



# FALL NEWSLETTER

It's hard to believe that we're already heading into fall. September brings back memories of Back-to-School, football, picking apples and roasting marshmallows around a bonfire. September at First Church also means the return of Fall Programming and Caring Ministries along with other opportunities to get involved. There are also a couple of upcoming events that are specific to Older Adults. Scroll down for more information and feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

I want to give a shout out to our First Church team who is planning and preparing funeral dinners and dessert buffets. Under the leadership of Linda Fites and Pat Spear, we have prepared meals and desserts for 5 families this summer. Thank you to all of you who have brought food as well as helping to set up and clean up following the dinners. This is a great way to show love and encouragement to our families who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

I also want to thank those of you who have volunteered to take families in our congregation a meal following the birth of a child or while recovering from surgery. I'm blessed by the way you all care so well for one another!

Blessings,  
Pastor Tracey

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We are looking for a couple of men to help provide transportation for one of our First Church older adults. He needs a ride from dialysis in Benton Harbor to his home in Stevensville on Mondays and Fridays at 10am.

If you would like to volunteer, please click below to email me.

E-mail Pastor Tracey to Become a Transportation Volunteer

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**OLDER ADULTS** AGES 50+  
**AT FIRST CHURCH**

**Luncheon, October 6<sup>th</sup>, 11:30am-1:00pm**

- Fried chicken & drinks are provided
- Please bring a vegetable, salad or dessert to share
- \$5 Donation is requested
- Steve and Amy Slater will share about hiking the entire 508 mile Camino del Norte trail along the northern coast of Spain

RSVP at 983-1524 by October 2nd

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## LUNCHEON DATES FOR 2025

- October 6th, 11:30am-1:00pm - Steve and Amy Slater will share about hiking the entire 508 mile Camino del Norte trail along the northern coast of Spain
- November 4th, 11:30am-1:00pm - To be determined
- December 17th, 11:30-1:00pm - Christmas Carols and Games



**DEADLINE TO REGISTER: September 18th**

Join the Older Adults Ministry on a bus trip to Cornwell's Dinner Theatre to see  
"Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" on **October 16th**.  
We'll leave the church at **9:30am** and return around **5:30pm**.  
Cost is \$80 per person payable at registration.  
Register at the church office, 9am-4pm, Monday-Thursday.  
**We have 5 open seats.**

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*"Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life."*  
*John 5:24*

Please pray for our families who had loved ones go to their heavenly home in the past couple of months. The obituaries are below.

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[Click for Harvey Deam's Obituary](#)

[Click for Kim Eby's Obituary - Linda Vonk's Daughter](#)

[Click for Cole Toney's Obituary](#)

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## First Church Caring Ministries Kick-Off



We've experienced the loss of several of our First Church members over this past year. While we have hope because we believe they are at home with Jesus, we still grieve the loss of having them here. We are thankful to be able to offer Grief Share to help us walk through our grief and loss. It's a 12 week program that begins on **September 18th, 6:30pm**. It's open to anyone in the community who would like to attend, and there is no charge.

For more information or to register, click on the link below.

Grief Share Information and Registration



Our Divorce Care support group is a friendly, caring group of people who will walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences. You will learn how to heal from the deep hurt of divorce and discover hope for your future. It's a 12 week program that begins on **September 16th, 6:30pm**. It's open to anyone in the community who would like to attend, and there is no charge.

For more information or to register, click on the link below.

Divorce Care Information and Registration

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