



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

2026 FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

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As I write this article we are standing on the threshold of a major cold front coming in and plummeting our temperatures to single digits as well as the possibility of a large amount of snow. It's late January and we have avoided any major winter weather to this point, but our time has run out. It is hard to believe we are almost through January and staring February in the face.

I have always loved the snow and have enjoyed the beauty the whiteness brings. No matter how dirty the streets may be or how brown the lawns may have turned, when the snow falls it all seemingly looks clean. Covered by a whiteness blanketing the dingy filth of everyday life the landscape displays a beauty only seen during times like this weekend may bring us. This display of cleanness that shows up during the snow reminds me in the passage from Isaiah.

"Come now, let us settle the matter," says the Lord. Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool."

-Isaiah 1:18

We see here the Lord uses snow as an illustration of being clean. Here it is used in reference to being free from sin. We know through scripture God sent His Son as a sacrifice for us. His blood would cover a multitude of sins just like when the snow blankets the ground. We also know all of this was done out of love.

February is the month we celebrate love for one another. It is during this month we make physical and public gestures to display our love for those who are important to us. The ultimate example of how to truly love someone comes from the display of God's love toward us on the cross. It is here we see love being sacrificial and selfless in the form of Jesus giving His life so our sins could

be covered and we could be white as snow. We do our best to emulate this kind of love. We seek to honor God by loving our family, friends, and neighbors well. Paul also helps us to understand what love is supposed to look like as he wrote to the Corinth church.

"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil, but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails."

-1 Corinthians 13:4-8a

We find here as Paul writes a lesson in what love looks like. There is one phrase I would like to point out. It's the phrase, "it keeps no record of wrongs." I am so thankful, unlike the snow when it melts we see all of the filth and dirt underneath. The blood of Jesus Christ perpetually covers our sin. As God looks on us, He sees us always as white as snow. He definitely keeps no record of our wrongs. In the blood of Jesus Christ the grace of God is complete. Our sin is covered and we can live whole.

Because of this example, we do our best to live our lives displaying this kind of love and offering this kind of forgiveness. Since we've been shown this incredible kindness by God, it is imperative we show this kind of love to those around us. Jesus taught us it wasn't just to our family, friends, and people we like. We should show this kind of love to also our enemies. The true challenge of loving is making sure we offer love consistently to everyone we come into contact with in this life. This is not an easy thing. However, it is what God asks us to do so the world could know him and experience His grace and His forgiveness.



We will be exploring abiding with Jesus in the Word, in prayer, in God's will, in love, in thanksgiving, and in joy throughout our lives.

Several members of our congregation will be sharing their talents and stories with us, and our special guest, Diana Klockenga, who will share her inspirational testimony of God's hand on her life.

Plan to join us for this wonderful day that will glorify Christ and draw us into closer companionship with Him

Sign up located at the Welcome Center or contact the church office (618)842-4311

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

CALEB@FCCFAIRFIELD.COM

When kids are encouraged to live out their faith, serve the church, and given the room to take lead on a project, incredible things happen.

That really is the foundational philosophy in FCC Kids—let kids be the church!



February 13 FCC Kids will be hosting the annual Senior Saints Banquet. Our kids get the chance to serve others AND build relationships. We need kids who will help serve food, welcome senior saints, and simply be the church. We also will have a short talent portion to the evening where kids can share their gifts God has given them to change the world. (Kids don't have to do the talent portion to come serve in other areas.) This is such a cool and fun event for everyone!

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 your child registered!



NURSERY SCHEDULE

	SUNDAY SCHOOL	10:15 SERVICE
FEB 01	Elizabeth Long	Jordan Atwood/Diana Higginbotham
FEB 08	Volunteer Needed	Morgan Griffith / Macie Edwards
FEB 15	Jackie Gre pares	Jacque O'Daniel / Alex Vaupel
FEB 22	Mason & Marissa Spitzner	Bob & Dena Hall



In the month of February, the Attic is going to walk through a few stories in Exodus for Attic Nights. These lessons will explore the themes of rescue, sin, and following God. 6th-12th graders and their friends are welcome to join us every Sunday evening 5:15pm - 7:15pm.

The Attic will be having a party to watch "The Big Game" on Sunday February 8. The game starts at 5:30pm. Food will be provided. However, we do ask that boys bring soda to share and girls bring a snack to share.

We have a reason to celebrate! The attic was able to be a part of 4 baptisms in the month of January. Here are the students that made the decision to give their life to Jesus this past month:

- Marin Blessing
- Chase Taylor
- Adrianna New
- Ian Draper

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

February 1
Jenny Lee

February 7
Liana Blanton
Tim R. Smith

February 13
Drake Gray

February 18
Alice Bruce
Brian Hucker
Nick Snidle

February 25
Paisley Basnett
Kylie Green
Brayson Price

February 2
Irene Fansler

February 8
Mark Gre pares

February 15
Ethan Kakac
Heather Owen
Mary Smith

February 21
Kara Blanton

February 26
Dorothy Meritt

February 3
Joel Ethridge
Sandy Frankland
Tim Smith
Betty Stallings

February 9
Shelby Livesay

February 16
Chuck Griswold
Spencer Overbee
Mariah Vaughan

February 22
Lori Kovacich
Taylann Kovacich
Jim Pollard

February 27
Morgan Griffith
Megan Spitzner
Norma Vaughan

February 4
Lenity Livesay

February 11
Joshua Livesay

February 23
Sadie Spitzner

DECEMBER 2025 FINANCIALS

Fund	Beginning Balance	Income	Expense	Ending Balance
General	\$550,406	\$73,633	\$63,566	\$560,473
Mission	\$136,832	\$43,625	\$32,943	\$147,514
Totals	\$687,238	\$117,258	\$96,509	\$707,987

PRAYER MINISTRY



February, the month you and your spouse will celebrate your love in an exchange of gifts and cards. Have you thought about what to get your spouse for Valentine's Day yet? What about the gift of prayer! There is no better gift, because there is not a corner of your spouses' life you cannot touch with prayer. Praying for your spouse strengthens them. Prayer is a powerful way to invite God's presence into your marriage and support your partner in daily life. When life's storms hit, prayer is an effective way to "up your game" to meet these challenges. Research shows praying for your spouse promotes faithfulness. The more you pray for your spouse the more you view your marriage through a Godly lens. This will not only benefit your spouse, but may change the way you view them. Most important of all, praying for your spouse helps to root out sin and

helps to align your will with God's will in your marriage. Ephesians 5:24-25 says "Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her." What better way to fulfill this Godly picture of marriage then to pray for your spouse.

To learn more about praying for your spouse, check out the church prayer page on Facebook as we explore this topic during the month of February.

Our first "Stitched in Prayer" craft days in January were full of fun, fellowship, and productivity! We had nearly 20 ladies show up each time to help us make children's dedication quilts and crochet/knit baby blankets for our local Compassion Pregnancy Center.

**Mark your calendars for Saturday, February 21st
9:30am-3:30pm (Come and Go)**

We will be finishing up our projects we have started and working on pocket prayer squares for cancer patients.



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	10:15am
Feb 1	CIT Class	CIT Class
Feb 8	volunteer needed	June Reeves
Feb 15	volunteer needed	Carolyn Griffith
Feb 22	Jack Tribe	FCC Youth

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES



Our monthly **FUSE nights** have started back up again for 2026! This is a fun evening where we come together or “FUSE” as a church body for fellowship, food, and service. Our February date has been bumped up a week to **Wednesday, February 11th**. We will be having a **meal at 5:45pm** and at **6:30pm our evening activity** will begin. We will be packing over 200 gift bags for our local area teachers & Staff. There will be something for every age group to help prepare bags. If you haven't been to a Wednesday night before this would be the perfect one to start and see what it is all about!

We do need a headcount so we can know how much food to prepare. Please sign up at the Welcome Center or contact the church office to let us know. (618)842-4311 fcc@fccfairfield.com

YEE-HAW! “**Night to Remember**” is an annual event here at our church, honoring and valuing people who have special needs. It's just one small way we want to express our love and celebrate how God makes us all unique. Our party will be on Friday March 6, 2026 6:00pm - 8:00pm. Bust out your flannels and cowboy boots because this year's theme is “Western.” There will be live music with a large space to dance in, small games like bingo and bags, a photo booth, face painting, and we serve a light meal.

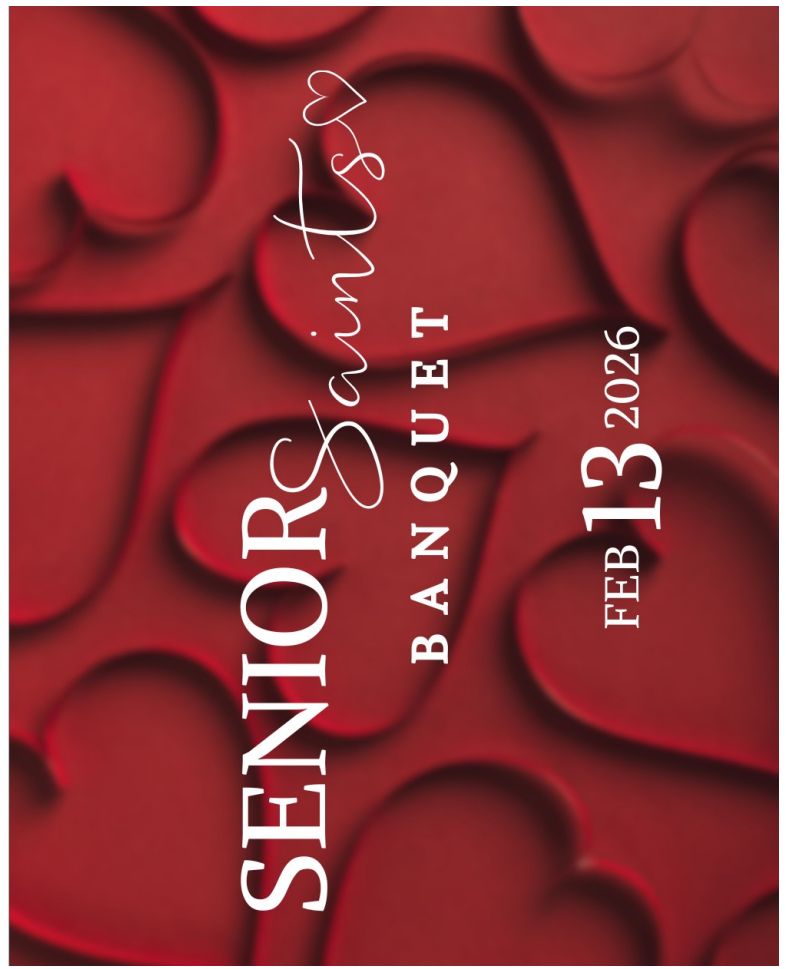
This is an incredibly fun event, but it also takes a lot of volunteers to pull it off! Each guest that comes is partnered with a church “buddy.” This buddy will help them to their tables, move through games/activities, and encourage them to get out on the dance floor to bust a move. It's a fulfilling volunteer job and give you the opportunity to love on those in our community. Please contact the church office (618)842-4311 if you would like to volunteer!



BRADY VANHYNING
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It is so crazy how quick January has come and gone. Through the last month I have seen God move in so many ways here at this church. The youth in the Attic are growing and seeking Christ. When we moved 10:15 service from the MPR to the Sanctuary (while carpet install was happening), listening to all the voices singing out in worship as one to the Lord. The people I chat with every week that encourage me and deepen my faith. I pray God continues to move everyday in my heart, as well as in the hearts of those in our congregation. I pray we would all continue seeking after Him!

The time is approaching to start thinking about our combined Easter service! Which is wild to think about it coming so soon. With that being said, I would love to have another choir again for the combined service on Easter Day (April 5)! If you have any interest or questions about joining the choir, please send me an email or catch me on a Sunday morning!



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