



First Christian Church

# 2025 SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

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follow us on:  

Life certainly does have its ups and downs. Things are constantly changing. Days go by our children get older, our parents get older or are no longer with us, which is very strange because we always stay the same age. I've been seeing pictures of children going to school this fall holding up their signs with "first day of" and whatever grade they're going into. Some of them are first-timers going to preschool or kindergarten; others are entering their first year in college. Some are going to finish grade school this year and move into the high school. Others are finishing their high school career or maybe even college. Which leaves us wondering... where did the time go? The saying is true, "time waits for no man".

I'm reminded every time I get a haircut I have less dark hair and more highlights. There are so many different stages of life. As I write this article I'm overwhelmed by all the different circumstances and stages in life. There are great joys which take us to the highest mountain tops where we state "it doesn't get any better than this". Then there are days of great difficulty and sorrow which means we walk through some of the darkest valleys of this life and experiences. I know today we have people in all of those areas. The writer of Ecclesiastes reminds us:

*"There is a time for everything, in a season  
for every activity under heaven:  
time to be born and a time to die,  
time to plant and a time to uproot,  
time to kill and a time to heal,  
time to tear down and a time to build,  
time to weep and a time to laugh,  
time to mourn and a time to dance,  
time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,  
a time to embrace and a time to refrain,  
time to search and a time to give up,  
a time to keep and a time to throw away,  
time to tear and a time to mend,  
time to be silent and a time to speak,  
time to love and a time to hate,  
time for war and a time for peace."*

-Ecclesiastes 3:1 - 8

I just finished using this Scripture on Sunday when speaking of times to celebrate. As we go through life, it is interesting to contemplate how much is involved in the different seasons. One of the greatest gifts God gave to us, no matter what season we are in, is He would always be with us. On the mountain tops or in the Valley of the shadow of death, He is there. In this life there would never be a step we would take without Him and there would never be a circumstance He wouldn't know and understand. Our greatest joys, He celebrates and our greatest sorrows, He mourns.

Along with His presence in life we also receive hope for all eternity. And hope is a powerful thing. It brings light in our darkness and joy in our sorrow. Hope lifts us from the depths and puts our hearts and minds at peace knowing one day we shall be home. Peter writes in his book to remind us of this hope:

*"Praise be to the God and father  
of our Lord Jesus Christ!*

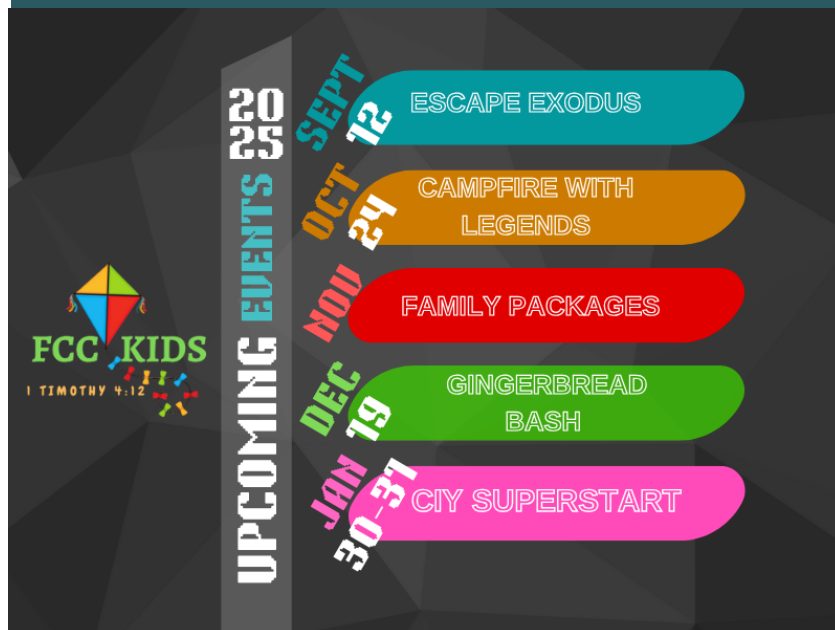
*In his great mercy he has given us new birth  
into a living hope through the resurrection  
of Jesus Christ from the dead,  
and into an inheritance that can never  
perish, spoil or fade - kept in heaven for you,  
who through faith are shielded by  
God's power until the coming of the salvation  
that is ready to be revealed in the last time.*

*In this you greatly rejoice,  
though now for a little while you may  
have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials."*

-1 Peter 1:3 - 6

One of the things I try to remember as this life continues on day in and day out is "this too shall pass". I remember my greatest joys here in this life will pale in comparison to the joy of being home with the Lord. And my sorrows on that day will fade. Because on that day "There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, but the old order of things has passed away." (Revelation 21:4)

Praise God for our great hope!



It's hard to believe but summer is over and the new school year has started. I know how quickly everyone's schedules fill up and how nice it is to know what's coming. With that in mind, we have planned out the next semester of events for the kids. Each of these events will help the kids in their walk with Christ, whether through active discipleship, inviting friends, fellowship, or just by helping them understand what the church is and God's purpose for it. Be sure to save these dates because we truly believe they will be a blessing in the lives of your children!



FCC Kids will have a **parent** meeting following the 10:15 service on **September 07**. Lunch will be provided! We will discuss upcoming events, what Sunday morning looks like, the heart behind everything we do, and more. We also want to hear from you and what you like about the ministry and how we can better serve you and your family.



We will have a **volunteer** meeting following the 10:15 service on **September 28**. Lunch will be provided! We ask that if you currently volunteer in the kids area you please make plans to attend. If you are at all interested in serving in the children's area we also encourage you to plan on attending this meeting.

## NURSERY SCHEDULE

	SUNDAY SCHOOL	10:15 SERVICE
SEPT 7	Elizabeth Long	Jordan Atwood/Diana Higginbotham
SEPT 14	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>	Morgan Griffith / Macie Edwards
SEPT 21	Alex Vaupel / Jackie O'Daniel	Jackie Grepares
SEPT 28	Mason & Marissa Spitzner	Bob & Dena Hall

# PRAYER MINISTRY



## During 2025 the Prayer Ministry wants to challenge you to pray for your FCC Family

Select a family in the church	Commit to pray for that family regularly	During the month of Sept, pray for the family's spiritual growth:
<p>A single person, a couple, or as multiple individuals/couples</p> <p>A family not on your prayer list</p> <p>Use the same family all year</p> <p>or change monthly, quarterly, or however you feel led</p>	<p>Seek God in guiding your prayers</p> <p>Assign times to pray</p> <p>Pray as a group daily</p> <p>Post the name in your home and pray every time you see the name</p>	<p><b>Pray for:</b></p> <p>The Holy Spirit be renewed and empowered in their lives</p> <p>The desire and opportunities for service are abundant</p> <p>Godly Friends surround our families</p>

## 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

**Sept 7**  
**Sept 14**  
**Sept 21**  
**Sept 28**  
**Oct 5**  
**Oct 12**  
**Oct 19**  
**Oct 26**

SALT Class  
**volunteer needed**  
**volunteer needed**  
**volunteer needed**  
**volunteer needed**  
**volunteer needed**  
Archie & Jean Duckworth  
Kelly Scott

### 10:15am

SALT CLASS  
Debbie McKibben  
Judy Griswold  
ACTS Class  
Terry Shreve  
Jacob Butcher  
**volunteer needed**  
Connie Mitchell

# ADULT EDUCATION



We are restructuring the weekly Wednesday nights this year and calling it **FUSE**!

*Fuse: (v) to join or blend to form a single entity:*

Once a month we will gather together to eat, do a service project, and pray. There will be something for every age group! Children & Students will join in on the fun as well!

## MARK YOU CALENDARS:

**Sept 10:** College Care Packages

**Oct 22:** IDES Meal Packing

**Nov 19:** Thanksgiving Meal Deliveries

## Small Groups are starting back up on September 7th!

Small Groups are a great way to build community and deepen personal spiritual growth.

This year, our small groups will be working through "John - Believe I Am" study by Megan Fate Marshman.



This 8 week study focus on the book of John and dissecting the seven "I Am" statements, where we learn about Jesus' character and love for us.

**Contact the church office to get plugged into a group!**

# MISSION SPOTLIGHT

Our church supports Ryan and Lori Sudsberry through GO Ministries. They shared a letter with us and a recent family photo. It's great to see this family who have visited us in the past and see how their kids are grown. Ryan and Lori primarily serve in the Dominican Republic. They recently celebrated 26 years of marriage. The fall will bring more travel for Ryan and Lori to work with new church networks. Ryan writes, "We started off with the majority of June being in several countries caring for our leaders and church planting networks. In the fall Ethan will be attending college in South Carolina; Callie is graduating high school and is Keagan working full-time. Each of the kids are doing well spiritually. Callie and Lori were at CIY (Christ in Youth) where Lori was an 11th grade small group leader."



"We thank you for the prayers seeking: Discernment with new networks and network leaders. Training with our leaders, wisdom in writing and clarity in communication. Safety in travel. Additional support beginning in January 2026. Thank you for your prayers and support."

-Ryan and Lori

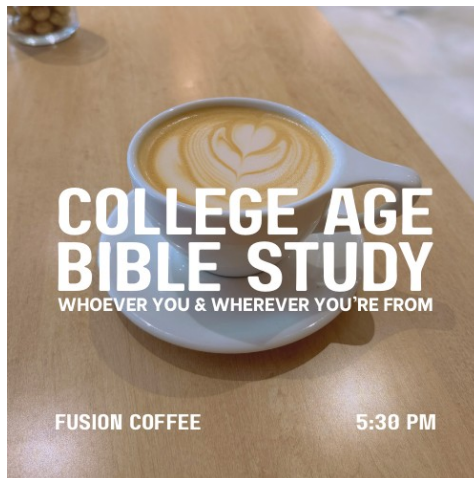
# STUDENT MINISTRY

KYLE@FCCFAIRFIELD.COM



Football season has started 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.

There is a college group that meets on Thursdays at 5:30 PM. We meet at Fusion Coffee to hang out, enjoy some coffee, and to study Scripture. This is for everyone ages 18-25.



The Attic will be going through a series called One Body on Sunday Nights. This will focus on unity among believers as well as discovering spiritual gifts.

## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

**September 1**  
Jett Smith  
Sophie Spitzner

**September 2**  
Maddison Oliver  
Molly Oliver  
Heath Wilson

**September 3**  
Jeff Hall  
Doris Hess  
Bill Robbins

**September 4**  
Denise Barnard  
Becky Duckworth  
Holly Legg  
Raymond Shelton

**September 5**  
Sophia Livesay

**September 6**  
Bob Bunting  
Cindy Hayes  
Clinton Hayes

**September 9**  
Doug Aman

**September 11**  
Alayna Doyle  
Beth Wilson

**September 14**  
Titus Butcher  
Brogan Lavine  
Darian Lavine  
Theresa Owen  
Richard F. Reid

**September 15**  
Denis Lambrich  
Sandra Vandever

**September 16**  
Aubrey May  
Presley Wright

**September 19**  
Jerek Keoughan  
Kent Vinson

**September 20**  
Toby Hucker  
Max Puckett  
Ashton Steury

**September 23**  
Jim Meritt  
Emma Michels  
Ruth Michels

**September 24**  
Gary Carter  
Micah Hall

**September 25**  
Christopher Barbre  
Pat Bradham  
Dan Coomer  
Jerry Keener

**September 27**  
Dena Coomer

**September 29**  
Jacob Billington  
Alex Brake  
Owen Frankland  
Mike Newby

**September 30**  
Kyler Richards

## JULY 2025

Fund	Beginning Balance	Income	Expense	Ending Balance
General	\$552,903	\$63,127	\$59,877	\$556,153
Mission	\$192,023	\$24,226	\$44,544	\$171,705
Totals	\$744,926	\$87,353	\$104,421	\$727,858



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