660-826-5300

First Christian Church

NOV. 4, 2026 ISSUE 39

This Week's Scripture and sermon: Philippians 4: 1-9

Rev. Dr. Chad McMullin

INFORMER

"I'm done." "I'm finished." These are words we hear from people who are tired, whose hopes have worn down, or who can no longer see the finish line of the race they are running.

The congregation receiving the letter to the Hebrews knew that weariness. These Jewish Christians had endured hardship. Their faith was tested, and some were tempted to give up—not because they had stopped believing, but because continuing had become difficult.

I have heard that same weariness from people close to being done with church. I remember a choir member laying her robe on my desk and saying, "I'm done singing in the choir. Thank you for the opportunity, but I'm finished."

"Why?" I asked.

"No one cares," she answered. "If I sing, great. If I don't, great. It doesn't make a difference. No one cares whether I'm here."

I assured her that wasn't true. "Oh, good," she replied. "Can you give me some names, then? Who cares?"

Men have also told me, "I'm done with church. I'm just another pledge, another warm body you count in the attendance numbers. No one cares whether I'm here."

The Disciples preacher Fred Craddock told his congregation stories like these and then asked a question that has stayed with me: "Can I give them your name?"

Can I give them your name, church? Can I tell someone who is weary that you care? Can I tell them you will walk beside them and cheer them on? Can I give them your name as one of the people in the great cloud of witnesses?

That is one way to understand the letter to the Hebrews. It is a word from a fellow traveler in faith, someone who refuses to let a struggling congregation believe that nobody cares. The letter calls them to persevere, hold on, and encourage one another. Don't stop short of the finish line. Keep going. We are rooting for you.

The writer reminds them they are not running alone. They are surrounded by people who moved forward without seeing how the journey would end.

Remember Noah, who built the ark and endured the rain without knowing how the story would end. He moved forward by faith.

Remember Abraham. God promised him descendants as numerous as the stars, yet he grew old without seeing that promise fulfilled. He kept trusting. Today, generations later, we sing about Father Abraham and his many sons.

Remember Joseph, betrayed by his brothers and imprisoned unjustly. He could not see where his story was headed, but he kept going. Remember Moses, standing between the Egyptian army and the Red Sea. The way forward seemed impossible, yet by faith he led the Israelites through the waters to freedom.

These are the heroes of faith whose stories cheer us on. And the cloud of witnesses includes people closer to home: mothers and fathers, siblings, friends, mentors, and faithful church members whose lives have shown us what it means to keep trusting God.

Some of us may be ready to stop running. We are tired, discouraged, or overwhelmed by the road ahead. We cannot see the finish line. Hear the encouragement of Hebrews—and imagine that great crowd of witnesses, here in this sanctuary and in the glory of heaven, cheering you on: Keep running.

As you run, remember this is not a race you began, and it is not yours to finish by your own strength. The Lord, the Alpha and the Omega, is the beginning and the end. God has begun this work and will bring it to completion.

Our part is to keep running with our eyes fixed on Jesus, our ears tuned to the cheers of those who have gone before us, and our faith guiding each step.

Pastor Chance

We are praying for You

Betty Blackwell, Shirley Brown, Dava Brummitt, Lisa Demoss, George Geotz, Harper Jones, Michael Lucito, Chelsea and Eliana Marcial, Barbara Mittenburg, Pat Newport, Rowena Pettet, Joyce Whitaker, LeRoy Wimer

Nursing Home and Shut-Ins

Essex: **Dava Brummit**
E. W. Thompson: **Allan Fowler**
Primrose(Independent):
Primrose(Assisted): **Dorothy Robertson, Joyce Whitaker**
Primrose(Enhanced Assisted Living): **Judy Parkhurst, Marion Thomas,Terry and Linda Gibbs**
LeRoy Wimer, Lorene Downing
Sylvia Thompson: **Judy Steele, Margie Sowder, Lynda Alcorn, Merle Fisher, Donna Thompson, Margaret Johnson, Betty Blackwell, Bob Holdren**
Veterans Home Warrensburg: **George Geotz**

Our friends in the Armed Services:Ryan Arnold, Tyler Bauer, 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.

Those serving this Week

Elders

- Larry and Karen Lake

Candle lighters

- Saige and Jenson L

Deacons

- Stacey Edwards
- Amy Brust
- Jim Brust
- Ann Fleming
- Alyson Wilson
- Caleb Wilson
- Wes Rowden
- Judy Rowden

Amy Brust
Jim Brust
Stephanie Parkhurst
Ann Fleming

THIS WEEKS EVENTS

THURSDAY 5

5:30pm Yoga/FH
6:30pm Journey
6:30 Praise Band

FRIDAY 6

Saturday 7

1pm GP/Shower

SUNDAY 8

Monday 9

6pm Exec. Session
6:30pm GS

Tuesday 10

!0am West Central Realtors
12 noon Brown Bag
1:30pm Prayer Group

Wednesday 11

5:15pm Solid Youth
5:30pm FCC Kids
7pm Choir



Mike and Kelly Reuther
and family joined
FCC on November 1.
We are so excited to welcome you!



Pledge cards for our church budget are now available. You can pick yours up outside the sanctuary on the table. Please return them to the office by November 8.

SOLID

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

SOLID UPDATES:

- **Wednesday's SOLID meets at 5:15pm**
- **Last youth meeting before Thanksgiving is Nov. 18. Will resume on Dec. 2**



SOLID Youth will be selling chocolate bars throughout October. They are $2 each.
Please find a SOLID member to purchase a chocolate bar.



When you receive the blessings, remember Who gave them.
Joshua 4: 22

Like us on Facebook at Solid-FCC Youth Sedalia





Men's Breakfast will be Nov. 20 and Dec. 18.

Our Director of Operations job is now open. If you are interested please click on the link to view the Job Description. Bring your resume to the Church office.

https://canva.link/33lyswzs53xzmgw



Children's Ministry Right Now Media Pick of the Month SUPERBOOK!

Holy Moly

Each volume helps kids explore more of God's awesome story. Imaginative visuals and humorous sound effects give kids the opportunity to retell the story in their own words and bring the Bible to life. Each Holy Moly episode goes with two Holy Moly Bible Storybooks that burst with engaging illustrations.







We will be collecting boxes of cereal for Open door.
Please drop off in the bins outside the office.



Right Now Media Studies

Here are two ways to sign-up for Right Now Media. Click the code or scan the QR code to get signed up and start exploring RNM

https://app.rightnowmedia.org/join/FirstChristia

RNM Adult Pick of the Month November



Mornings often begin with racing thoughts, endless to-do lists, and the weight of yesterday's worries. But God designed each new day as an invitation to hope, renewal, and deeper connection with Him.

In this six-session Bible study, bestselling author Jennifer Dukes Lee explores the mornings of Scripture to reveal God's heart for the start of each day. Through biblical teaching and practical encouragement, you'll discover how to trust God for daily provision, remain faithful in every season, listen for His guidance, stand firm against the Enemy, and praise Him in all circumstances.

Whether you're naturally an early riser or someone who struggles to greet the day with joy, you'll discover that God's mercies are new every morning—and that each day offers a fresh opportunity to experience His presence and promises.



Sunday we learned about Hebrews 12: 1-4 and "the cloud of witnesses." We talked about the people who came before us and showed us what it looks like to trust God, along with the people in our lives today who help us grow in our faith. We also talked about how we all make mistakes and have hard days, but we can keep our eyes on Jesus and let Him help us keep going. We can also be an example of Jesus' love to others through our own words and action.

1. ***What is the "cloud of witnesses," and who helps you learn about Jesus?***
2. ***What can you do when things get hard or you make a mistake to keep following Jesus?***

Enter His gates with praise, give thanks to Him and praise His Name. Psalm 100:4





Attention Ladies:
Women of Joy Conference
April 2-4, 2027
Conference and Lodging $259 Shared room/ $349 1 person room
Please contact JoDee Buso 660-553-2180 by Sunday November 15, if you want to attend. There is a $25 deposit due to JoDee by Nov. 16.

WOMEN OF JOY™

Excellent items to add to your shoebox. Barble, yoyo, top, harmonica, cars, legos, school supplies, hair supplies, ball with pump, babydoll, stuffie, drawstring bag, toothbrush, sewing kit, fishing kit, an outfit, socks, flip flops, sand toys, nerf football, brush, comb, beaded jewelry,

OCC Drop off week: Nov. 16-23



Trinity Group 3: food, fellowship, and card making for shut-ins!



Your FCC Staff

FirstChristian Church

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Rev. Dr. Chad McMullin
Senior MInister

Rev.Chance McMullin
Associate Minister

Darrin Hartman
Traditional Worship Leader

Amy Tilley
Contemporary Worship Leader

Wayne Smither
Youth Director

Mendy Goss
Children's Coordinator
Ellie Fiorino, Reese Green, Grace Homan and Liliya Nine
Nursery

Sheri Webb
Admin. Asst.

Weekend Totals

Nov. 1, 2026
9am 224
11am 110
Online 497

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.

Church information page