## FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH follow us on: f © 2025 OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

100 W. Center St. Fairfield, IL (618)842-4311

I'm so thankful to be part of First Christian. Of the many reasons, one is because of what is accomplished through our Faith Promise. I think many times we think of Faith Promise as a program we do instead of ministries we support. So I wanted to take a few minutes and share what Faith Promise is all about. Each year the promises made and given are passed on to ministries to impact the world for Christ. It is wonderful to be part of ministries who are so faithful to the cause of Christ.

Most, if not all, of the ministries we support through faith promise are in some way involved in church planting, discipleship, leadership training, community development. The central focus of all the ministries supported through Faith Promise is sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ with a world who desperately need to be set free from the chains of sin. Thank you for sharing in the Faith Promise in the past so gifts could be given and lives could be changed. If you would like to learn more about the ministries supported through Faith Promise and what they do please contact Clinton Legg or asked to speak to someone on our mission team. They certainly would be glad to share about the ministries that we support. If you would be interested in joining the ministry team, again, contact Clinton Legg and he can share about the next steps to help in the process. If you are unaware who Clinton is he will be on our stage on October 5 after the parade of flags to share more about the history of Faith Promise and the opportunities for 2026.

What is given to Faith Promise is needed. It is our way as a church to share with other ministries the opportunity to impact the world for Christ. The goal this year is \$350,000. This is an increase to the goal from last year and will allow us to accomplish helping all of the ministries we currently support and potentially more.

When it comes to Faith Promise it is imperative you turn in a Faith Promise card. While it is true you can give to missions without filling out a card, the Mission Ministry plans and prepares their budget solely based on the amount promised through the cards. In order to make a good decision on what ministries to support it is essential to have those returned cards.

Faith Promise is just that, a promise made in faith trusting God will provide what He has placed on your heart to give. Therefore, we need to be praying and seeking God for what he would have us to give toward missions through Faith Promise for 2026. I would like to encourage you to pray about giving something. Some of us will be able to give much and some potentially just a little. Whatever you can give, my goal is 100% of the congregation participates in Faith Promise. I believe this is important because each of us has the privilege of being part of sharing the gospel around the globe. I would like everyone in the congregation to know they are part of something bigger which meets many needs of other people. Especially the spiritual need of salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord.

So come along for the ride this month of October! Faith promise Sunday (where you make your pledges) will be October 26 and we will have a missions emphasis all month long as we prepare our hearts for that Sunday. Pray about what you believe you or your family should give, let the Lord lead. When you fill out the Faith Promise card, give faithfully and enjoying being a part of the mission ministry here at First Christian and the impact we are fortunate to be able to make around the world. October is always a great time of challenge and faith as we work through Faith Promise. Thank you in advance for your faithfulness and your generosity.

#### **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**

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During one of my Sunday School lessons, we discussed being part of God's Kingdom. Specifically, how that impacts the shows we watch. The kids asked about shows like KPop Demon Hunters, Family Guy, and yes, even Mickey Mouse. If you find yourself pondering these same things and trying to interpret what may or may not be appropriate, there is a great site that can help guide your decisions. Common Sense Media is a nonprofit that helps parents and teachers navigate this digital world. Scan the QR code for the site:



Another way to help with media consumption, not only for your kids but also for yourselves is asking your-self hard questions. Here are a few questions that I like to personally ask myself for my kids screen time:

- 1. How does this impact the way I speak, see the world, and what I find myself thinking about?
- 2. What does this glorify? Something in line with the Kingdom of God or the kingdom of darkness?
- 3. Can my child handle this?
- 4. How will this impact my child's faith? What morals are being taught?

Something I always suggest if you don't know about a show (or video game) that your child is interested in or talking about, you can watch it without your children first. However, using Common Sense Media (Pink QR Code) can also be another excellent starting point! When it comes to your children, what they view and see can have lasting impacts. Be sure check into it yourself before letting your children watch just anything.



In October on Sunday nights, the kids will be studying "Firey" stories of the Bible. We will look at some pretty amazing miracles, well known and not so well known, from the scriptures. Also seeing how God lets us and others to be a part of His plans here on Earth. We'll see how God moves, leaving no doubt about who He is.

To go along with this study, on Friday

October 24 we're inviting all kids, K-5th grade to come hang out and enjoy a campfire night with fun, friends, and games! Even if you miss a few Sunday night lessons, don't worry, you'll still have a blast at this event! Supper will be provided!

Register today by scanning the orange QR code.

NURSERY SCHEDULE						
	SUNDAY SCHOOL	10:15 SERVICE				
OCT 5	Elizabeth Long	Jordan Atwood/Diana Higginbotham				
OCT 12	Volunteer Needed	Morgan Griffith / Macie Edwards				
OCT 19	Alex Vaupel / Jackie O'Daniel	Jackie Grepares				
OCT 26	Mason & Marissa Spitzner	Bob & Dena Hall				

October is Pastor Appreciation Month! We have been blessed with great ministers in our church for many generations.

Being a minister means more than just preaching on Sundays. It requires dedication, wisdom, and a servant's heart. A pastor's role encompasses spiritual leadership, administration, and personal mentorship all while living a life of strong character and integrity.

"For an overseer, as God's steward, must be above reproach. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or drunkard or violent or greedy gain. Rather, he must be hospitable, one who loves what is good, who is self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined." Titus 1:7-8

We are grateful to have 3 wonderful ministers here that love God, love our church, and live with integrity and compassion. They have a big job, and we have a responsibility to encourage and support them as a congregation.

Here's some ways you can show your appreciation this month:

- 1. Pray for them everyday this month.
- 2. Send a handwritten encouragement card.
- 3. Invite them for a meal.
- 4. Give a small thoughtful gift.

Pastor appreciation is not merely about celebration; it's more about strengthening the body of Christ. By showing genuine gratitude, we build an encouraging church community. Pastors spend their lives pouring into others, and this month gives us a beautiful opportunity to give back to them.



#### MISSION SPOTLIGHT

#### "Thrive – For Such a Time as This" - Faith Promise 2026

#### Our goal:

For people around the globe to hear about the love and salvation found through one savior, Jesus Christ. To enlarge His Kingdom. To make and support disciples. To help feed the hungry, care for the orphan, treat the sick.

How will they hear? [Romans 10] How can we impact the Kingdom locally, in the U.S. and around the globe? Through stepping out in faith as individuals and families and supporting missionaries, bible colleges, and community ministries...that reach individual people with God's love. It's an additional act of worship.

#### Goal is \$350,000 annualized Faith Promise (missions' budget) giving. This is an increase from past years.

**Pray** for our church as we all seek God's guidance in making a step in faith

for God to lead you personally- giving in faith

for impact to His Kingdom through our Faith Promise in 2026

for God to send workers to the nations - and, that we are open and take action of being his hands and feet

Card Complete the Faith Promise card (distributed from church and available at the Welcome Center)

All Faith Promisers need to complete a new card for 2026

Return the card to the church, preferably on or before October 26

**Praise** Sunday, October 26 we tally the cards

Celebrating as followers of Christ what we believe, in faith, God will do in our individual and family lives Knowing

lives will be changed as the gospel saves, and new disciples and believers will multiply

#### PRAYER MINISTRY

The Prayer Ministry has formed a new team committed to being in prayer for our college students. College offers many new opportunities, situations and challenges that can test the faith of students.

### As a church, we want to be faithful in lifting our students in prayer during this vital time in their faith journey.

If you are willing to commit to pray for our current college students, please stop by the Welcome Desk and pick up a card with the students names and prayer points. Please sign your name on the list so we can notify you of any changes or updates. If you are unable to make it in and would like to do this from afar, contact the church office!

#### **During 2025 the Prayer Ministry wants**

## Select a family in the church

A single person, a couple, or as multiple individuals/couples

A family not on your prayer list

Use the same family all year or change monthly, quarterly, or however you feel led

## Commit to pray for that family regularly

Seek God in guiding your prayers

Assign times to pray

Pray as a group daily

Post the name in your home and pray every time you see the name

## Through the month of Oct pray the family will:

Take time to appreciate how nature is changing and spend time worshipping God and trusting

His perfect plan not only in nature but in their own lives

# FCC Prayer

#### **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.

Terry Shreve

8am	10:15am		
Oct 5	volunteer needed		
Oct 12	voluntoer needed		

**Oct 12** Jacob Butcher volunteer needed **Oct 19** Archie & Jean Duckworth volunteer needed Oct 26 Connie Mitchell Kelly Scott Nov 2 **CIT Class CIT Class** Nov 9 volunteer needed June Reeves **Nov 16** volunteer needed Carolyn Griffith **Nov 23 FCC Youth** Jack Tribe

#### STUDENT MINISTRY

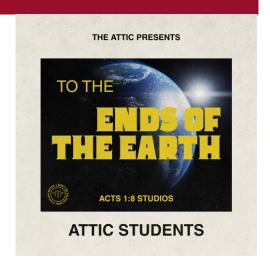
KYLE@FCCFAIRFIELD.COM



We will be having another Parent Night on Sunday, October 12. Any parent of a student in the Attic is welcome to join us to see what their student does on Sunday evenings, events are coming up in the Attic, and hear about our exciting 2026 summer plans.



The Attic is joining in with youth ministries across the U.S. to share the gospel intentionally in the month of October. Each student is challenged to share the Gospel 10 times through the month. Each student in the challenge receives a bracelet with 10 beads to represent each conversation.



To go along with TalkTober, we will be going through a series about the importance and how-tos of sharing the Gospel with those in our lives so we won't be "selfish with our salvation." This will be a great series to help equip students and give them practical tools to use in their schools, work, and with friends.

#### OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

October 1
Beverly Dilges

October 2
Kentley Ethridge
Mason Ethridge
Cameron Simpson

October 3 Sonja Hall

October 4
Michael Mitchell

October 9
Jordan Griffith

October 10 Kerry Meritt October 12 Greg Basnett

October 13
Jacob Butcher
Holsten Kiefer

October 15 Clara Curd

October 16
Dorothy McCulley

October 17 Doris Galiher

October 18 Marlene Barrett Marlene Rogers October 20 Cale Simpson

October 21 Matthew Michels Steve Vandeveer Rhettley Wright

October 22 Joshua Musgrave

> October 23 Gary Gain

October 24
Chuck Coget
Macy McCulley
Mary O'Daniel
Luke Spitzner

October 25
Arvis Aman
Scarlett Edwards

October 26 Jerry Carter

October 28 Melissa Curd

October 29
Teresa Courtright
Debbie Xanders

October 30 Kelly Basnett Judy Griswold

October 31 Brooklynn Frost

AUGUST 2025 FINANCIALS						
Fund	Beginning Balance	Income	Expense	Ending Balance		
General	\$556,153	\$64,759	\$59,166	\$561,746		
Mission	\$171,705	\$27,256	\$32,460	\$166,501		
Totals	\$727,858	\$92,015	\$91,626	\$728,247		



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