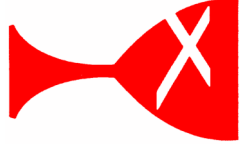




**FAITH NEWS
JULY 2026
FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**



**First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
314 E Second St N
Newton IA 50208**

First Christian Church Elders:

Steve Barnett:	641-521-2829
Vicki Gunsaulus:	641-521-5428
Craig Phillips:	641-831-3543
Jay Thomas	641-521-1127
Jim Wobschall:	641-430-5862

2026



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1	2	3	4
5 Worship 10am Coffee Fellowship	6	7	8	9 Members Breakfast 9am at Red Pride Cafe	10	11
12 Worship 10am Coffee Fellowship	13	14 Scouts 6-7pm Connect Mtg 6:30pm Board Meeting 7pm	15	16 CWF at 9:30am in Fellowship Hall	17	18
19 Worship 10am Spaghetti Lunch	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 Worship 10am Coffee Fellowship	27	28	29 Full Moon	30	31	





The CWF will meet on Thursday, July 16th at 9:30am in the Fellowship Hall. All women are invited to attend.

Mat Mondays will take a break for the month of July.

Carol, CWF

Landscaping Volunteer Positions have been filled May—August. Thank you to Bonnie for being the June Volunteer. We also want to thank Tom for tending to the flowers and lawn. September is still available. The landscaping crews help keep our grounds looking beautiful. We appreciate all that they do for FCC! The sign up sheet is on the board in the Narthex.

The **Connect Committee** will meet on July 14th at 6:30pm prior to the Board Meeting at 7pm. We will be planning our next event.



Members Breakfast
July 9th at 9:00 am at the Red Pride Café.

Light The Way:
Walking Through Dementia Together Tour

On July 15, we'll be in Des Moines with a free, practical, hope-filled event for families navigating Alzheimer's and dementia; caregivers, spouses, adult children, and anyone worried about someone they love are encouraged to attend. Our goal is simple: help families feel supported and leave with clear next steps, especially around caregiver support and Medicaid complexities.

- Date:** July 15
- Time:** Doors open at 11:45 AM. Presentations run from 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM.
- Location:** Alzheimer's Association 1415 28th St, Unit 430 West Des Moines, 50266
- Cost:** Free (A light meal will be provided — RSVP requested)
- RSVP:** <https://dementiatownhall.com/des-moines>, or they can email me directly.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors Summer Project

Summer 2026 NHN is again focusing on the vulnerable children in our community. We are collecting school supplies to give to the teachers, who find themselves providing those school supplies which many parents cannot afford to purchase. Teachers, and nurses, at all schools were contacted for suggestions of what they need most. We will divide donations among the schools and deliver the week of August 18, before students return.

We can also accept cash donations and will do the shopping for you!

For the teachers *=most needed

pencils*, Kleenex*, poster board, index cards, post-its, expo markers*- black please, thick (not thin) these run out by spring break, the more the better, binders*, glue sticks*, scissors, composition notebooks- these are the ones with the sewn in binding (requested by 6th grade science), mints (for coughs, cough drops cannot be dispensed) ear buds, pencil eraser tops, loose leaf paper, expo erasers, crayons, 2 pocket folders- in solid colors, disinfecting wipes*, Sheet protectors , Highlighters , Binders, Sticky-notes.

For the nurses *=most needed

granola bars*, peppermints, life savers (sore throats), bandages, ace bandages, bandaids- all sizes, kitchen sponges, ziploc bags (these make reusable ice packs), and refillable water bottles.

FCC will have a box in the Narthex to collect the donations. Lists will be available as well.





Welcome to Summer, with all the outdoor activities that can keep us busy from dawn to dusk. Then of course there are all the summertime celebrations that Iowa is famous for, each town (it seems to me) has its own celebration, from Donkey days to Hobo days, Tulip festivals to the biggest lake caught catfish. There is the largest frying pan in Brandon, steam power farm machine shows in several locations, and our state parks are well worth a visit. Then there are the county fairs, state fair, and Independence Day with all the parades and fireworks. Yes, we are blessed to have no shortage of events during the summer, but what about your spiritual life – have you included in your summer schedule some quiet time to thank God for the abundance in your life? Perhaps allow some time to volunteer at a food pantry or soup kitchen; there are many local mission opportunities all you need to do is check with the local churches or Jasper County Resources.

I have noticed we take time to enjoy the seasons and have time to rest the body and mind, may I suggest we also take our Bibles with us on vacation, or as we enjoy the great outdoors that we take some quiet time to pray and be still with God. As we progress on the path that God has for us, let us remember to thank our maker for all the blessings we enjoy each day. So as we progress through our summer I am reminded of 1Cor 10:31 “So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.” As we go through life, in all that we do, let us do to the glory of God.

This summer I pray for all of us to be blessed – and to share that blessing with others.

Pastor Alan

☐ **Summer Safety Checklist**

Stay Hydrated: Drink plenty of water throughout the day, even before you feel thirsty. Dehydration and heat exhaustion are major risks during the summer.

Sun Protection: Protect your skin from harmful UV rays. Apply broad-spectrum sunscreen with an SPF of 30 or higher 20 minutes before heading outdoors, and reapply every two hours. Don't forget hats and sunglasses.

Weather Awareness: Summer storms, extreme heat, and severe weather can pop up quickly. Keep an eye on local forecasts and be prepared to take shelter indoors during severe lightning or Code Yellow weather events.

Bug & Tick Checks: Protect against pesky mosquito bites and ticks. Use an EPA-approved insect repellent and perform a quick check after spending time in wooded areas or tall grass.

Water Safety: Swim in designated areas with lifeguards on duty, and closely supervise all children near pools, lakes, or rivers.

Check on Neighbors: Heatwaves can be especially dangerous for seniors and those with health conditions. Please take a moment to check on vulnerable members of our community to ensure they have air conditioning and water.

