

## First Christian Church

### (Disciples of Christ)

May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Pastor Rev. Jesse Kearns

10 a.m. Sunday Worship • (530) 343-3727 • [chicodisciples@gmail.com](mailto:chicodisciples@gmail.com)

fccchico.com • Wi-Fi Network: FCCDOC • Password: 5303433727

**AGREE TO DIFFER • RESOLVE TO LOVE • UNITE TO SERVE**

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**Welcome Visitors!** We are excited that you have chosen to worship with us today; all are welcome and beloved—all races, gender identities, sexual orientations, socio-economic statuses, *everyone*.

## I. Prelude (Joshua Hegg)

## II. Ringing of the Bell

## III. Welcome and Announcements – (Barbara Poetker)

- Today – Corning Sunday; FCC Corning’s service begins at 11 am—if you would like to attend, find Kevin Zeitler; Fellowship in Koinonia Hall following our worship service; After Fellowship: Blue Clouds Arts Workshop in The Chapel Room. Join us for workshopping for the June 7th Blue Clouds Arts Devotional Zine. Work and collaborate together. Art supplies, paper and writing tools will be provided.
- Tuesday – 10:45 a.m. Music Practice in Room 4; 11:30 a.m. Disciple Women’s Ministry lunch out at the Olive Garden; 7 p.m. Elders’ Hybrid Meeting in Chapel and on Zoom
- Wednesday – 10 a.m. Uplift Boutique, in Room 10; 6:00 p.m. BSA Scouts Troop 2 in Koinonia Hall and Fireside
- Thursday – 8:30 a.m. Worship Team Breakfast at Cozy Diner; 10 a.m. Music Practice in Room 4; 5:30 p.m. BSA Cub Pack 2 in Koinonia Hall and Fireside; 6:30 p.m. Bible Study at Chico First Baptist Church and on their Zoom

- Friday – 1 p.m. Healing Circle meeting in Bethany
- Saturday – 10 a.m. Uplift Boutique, in Room 10
- Next Sunday – We will celebrate Pentecost at Wildwood Park on May 24, at 10:30 a.m. with FCC Paradise and Chico First Baptist Church! Sing-along led by Good Country, worship, and a barbecue potluck. Don't forget to wear red!
- New Church Family Directories are on the tables near the bulletins in the Sanctuary
- Please see the back of your bulletins for the calendar
- Offerings may be put on the offering plate near the bulletins near the sanctuary's entrance

#### IV. Greeting One Another

#### V. Call to Worship – CH #451 “Litany of Ministry” (Barbara Poetker)

O God, who sent Jesus into the world  
 Not to be ministered unto, but to minister,  
 And to give his life to set others free,  
 Shape us for your ministry.

**Claim us, O God, for your service, and direct us  
 toward your will.**

You have graced all members of Christ's body, one by one,  
 With gifts of the Spirit to fulfill their vocation:

To lead lives worthy of your calling,  
 To be workers who have no reason to be  
 ashamed,  
 To shine as lights to your glory.

**You have granted each of us the manifestation of  
 the Spirit for the common good.**

You give grace according to the measure of Christ's  
 gift,  
 And some are called to 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.

**Grant that together we may all come to the unity  
 of faith and of the knowledge of your Son, to  
 the full stature of Christ.**

Through your grace, O God, may we lead a life  
 Worthy of the vocation to which you call us.

**Claim us, O God, for your service, and direct us  
 toward your will.**

#### VI. Opening Hymn – TOG #19 “Let It Shine” (Joshua Hegg)

Let it shine let it shine  
 The light of the world that shows the way  
 Let it shine let it shine  
 And show us peace today

The church bears witness to God's grace  
Its mission crystal clear  
To show the world God's human face  
A world that God holds dear

Let it shine let it shine  
The light of the world that shows the way  
Let it shine let it shine  
And show us peace today

When love replaces human greed  
A lasting peace will come  
As hands reach out to human need  
From hearts no longer numb

Let it shine let it shine  
The light of the world that shows the way  
Let it shine let it shine  
And show us peace today

Now let us give ourselves to God  
Within this war-torn world  
And work till justice walks abroad  
With flags of peace unfurled

Let it shine let it shine  
The light of the world that shows the way  
Let it shine let it shine  
And show us peace today

## **VII. Children in Fourth Grade and Under are Dismissed for Sunday School**

## **VIII. Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35 (Laughing Bird) (Barbara Poetker)**

Up and at it, God;  
scatter your enemies,  
send those who hate you packing.

Blow them away like smoke in the wind;  
melt them like wax under a blowtorch.  
Wipe out all corruption, God.

But for those who do the right thing, God,  
give them every reason to celebrate.  
Set them singing and dancing with joy!

Every mention of your name sets us singing your  
praises, God.  
We lift our song as you ride the clouds.  
We name you as LORD  
and celebrate in your presence.

To the orphans, you are a loving parent;  
to the needy and vulnerable, you are a caring  
protector;  
from your sacred home you provide care to all.

You give a home to those with nowhere to go, God;  
you set the prisoners free and turn everything they  
touch to gold;  
but the good times dry up for those who turn against  
you.

O God, you took the lead and showed the way  
when your people set out across the harsh desert.  
The earth shuddered at your approach;  
one look from you and the clouds let go of their rain.  
You were with us, God of the mountain;  
you were with us, God of Israel.

You showered us with life-giving rain  
restoring fertility to your weary land.  
You settled your people in good pasture, God,  
and provided generously to all in need.

With every nation on earth, we sing to you, God;  
you are our Lord, and we sing your praises.

You have been riding the heavens since ancient  
times,  
and your voice booms out with the sound of thunder.

All power belongs to you, God;  
you reign over your people in splendour,  
and your power is written in the skies.

Stepping into your presence, we are struck with awe.

You are our God;  
our strength and energy are gifts from you.

May you be number one forever, God!

### **IX. Scripture Reading Acts 1:6-14 (NRSVUE) (Barbara Poetker)**

So when they had come together, they asked him,  
“Lord, is this the time when you will restore the  
kingdom to Israel?” He replied, “It is not for you to  
know the times or periods that the Father has set by  
his own authority. But you will receive power when  
the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be  
my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria,  
and to the ends of the earth.” When he had said this,  
as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud  
took him out of their sight. While he was going and  
they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two  
men in white robes stood by them. They said, “Men  
of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward  
heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you  
into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw  
him go into heaven.”

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount  
called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s  
journey away. When they had entered the city, they  
went to the room upstairs where they were staying:

Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

**X. Sermon -- "Bearing Witness" (Rev. Jesse Kearns)**

**XI. Hymn of Reflection – CH #455 "You Have Called Me" (Joshua Hegg)**

You have called me from my hiding place and given me a name;

From this moment on my life can never be the same.  
I have seen the beckoning vision, though I wanted to remain,

Here I am, send me, here I am.

"Who will go into the darkness where my people live in fear?

Who will speak of truth and charity so all of them can hear?

If you go where I am sending you, I always will be near.

Here I am, go for me, here I am."

You have called me from my wilderness and given me a way.

The many paths I've traveled have but brought me to this day.

And the journey that is calling me no longer will delay.

Here I am, send me, here I am.

"Who will go into the darkness where my people live in fear?

Who will speak of truth and charity so all of them can hear?

If you go where I am sending you, I always will be near.

Here I am, go for me, here I am."

You have called me from my silence and have given me a word.

I was dying in my coldness till a fire within me stirred.  
Now I can keep still no longer, I must speak what I have heard.

Here I am, send me, here I am

"Who will go into the darkness where my people live in fear?

Who will speak of truth and charity so all of them can hear?

If you go where I am sending you, I always will be near.

Here I am, go for me, here I am."

**XII. Moments for Mission: Shalom Free Clinic's  
Blue Bags (Nancy Morgans-Ferguson)**

**XIII. Prayers of the People**

**Lord's Prayer**

Our father, who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy name  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done  
On earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread  
And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors  
And lead us not into temptation,  
But deliver us from evil  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and  
The glory forever, Amen.

**XIV. Response CH # 306 "Hear Our Prayer, O  
Lord" (Joshua Hegg)**

Hear our prayer, O Lord,  
Hear our prayer, O Lord,  
Incline Thine ear to us,  
And grant us thy peace.  
Amen.

**XV. Communion Song –CH #408 "Come, Share  
the Lord" (Joshua Hegg)**

We gather here in Jesus' name  
His love is burning in our hearts like living flame;  
For through the loving Son the Father makes us one:  
Come, take the bread, come, drink the wine,  
Come, share the Lord.

No one is a stranger here,  
Everyone belongs;  
Finding our forgiveness here,  
We in turn forgive all wrongs.

He joins us here, he breaks the bread,  
The Lord who pours the cup is risen from the dead;  
The one we love the most is now our gracious host:  
Come, take the bread, come, drink the wine,  
Come, share the Lord.

We are now a family  
of which the Lord is head;  
Though unseen he meets us here  
In the breaking of the bread.

We'll gather soon where angels sing;  
We'll see the glory of our Lord and coming King;  
Now we anticipate the feast for which we wait:  
Come, take the bread, come, drink the wine,  
Come, share the Lord.

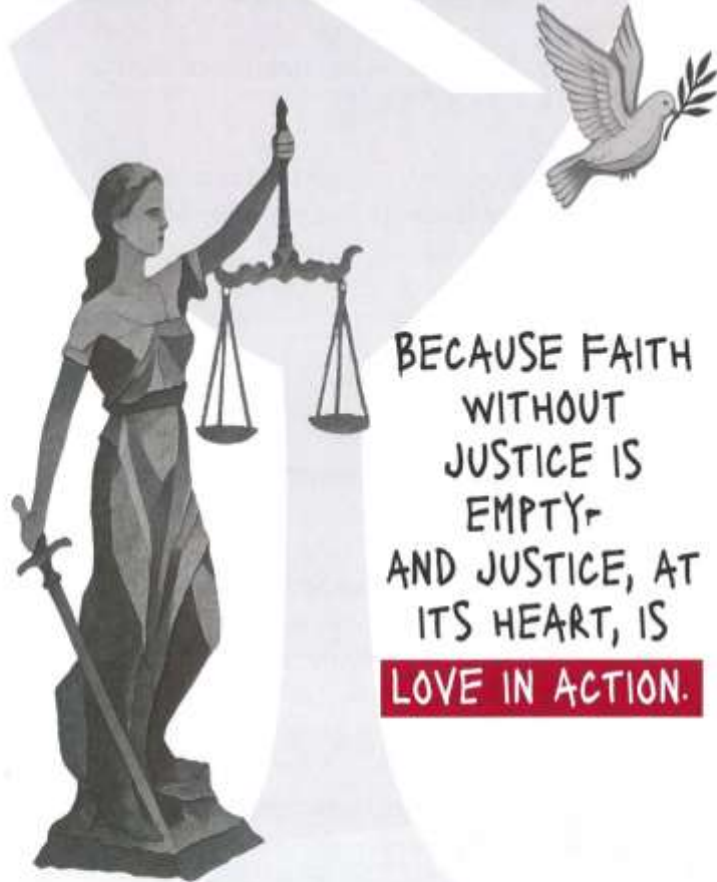
**XVI. Institution of Communion (Georgeanne  
Bennett, elder)**

**XVII. Partaking Communion Together**

**XVIII. Blessing/Benediction (Rev. Jesse  
Kearns)**

**XIX. Postlude (Joshua Hegg)**

**TO DO JUSTICE, LOVE  
KINDNESS, AND WALK  
HUMBLY WITH YOUR  
GOD. -MICAH 6:8**



**BECAUSE FAITH  
WITHOUT  
JUSTICE IS  
EMPTY-  
AND JUSTICE, AT  
ITS HEART, IS  
LOVE IN ACTION.**

**2026 PENTECOST OFFERING SUNDAYS  
MAY 17 AND MAY 24**



THE 2026 PENTECOST OFFERING IS A SPECIAL OFFERING IN SUPPORT OF THE NEW CHURCH MOVEMENT IN YOUR REGION AND ACROSS THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST).

On Pentecost, the Spirit did not stay in one place. It moved outward — across languages, cultures, and every barrier people believed separated them. In that moment, a new kind of community was born, shaped by courage, generosity, and love.

**That same Spirit is still moving today.**

In a world where many people feel uncertain, divided, or disconnected from one another, the Church is called to be a different kind of presence — one that reflects Christ's compassion, humility, and grace.

The Prophet Micah reminds us what God asks of us: **"To do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with your God." — Micah 6:8**

Not just believe.

Not just gather.

But to live in ways that bring healing and hope.

**Because faith without justice is empty — and justice, at its heart, is love in action.**

The Pentecost Offering helps support New Church Ministry and your Region to nurture emerging and affiliating faith communities. Through these ministries, new spaces are created where people can encounter God, build meaningful relationships, and serve their neighbors with compassion.

Your gift helps these communities grow in neighborhoods seeking connection and hope.

Thank you for giving, praying, and helping the Spirit continue its work among us.

**For Times Such as These**

## Chico Food Project

Currently in Butte County, one in five households are at or below poverty level. That means there are a lot of Chico families who are hungry. Seventy-five percent of single moms and their children live in poverty. Food pantries have been overwhelmed by the demand and are in desperate need of a continual supply.

Chico Food Project is a door-to-door food collection program formed to help provide non-perishable items to existing Chico food pantries six times a year.



Chico Food Project  
(530) 230-7232  
P.O. Box 7156, Chico, CA 95927  
chicofoodproject@gmail.com  
chicofoodproject.org



Sharing food  
in our community.



All-volunteer, 501(c)3 non-profit charity providing food to our local food pantries year round.

## How You can Help Chico Food Project

There are **3** ways to help Chico families.  
Fill out and mail in the attached card to:

- 1. Share Food**  
Ask for a beautiful blue bag. We estimate that for every 300 people who participate, we collect one ton of additional food a month. It all starts with you and our blue food bag.
- 2. Invite Your Neighbors**  
Ask your neighbors to get their own blue bags to fill as well.
- 3. Help Transport Food**  
Once every two months on the second Saturday, help pick up the bags and deliver to local food pantries. [Approximately a two-hour time commitment.]



Click here to get your Beautiful Blue Bag  
<https://www.chicofoodproject.org/sign-up/>

## What Do You Do with those Beautiful Blue Bags?

There are **3** simple steps:

- 1. Shop**  
Each week when you go shopping, buy one non-perishable food item.
- 2. Store**  
Store your non-perishable food items in your food bag.
- 3. Set Out**  
On the second Saturday of every other month, a volunteer will pick up the bag, leave another bag in its place, and then take the filled bag to food pantries.

### It's That Simple!

You buy one extra non-perishable food item each week; we do the rest!



- **What is Communion?** Communion is a part of each Sunday morning where we remember the last meal that Jesus ate with the disciples by eating bread and drinking grape juice.
- **May I receive Communion?** Yes! Everyone is invited to receive -- we have no barrier to participating in communion.
- **What else should I know?** We'd love to share more of our loving and inclusive community with you. At FCC, you'll find all generations worshipping together and participating in church activities. We have activities for kids and youth, and we love to share in community together.
- **Visit our website to subscribe to our mailing lists, see a map of our facility, donate online, and learn more about us!** [www.fccchico.com](http://www.fccchico.com) or scan the QR codes:



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- **Deadlines:** Sunday Bulletin-Wednesdays, 10 am; Callerito weekly email-Thursday 10 am; Caller, monthly newsletter-15th at noon.

**Attendance: May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026**  
 Online: 8      Sanctuary: 55      **Total: 63**

**Credits**

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## Calendar for May 17<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>, 2026

### Sunday

- 8:30 a.m. Sacred Grounds Adult Faith Formation Christian Education, Room 6 & on [Zoom](#)
- 10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary & Worship Streamed Live on [Zoom](#) & [Facebook](#)
- Fellowship, Koinonia Hall
- **After church Blue Cloud Production Arts meeting, Chapel**
- **11:00 a.m. FCC Corning Service begins, 1421 Marin St., Corning**
- 1:00 p.m. Iglesia de Cristo Agua Viva, Sanctuary

### Tuesday

- 10:45 a.m. Music Practice, Room 4
- 11:30 a.m. Disciple Women's Ministry Lunch Out, Olive Garden
- 7 p.m. Elders' Hybrid meeting, Chapel and Zoom

### Wednesday

- 10:00 a.m. Uplift Boutique (Free Family Resource)
- 6:00 p.m. BSA Troop 2, Fireside, Koinonia Hall

### Thursday

- 8:30 a.m. Worship Team Breakfast, Cozy Diner
- 6:00 p.m. BSA Pack 2, Fireside, Koinonia Hall
- 6:30 p.m. Bible Study, Chico First Baptist Church

### Friday

- 1 p.m. Healing Circle, Bethany

### Saturday

- 10:00 a.m. Uplift Boutique (Free Family Resource)

### Sunday—Pentecost in the Park!

- 10:30 a.m. Pentecost in the Park with FCC Paradise and Chico First Baptist, Wildwood Park
- 1:00 p.m. Iglesia de Cristo Agua Viva, Sanctuary

