (Disciples) Ames

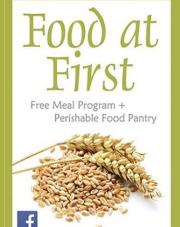
• Website - <u>www.fccames.org</u>

# <u>Our YouTube</u> Channel

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.** 





#### **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 <u>patty@foodatfirst.com</u>.

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) 611 Clark Avenue Ames, Iowa 50010-6137 Phone: (515) 232-5766 Website: http://www.fccames.org/

Return Service Requested

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.

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

Genuinely accept, welcome and love everyone as Jesus did.

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

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

