DECEMBER 3, 2025 ISSUE 35

660-826-5300

INFORMER

FCC

First Christian Church

This Week's Scripture and sermon:

Mark 1: 1-8

Rev. Dr. Chad McMullin

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

As I think about Advent and the traditions of both our families and our faith communities, I am reminded of one of my favorite childhood nights of the year - Christmas Eve. It was always special to dress up even nicer than usual for the service that evening, and with the anticipation of what would come in the morning, my siblings and I always seemed to be a bit more well behaved. The opportunity would then come to hold onto a candle throughout the service and then to receive the light and pass it on as we sang that same song every year - Silent Night. Once this song was completed, it was always a race to try and get Mom to the car to take us home so we could hurry up and go to sleep. All three of us kids would sleep in the same room, trying to fall asleep quickly so Christmas morning would come "sooner." This anticipation made the night long as we had trouble falling asleep - we were just too excited. The light of dawn always brought something special, but looking back, those nights of anticipation with my sister and brother may be one of my favorite childhood traditions of Christmas.

As I reflect on the excitement of that night, it would be safe to say that much of the excitement was due to the presents the three of us would soon receive. However, I think there was more to our excitement than just the presents. I mean, we were very excited about the presents, but we also received presents on our birthdays and there was never this level of excitement for those days. I am beginning to think that we somehow valued that special Christmas morning because it was to be a day that we all received gifts and we all received joy. Christmas morning was a day that Mom anticipated, Dad anticipated, and the kids anticipated. We all were looking forward to the same thing together. This was a communal celebration of the gifts we have all received, and I think we - whether consciously or unconsciously - valued that.

This season will be filled with traditions that bring you joy and peace. It is our hope that throughout this season you are able to use those traditions to celebrate and recognize that we all have received a gift that brings great joy - Jesus. This gift of God to us is something that we have sleeplessly anticipated receiving. This gift of God to us is something we have eagerly waited for our children and grandchildren to receive. This gift of God to us is unlike any other gift, therefore, I hope your Advent season is unlike any other holiday, or feast, or festival. I hope it is spent with those you love, opening the same gift, all together. I hope it is filled with your family and your faith community. I hope it is filled with peace and joy. I hope it is filled with Jesus.

OUR PRAYER LIST

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

. <u>Nursing Home and Shut-Ins</u>

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: 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.

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

Nov. 30, 2025 9am 160 11:10am 109 Sunday School 103 Online 544

Those serving this Week

Candle lighters

Kellan and Lily

Elders

- Sterling Green
- Sue Green

Deacons

Youth Youth

Your FCC Staff



660-826-5300

Rev. Dr. Chad McMullin Senior Minister

Rev. Chance McMullin
Associate Minister

Sheri Webb Admin. Asst.

Wayne Smither

Youth Director

Darrin Hartman Music Director

Emilee Jackson, Rilee Mathew, and Liliya Nine Nursery

Mendy Goss Children's Coordinator 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.

Please help us in welcoming our new cleaning company, Elena Cleaning Expert!
They will be keeping our church shining and assisting with setup and teardown before and after room use. We are excited to have them join us, so when you see Yelena or any of her cleaning crew, please extend a warm welcome.



FRIDAY

Saturday 6

SUNDAY 7

9am Worship 10am Sunday School 1015am Congregational Mtg. 11:10am Worship 7om NA

Monday 8

THURSDAY 4

6pm FCC Staff Party

6pm Exec. Session 6:30pm Girl Scouts Tuesday 9

12noon Brown Bag 1:30pm Prayer Group 6pm Children's Ministry Celebration/gather place Wednesday 10

5:30pm Kids Christmas Pagent practice

Sunday Dec. 7, 10am

There will be a Congregational Meeting.

Plan to attend.

December 14, FCC will have one service at 10am.
There will be a potluck following, please bring a side dish, salad, or a dessert to share. Meat, bread, and potatoes will be provided. Come and enjoy good fellowship and fun!

December 14, 2025 We will have one Worship Service at 10am First Christian Church, Sedalia, MO

Upcoming at FCC









David and Britni Lehman and Trace and Harvey joined FCC November 30. We are so excited to welcome you!





Trinity Group 3 did 15 Thanksgiving meals in a bag for Open Door.



Memorial Bricks Available for Purchase:

For the next three weeks, we will be offering Memorial Bricks for sale. You may purchase a brick in memory of a loved one or in honor of someone special or an entire family. Proceeds will go toward building fund. More information will be shared next week.

Ahhhh.....the comfort of your favorite pajamas.

Whether it's wearing them watching your favorite Christmas movie or staying in them all day long on a snowy day, many of us have great memories associated with them. This December, we would like to create these same memories for the kids at Show Me Christian Youth Home. We will be collecting new pajamas infant - teen sizes now until December 19th. Please bring them to the collection bins located across from the office. Let's work together to make this a warm and cozy Christmas for the kids at Show Me!

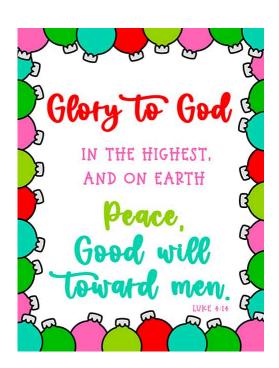


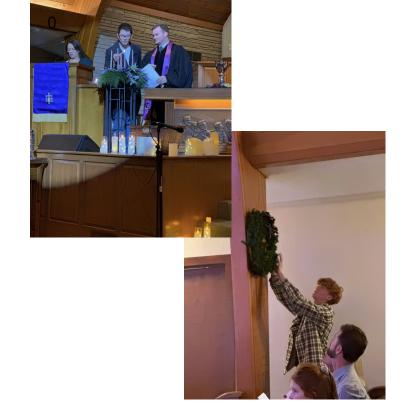
IMPORTANT DATES:

Reaching the Youth through CHRIST, touching the community with LOVE!

- SOLID will meet every Wednesday at 5:15pm
- December 13, SOLID will be going to Branson to see David.
- The last day for SOLID for this semester will be December 17. We will resume January 7, 2026.









Behold: An Advent Study

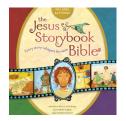
Advent is a season of sacred waiting—always full of promise as the weary world waits.

This four-week study invites us to pause and rediscover the gifts Christ offers: peace, healing, hope, and freedom.

Led by Cathy Clements, we'll meet Sundays from 10-11 a.m. in the Berean Room, November 30-December 21. Bring your Bible and come wait-and rejoice-together.

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.



RightNow Media Pick of the Month for December

The Wonder of Christmas
Pastor Jarrett Stephens

Many of us are familiar with the story of
Christmas. Maybe we've even heard
about the manger scene and the birth of
Christ every year for as long as we can
remember. But what if we revisited the
Christmas story with new eyes? What
would we discover? Pastor Jarrett
Stephens will unpack Jesus' story in the
Gospel of Luke in four 11 minutes videos.
Rekindle the wonder of Christ's presence,
his good news, his plan, and his people.





- December 3 and 10 FCC kids
 Christmas program practice 5:30-7:00.
- December 14, 4pm Dress Rehearsal for Christmas Program.
- December 17, 2025; Kids Christmas Program. Kids be here by 5:30, program begins at 6pm.
 Refreshments to follow.



Children's Worship Recap

This week the children explored James 1:2 and learned what it means to find joy even when things feel hard. We used a rubber band object lesson to show how God helps us "stretch and grow" during challenging moments. The kids also played a fun "joy or hard moment" game that helped them think about how God is with us in every situation.

Parent Questions:

1. What was something in your week that felt hard, and how did you remember God is with you?



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An Evening with Eric Poindexter

and Friends

An elegant evening of music celebrating the joy and spirit of the holiday season

DECEMBER 12&13, 2025

TICKETS \$ 25.00 PER PERSON
DOORS OPEN AT 6:00PM
SHOW TIME 7:00-9:00PM

Get out that gorgeous black dress you've been saving for a special occasion, or don that sport coat just waiting to be worn, and join us for dessert and beverages at The Hayden Liberty Center for a special night of Christmas cheer!

A FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY TO BENEFIT THE LIBERTY CENTER ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARTS