



# FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

## 2026 January NEWSLETTER

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It's the start of a new year and during this time we begin to think of resolutions. I don't know if it's so much resolutions we need to put our mind to, as much as, it is pausing to look and reflect at our lives. At this of the year I think we should give thought to things we need to weed out of our lives. Especially if they are not healthy, positive, or lead to a positive Godly mindset. These may be things we hold on to out of habit, enjoyment, or desire, but offer no benefit and actually may cause damage and baggage in our lives.

I also believe we can begin and add things we could put into our lives that are helpful and bring us closer to God. Some of these plans might involve to being healthier, to eat right, and to get enough sleep and to exercise. There's a passage in Timothy that encourages us to take care of our physical being. Ultimately, however, Paul encourages Timothy to work on becoming Godly. Becoming more like God will help us in our relationships with people here on earth but also would provide hope for all eternity.

*"Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives tales; rather, train yourself to be godly. For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come."*

(1 Timothy 4:7 - 8)

With this in mind, I would like to encourage and challenge you to look for areas this year where you can grow in your faith. I hope you will get involved in a small group, Sunday school class, Bible study, or some other activity which will encourage spiritual growth to become more like Christ.

Each year we try to re-encourage our church members to get into their Bibles. This year you can find a reading plan near the Welcome Center on our Information Wall. If you would like it sent electronically, email the church office.

This plan will walk you chronologically through the Bible. Whether or not you choose to use this plan, my hope is you will set a goal to be in God's word more this year than you were last year. I hope you will consider putting into practice a daily time of reading, meditation, and prayer. I know for myself I can get better and improve in all of these areas.

Remember here at First Christian we want you to **encounter** Christ, to know He is real and active and still working in our lives everyday. As we enter into our time of Sunday corporate worship, we will be seeking God's face and longing to be in his presence. We also want you to **grow**. We desire that you are striving to grow in your relationship with God, in your understanding of his word, and your sensitivity and willingness to follow the Holy Spirit. Finally, we want you to find an area to **serve**. We believe all Christians are gifted to serve God and it is our responsibility to use those gifts to bring glory to his name. Hopefully our service also brings others to be introduced to Christ and to change their lives and eternity forever.

As we begin 2026 let us all seek to weed out the things hindering us and place into our lives those things that will help us, grow and serve our incredible God. As it seems to be the norm during this time of the year to improve the physical aspect of our lives, we should also remember to spiritually strive for improvements and excellence.

I hope you're looking forward to another wonderful year. Here at the church we have seen two years of wonderful growth which we thank you for being a part. We would love to continue to influence and change people's lives with your help as we invite others to join us in a relationship with God and Jesus Christ.

# FCC Annual Meeting

January 25, 2026 – 9:00am – Sanctuary

## Agenda:

- Approve 2026 Budget
- Recognizing Elders
- Reports & Celebration

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

CALEB@FCCFAIRFIELD.COM



FCC Kids are heading to Super Start! Super Start is an overnight, high-energy kids conference hosted by Christ In Youth (CIY) for 4th-6th graders. It will be high energy with incredible worship, amazing speakers, and tons of fun where every aspect of the weekend is intentionally designed for your child's age group. God moves in very real ways in the lives of the kids who attend. They build relationships with one another that can become life lasting! We have many in our group that went last year and still talk about what they learned with me to this day. FCC Kids and their friends (4th-6th graders) are welcome to join us January 30-31, 2026. To register, scan the QR Code. The cost is \$64. Register by January 1, 2026.



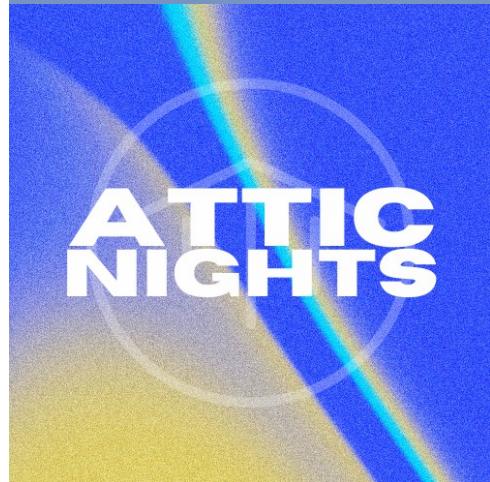
The Big Overnighter is ALWAYS a fun time and a favorite for our FCC Kids. More importantly, this is a great time to encounter important truths from God for your preteens! We will be headed out to Oil Belt Christian Service Camp on Friday, March 6th and returning the following day. The theme is a throwback to the 50's/60's era with poodle skirts, leather jackets, a classic cars. 3rd-5th Graders, along with their friends are invited to join in. The cost is \$20 per student. Please contact Caleb for more information or to get registered!

## NURSERY SCHEDULE

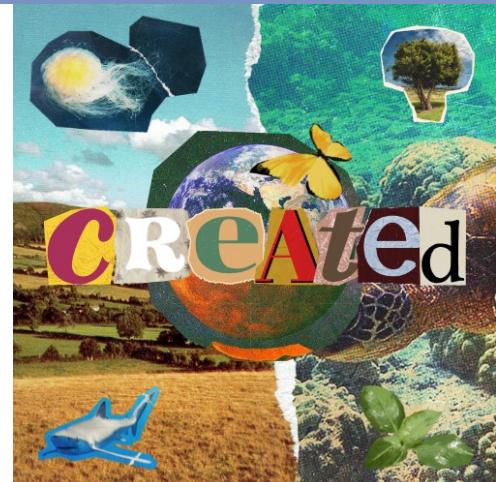
	SUNDAY SCHOOL	10:15 SERVICE
JAN 4	Elizabeth Long	Jordan Atwood/Diana Higginbotham
JAN 11	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>	Morgan Griffith / Macie Edwards
JAN 18	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>
JAN 25	Mason & Marissa Spitzner	Bob & Dena Hall

# STUDENT MINISTRY

KYLE@FCCFAIRFIELD.COM



The Attic's Sunday night programming, Attic Nights, is going through a change for the new year. The main change to take note of is the change in time. Instead of 5:30pm-7:00pm, **we will now be running from 5:15pm-7:15pm**. In these two hours, we will have a youth church service, games, and small groups.



We have a great problem happening in the Attic, we are growing and changing! Because of this, we are in need of some more leaders. If you are interested in helping out leading our high school or middle school students, please reach out to Kyle to learn more about getting involved.

For 2026, on Attic Nights, we will be going through the first 3 chapters of Genesis in depth. We will see God as Creator, us as the created, and how this effects our lives. If you or your child is a 6th-12th grade student, this is a great time to gather with your friends and grow in our knowledge and faith in Christ.

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

<b>January 1</b> Kyle Borah	<b>January 9</b> Wilma Aman Steve Bruce Sherrye Tullis	<b>January 13</b> Dick Curd	<b>January 21</b> Kristi Frost	<b>January 28</b> Rhianne Basnett Steve Long
<b>January 3</b> Shirley Dalton		<b>January 16</b> Kayler Griffith	<b>January 23</b> Carly Fleener Savanna Neuman	<b>January 29</b> Bob Hall Ben Vaupel
<b>January 4</b> Samantha Coomer Paisley Wright	<b>January 10</b> Cole Richards	<b>January 18</b> Braelynn Hall Doyle Hucker Kevin Kakac	<b>January 24</b> Donna Bliss	
<b>January 7</b> Steve Brown	<b>January 11</b> Mildred Gain Jack Tribe	<b>January 19</b> Elizabeth Scarborough	<b>January 25</b> Camila Banos Leeann Leeds Avery McCulley	
	<b>January 13</b> Reagan Basnett Quinton Butcher			

## NOVEMBER 2025 FINANCIALS

Fund	Beginning Balance	Income	Expense	Ending Balance
General	\$522,730	\$83,304	\$55,628	\$550,406
Mission	\$156,199	\$43,761	\$63,128	\$136,832
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$678,929</b>	<b>\$127,065</b>	<b>\$118,756</b>	<b>\$687,238</b>

# PRAYER MINISTRY

The Bible has a lot to say about our enemies. If we are honest with ourselves, most of it we don't want to hear. The Bible tells us to love them, pray for them and work to overcome evil with good. What a challenge! This goes against every instinct we have. We feel like we have accomplished something if we can learn to tolerate them, but the Bible says to love them.

It seems like today everyone is our enemy. If they don't act, think or believe like we do, they are our enemy. All too easily friendships die and families are torn apart as fingers are pointed and declarations are made "You're the enemy!"

As Jesus hung on the cross, he looked at those crucifying him and prayed "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do." (Luke 23:34) As Stephen was being stoned, he called to God and said "Do not hold this sin against them." (Acts 7:60) This was the attitude of men whose enemies ended their life.

If these men can pray for their enemies as they were dying, can we learn to show compassion, mercy, and grace toward our enemies? Can we learn to love, and yes, pray for our enemy? What does happen when we pray for our enemy? When Stephen prayed for his, God heard his prayer and used it to work in the heart of a man known as Saul of Tarsus. Today, we know him as the apostle Paul.

During the month of January we will explore this very topic, **praying for our enemies**. You can find the follow up to this article on our private Facebook Prayer page for FCC. If you would like to join the discussion you can see Sheri Lavine, Cindy Hayes or call the church office to be added to the page!

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Do you quilt, crochet, knit or have any other material related skills? Do you have an interest in learning one of these crafts? Can you pray, sew, cut, sort, teach, organize or encourage? Are you interested in using your skills to minister to others?

**Join us on Saturday, January 10th 9:30-3:30 and/or  
Monday, January 19th 9:30-3:30!**

Bring your sewing machine, crochet hooks, knitting needles and fabric cutting supplies if you have them. If not, bring yourself and we'll provide what you need! Our initial projects will be creating and praying over rag quilts for baby dedication & baby blankets for Compassion Pregnancy Center.

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## 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.**

**8:00am**

**Jan 4**

**volunteer needed**

**Jan 11**

**volunteer needed**

**Jan 18**

Archie & Jean Duckworth

**Jan 25**

Kelly Scott

**10:15am**

Terri Shreve

Jacob Butcher

**volunteer needed**

Connie Mitchell

## MISSION SPOTLIGHT

A New Year is a great time to get involved in local missions. Volunteering at Feed My Sheep kitchen in Fairfield is one way to impact others locally in 2026. Lunch is served Monday – Friday. Contact Lois at (618) 599-7315 to devote time and skills to this mission.

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Keturah Richison visited the mission team and reported on work we help support through Casas por Cristo. Casas por Cristo organization are builders and serve working with local churches and pastors. The mission has a presence in the following countries: Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, and Nicaragua.



**Build** – The mission builds homes for families needing to be reminded that Jesus loves them. It builds relationships between volunteers, families, and pastors that would otherwise never have met. “We strive to build the Kingdom of God by partnering with other local churches and ministries. We strive to build opportunities for growth by creating structured experiences that challenge our volunteers to be stretched beyond their comfort zones.”

**Serve** – “Through the building process, God allows us to interact with our teams, local families, pastors, churches, vendors, and fellow missionaries. We do not want to take any of these interactions for granted. We believe these are unique opportunities presented to us by God to serve each other.”

Casas por Cristo began building homes along the U.S. / México border in 1993. It has expanded to five countries in its 30 years of ministry and provided over 7,000 families with homes. “We are dedicated to meeting the physical need of better housing as a way of also meeting the spiritual need for Jesus Christ.”

In 2025, 300 homes were built with 2026 anticipating 320 homes. Accommodating the growth includes a new facility that will house multiple groups building homes. Keturah’s role is primarily in team recruitment. 2025 recorded 38 first-time groups building a home. First Christian partnered and sent a group in 2023 to build a home for a family in Guatemala.

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Joshua and Abigail Meadows are missionaries we support in Ishinomaki, Japan. Abigail is also the granddaughter of Tamara Vail. They returned to the States for a few weeks and made a stop to share with us at First Christian Church in December to give us an update. We are always eager and grateful to hear what God is doing in the field.



# WEDNESDAY X-FUSE

**JANUARY 28** TAKE DOWN CHRISTMAS  
DECOR AND CLEAN CHURCH

**FEBRUARY 18** TEACHERS & SCHOOL  
STAFF GIFT BAGS

**MARCH 4** NIGHT TO REMEMBER PREP

**APRIL 1** GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE PREP

**MAY 13** VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL PREP

20  
26

WINTER  
SPRING

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