FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
FORT MADISON, IOWA

Wednesday
October 21, 2026

the church mouse





Sunday Morning

Adult Education begins at 9 a.m.
Fellowship begins at 9:30 a.m.
In-person worship begins at 10 a.m.
Online worship begins at 10:15 on our FB page.
Youth Education begins at 10:20 a.m.

Minister

Rev. Leslie Dalstra
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fccfmpastor@gmail.com

Office Administrator

Shawn Nelligan

Address

608 10th Street

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Deadline for submission for the next newsletter is 11.16.26

(319) 372-4193 fccfm@yahoo.com www.fccfmdisciples.org

ABUNDANT life
by Pastor Leslie

We have completed our annual giving campaign. I encourage you to faithfully consider how your investment in our shared ministry offers a safe space for people to find compassionate community focused on God's unconditional love and justice. **Because the world needs more community, more compassion, more justice and love – and that's exactly what First Christian Church sets out to provide each and everyday.**

We are a community on a mission! Following Jesus, we're called to thrive and to help our neighbors thrive, creating a beautiful, delightful, abundant life for all. Over the past 3 weeks, we explored what this "abundant life" looks like as we have celebrated some of the ways First Christian Church participates in God's graceful love for the world.

The world needs more community!

For over a century First Christian Church has been a beacon of community in Fort Madison, Iowa, a gathering place, a refuge, a house of joy and welcome, and a wellspring of service for neighbors down the street and around the world.

The world needs more compassion!

That's part of what God's "abundant life" looks like – not hostility, indifference, or patronizing pity, but genuine compassion, the kind of mutual care evoked by Jesus' call to "Love your neighbor as yourself." Compassion means seeing things from someone else's point of view, experiencing their struggles. The word's roots literally mean "suffering with" (com, "with," and passio, "suffering") – and then taking actions that benefit each other and the community as a whole.

The world needs more justice and love!

Justice means fairness and equity. It means sharing the gifts of the community with the community as a whole – and accordingly, it means speaking up for those who are left out or left behind. As the philosopher and theologian Cornel West has put it, "Justice is what love looks like in public."

Consider if you are able to increase your giving in 2027. $1, $5, or $20 increase weekly adds up and is greatly appreciated!

Resource used; Salt Project Abundant Life

I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.
+ John 10:10



11-10 Joe Bowen
11-18 Dan Darley
11-24 Mason Pohlpeter



11-11 Gary & Deb Kramer

September 2026 Budget

$3,345.30 Offerings received from September
$100.00 Rent
$257.81 Other Income
$20,179.39 Expenses
-$16,476.28 deficit for the month

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCT 21 — Wednesday
Breakfast Fellowship at Carlito's @ 8:30 am

OCT 24 — Wednesday
Ronald McDonald House Dinner, leaving @ 12:00 pm

OCT 25 — Sunday
Adult Ed @ 9:00 am
Worship @ 10:00 a.m.
Youth Education @ 10:20 a.m.
Deliver First Responders' Baskets

OCT 28 — Wednesday
Breakfast Fellowship at the Cottage Cafe @ 8:30 am

OCT 31 — Saturday
Give out candy for trick or treaters 5-7 pm



NOV 1 — Sunday
Day Light Saving Time Ends
Worship @ 10:00 a.m.
Youth Education @ 10:20 a.m.
Leadership Team meeting @ 1:00 pm



UPCOMING EVENTS

NOV 4 — Wednesday

Breakfast Fellowship at 8:30 a.m. @ Fort Colony

NOV 8 — Sunday

Worship @ 10:00 a.m.
Youth Education @ 10:20 a.m.

NOV 11 — Wednesday

Breakfast Fellowship at 8:30 a.m. @ Carlito's

NOV 15 — Sunday

Worship @ 10:00 a.m.
Youth Education @ 10:20 a.m.
Ministry Fair @ 11:15 am



Sunday Scriptures

Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost - October 25

Deuteronomy 34:1-12
Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17
Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18
Psalm 1
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
Matthew 22:34-36
Liturgist-Ken Steeples
Elder-Ken Steeples
Deacon-
Organist-Bonnie Neyens
Greeter -

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost- November 1

Joshua 3:7-17
Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37
Micah 3:5-12
Psalm 43
1 Thesalonians 2:9-13
Matthew 23:1-12
Liturgist-
Elder-Sue Bowman
Deacon-Amy Hayes
Organist-Virginia Watson
Greeter -Mike Hayes

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost- November 8

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25
Psalm 78:1-7
Amos 5:18-24; Psalm 70
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Matthew 25:1-13
Liturgist-Jana Hubbs
Elder-Jana Hubbs
Deacon-
Organist-Bonnie Neyens
Greeter -Deb Kramer

Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost - November 15

Judges 4:1-7, Psalm 123
Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18
Psalm 90:1-12
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Matthew 25:14-30
Liturgist-Vicki Lair
Elder-Vicki Lair
Deacon-Mike Hayes
Organist-Virginia Watson
Greeter -



Prayer Concerns

Current Concerns

F & F of Bill Allen
Steve Bishop
Joe & Alice Bowen
Sherri Enke
Tina Elschlager
Susan Galey
Kay Gasperi
F & F of Judy Holden
F & F of Brian Kratzer
Gerry Pohlpeter
Jessi Pohlpeter
F & F of Cheryl Prange
Nick Rahode
Pam Reuther
Darrell Richers
Horacio Rodriguez
Tasha Rossiter
F & F of Garry St. Claire

Long Term Concerns

Juanita Anderson
Jan Bindewald
Mark Bowman
Tracy Chamness
Aleen & Marie Egbert
Beverly Oge
Earnest Rouse
Sharon Strunk

Members of the Military
Those facing food insecurity

Names in Current Concerns will be removed after a month and **names in Long Term Concerns will be removed after a year** unless the office is notified and asked to keep the individual on for a longer period of time.

NURTURING · GROWING · SERVING
First Christian Church