



First Christian Church (DOC)  
 1224 Lucinda Street  
 Perry, Iowa 50220



**Clothes Closet Volunteers Needed!**

We need volunteers like you to help make the Clothes Closet run smoothly!

The Clothes Closet is open on Saturdays from 8am-Noon

Contact the church office if you have questions or would like to let us know when/how you can help!

**Help outside of Saturday morning is always welcome!**



**SPECIAL OFFERING 2023  
 FEBRUARY 19-26**

As the relief, refugee, and development mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Week of Compassion works with partners to alleviate suffering throughout the world, with a vision of a world where God's people transform suffering into hope.



**Minister**

Rev. Andrea Brownlee  
 abrownlaj@gmail.com  
 515-259-1982

**Minister's Office Hours**

Mon-Thurs 10am- 1pm Or By Appointment  
 Day off- Friday



**Office Manager**

Betty Thomas  
 1stchristianperry@live.com  
 515-465-2215

**Business Office Hours**

Monday- Thursday 1-3:30pm  
 Office Closed on Friday

# The Chimes

NEWSLETTER OF EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES FOR  
 FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH, PERRY, IOWA

Happy New Year friends in Christ!

The beginning of a new year is usually a time spent thinking about all we have done in the last year and setting goals and sharing dreams for what we will do with the new year before us! It's a time to set a new routine or settle back into your normal rhythm after a hurried or busy holiday season. A new year, a fresh start, a million possibilities! This year is no different as we "get back to normal" here at First Christian Church we will also have to develop some new routines and rhythms just as we have throughout our history as a congregation. As we begin another new year, I hope you will be faithful in your prayers about how you might be part of the life and ministry here "this season"

*Pastor Andrea*

This Season,  
 Mend a quarrel. Seek out a forgotten friend.  
 Dismiss suspicion, and replace it with trust.  
 Write a love letter. Share some treasure.  
 Give a soft answer. Encourage youth.  
 Manifest your loyalty in word and deed.  
 Keep a promise. Find the time. Forgo a grudge.  
 Forgive an enemy. Listen.  
 Apologize if you were wrong.  
 Try to understand. Flout envy.  
 Examine your demands on others.  
 Think first of someone else. Appreciate.  
 Be kind. Be gentle. Laugh a little.  
 Laugh a little more.  
 Deserve confidence. Take up arms against malice.  
 Decry complacency. Express your gratitude.  
 Say a prayer. Welcome a stranger.  
 Gladden the heart of a child.  
 Take pleasure in the beauty and wonder of the Earth.  
 Speak your love.  
 Speak it again. Speak it still once again.

-Anonymous

## January and February Worship Opportunitites

### **New Year's Services**

**January 1, 2023**

“Tracing God’s Footsteps”

A New Year’s Service

Psalms 105:1-7; Joshua 4:1-9



**January 8, 2023**

Epiphany

The Wise Men Finally Arrive!

Matthew 2:1-12

### **A Series of Jesus' Parables**

Join us as we hear the familiar stories Jesus in a 21st century way!

**January 15**

Why Parables?... Matthew 13:3-17

*Parable of the Soils*

**January 22**

The Kingdom of Heaven is like... Matthew 13:24-32, 36-43

*Parable of the Weeds and the Mustard Seed*

**January 29**

The Kingdom of Heaven is like... Matthew 13:33,44-52

*Parables of the Yeast, the Treasure, the Merchant, and the Net*

**February 5**

The Kingdom of Heaven is like... Matthew 18:21-35

*Parables of the Unforgiving Servant*

**February 12**

The Kingdom of Heaven is like... Matthew 20:1-16

*Parables of the Workers in the Vineyard*

**February 19**

The Kingdom of Heaven is like... Matthew 25:1-13

*Parables of the Bridesmaids*

### **Lent 2023**

“A Table in the Wilderness”

Our Lenten journey will begin on **February 22nd at 7pm with an Ash Wednesday service.**

Our theme and focus this Lenten season will be on God's care and provision for us. We will spend time looking at the times and ways God has spread a table for us in the midst of our own wilderness times and we will also meet a new biblical character each week learning how God spread a table for them in their wilderness.

**The first Sunday of Lent is February 26th.**



Check out the Regional Newsletter on the bulletin board in the Narthex for more details and Regional events!

# January and February Meetings, Gatherings and Reminders

## Elders Meetings

following Trustees  
January 8th  
February 12th  
March 12th



## Trustees Meetings

January 8th  
February 12th  
March 12th

## Council Meetings

January 15th  
February 19th  
March 19th



**SATURDAY SMALL GROUP**  
Coffee and Conversation

**Meets at 9am**  
**at Perry Perk**  
January 14th  
February 11th  
March 11th

# 2nd

# THURSDAY

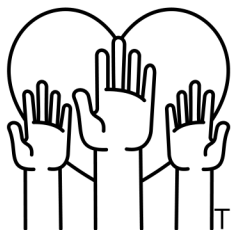
**Meets at 6pm at La Poste**

January 12th  
February 9th  
March 9th

Mark  
YOUR  
Calendar

Sunday communion prep and clean up help needed. Contact office to sign up.

## Volunteers Needed



### Worship Leaders & Children's Prayer Time

Sign up to help lead worship!  
There are dates available for reading scripture and/or sharing a short prayer with the children during worship. The sign up sheet is in the Narthex!

**MITTEN TREE**  
We will continue to collect winter items (hats, gloves, scarves, socks and underwear through the month of January!