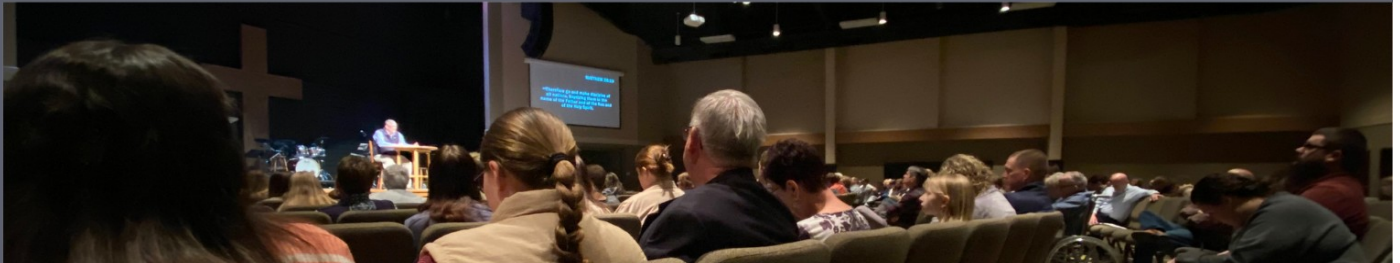




First Christian Church

2025 AUGUST NEWSLETTER

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SUMMER ENCOURAGEMENT

By the time you receive this newsletter, VBS will be finished and we will turn our attention toward the start of school. Last chance vacations will be happening and the push will be on to enjoy the final days of summer. Here at the church, we will be wrapping up the sermon series on Esther. It has been exciting to see how God moves and how He uses ordinary people to do extraordinary things.

I also know as school starts families get into more of a routine: getting up at certain times, going to bed at certain times, and all the other activities in between set the schedule for our days. I would like to encourage you, as we get back into the fall, to make sure to include the routine of being involved in church, Sunday school/Bible study, and having your kids involved in student and children's activities. There will be a lot of important things as you look at your schedule you will feel need to be a part of your family's life. I hope that as you consider all of these activities, their spiritual growth and well-being would be made a priority. We do miss you when you're not here and hope to see you in the fall!

As the summer winds down and we think about beginning the school year we always have a night of fun and food at the park. This year our end of summer/fall kick-off party is scheduled for August 17. That afternoon we will meet for a picnic and a time of fellowship together and then from 6 to 8 the pool will be open for our church. I hope you will mark it on your calendars and plan to join us for a night of fun as we finish our summer and look forward to the fall God has in store for us.

LEADERSHIP SELECTION

"Here is a trustworthy saying: whoever aspires to be an overseer desires a noble task." -1 Timothy 3:1

1 Timothy 3:1 - 7 and Titus 1:5 - 9 have a list of attributes for mature men who seek to be an elder. We encourage our congregation to read through the attributes and encourage those they believe are spiritually mature to fill out a "desire to serve card" through the month of August.

The process begins with the individual's heart. A man who desires to serve as an elder submits a desire to serve card. The cards are then reviewed and contact is made by the current eldership. After a time of evaluation, a list of proposed elders to serve a three-year term will be posted in October. The list of men is presented to the congregation for affirmation in November. The men affirmed will be ordained as elders and will begin to serve in January.

I would ask that you would pray as we go through this process of selecting leadership. I believe it is imperative for us to be in prayer and to ask God to lead and to raise up leaders who will follow Him. I know for a fact all of our leaders covet your prayers and encouragements as they strive to be the best leaders they can be for FCC.

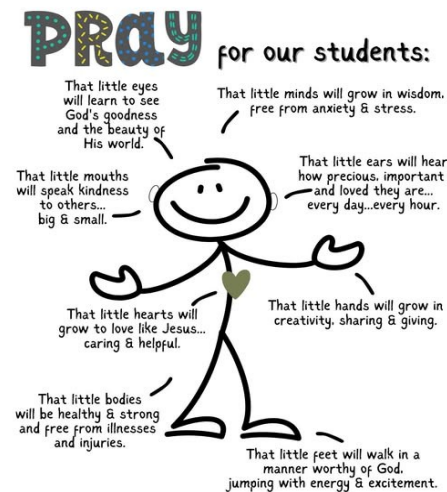
Thank you for your prayers and your service. Truly we are blessed to have so many people be willing to serve and impact our community. I've always considered it a blessing to be a part of the FCC family, and look forward to a great school year as we seek to encounter Christ, grow in our faith, and serve our community to bring Him glory. I hope your summer has been fantastic and look forward to a glorious school year ahead.

WATER WARS - August 08 - 5:30-8:00pm

VBS is over, both softball and baseball have ended their seasons, and most of us have gone or will go on vacation soon. But that doesn't mean summer is over! We still have an awesome opportunity to come hang out and get to know each other while having fun! Water Wars is an AWESOME chance to build relationships and set a foundation for a Godly community even as kids. Did we mention? It's FREE!!

Register now at:

<https://bit.ly/fckkids-waterwars>



PRAYING FOR YOUR STUDENT

School is about to start back up, and before it even begins, we need to be praying for our kids and their school year! Prayer is undoubtedly the most powerful tool in the Christians arsenal, the ability to go before our God, the creator and orchestrator of the universe and ask Him for His guidance. This is an incredible thing we should never take or granted. Attached is a graphic to help guide you as you pray for your kids. Here are three other areas we encourage you to pray for your children:

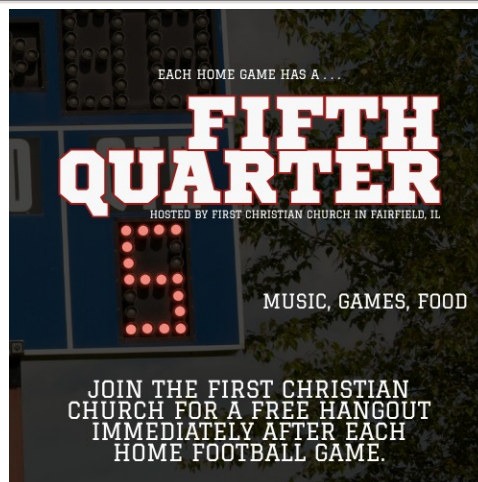
1. **Pray for their friends.** Pray God would surround them with Godly friends who would encourage them in their daily walk.
2. **Pray that God would keep them from temptation.** This is straight from the Lord's prayer. Pray against sin before they are even tempted. Win the battle before it begins.
3. **Pray for courage.** Pray God would give your child courage to live *righteously*. Pray your child will stand for what's right regardless of who may stand against them, even if it's friends or when its difficult and intimidating.

Luke 2:52 Grow our children "in wisdom & stature, and in favor with God & man."

STUDENT MINISTRY KYLE@FCCFAIRFIELD.COM



On August 3, the Basnett's will be hosting a swim night at their home for the Attic Students. This will be 5:30-7:30pm and dinner will be provided. If your child needs a ride, please have them at the church by 5:15pm. Contact Kyle for the address.



Football season is about to start which means that so is 5th Quarter. This is a time that takes place after home football games where high school students can come hang out, play games, and enjoy some food. The first 5th Quarter will be August 29th!



The 2025-2026 school year starts August 13th. With that, all of our student activities begin again! The first Taco Tuesday will start on August 19 with Devo & Donuts starting the following morning, August 20, at 7:30am. Looking forward to another great year!

PRAYER MINISTRY

PALS is our program pairing an adult with each PreK through High School age person for prayer and relationship building. We held signups during the month of June but it's not too late to become a part of this program!
To register or if you have questions, see Kyle, Caleb or Cindy.



Our PALS kick off will be August 15th at 6:00pm

Vacation Bible School is always a favorite event here at the church. Creating lasting impact for kids and their families. This year we averaged 80+ kids every night! A few years ago, we started asking for prayer requests from the kids. When we thought it would be simple, maybe even some cute silly requests, we ended up being humbled in the honesty of the children. We have some kids working through big things, and we have found praying for those kids as they leave VBS to be our best tool. Here is a list of prayer requests from this year's VBS. We encourage you to hang this up somewhere and pray for these children throughout the month.

MOMS & DADS

- Fingers Heal
- Change their ways
- Divorce
- Stop Arguing/Yelling
- Working Vehicles

GRANDMAS & GRANDPAS

- Healing from Illnesses, Injuries, and Surgeries
- Moved to Nursing Home

BROTHERS & SISTERS

- Injuries
- New Siblings Coming Home from Colombia

AUNTS & UNCLES

- Sick
- Hospitalized
- Seizures
- Hip Replacement

FRIENDS

- Hand Injury
- Hospitalized
- Eye Surgery
- Moving to new School

PETS

- Cats
- Dogs
- Ponies

THEMSELVES

- Splinters, Scratches, Scrapes, Broken Bones, & Injuries
- Won't Be afraid
- Will be like Jesus
- Safe travels to vacation
- Nightmares Stop
- Sadness Goes Away
- Start of School
- Moved to New School
- Parents Divorcing
- Foster Child in Home
- That I'll be OK
- I won't be Homeless

OTHER

- People without homes find homes
- People without money will get money
- People without food will get food
- People without clothes will get clothing
- Safety and Fun on Vacations

Intercessory Prayer for Our Services



This ministry was formed to invite the Holy Spirit to move greatly in our services. Volunteers pray for the service while it is happening. We provide everything you need for this time. You can pray at the church, your home or anywhere!

Please contact Cindy Hayes (618-599-1251) or the church office (618-842-4311) to fill one of the open spaces.

8am

Aug 3

CIT Class

Aug 10

volunteer needed

Aug 17

volunteer needed

Aug 24

Jack Tribe

Aug 31

volunteer needed

10:15am

CIT Class

June Reeves

Carolyn Griffith

FCC Youth

volunteer needed



Summer is coming to an end, which means school is about to begin. Summer can be so busy, with it being filled with cookouts, pool time, and vacations. When school starts up, the busy changes to waking up at 6am to get to school and sports. The busy is more routine and can feel mundane at times. It can be hard to find God in a season where everyday looks the same. Lamentations 3:22-23 says, "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." As the busy comes, I hope this is an encouragement that even in the constant routine and mundane schedules, we serve and worship a God whose mercies are new every morning. For me, listening to worship music can help remind me of His mercies every morning. For you it might be a walk by the lake or reading your Bible while drinking coffee. Whatever that may look like for you, I pray and encourage you to find that, because it help us navigate the busiest times.

I also want to say thank you to each and every person who has welcomed me into the church this summer. I have had an amazing time getting to know everyone here at FCC, you all have welcomed me with open arms, and for that I am extremely grateful. I hope to visit as much as possible!

Brady's last day with us is on August 10th. We will plan on doing a "Love Offering" in both services the week before to thank him for his hard work and to encourage him on in his studies this fall at Johnson University.

MISSION SPOTLIGHT

August is back-to-school time! We have many missions on our list that support schools and students. Did you know **Faith Promise** and **Golden Bowl** support ministries for local students? Our area elementary schools have students without reliable food. First Christian Church coordinates "backpacks" to send food into those homes during the weekend.

We are also involved at the following college campuses:

Christian Campus House at Eastern Illinois University, Ozark Christian College, Central Christian College of the Bible, and Johnson University.

Matthew Thomas, Campus Minister with Christian Campus House (CCH) at EIU, Charleston, IL came to update us on the ministry. Matthew assumed the role of Campus Minister following the retirement of Roger Songer in 2016. He received his Master's degree in Christian Ministry from Lincoln Christian University, while serving as an Associate Minister of CCH, and has been preaching, teaching, and discipling for over 20 years with CCH.



CCH's attendance is around 50 - 60 students each Sunday morning with about 50 on Wednesday nights. Services there are similar to a traditional church service. Many of the students who attend never attended church regularly. During the first two weeks each semester there are special activities every night. Mission trips are offered and students commonly elect to do short-term work at ministries like Shiloh Christian Children's Home. Former students have accepted a calling into full-time ministry through the discipleship and God's leading from EIU's Christian Campus House. Matthew thanked First Christian Church for its continued support and invites us to visit them.

Pray for our students and the campuses near and far that God's light will be evident, leading people to Him.

While in Poland, our mission team experienced God's work in the lives at **Save A Life ministry**. The team heard from the women first-hand their moving testimonies and toured the facility. With the generous giving for 2025 Faith Promise, First Christian Church will be sending \$5,000 to meet needs of Save a Life in Poland, through Polish Christian Ministries.

NEW MINISTRY FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS!

FCC is starting a college age group called 18/25. This is a College Age Ministry is led by our Minister, Kyle Borah. It is open to any and all college students, not just those attending our church. The group will meet at 5:30pm every Thursday evening at Fusion Coffee. This will be a time to hang out, enjoy coffee and treats, and study the Scripture together.

NURSERY SCHEDULE

	SUNDAY SCHOOL	10:15 SERVICE
AUG 3	Elizabeth Long	Jordan Atwood/Diana Higginbotham
AUG 10	Sidney Eckleberry	Morgan Griffith / Macie Edwards
AUG 17	Alex Vaupel / Jackie O'Daniel	Jackie Gre pares
AUG 24	Mason & Marissa Spitzner	Bob & Dena Hall
AUG 31	Sidney Eckleberry & Heather Neuman	Anthony & Mariah Vaughan

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

August 2 Jed Jones Jason McCulley	August 7 Allissa Keoughan Marty Keoughan	August 12 Connie Reid David Vaughan	August 19 John Basnett Cindy Gre pares	August 27 Alan Kemp Jeremy Vaughan
August 3 Jennifer Barbre Pat Pollard	August 8 Ashley Basnett Nora Pippin	August 13 Kate Vaughan	August 20 Fred Blessing	August 28 Joe Holman
August 4 Nora Oliver Benjamin Pope	August 9 Ryan Duckworth Mason Spitzner	August 14 Anita Newcomb Christopher Overbee	August 21 Brenda Newby	August 29 Miller Simpson
August 5 Archie Duckworth	August 10 Susan Phelps	August 15 Jerry Cathey	August 23 Shane Neuman	August 30 Jordyn Basnett Leo Braddock Carl Hayes Terry Prizer
August 6 Matthew Mitchell	August 11 Matthew Barbre Janet Brant	August 17 Jessica Oliver Kiersten Vaughan	August 24 Terri Shreve	August 31 Aubrey Obrecht Alexandria Vaupel
		August 18 Jean Weedman	August 25 Cinnamon Willett	
			August 26 Sharon Gualdoni	

JUNE 2025

Fund	Beginning Balance	Income	Expense	Ending Balance
General	\$549,989	\$74,693	\$71,779	\$552,903
Mission	\$208,217	\$29,110	\$45,304	\$192,023
Totals	\$758,206	\$103,803	\$117,083	\$744,926



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