AUGUST 27, 2025 ISSUE 24

INFORMER

First Christian Church

660-826-5300

This Week's Scripture and sermon: 1 Corinthians 13: 8-13

Rev. Dr. Chad McMullin

Sunday Worship 9 am and 11:10 am 10 am Sunday School online @first4god.com

Do you believe that there is a divine, perfect timing for all things? In the book of Ecclesiastes we read, "for everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven." We also bump into the idea of timing in the book of Isaiah, "at the right time, the Lord will make it happen." We are encouraged to believe that the Lord's timing is perfect, which in turn demands that we practice patience.

I like to plant winter food plots on my property for the wildlife. I carefully turn the soil and scatter seed for the deer and turkeys and other wildlife to enjoy throughout the winter months. I love to watch the deer and turkey taking advantage of the fresh food in my food plots. Every now and then I see some quail, and raccoons and opossums taking advantage of the fresh food as well. This year I waited til early August to plant my foodplots. In a year of so much rain, I felt like it would be a good idea to wait a little longer. Unfortunately, it has not rained in more than 3 weeks since I planted. The seed is sitting there without any hope of growing. My timing was off. On adjacent properties, the farmers around me who also plant winter food plots planted earlier and their food plots are lush and healthy now. It seems I still have quite a bit to learn when it comes to timing on the farm.

Just like on the farm, in life we do not always get the timing right. Sometimes we act when we should have waited. Sometimes we wait when we should have acted. If we pay attention to these things, we can learn from our mistakes. I am learning and getting better at waiting on God's timing when it comes to most things in my life. I try not to force big decisions, and I try to never force things into place. Taking our time and inviting God to be part of things is a key to Christian living. Sometimes God invites us to wait, other times God compels us to act immediately. This is a skill that you can develop. If you pay close attention to your life, you can see that God is capable of opening doors, creating opportunities and inspiring us to know He is involved. Not everything happens by random chance. With an active prayer life we can connect to the Lord's divine guidance and timing.

Perhaps the key to it all is trust. Admitting to yourself that you need His direction, and trusting in His unfolding plan for your life is one way to stay in His peace and keep the divine timing of things. I encourage you to consider your life. Explore the times when you have planted late, and the times you forced something and you wished you'd waited. Pray about all things and trust God's timing!

OUR PRAYER LIST

Betty Blackwell, Cole Brown, Kelly Burkholder, Teresa Fowler, George Geotz, Barb Hagebush, Cara Harrington, Harper Jones, Michael Lucito, Hallie Meyer, Barbara Mittenburg, Pat Newport, Rowena Pettet, Beckham Stuckenschneider, JJ, Nancy VanMeter, Evelyn Yonce

Nursing Home and Shut-Ins

Essex: Dava Brummit

E. W. Thompson: Allan Fowler

Primrose(Independent): Freida Morrison Primrose(Assisted): **Dorothy Robertson** Primrose(Enhanced Assisted Living): Judy

Parkhurst, Susan Daniels

Sylvia Thompson: Lois Ditzfeld, Judy Steele, Margie Sowder, Lynda Alcorn, Merle Fisher, Donna Thompson, Margaret Johnson, Betty Blackwell

Our friends in the Armed Services:Ryan Arnold, Taylor Brown, Sam Braverman, Preston Butts, Daltin Butts, Kenneth French, Nicholas Holman, Adam Schock, Adriana Teiberis, Aaron Wagoner: Thank you for your service!

> We now have a prayer request option on the website. It will go straight to our prayer team so they can be praying with and for you.

Your FCC Staff

First Christian Church

660-826-5300

Rev. Dr. Chad McMullin

Senior MInister

Rev. Chance McMullin

Associate Minister

Sheri Webb

Admin. Asst.

Wayne Smither

Youth Director

Jay Fahnestock

Maintenance Supervisor

Darrin Hartman

Music Director

Emilee Jackson, Rilee Mathew, and Liliya Nine

Nursery

Mendy Goss

Children's Coordinator

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

August 24, 2025 9am 135 11:10am 112 **Sunday School 65** Online 147

Those serving this Week

Greeters

- Larry Whipple

Elders

- Sterling Green
- Sue Green

Deacons

- Amy Elkins
- Dan Nickell
- Susan Nickell
- Deana Pomaizl
- Adam Tilley
- Glenn Waggoner
- Larry Whipple
- Ryan Wiedeman
- **Mike Clements**

Amy Elkins

Dan Nickell

Susan Nickell

Ryan Wiedeman

If you wish to check out our Digital Bulletin while worshipping; go to

first4God.com

scroll down to Worship Online, click Digital Bulletin. Scripture and list of songs will be posted.

THIS WEEKS EVENTS

THURSDAY 28

12pm Circuit Clerks/CR

Monday

Office Closed for Labor Day

FRIDAY 29

Saturday 30

Tuesday 2

12noon Brown Bag 1:30pm Prayer Group Wednesday 3

5:15pm SOLID 5:30 Hospitality

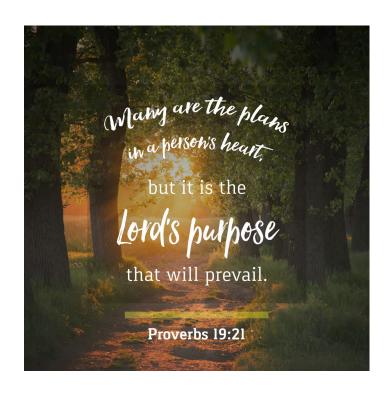


SUNDAY 31

9am Worship/Fellowship Hall 10am Sunday School 11:!0am Worship/Fellowship Hall 7pm NA

Fellowship Hall Worship

Beginning Sunday August 24th we will be worshipping in our Fellowship Hall. It will be a time when we are forced to leave our holy place, but our staff and worship team are ensuring that we still have the opportunity to worship well down the hall. Pastor Chad is going to be guiding us through holiness and what makes something holy. You won't want to miss these three unique weeks of worship.





oCC is in need of:
children's scissors,
small pads of paper,
tooth brushes and
beanie babies. You
can bring them and put
them in the OCC bin.



OCC can use normal shoe boxes. Please bring any size shoe box with the lid and drop it off at the office.

We will caravan and leave the church at 10am.



Ladies: SAVE THE DATE
October 17, 6pm for
a fun event at the
Cellar Door.
More details to come.



IMPORTANT DATES:

- SOLID soldiers will begin in the spring assisting in the community where we can.
- Beginning August 27, SOLID will begin meeting every Wednesday at 5:15pm
- Pumpkins will be here the morning of Oct. 11, plan to help unload

SOLID Youth Mission:
Reaching the Youth
through CHRIST,
touching the community
with LOVE!













SOLID Youth Program 40 off-Jump on Program

The purpose of this program is actually 2 goals:

For all of the youth to be able to take on more responsibility for their mission trips and Young Christians weekend.

To decrease the amount the youth will have to pay for these events.

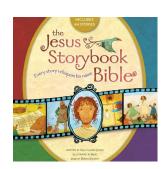
Each trip-Young Christians Weekend \$500.00 Mission Trip \$500.00

For every hour the Youth work outside of Sunday and Wednesday, \$10 will be deducted from the total of the trips. Ex: 16 hours worked that would be 160.00 deducted from the \$500. They can earn up to \$200 for each trip.

Coming Wednesday Sept. 10, 6pm. Adult 4 week Bible Study on the book of Romans. Led by Pastor Chad

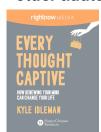
Children's Ministry Right Now Media Pick of the Month

This month's Kids Pick of the Month is:
The Jesus Storybook Bible on
RightNow Media. This is a great series
of 44 episodes that teach our children
not just the stories of the Bible, but
what the Bible is meant to be. Check it
out and replace your Disney+ time
with Bible time on RightNow Media.



Adult Spiritual Growth Right Now Media Pick of the month.

Everything around us seems to be fighting for our attention. Our thoughts can become chaotic as we decide where to put our focus. Are your thoughts drawing you closer to God or pulling you away? "Every Thought Captive" is a fantastic study for August as summer vacations end and life gets busy again. This 5-session study (18 min. avg) by Kyle Idleman gives simple tools that help us control our thoughts, so that we can live a more joy-filled life. This study is great for young teens – older adults.





kids program.

It will begin at 5:30pm with a light meal, bible study, crafts, and fun. "Find registration on the church's FB page."

Children's Worship Recap, August 24th

On Sunday, the children stepped into the story of Moses and the burning bush. Before we began, everyone took off their shoes to remind us that we were standing on holy ground. Together, we thought about things in our lives that feel hard. Each child wrote one of those things on a paper flame and then hung it on our "bush." We circled around and prayed, asking God to give us strength guidance. Just as God called Moses and promised to be with him, the children were reminded that God asks us to do hard things, but He never leaves us—He always equips us and walks beside us.

Questions for Families to Talk About:

- 1. What did you write on your flame, and how can we pray together about it?
- 2. Why do you think Moses took off his shoes when he saw the burning bush? **Sunday School Recap**

In Sunday School, the kids got to prepare for the new school year by learning about the Armor of God from Ephesians 6. They dressed up in different pieces of "armor"—the Breastplate of Righteousness, Helmet of Salvation, Belt of Truth, and Shield of Faith and Boots to walk in peace. Each piece reminded them that God protects, strengthens, and guides His people. To carry this truth with them into their week, every child decorated a keychain to hang on their backpack. It's a small but powerful reminder that wherever they go—school, sports, or play—God is with them, covering them in His love and care.

Mendy Goss Children's Coordinator









For Adults

Friday September 19, 2025
6pm to 9pm
BYOB and a dish to share.

Younger-Finley Barn 25257 110th Rd. Houstonia, MO 65333

7pm Corn Hole, Billards, Shuffleboard, and Minute to Win It games



EXCITING NEWS!! WE ARE BACK AFTER A SUMMER BREAK! MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND SIGN UP!

MYSTERY TRIP September 23rd

Destination: Well, that is a mystery! You'll just have to GO in order to find out!

Things you can know are: We'll leave the church at 8:00 AM, returning "around" 6:00 PM, cost per person is \$25 (CASH ONLY AND PAYABLE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE PRIOR TO TRIP) and transportation TBD. (There will be several options)

The sign-up deadline is September 15th, and you can sign up in the church office or on the sign-up sheet found in the worship area.

THE PRODUCTION OF DAVID THE MUSICAL

Branson Overnight
Sight & Sound Theatre
October 28 & 29

MASTER POET, FEARLESS WARRIOR, ANOINTED KING.

From still waters to shadowed valleys, David's ascent to the throne is filled with towering giants, wild animals, and Philistine soldiers. After unprecedented victories lead to devastating failures, this passionate warrior will face the biggest battle of all: the one within himself. Come alongside this young shepherd on his journey to become a man after God's own heart.

With original music inspired by the Psalms, DAVID is a state-of-the-art theatrical experience. Witness one of the most legendary Bible stories as it comes to life with spectacular special effects, massive sets, and live animals in this original stage production.

Reserve you ticket by signing up with Sheri in the church office. We have purchased 20 tickets and reserved 10 hotel rooms at Best Western Center Pointe Inn.

SIGN UP DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 28TH. If you sign-up and cancel after the deadline, you will still be responsible for payment. Sign up in the church office or sign-up sheet outside the worship area. Cost: theatre tickets are \$85/person, and the room rate is \$140 so that cost will be divided between how many are staying in your room. Make check payable to First Christian Church.

Transportation: the van will be available, and carpooling is another option.

We'll leave the church at 12:00 pm, arriving in Branson to check in at the hotel at 3:00 pm. We'll meet for dinner (place to be decided) and then we'll need to be at the theatre by 6:45 pm for the 7:30 performance.

September Anniversaries

- 2. Chris & Joel Billbury
- 4. Ali & Tyler Ditzfeld, Treasure & James Green
- 5. Jenny & Dan Hurley
- 7. Sue & Chris Squires
- 12. Susan & Michael Sadler
- 13. Molly & Eric Bradley
- 14. Joy & Thomas Cooper, Adam & Briara Webb
- 20. Kara & Justin Metzner

Connie and Dale Soendker, Susan and Dan Nickell

- 21. Amy & Eric Schneider, Linda & Jimmy Riley
- 29. Sherry & John Swearngin

September Birthdays

- 1. Ella Hart
- 2. Christy Goodman*
- 3. Amy Brust, Nate Hooton
- 4. Jill Kindle
- 8. Glenn Waggoner, Briara Webb
- 9. Emerson Poe, Ernie Craig
- 11. Caleb Ehlers
- 13. Shirley White, Kenleigh McAllister
- 15. Grant Braverman
- 17. Easton Ditzfeld, Kennedi Ditzfeld
- 18. Kali Lucchesi, Aaron Sadler
- 19. Carol Ahern
- 20. Jacob Holman, Karter Lucchesi
- 21. Camden Ditzfeld
- 22. Doolie Popyk-Wyatt, Maggie Knox
- 23. Nanci Opfer
- 25. Emily Gregory, Miles Curry
- 26. John Swearngin
- 27. Bill Curry, Jake Metzner, David Lake
- 29. John Metzner
- 30. Susan Nickell, Nita Bales