

The Call

ISSUE NO. 09, SEPT. 2020

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Reconciliation Ministry offering Sept. 27, Oct. 4

The Rocks Are Crying Out: Show Up, Speak Up, Stand Up.

*Some Pharisees from the crowd told him,
“Teacher, get your disciples under control!” But he said,
“If they kept quiet, the stones would do it for them, shouting praise.”*

Luke 19:39-40 MSG version

It has been 20 years since we proclaimed our anti-racist and pro-reconciliation identity. We keep trying it on to see if it fits. Over and over again, we find that it does. On September 27th and October 4th, we will receive the special offering for Reconciliation Ministry in congregations.

This year's theme is fitting for our response to the sustained unrest that has propelled the many to engage in social activism in small towns and major cities. **The Rocks Are Crying Out: Show Up, Speak Up, Stand Up**, based in Luke 19:36 -40, reminds us, that like those first century disciples following Jesus into Jerusalem, we must lift our voices to acknowledge the divine message and the divine messenger that is Christ with us. We are the ones to break the silence

of oppression and suppression of human dignity based on the color of a person's skin or their nation of origin.

The harmful impact of systemic racism has been laid bare in the health disparities of those impacted by the novel coronavirus, compelling us to **'speak up'** naming the conditions that unjustly impact poor, black, and brown communities.

The extra-judicial treatment of black and brown bodies has compelled many to **'show up'** in peaceful protests to affirm equitable treatment by law enforcement and to affirm human dignity for ALL.

We, too, are compelled to **'stand up'** to witness to Christ's profound love on behalf of those who are without hope

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

because of historic economic oppression and wealth disparities in our communities.

Your generosity to Reconciliation Ministry strengthens the work and witness of congregations to be the vicarious presence of Christ where we serve.

Your giving promotes programs that provide anti-racism and pro-reconciliation education and resources such as our "Choose Your Own Adventure" online bible study created by Disciples Peace Interns.

Your giving promotes inclusive worship and relationship-building through programs such as One Bag of Tea conversation starter program.

As well, your generosity funds grants that fuel advocacy like the Beloved Community mapping project of Greater Kansas City that connects congregations to community needs.

Your generosity strengthens our voice to shout "Hosanna, Hosanna, blessed are *WE*, the ones who come in the name of Lord!" We thank you in advance for your generous giving on Sunday, September 27th and Sunday, October 4th to Reconciliation Ministry!

— Rev. April Johnson,

Executive Director, Reconciliation Ministry

**Give GENEROUSLY to the
Reconciliation Offering**

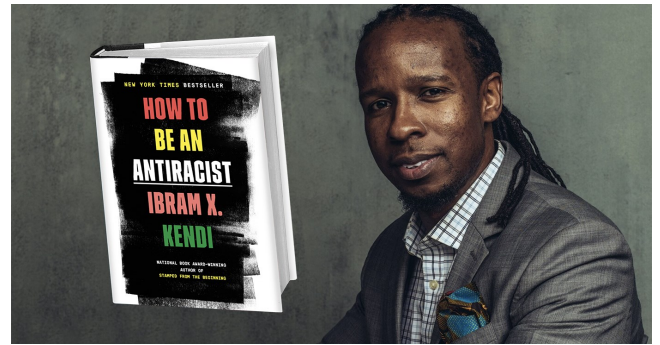


**Anti-Racism/
Pro-Reconciling
Team
Open House**

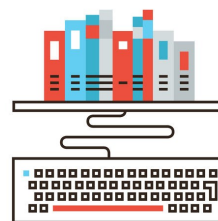


**Mark your Calendars!
Christian Church in the Upper
Midwest Anti-Racist/Pro-Reconciling
Open House**

Via Zoom Sunday, October 18th, 7:00 pm
More Details to Come



New Anti-Racist Study Wednesdays 6:45-8:00 PM Beginning October 7th



This summer a group of 20-25 FCC folks gathered weekly to study the book, *White Fragility* by Robin Di Angelo. Beginning

Wednesday, October 7th

6:45-8:00 pm there will be a

new weekly study for all interested in seeking to understand racism. This time we will be reading the book, *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.

Books are available from your favorite book outlet. Also, our own FCC library has 2 copies to loan (Call the church office to find a time to pick it up, or FCC Librarian David Gregory to make other arrangements). Let Pastor Mary Jane know if you have any trouble getting a book.

If you are interested in being part of a group studying Dr. Kendi's book, please let me know so you can be added to the list to receive links and updates. (maryjane@fccames.org)

—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**

UPDATED
Zoom Weekly Activity Schedule

Sunday		
9:30 AM	Zoom Room Open Tech People Setup/ Check Musicians Practice	Online Link: fccames.org/ SundayWorship
10:00 AM	Fellowship Time Before Worship	Meeting ID: 835 4977 8613 Passcode: 789716
10:25 AM	Greetings Video	Phone Connection: 1 312 626 6799 ID: 83549778613#
10:30 AM	Worship	
Wednesday		
12:15 PM	Midweek Prayers Online Link: fccames.org/ WednesdayPrayers	Meeting ID: 826 9816 5415 Passcode: 645905 Phone Connection: 1 312 626 6799 ID: 82698165415#
Thursday		
10:00 AM	Coffee Fellowship Online Link: fccames.org/ CoffeeFellowship	Phone Connection: 1-312-626-6788 ID: 86790917856#
Keep this Schedule Handy		
Updated Tuesday, September 1, 2020		

Story of Joseph	
Sep. 27	Dreams Come True Genesis 40-41
Oct. 4	Playing with Power Genesis 42-44
Oct. 11	Connection Restored Genesis 42-50
Story of Ruth	
Oct. 18	Loss and Loyalty Ruth 1
Oct. 25	Gleaning and Hope Ruth 2
Nov. 1	Daring to Act Ruth 3
Nov. 8	New Life Ruth 4
Story of Jonah	
Nov. 15	Running from God Jonah 1-2
Nov. 22	God's Justice and Ours Jonah 3-4

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.

An Update from the FCC Trustees

Since the pandemic disrupted our weekly, in-person gatherings, income continues to decline compared to previous years. Last month, we reported a year-to-date (YTD) income/expense deficit of roughly \$13,000, and this deficit has now grown to over \$23,000 (as of September 1). With 66% of the calendar year elapsed, we have received about 42% 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.

Typically, in the month of September, a letter is mailed from the church office to all those who have pledged for the current year, providing donors with a record of what they have given to date (through August 30). In the hope that this information is helpful, we will continue the practice this year; please watch for this update letter. We understand that people have been impacted in very different ways by the pandemic. If you are unable to meet your full pledge, we understand and are deeply grateful for what you can give. If you are able to give beyond your original pledge, we greatly appreciate that as well.

As always, thank you for your generosity, and for helping to 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

Calendar

Scheduled Meetings:

- ♦ **Elder's Circle**
Every Monday, 11:30 am via Zoon
- ♦ **Intercessory Prayers**
Every Wednesday, at 12:15 PM,
Coffee House
- ♦ **Leadership Group Meeting**
Monday, October 5 at 5:30 pm
- ♦ **ANTI-Racism Book Study**
Beginning October 7,
Every Wednesday at 6:45—8 pm
via Zoom, (see page 2.)
- ♦ **Welcome Group Meeting**
Tuesday, October 5 at 9:30 am
- ♦ **Council of Ministries**
Tuesday, October 5, 5:00 pm
- ♦ **GENERAL BOARD MEETING,**
Monday, October 12, 7PM
- ♦ **Faith Formation Team Meeting**
Tuesday, October 13, 6 pm
5 pm, via Zoom.
- ♦ **Property Meeting**
Tuesday, October 13, 7:15 pm
- ♦ **Trustees Meeting**
Monday, October 19, 7 pm



Scheduled Events:

- ♦ **ALL-CONGREGATIONAL GATHERING**
Sunday, October 3, beginning at 10 AM via
Zoom (see page 12.)
- ♦ **AMOS Citizenship in Action**
Monday, October 4, 3-4:30 PM
via Zoom (See page 9)
- ♦ **CROPWalk Zoom Virtual Walk Deadline**
Sunday, October 11

**Pastor Mary Jane will be on vacation
beginning Monday, October 19 through
Monday, October 26.**

Keeping Connected...



*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.



For Such a Time as This



Loving and giving during the Pandemic

Last Fall was an exciting time!

We said, “What an exciting time to be a Disciple and a member of First Christian Church!” We looked at all of our many church-centered activities and gatherings, and our wonderful building which supported our gatherings. Yes, what a great asset was our building!

We adopted the church’s 2020 Narrative Budget: “Building Bold Faith Together” to help us better appreciate the gifts of FCC. It is based on our four core ministries: *Worshiping God, Growing Connections, Loving Neighbors and Building Faith*. We have come to understand how well we can maintain our ministries without full access to our building.

Focus on this Fall as an exciting time!

The major change this year is the Covid pandemic and social distancing requirements, etc, which greatly restricts access to our building. When we focus on the marvelous ways our leaders have risen to the new challenge of churching, we just have to smile. Who would have thought that ZOOM is a sacred concept?

**A challenge for you -
how do you see the four core ministries being expressed today?**

Worshipping God: Connect people to God and one another.

Building Faith: Cultivate an environment where people grow in faith and discipleship.

Growing Connections: Genuinely accept, welcome, and love everyone as Jesus did. Celebrate everyone's gifts for ministry and encourage people as leaders.

Loving Neighbors: Minister in the community with God's healing love.

And how do you see your support for the church continuing today?

The congregation and leaders of First Christian Church, especially Pastor Mary Jane, have skillfully risen to the challenge of churching during this strange Covid time. Not only is the church alive, it continues to thrive!



First Christian Church solicits your continued financial support and pledging during this time. FCC continues to thrive, and we look forward to that being reflected in your continuing support and generosity.

Note: Articles by the Trustees in this and past issues of The CALL have suggested several means of submitting your tithes to the church: by mail, by bank draft, by on-line donating.

There's more to come from the Stewardship Team:

The CALL articles, your Stewardship Package in late October, brief moments during church services, an unusual puppet . . .

Mask up, wash your hands often, keep social distance: you all know the drill. As the morale boosting WWII British song said, "I know we'll meet again, – some sunny day."

—The Stewardship Team

Opportunities to Serve

We are the Church...

You 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)
- Groceries
- Errands
- 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.
- **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.
- **BE ANTI-RACIST** by participating in anti-racism initiatives, Zoom book studies and topic exploration gatherings.
- **BE CIVIC** by helping hold our community leaders accountable during AMOS' Citizenship in Action Initiative.

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.



Please Join Us!

CITIZENSHIP IN ACTION

AMOS Action with Congressional and Senate Candidates

HEAR REAL STORIES FROM
CENTRAL IOWANS

BUILD RELATIONSHIPS AND GAIN
NEW CONNECTIONS

MOVE INTO ACTION TOGETHER

October 4th, 2020 Via Zoom | 3:00 - 4:30 PM

Please Register in Advance at:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAscu-hqDopGdJnr-dTkEYzVbbWTn6C5QPn>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

If you have any questions or did not receive the registration email,
please email amosiowa@gmail.com

 AMOS | A Mid-Iowa
Organizing Strategy

You are invited to an online meeting to which the Iowa 2020 Federal Office candidates for the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives (Districts 3 and 4), together with AMOS leaders and clergy have been invited. The meeting will be held on Zoom on October 4th, from 3-4:30pm.

At this meeting, we will highlight stories from AMOS leaders and present our agenda of issues to the candidates, asking them to work with us, if elected, around these issues. This is not a candidate debate or traditional forum, but a chance for all candidates to meet with hundreds of well-connected, active Iowans and respond to the AMOS agenda.

Throughout the Spring and Summer, AMOS leaders have met online with hundreds of people to hear their stories, which led us into a Summer of action with elected officials and state administrators to successfully address the issues raised, such as the release CARES funding for training of unemployed Iowans.

REGISTER TODAY

NEW ANTI-RACISM BOOKS IN THE FCC LIBRARY

Several titles dealing with anti-racism have been added to the FCC Library over the past several months. Although the church building remains closed, these and other items from the library can be delivered to your home.

For book delivery or to request a PDF copy of the complete library book list, contact David Gregory, FCC Librarian, at 515-708-9004, or dgregory@iastate.edu.



Barndt, Joseph. *Becoming an Anti-Racist Church: Journeying Toward Wholeness* (Fortress Press, 2011)

Beadle, Diane Faires & Jamie L. Haskins. *Acting on Faith: Stories of Courage, Activism and Hope Across Religions* (Chalice Press, 2020). See the chapter on "Race & Privilege."

Bray, Melvin. *Better: Waking Up to Who We Could Be* (Chalice Press, 2017)

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

Claiborne, Shane. *Executing Grace: How the Death Penalty Killed Jesus and Why It's Killing Us* (Harper One, 2016). See especially the chapter on "Race, the Death Penalty, and Lynching."

DiAngelo, Robin. *White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism* (Beacon Press, 2018)

Feldmeir, Mark. *A House Divided: Engaging the issues through the Politics of Compassion* (Chalice Press, 2020). See chapter 2, "Racism."



Francis, Leah Gunning. *Ferguson & Faith: Sparking Leadership & Awakening Community* (Chalice Press, 2015)

Helsel, Carolyn B. *Anxious to Talk About It: Helping White Christians Talk Faithfully About Racism* (Chalice Press, 2017)

Helsel, Carolyn B. & Y. Joy Harris-Smith. *The ABCs of Diversity: Helping Kids (and Ourselves) Embrace Our Differences* (Chalice Press, 2020)

Jha, Sandhya Rani. *Pre-Post-Racial America: Spiritual Stories from the Front Lines* (Chalice Press, 2015)

Kendi, Ibram X. *How to be an Anti-Racist* (One World, 2019)

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

Risher, Sharon and Sherry Wood Emmons. *For Such a Time as This: Hope and Forgiveness after the Charleston Massacre* (Chalice Press, 2019)

Wallis, Jim. *America's Original Sin: Racism, White Privilege, and the Bridge to a New America* (Brazos Press, 2016)

New Children's Books in the

FCC Library



Several new children's books were added to the FCC Library collection in the past month. Like all books in the FCC Library, these can be delivered to your home. To request book delivery, contact David Gregory, FCC Librarian, at 515-708-9004, or dgregory@iastate.edu.

Alonso, Denis (Illustrator). *Jonah and the Giant Fish* (The Beginner's Bible; 2019)

Grimes, Nikki. *The Watcher: Inspired by Psalm 121* (2017)

Kassirer, Sue. *Joseph and His Coat of Many Colors* (1997)

McLaren, Brian D. & Gareth Higgins. *Cory & the Seventh Story* (2018)

Miles, David (Illustrator). *Joseph the Dreamer* (Adventure Bible, 2015)

Miles, David (Illustrator). *Ruth and Naomi* (Adventure Bible, 2015)

Napoli, Donna Jo. *Treasury of Bible Stories* (2019)

Turner, Matthew Paul . *When God Made You* (2017)

Tutu, Desmond. *Let There Be Light* (2013)

Tutu, Desmond & Douglas Carlton Abrams. *God's Dream* (2008)

Tutu, Desmond & Douglas Carlton Abrams. *Desmond and the Very Mean Word* (2013)

Tutu, Desmond (retold by). *Children of God Storybook Bible* (2010)

Tutu, Desmond (retold by). *My Jesus Story Collection: 18 New Testament Bible Stories* (2010)





WITNESS IN THE WILDERNESS

2020 All Congregational Gathering

Oct. 3, 2020, ONLINE

The Upper Midwest is going virtual for our 2020 All Congregational Gathering. Join us online on Oct. 3 for a chance to worship, celebrate our ministries, and welcome our new Regional Minister and President, Rev. Joshua Patty.

The morning will begin with a brief business meeting at 9:30. Voting for new Operations Council representatives will be completed online prior to the Gathering and announced during this business meeting. The regional budget for the 2021 calendar year will also take place during this meeting. Voting members of the region include all clergy with current standing as well as two delegates from every Upper Midwest congregation. Voting delegates will receive a zoom link to be able to join into the discussion and voting for the business meeting. Be sure the pre-register in order to receive the link directly. For all non-voting delegates, the business session will be live-streamed.

Worship will begin at 10 a.m. and will include

- Greetings from across the region
- Musical contributions from a number of our own congregations
- Prayers for our communities in need
- Communion (be sure to have your own supplies ready as well!)
- Celebrations of our regional and local ministries
- Commissioning of our new regional leadership
- A message from our new Regional Minister and President, Rev. Josh Patty.

Following worship there will be a question and answer get acquainted session with Rev. Patty.

Register today to receive the live-streaming link by email.

Learn more, offer a question for Rev. Patty, or review the business items at: <https://www.uppermidwestcc.org/2020acg>

John Richardson,
Interim Regional Minister & President
641-417-9410, john@uppermidwestcc.org

Lori Krase-Cayton office@uppermidwestcc.org
Administrative Coordinator for Ministries
Christian Church in the Upper Midwest
5064 Lincoln St.
Newton, IA 50208
Regional Office Phone: 515-255-3168

Tiffany Williams,
Associate Regional Minister
641-521-3115, tiff@uppermidwestcc.org

Crystal Harvey,
Christian Conference Center
Reservations Director
641-792-1266 reservations@newtonccc.org

CHRISTIAN CHURCH IN THE UPPER MIDWEST

2020 FALL WOMEN'S RETREAT "A COMMUNITY POTLUCK"

Acts 10:9-16, 34-35

MENU

Wednesday, September 23

7-9 pm: Appetizer

Thursday, September 24

7-9 pm: Salad

Friday, September 25

7-9 pm: Soup & Cheesy FUNdue

Saturday, September 26

10 am-6 pm: Hotdish & Sides

6-7 pm: Dessert

There will be Keynote Speakers, Fun, Visio Divina, Fun, Break Out Sessions, Fun, a Talent Show, even MORE Fun, and our Annual Business Meeting (hey, it could be Fun!).*

REGISTER TODAY

*Each keynote address will be a different speaker.
Vespers and devotionals will be offered by a variety of people.
A Community Potluck!

Around the Region — Things We Do Together

For more info or to register for events:

<http://>

[www.uppermidwestcc.org/
regional-newsletter-dte](http://www.uppermidwestcc.org/regional-newsletter-dte)

Below, @CCC =
held at the Christian Conference
Center

Sept. 24
Regional Operations Council
Online

Oct. 1
New Regional Minister and
President, Rev. Joshua Patty
Begins

Oct. 3
All Congregational Gathering
Online

Oct. 22
Regional Operations Council
Online



**is an Action
Word**



OGMP

Office of the General Minister & President
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
in the United States and Canada

Love is an Action Word:
**National Convocation,
and Black Lives Matter**

September 24, 2020

7pm ET | 6pm CT | 4pm PT

Invited Panelists:



Timothy James



Irie Session



Antonio Redd



Cherisna Jean-Marie

REGISTER IN ADVANCE



christianchurchdoc

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

			Aug	YTD
Income:			\$14,069	\$133,833
Expenses:			\$23,803	\$157,196
Difference:			\$(9,734)	\$(23,363)

In and Out of the Hospital

Henry Hayes

Our Deepest Sympathies

to Bob Logston whose mother died Saturday, September 19.

October Birthdays

- 04 Chris Haley
- 04 Molly Schwartz
- 04 Susanne Button
- 10 Janet Lott
- 13 Kay Scott
- 20 Deb Lewis



Just wanted to thank everyone who made the Sunday school bags for the girls. It's great to be able to teach them about Joseph with some materials! Wanted to share the girls with their temporary tattoos on. They had fun

😊 —Amanda Mokaya



Church member Eric Wierson disappeared on September 1st after failing to show up for a blood transfusion at Mary Greeley Medical Center. He is in extremely weak condition, suffering from leukemia. Please, if anyone has any information leading to

locating Eric, contact his aunt, Meg Knol-Digby at 515-231-6128. And please pray for Eric's return.



CROP HUNGER WALK



FCC has a CROP Walk Team!

The COVID pandemic has changed the way we do so many things this year, and the annual CROP Hunger Walk is no exception. Our community will still celebrate “CROP Walk Sunday” on October 11, but there will be no community walk. Instead, “virtual teams” will concentrate on fund-raising, which has always been the ultimate goal of the CROP Hunger Walk. As in years past, First Christian Church has assembled a team to participate in this worthwhile effort.

Members of the FCC CROP Walk Team for 2020 include Pastor Mary Jane Button-Harrison, Cynthia Gaunt, Eileen Sambos, Vern Hawkins, Stacey Maifeld, Scott and Tiffany Walker, Anleah Walker, and Mary and David Gregory (co-chairs). “Virtual Walkers” will plan and report on their own individual walks, which they’ll do sometime before October 11, in the spirit of the traditional community walk. CROP Walking has always been a symbolic gesture, to honor people around the world who *must* walk—every day, and often for great distances—to secure food and water.

As always, *you* can support CROP Walk by sponsoring any one of these FCC walkers, or simply donating to the FCC Team. We have set a team goal of \$2,000 and are dedicated to meeting or surpassing that goal! (Click on the “Sponsor Us” button below, or see further details on the next page.)

Money raised through the CROP Walk helps to fund food programs sponsored around the world by Church World Service. In addition, 25% of the total amount raised by Ames-area walkers is earmarked for *local* food programs right here in our community.

As you can imagine, the pandemic has intensified the problem of hunger in our communities and around the world. Please consider prayerfully how your donation to the FCC CROP Walk Team could help to address this urgent need.

Stay tuned for progress reports and thank you for your support!

--Mary and David Gregory
(Co-Chairs, 2020 FCC CROP Walk Team)

SPONSOR US



How to donate to an individual walker or to the FCC Team!

There are several ways in which you can donate. Please choose from among the following...

- Make a check out to **CWS/CROP** and mail it to: First Christian Church, 611 Clark Ave., Ames, IA, 50010. If you want to sponsor an individual walker, note that on the memo line. Otherwise, your donation will go to the FCC Team.
- Use the **DONATE** button that appears in this article or in other CROP-related articles released by First Christian Church (in The Call or in Weekly News Updates).
- Go to the Ames CROP Hunger Walk website (www.crophungerwalk.org/amesia) and use the **DONATE** button to make an online donation. The process is very easy, and you can donate to either an individual walker or to our team, named "First Christian Church (Ames, IA)."
- If you can do so in a way that is safe, secure, and comfortable for you, you can still give cash or a check (made out to **CWS/CROP**) directly to anyone on the FCC CROP Walk Team.

Who Benefits from CROP Walk?

GLOBALLY...

75% of the money raised by the Ames Area CROP Walk will go to Church World Service (CWS), a co-operative ministry of 37 Christian denominations and communions, providing sustainable self-help, development, disaster relief, and refugee assistance around the world. The CWS mission is to eradicate hunger and poverty and to promote peace and justice at the national and international level through collaboration with partners abroad and in the US.

LOCALLY...

25% of the money raised by the Ames Area CROP Walk stays right here in our community, and is distributed to the following agencies assisting in hunger relief:

Bethesda Food Shelf
Calvary Food Shelf
Food at First
Good Neighbor Emergency Assistance
Loaves and Fishes Food Shelf
MICA
SHOP Food Pantry (ISU Students Helping Our Peers).

If you need help making your donation, please feel free to contact anyone on the FCC CROP Walk Team, including co-chairs David Gregory (515-708-9004) and Mary VonAh-Gregory (515-520-5536), or call the church office.

Ways to Know What's Happening at FCC

- The Call Newsletter – 3rd 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 - www.fccames.org

- **Our YouTube 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.**

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