

Inside This Issue

Stewardship 2024	1
Worship Schedule	2
Upcoming Events	3
November Calendar	4
Thanksgiving Offering	4
From the Trustees	5
Library Update	6
Green Team Report	7
CROP Hunger Walk	8
Regional News	10
AMOS Varsity Show Fundraiser	12
News From the Pews	13
Opportunities to Serve and Staying Connected	16
Our Ministry Partners	17

ISSUE No. 10,
OCTOBER 2023



The Call

2024 Stewardship –

Reconnecting with Our Gifts

Each of you must give as you have decided, not reluctantly nor under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.

- 2 Corinthians 9:8

Our spiritual gifts: God created mankind in his image and likeness. – from Genesis

The Apostle Paul sees God's image and likeness manifesting in us as "The fruit [gifts] of the Spirit - love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control." We add generosity.

Our gifts may include spiritual gifts mentioned in I Corinthians 12, such as teaching, nurturing, healing, wisdom, and generosity. During worship this fall, we heard about the many ministries First Christian offers, including the Green

Team, Property, Faith Formation, Trustees, Music, and several others. Our Stewardship theme for 2024 manifests our spiritual gifts and spiritual identity as Love – we act lovingly; Peace – we act peacefully; and Generosity – we act generously.

But how do we connect with those gifts, or maybe reconnect at a deeper understanding?

Come share our story: a Church reconnecting with our spiritual gifts

First Christian Church joyfully invites you, members and others - come share in the life of a growing generous faith community. Throughout the year in many different ways and understandings we seek to connect, or reconnect at a deeper level, with our inheritance from God. And how to manifest that in our daily actions and thoughts.

During Stewardship 2024, we focus on Generosity

We seek to grow with you in generosity to and through First Christian Church. Our gifts: times of prayer, volunteering,

(Continued on page 2)

being a part of the life of the church. And financial gifts.

Might we suggest that First Christian Church be a recipient of your generosity.

A letter is coming to you soon- please look for it!

You should be receiving our annual mailing with our 2024 Narrative Budget (the story of the church), and pledge card. Please read the inspiring story of our church through the enclosed 2024 Narrative Budget, and realize all that the church offers us through our generous financial support.

The devotional booklets that many of you have contributed to will be available this coming Sunday, October 29. Starting on November 1, this spiritual tool can be used to reflect upon a story, a word, a verse, or a prayer. You can be fed spiritually as you prayerfully consider what your 2024 pledge should be. The devotional booklets can also be delivered to you personally.

Dedication Sunday, November 19

Prayerfully consider what your 2024 pledge might be and submit your pledge card on or before Nov. 19. We encourage you to be present on Dedication Sunday, Nov. 19 when we will bless your pledges received, to-be-received, and other sources of funds.

Cynthia Gaunt, Vern Hawkins, Stacey Maifeld,
Abby Schwartz, Don Withers
2024 Stewardship Team



FOLLOW THE LEADER
Learn, Do, Lead, Repeat

October	
29	Sent to Lead Luke 10:1-11

**Reconnecting
With Our Gifts
Stewardship 2024**

November	
5	Everyone Has Gifts (for the common good) 1 Corinthians 12:4-11
12	All Gifts Are Needed (all hands on deck) 1 Corinthians 12:12-27 Communal/Shared Gifts like the building
19 Dedication Sunday	Gifts Work Together for the Common Good 1 Corinthians 12 (highlighted verses)
26	The Greatest Gift— Love Makes the World Go Round 1 Corinthians 13

Stewardship Dedication Sunday

Please remember to bring your pledge cards
with you on **Sunday, November 19**
so we may dedicate them.

	Reconnecting With Our Gifts
	<i>Each of you must give as you have decided, not reluctantly nor under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.</i> <i>And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.</i> - 2 Corinthians 9:8
	In addition to gifts of time & talent, I/we will support the 2024 operational budget by giving: \$ _____ per week _____ per month _____ per year Name(s): _____

Stewardship 2024

☐ I would like information about other ways I can give financially to the church.

Upcoming Events



November 12:

The Celebrating Our Gifts

Imperfectly Perfect Potluck

Come to a true potluck following Worship!

A true potluck is one where everyone brings a dish to share and we eat what's there and don't worry about what's not. There are no sign-ups or designated people to prepare food for us. Food can be hot, cold, or room temperature. And it doesn't have to be homemade. You can make something or pick it up from the store or bring something you already have available at home. We haven't done this before and we hope we can all share during our Imperfectly Perfect Potluck. Our gathering together is what matters...and the food is a big bonus!

Here's what to bring:

1. **Bring a food dish to share** (hot, cold, or room temperature). There will be a person in the basement Fellowship Hall kitchen to help you store your food if you bring it in before the worship service. Please bring any hot or cold food to the kitchen as soon as you arrive for safe food practices so we can store it appropriately.
2. **Bring your own table service:** plates, cups, forks, spoons, knives, etc.
3. **Bring an extra setting** of plate, cup, flatware for visitors or those who didn't get the memo.
4. **You can place your plates, cups, etc. on a table** when you bring your food down or you can wait until after worship to place your dinnerware.

This Imperfectly Perfect Potluck was planned and organized by the Stewardship and Worship Planning Teams in recognition of "Celebrating Our Gifts" month.

Hanging of the Greens Party!

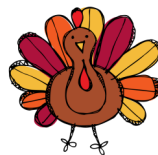


**Sunday, November 26,
3:00-5:00 PM
in the Coffee House**

Come join the FUN as together we
(adults as well as children) prepare the church
and ourselves for Advent!

36th Annual Community Wide Free Thanksgiving Dinner

Thursday, November 23



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

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



The Thanksgiving Offering Received on Sundays, November 12 & 19

The Thanksgiving Offering benefits the Colleges, Universities, Seminaries, and Divinity Houses affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Higher education has been an important focus for Disciples since the very beginning of the movement. Throughout our history, Disciples have founded institutions of higher learning to educate students and form leaders to make a difference in the world. The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is still committed to higher education. Your gift to the Thanksgiving Offering helps support the education of thousands of students at our fifteen colleges and universities as well as our seven seminaries and divinity houses.

To learn more and to give generously to this offering, please visit:

disciplesmissionfund.org/special-offerings/thanksgiving/

You gift makes a difference in the lives of our students and it makes a difference in the world.

November Calendar

Liz Collazo will be on vacation November 6-13.

- ♦ **Elder's Circle**
1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month, at 2:30 pm
- ♦ **FCC Makes Lunch for Food at First**
Saturday, November 4, 9:30 am—1pm
- ♦ **Faith Formation Team Meeting**
Tuesday, November 7, 6 pm, via Zoom
- ♦ **Property Team Meeting**
Tuesday, November 14, 7:15 pm
- ♦ **Trustees Meeting**
Monday, November 20, 7 pm
- ♦ **Newsletter Deadline**
Monday, November 20, NOON

Scheduled Events:

- ⇒ **Fall Clean-Up Day at FCC**
Saturday, November 4th at 1:30 PM. Meet outside the west entrance. Bring rakes, trimmers, blowers, etc. **WE NEED YOU!!!**
- ⇒ **DAYLIGHT SAVING ENDS!**
Sunday, November 5. Turn your clocks back one hour before you go to bed on Saturday night, November 4
- ⇒ **Celebrating Our Gifts Imperfectly Perfect Potluck**
Sunday, November 12 after worship (see page 3)
- ⇒ **Thanksgiving Offering Received on Sundays, November 12 and 19**
- ⇒ **2023 Fall Choral Concert In Benefit of Good Neighbor**
Sunday, November 12 at 2:00 PM 2023 at Bethesda Lutheran Church, 1517 Northwestern Avenue. There will be a reception to follow.
- ⇒ **AMOS Variety Show Fundraiser**
Sunday, November 12 from 3—6 PM at First Unitarian of Des Moines, 1800 Bell Avenue
- ⇒ **Stewardship Dedication Sunday**
Sunday, November 19, during worship
- ⇒ **Pronouns & Faith Communities**
An AR/PR educational opportunity via Zoom
Sunday, November 19, 7 PM, via Zoom (see page 11)
- ⇒ **Thanksgiving Day — Office Closed**
Thursday, November 23rd
11:30 – 1 PM 36th FCC & Food at First Annual Community Wide Thanksgiving Meal, Fellowship Hall
- ⇒ **Hanging of the Greens Party!**
Sunday, November 26, from 3-5 PM, Coffee House

An Update from the Trustees

Monitoring the 2023 budget and implementing safeguards: In September, we experienced another month of deficit spending, with expenditures exceeding income by \$11,651. Unfortunately, this has reduced our year-to-date (YTD) net income to \$212. In practical terms, this means that the unexpected gift of \$40,007 we received in April to replenish the General Fund has been spent. This is sobering news, but we continue to hope and pray that generous giving in the final quarter of the year will improve our financial outlook.

We should reiterate here that the General Fund is essentially the church's checking account—separate and distinct from our savings account and investments. Like the personal checking accounts many of us maintain, this account supports our operating budget. Most of our income is deposited in this account (unless it is designated for purposes other than the budget), and monthly bills are paid from this account. And just as we try to keep a minimum balance in our personal checking accounts, to ensure that even unexpected bills can be paid without exceeding available funds, we try to maintain a balance of “reserve” funds in the FCC checking account for the same reason. Over the past few years, as we've weathered fluctuations in income and expenses, the balance in our checking account has fluctuated widely, but with a persistent downward trend. In 2021, the January “reserve” balance of \$83,000 had dropped to \$71,000 by December. In 2022, these figures were \$65,000 and \$37,000 respectively (the result of two years of deficit spending). This year, the reserve balance has been as low as \$13,000 but by the end of September was \$47,000.

The church's financial team (Trustees, Treasurer, and Financial Secretary) have discussed this trend and determined that a minimal acceptable reserve in our checking account should be \$40,000—a figure approximately twice the amount of the church's average monthly expenses.

Given the likelihood that we will have to further supplement the General Fund checking account with monies from our savings and/or investments, the Trustees have implemented the following contingency plan:

If the balance in FCC's checking account falls below \$40,000 and remains there for 2-3 weeks, we will transfer undesignated monies from our savings account in \$10,000 increments as needed, beginning with the bequests of Don and Pat Gustofsen, Thelma Miller, Olene Dowell, and Bob and Mary Fitz (in this order).

We will report further on this plan, and its impacts, in the November issue of The Call.

Preparing the 2024 Budget: The trustees faced considerable challenges in developing a 2024 budget. The cost of property and liability insurance increased some \$5,000 (per year) during our last policy renewal (in April 2023). The cost of gas and electricity also continues to rise steadily. Despite these unavoidable cost increases, we have proposed and the General Board approved a budget that is 1% lower than the current year's budget. We appreciate the ongoing cooperation of staff and committee chairs who helped us to identify ways to contain costs. The 2024 budget will be shared in the annual mailing from the Stewardship Committee, as well as in the November issue of The Call, prior to the Annual Congregational meeting in December.

Annual update letter to our donors: By now, you should have received the letter that is mailed from the church office to all those who have made financial gifts to the church during the current year, providing donors with a record of what they have given (through August 30). If you haven't received your letter, please contact the church office and we

(Continued from page 5)

will follow up. Also, please consider prayerfully how you can best continue to support FCC's mission and ministries in the remaining months of 2023.

As always, if you have questions, suggestions, or concerns about the church's financial health and well-being, please reach out to any of your current trustees. Our contact information appears below.

Thank you and best wishes,

David Gregory (Chair; 515-708-9004;
dgregory@iastate.edu)

Anjeanette Perkins (515-520-2625;
theRevAnj@gmail.com)

Derek Krebs (515-450-1987;
kreedix@mchsi.com)



FCC Library Hours: Sunday Mornings and as Requested

So, what's going on with the FCC Library since our beloved Librarian, David Gregory, moved to California, you might ask? Well, I have taken over the duties as the FCC Librarian. Please be patient as I continue to learn the ropes. Several people continue to check out books from the mobile library in the Narthex, which I need to update. I open the main Library every Sunday morning during Learning Time and Worship. Please feel free to go in and browse our collection there. Also, please feel free to contact me if you wish to use the library at a different time and we will schedule a time for me to open the library door for you. I'll begin to write book reviews in the future.

Darla Ewalt
FCC Librarian-in-Training



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: Marv Prins," the envelope will be delivered directly to our Financial Secretary.
- 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 Secretary, Marv Prins (515-817-3694), 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.

Green Team Report



Church members are bringing in their unused greeting cards and 2024 calendars. Thanks for recycling these items. Also, we will recycle used crayons. Talking about recycling, what do you do with your food scraps? Remember the City of Ames has a compost program called the Food Waste Diversion (FWD) program. *"Reducing the amount of organics we throw away is important. A tremendous amount of natural resources and energy are used to grow, process, package, and transport food,"* explains Bill Schmitt, Resource Recovery Plant Superintendent. *"Food waste that goes to landfills generates methane, a harmful greenhouse gas."* The FWD disposal site is located at the Resource Recovery Plant, 420 E 2nd Street, (on the northeast corner of the building). The Green Team has a FWD 4-gallon bucket with lid for anyone who like to have one. Please contact Darla Ewalt.

Climate Change Corner

Solar Energy Technologies Office

(<https://www.energy.gov/eere/solar/how-does-solar-work>)

The amount of sunlight that strikes the earth's surface in an hour and a half is enough to handle the entire world's energy consumption for a full year. Solar technologies convert sunlight into electrical energy either through photovoltaic (PV) panels or through mirrors that concentrate solar radiation. This energy can be used to generate electricity or be stored in batteries or thermal storage.

Solar energy can help to reduce the cost of electricity, contribute to a resilient electrical grid, create jobs and spur economic growth, generate back-up power for nighttime and outages when paired with storage, and operate at similar efficiency on both small and large scales.

U.S. Energy Information Administration (<https://www.eia.gov/energyexplained/solar/>)

- 🏆 Benefits and limitations of solar energy:
- 🏆 Using solar energy has two main benefits:
- 🏆 Solar energy systems do not produce air pollutants or carbon dioxide.
- 🏆 Solar energy systems on buildings have minimal effects on the environment.
- 🏆 Solar energy also has some limitations:
- 🏆 The availability and amount of sunlight that arrives at the earth's surface varies depending on time of day, location, season of the year, and weather conditions.
- 🏆 The amount of sunlight reaching a square foot of the earth's surface is relatively small, so a large surface area is necessary to absorb or collect enough energy to be useful.

SunSmart: Ames' First Community Solar Farm (<https://www.cityofames.org/government/departments-divisions-a-h/electric/smart-energy/solar-energy/sunsmart-ames-first-community-solar-farm>)

SunSmart is a 2MW community solar farm between Airport Road and Highway 30. The project makes clean solar energy more accessible to customers with shaded roofs, those who live in apartments, rent their homes, or for any other reason cannot install solar panels on their own property.



Thank you, CROP Walk Donors & Participants!

On Sunday, October 8, the annual CROP Walk was celebrated once again in the greater Ames area. Sponsored by Church World Service, a cooperative ministry of 37 Christian denominations and communions, this major fund-raising event supports food security, sustainable self-help, development, and emergency relief around the world.

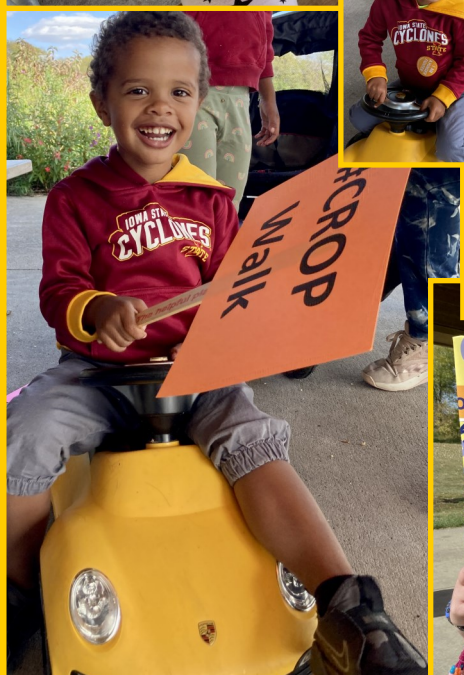
This year, 8 members and friends of First Christian Church joined in the community walk at Ada Hayden Park, which is ultimately a symbolic gesture, honoring people worldwide who *must* walk—every day, and for great distances—to find water and food. In addition to walking, team members worked to raise money through sponsorships—encouraging family and friends to open their hearts and dig deep into their pockets. Our team goal this year had been to raise \$2,000, and on the morning of the walk, FCC was very close to reaching our goal. Thanks to an outpouring of amazing generosity from our First Christian Church congregation during worship that morning, the FCC Team did meet *and* surpass our goal. Together, we raised \$2,365. What a wonderful total to celebrate!

As in years past, 25% of the funds raised in the Ames-area CROP Walk will be distributed to local agencies involved in food security and hunger relief, including our own ministry partner, Food at First. The remaining funds are used by Church World Service in a variety of relief and development programs across the globe.

A big round of thanks to the following people, who participated in the annual CROP Walk by walking and/or fund-raising: Pastor Mary Jane Button-Harrison; Tim Button-Harrison; David Digby; Cynthia Gaunt; Stacey Maifeld; Amanda, Angela, James and Natalia Mokaya; and Eileen Sambos.

And of course, we extend our heartfelt thanks to the many people who supported this very worthy cause through donations, prayers, and words of encouragement! Thank you all for working with us to advance the CROP Walk goal: ***Ending Hunger, One Step at a Time.***

— Cynthia Gaunt, Stacey Maifeld, and Eileen Sambos (Co-Captains, 2023 FCC CROP Walk Team)





The Christian Church in the
Upper Midwest

Around the Region — Things We Do Together

For more info or to register for
events:

www.uppermidwestccc.org

Below, @CCC =
held at the Christian
Conference Center

Oct. 25 Clergy Chat with
Josh, 1 pm

Oct. 26 Clergy Book
Study, 2 pm

Nov. 3-4 Committee on
Ministry

Nov. 4 CCC Winterization
Work Day

Nov. 12 Thanksgiving
Special Offering

Nov. 19 Thanksgiving
Special Offering

Nov. 19 Online
conversation with Emily
Ewing, "Pronouns and
Faith Communities," 7 pm

Nov. 23-24 Regional
Holiday/Office & CCC
Closed

Save the Date!
Jan 29-31, 2024
Ministers Institute

[Regional Prayer Calendar](#)

[Disciples videos](#)

Saturday NOV. 4 Christian Conference Center Winterization Work Day

Work starts at 9AM
Lunch Provided
Indoor & Outdoor Tasks
Please RSVP

And for additional information
Contact

Jerry & Linda Wolf
Interimdirector@newtonccc.org



PRONOUNS & FAITH COMMUNITIES **Sunday, November 19, 2023** **7:00pm (CST) - Zoom**



Join the Upper Midwest AR/PR Team for a time to learn about pronouns and why they matter in faith communities. Rev. Emily Ewing will be leading us.

[Register here.](#)



Jerry & Linda Wolf New Interim Co- Directors of CCC

We are pleased to announced that Jerry and Linda Wolf have been named Interim Co-Directors of the

Christian Conference Center, beginning October 1. They bring a wealth of experiences to help guide the CCC during this transitional season, including serving in key roles during Our Path Together and years of active volunteering at the CCC.

Please join us at the All Congregational Gathering on Saturday, October 21 to celebrate Linda and Jerry in their new roles. [You can also contact them by email.](#)



WOODLAWN CHRISTIAN CHURCH LAKE CITY, IA 51449

SATURDAY

**12.2.23
@ 7 P.M.**

ADMISSION

ADULTS \$15

KIDS 12 & UNDER \$10

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT CHURCH OFFICE 712-464-3290

OR AT EVENTBRITE.COM SEARCH

"CHRISTMAS CONCERT WITH THE HARP TWINS"

Hey clergy.

MARK YOUR
CALENDAR

2024 MINISTER'S
INSTITUTE: ►►►
JANUARY 29-30

AR/PR TRAINING:
JAN. 31
◄◄◄◄◄◄◄◄◄◄

The Church Narrative Project is a two-day experience - an evening with StoryHour, and a day of engagement facilitated by Rev. Dr. David Anderson Hooker. Plus, worship and time to connect with colleagues.

more info to come...

THE CHURCH NARRATIVE PROJECT

Eureka!

STORIES OF SEEING
THE LIGHT



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH - 3PM-6PM



AMOS VARIETY SHOW FUNDRAISER

JOIN US FOR...

**A LINEUP OF TALENTED ACTS,
A SILENT AUCTION,
HORS D'OEUVRES, AND BEVERAGES!**


HOW TO ATTEND?


\$25 PER TICKET


Scan the QR code or go to
www.amosiowa.org/tickets
to buy yours today!



**HELD AT FIRST UNITARIAN OF DES MOINES
1800 BELL AVE, DES MOINES**

 www.amosiowa.org

 **AMOS IOWA**



NEWS FROM THE PEWS

Church office hours are
9 am—2 pm , Monday-Thursday
515-232-5766 or Email Liz Collazo at:
fccames@fccames.org

Stewardship Report

Sep. 2023 YTD			
Income		\$9,478	\$187,671
Expenses:		\$21,129	\$187,458
Difference:		\$(11,651)	\$213

Our deepest condolences

go out to the family of FCC member Martha Johns. Martha died peacefully, on Saturday, October 14, surrounded by her mother, Annie Pinta, and Derk Goddard. May the love and comfort of Jesus Christ surround Annie and Derk as they mourn.

In and out of the Hospital

Dave Fitz, Bob Logston, Doug Clark, Meg Knol-Digby, Derek Krebs

Congratulations

to Will Brown and Kayla Hammel who were married on Friday, October 13.

November Birthdays

- 02 Amanda Mokaya
- 05 Tim Button-Harrison
- 09 Olivia Pendry
- 11 Liz Collazo
- 15 Aubrey Ewalt
- 16 Dave Fitz
- 17 Hope Pogwizd
- 17 James Mokaya
- 17 John Pendry
- 19 Scott Walker
- 25 Dale Woodward
- 26 Doug Clark
- 28 Max McElwain
- 29 David Gregory
- 29 Anleah Walker



**DAYLIGHT
SAVING TIME ENDS
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5!**

**Don't forget to turn back your clocks one hour
before you go to bed on Saturday, November 4.**



Upper Midwest All-Congregational Gathering, October 21, 2023

From left to right: Angela Mokaya, Pastor Mary Jane Button-Harrison, James Mokaya, Sue Prins, Traverce Harrison, Eileen Sambos, and Amanda Mokaya, attended the All Congregational Gathering of the Upper Midwest on Saturday, October 21, 2023.

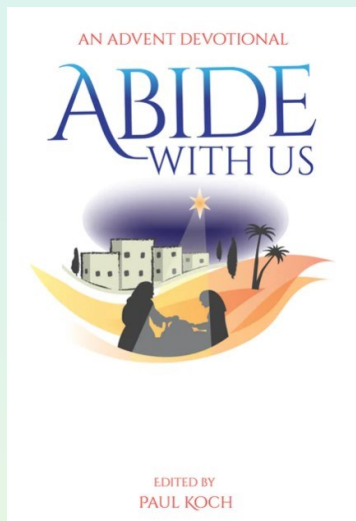


Presentation of Bibles

On Sunday, September 24th, Bibles were presented to Everett and Shane Wierson during worship.



Advent Devotional



Abide With Us is a daily devotional spanning the four weeks of Advent that helps us remember that our God is always with us every time, even in the most unlikely of places.

Abide With Us is written by the regional ministers of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), including our own, Rev. Josh Patty.

Please let the Church Office know if you are interested in pre-ordering this devotional. 515-232-5766 or fccames@fccames.org.



Will Brown and Kayla Hammel

You are warmly invited to our wedding reception!

Wednesday Nov 15th, 4-7 PM

Zearing Community Center

105 E Main St, Zearing IA 50278

We're Married!



**2023 Fall Choral Concert
In Benefit of Good
Neighbor**

**Sunday, November 12
at 2:00 PM 2023 at
Bethesda Lutheran
Church, 1517
Northwestern Avenue.**

**There will be a reception
to follow.**



THANK YOU!!

An Update from the Krebs:

"We so feel the love of our church family with many messages, cards, thoughts, hugs, and prayers. The Lord is good!" — Cathy Krebs

On October 13, 2023, Derek Krebs had to undergo surgery for a brain tumor that was behind his eye. At the time, it was expected the tumor to most likely be benign but it was still unknown. The surgery took many hours, and thankfully it went well.

While in recovery and awaiting pathology and MRI results, Derek's visits were restricted due to COVID guidelines. He had a painful first night, but was soon back to eating and walking short distances with assistance.

After this long ordeal, both MRI and pathology reports have shown Derek's tumor to be fully removed, with no remainder cells. Derek received a message from his doctor saying that the pathology report on his tumor came back. The tumor is good, "it's the most benign kind of meningioma, grade I. Nothing else needs to be done to treat this."

Stitches from brain surgery were removed yesterday (October 23rd). The pathology report was received from his Iowa City neurosurgeon. The tumor was benign!! All of your prayers and positive vibes are so greatly appreciated. Derek experiences mild headaches which was anticipated due to the surgical procedures; however, they are now managed with non-prescription pain meds. At this time, no further treatment is required related to the removal of the meningioma brain tumor. He still has extreme fatigue which will take 6 to 8 weeks to subside. We will be heading back to the University of Iowa hospital next week to repeat an MRI and consult with an ENT surgeon to further evaluate the fluid that remained in his left ear.

Thank you all for the support through prayers, thoughts, love, cards, calls, meals, and goodies given to Derek and to our family as we journeyed together during his recent health challenge.

We continue to hold Derek and his family in our prayers, and wish him a speedy recovery.



From Roger Bertelsen's Family:

The family of Roger Bertelsen would like to thank the members of First Christian Church for all the love and support shown to Roger during his illness and to his family following his death. There were so many people who did helpful

things, such as Mary Jane working tirelessly for 5 days to get everything ready for the funeral, Liz making the bulletin, Jake working on the sound system, friends serving as ushers and greeters and pallbearers, Stacey being the Zoom masters, Marv running the camera, Dawn and Denny steam cleaning the conference chairs in the Fellowship Hall, Vern preparing the sanctuary, Dawn and Marge purchasing the groceries, and eleven church members working in the kitchen to prepare and serve the luncheon. The result was certainly an honor to Roger and all of his family.

We also want to thank Patty and several of her volunteers who helped with cleaning before and after the luncheon, supplying food when it ran out, and doing everything they could to help the luncheon be a success.

Corry, Nick, Amanda, Dennis, and Kristi

Zoom Weekly Activity Schedule

Sunday

9:30 AM	Learning time for all ages.	Zoom Online Link: www.fccames.org/SundayWorship
10:00 AM	Clark Avenue and Ramp Doors Open for In-Person Worship	Phone Connection: (312) 626-6799
10:30 AM	Worship (through Zoom or In-Person)	ID: 83549778613#

Wednesday

12:15 PM	Midweek Intercessory Prayers Online Link: fccames.org/WednesdayPrayers Meeting ID: 826 9816 5415 Passcode: 645905 Phone Connection: (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

Regular Sunday worship hours.
Summer worship hours and locations will vary.

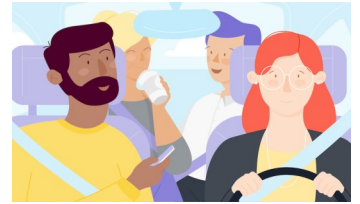
Stay Connected with FCC!

- [The Call Newsletter](#) – Dive deeper into FCC happenings! Published and emailed every 3rd week of the month. Want it mailed? Call the Church Office at 232-5766.
- [Weekly News Update](#) – The latest Church News, sent out every week on Thursdays.
- [Prayers of the People](#) – Intercessory prayer requests sent out as needed. [Request prayers.](#)
- [Follow us on Facebook – First Christian Church \(Disciples\) Ames](#)
- **Missed worship on Sunday?**
See Weekly News Updates for updated links.

Opportunities to Serve

Rides to Church on Sunday Morning!

We are looking for people who would be willing to volunteer to pick folks up and drive them to church on Sunday mornings. If that's you, give Sue Prins a call at 515-460-2628, sueprins@isunet.net.



"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** generously to the mission and vision of the Church.
- **HELP** keep our building and grounds looking great by lending a hand when needed. See Jim Lester (515-203-5097) for more information.
- **SHARE** your talents in worship by singing, reading, helping with audio/visuals, etc. Contact Janet Lott at jalott@isunet.net for more information.
- **BEAUTIFY** the Sanctuary during special events or worship themes. Contact Sue Prins at 515-460-2628 for more information.
- **WELCOME** and assist others on Sunday mornings as a Worship Assistant. Contact Vern Hawkins at 515-291-0447 for more information.
- **FIGHT** hunger by joining FCC's core team of Food at First Volunteers. For more information, you may contact Cynthia Gaunt at 515-450-3757 or at cygaunt@gmail.com.
- **VOLUNTEER** as a member of the Hospitality Team — contact Dawn Heaberlin at 515-451-9618 for more information.

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.

Our Partners in Ministry



Good Neighbor Emergency Assistance, Inc. provides Story County households with Emergency Food Vouchers that allow for the purchase of food in local grocery stores.

What You Need to Apply:

1. A photo ID
2. Income information/verification for the entire household for the past 30 days
3. Listing of household expenses
4. Proof of Story County residency

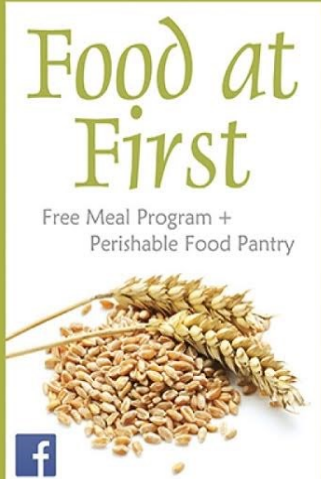
Contact assistance@gnea.org or call **515-296-1449** for more information.

THE BRIDGE HOME

*Helping you navigate
through life's hardships.*

The Bridge Home is devoted to bridging the gap between homelessness and housing by providing shelter, support, and inspiring a pathway forward to individuals and families experiencing or on the verge of homelessness. At The Bridge Home, we are not just dedicated to providing immediate relief. We provide a [continuum of care](#) from preventative services to housing programs. We offer the tools, resources, and education to empower and guide individuals and families facing the challenges of homelessness towards long-term solutions — free from judgment.

If you need assistance, please call us at [515.232.8075](tel:515.232.8075) or visit www.thebridgehome.org/client-resources/.



[NEWS](#)

FOOD AT FIRST FREE MEAL AND MARKET PROGRAM

Free Meal Times

Sunday through Friday

5:45 pm – 6:15 pm

Saturday

11:30 am – 12:15 am

Free Market Times

Monday

4:30 pm – 5:30 pm

Thursday

4:30 pm – 5:30 pm

Saturday

10:00 am – 11:00 am

Donation Drop-Off

Donations can be dropped off at other times when arranged. Thank you for your support!

Monday through Friday

9:00 am – 6:00 pm

Saturday

8:00 am – 10:00 am

Sunday

3:00 pm – 6:00 pm

PATTY YODER,

DIRECTOR, 515-344-4357,

PATTY.FOODATFIRST@GMAIL.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:	Jenna Schwartz
Building Custodian:	Sherri Khan
Nursery Attendants:	Karen LeCount
	Lauren Byers

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