



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH 2026 MARCH NEWSLETTER

100 W. Center St. Fairfield, IL
(618)842-4311
fcc@fccfairfield.com
fccfairfield.com
follow us on:  

It was 70° out yesterday and today it's almost as warm. Spring is knocking on the door and is trying to arrive early. This is a time of year of the great awakening. The flowers begin to peak out of the ground, the trees begin to bud, and the knowledge of the new year of growth has begun. This life is always fun to experience and enjoy. As many of you know we have had some new life come to our family as my son and his wife now have a daughter. Our church, as we have started the new year, has already had a number of people come to Christ through Christian baptism. It is truly a blessing to be part of God's plan to save the lost and to have brothers and sisters born again into new life.

This new life brings with it so many opportunities for growth, for wisdom, and for blessing. It is so exciting to be part of the church where lives are being changed! God's kingdom is being preached and whole families are being challenged to walk with the Lord. It is important to understand all of this is possible because we have an incredible message of salvation through Jesus Christ and people who are willing to share that message. You are an important part of this church being effective in bringing people into the knowledge of Jesus Christ. Your simple invitation to someone to join you on a Sunday morning, or a simple conversation about how Jesus has changed your life and the offer to help others find meaning in Jesus Christ, is having an incredible impact for the Kingdom.

You also need to be aware if you do not have a relationship with Jesus Christ we as a church would love to speak with you about how he could change your life. It is imperative

you know your sins can be forgiven and you too can have new life! This new life not only gives us a new starting point but also a new family. It is an adoption into God's family as a full son or daughter. It is the most wonderful thing to think the creator of the universe loved you so much he made away for you to start over, have new life, and be part of His family. This is all possible because God sent his son to sacrifice himself to take away sin. This sacrifice is incredibly humbling but also wonderfully powerful.

As all of creation wakes up after the dark and death of a long winter might you also this spring wake up to new life and a new family. If you have already been awakened please take the opportunity to encourage someone else who hasn't had the experience of coming to know Jesus Christ. Please take the time to talk with them about Jesus and invite them to join you in attending worship with you.

Easter would be a great time to invite someone to join you for worship. The whole month of March is still ahead of us before Easter but the date for Easter is so early in April, the invitation is going to have to be made in the month of March. So please be thinking and praying about who you might invite to join you in celebrating the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We will have a combined service at 9:00 am Sunday April 5th. It is always a great joy for the whole body of believers here at First Christian to gather together in one place during one worship service to celebrate what God is done for us.

Please make plans to join us on that Sunday and invite someone to come along with you. New life awaits!

CRAIG SCOTT
craig@fccfairfield.com

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

CALEB@FCCFAIRFIELD.COM

In Mark 10, Jesus is blessing babies when His apostles start thinking, "He's too busy for such unimportant work." Jesus corrects this grave misunderstanding quickly:

"When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.'" Mark 10:14



It always stands out to me that Jesus becomes frustrated with his apostles, because babies and children are so important to Jesus. He takes time out of His ministry to bless them, and points to them as an example for the kingdom of God of who to be. Another way to say it is best attributed to C.S. Lewis, "Kids aren't a distraction from important work, they are the most important work."

How often we look at caring for babies as simply babysitting. Instead, we need to look at caring for babies as a welcome opportunity to bless them and to point them to Jesus. Set in place a deep foundation of who Jesus is and His great love for them. This age provides the chance to impress upon their being that they are loved simply for being, and they belong and are loved at church. Serving in the nursery is not simply babysitting, but a ministry of perhaps the greatest importance.

I'm writing this article for a few simple purposes. First, to say thank you to each volunteer who generously gives their time to make a difference in the lives of our children. Truly you are shaping their lives in unseen and incredible ways. From the bottom of my heart: Thank you!

Second, to say if you've ever thought about serving in the nursery PLEASE DO! It can be challenging at times, but it is SO REWARDING and will prove to bless your life in unimaginable ways as well. If that's something you're interested in please reach out to me.

Lastly, I'm writing this to convey my heart for children's ministry. A heart that I pray reflects the very heart Jesus has. One that says kids aren't a distraction. Kids have a part to play in the Kingdom. They matter and they have much to offer. We need to teach them to see themselves that way.

I will end with this quote: "Let the kids serve. Let them worship. Let them ask questions. Let them help lead worship or greet guests or pray out loud. Let them participate in real ministry. Because when we treat them like full members of the body of Christ, they begin to see themselves that way too."

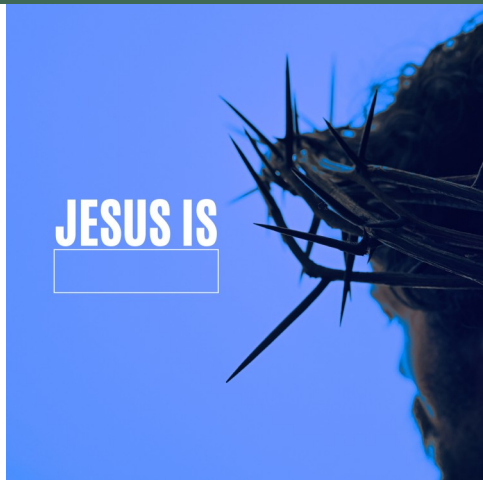
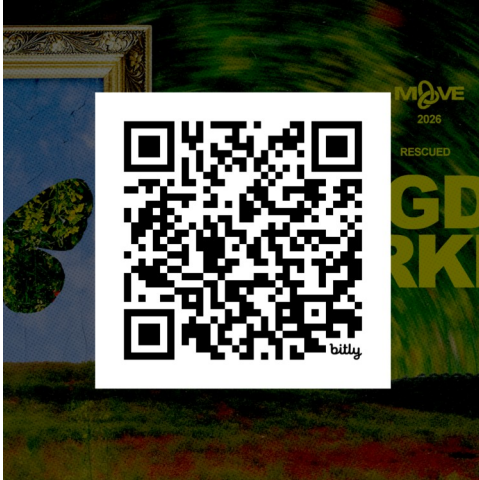


NURSERY SCHEDULE

	SUNDAY SCHOOL	10:15 SERVICE
Mar 01	Elizabeth Long	Jordan Atwood / Diana Higginbotham
Mar 08	Volunteer Needed	Morgan Griffith / Macie Edwards
Mar 15	Jacque O'Daniel / Alex Vaupel	Jackie Grepares
Mar 22	Mason & Marissa Spitzner	Bob & Dena Hall
Mar 29	Mariah & Anthony Vaughan	Shane & Heather Neuman

STUDENT MINISTRY

KYLE@FCCFAIRFIELD.COM



This is the last month to sign up for CIY MOVE! This trip is for all 8-12th graders. We only have a few spots left so make sure you sign up ASAP! This is a great week (June 29- July 4) to grow in faith and develop friendships.

This month during Attic Nights, we will spend each week looking at a different characteristic of who Jesus is. The goal of this series is to help students better know and understand who they follow.

FCC's Young Adult Ministry is for everyone 18-25 years old. We already meet every Tuesday at 5:30 PM at Fusion Coffee. Starting in April, we will have a young adult Sunday school every week at 9:00 am on Sunday mornings!

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

March 1 Rosalie Elliott Doris Simpson	March 5 Kassidy Borah	March 10 Zeke Duckworth Rod Reid Kael Sierra Hillary Vaughan	March 15 Joan Hale Brian Keck	March 18 Tom Lavine Michael Pope	March 24 Becky Carter Ken Grove Penny Musgrave Kelsey St. Ledger	March 29 Colten Keck
March 2 Mike Bozarth Mary McCulley	March 7 Jocelyn Hall	March 12 Katherine Higginbotham	March 16 Ashlynn Blevins Rowen Blevins Jean Duckworth Carletta Webb	March 19 Jacque O'Daniel Cristy Pearce	March 26 Kami Butcher Jaxon Weaver	March 30 Parker Lee Eric Spitzner
March 3 Mai Kemper Emily Smith	March 8 Ray Elliott	March 13 Patti Bowles Stefanie Brake	March 17 Pam Holman Andrew Long	March 23 Dylan Hall Nathan Pearce Angie Vaughan	March 27 Dena Hall Corbin Kakac Britt McNeely Krista McNeely Lydia Webb	March 31 Julie Hall

JANUARY 2026 FINANCIALS

Fund	Beginning Balance	Income	Expense	Ending Balance
General	\$560,473	\$50,544	\$79,251	\$531,766
Mission	\$147,514	\$26,552	\$32,643	\$141,423
Totals	\$707,987	\$77,096	\$111,894	\$673,189

PRAYER MINISTRY



You've heard of politically incorrect? We're going to talk about the spiritually incorrect. People who come to church, claim to be followers of Christ, but "cherry pick" what they believe. They don't believe God's Word is absolute. They may tell you they don't really see anything wrong with same sex marriage. They may not see abortion as a spiritual issue, they see it as a woman's right to choose. In recent years, we have witnessed the spiritually incorrect take over entire church denominations with their flawed doctrine. Churches are full of people who aren't there to learn how to follow Christ. They are there to get the church to validate what they believe. Matthew 7:26 tells us "Everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his

house on sand." These are foolish people. We need to pray for these people because they do not comprehend the damage they do when they present themselves as believers in Christ, but hold ideals contrary to his teaching. We need to pray for these people because they are one of the biggest threats to our church today. We need to pray for these people, because they will not find salvation and eternal life in Christ if they do not understand that God's word is the perfect foundation on which to build faith.

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

**Mark your calendars for Saturday, March 28
9:30am-3:30pm (Come and Go) in the East Basement**

We will be continuing on with our baby and children's dedication blankets, starting our pocket prayer quilts, and brainstorming more comfort projects that we can do for our church and communities!



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
Mar 1	SALT Class	SALT Class
Mar 8	volunteer needed	June Reeves
Mar 15	volunteer needed	Judy Griswold
Mar 22	volunteer needed	ACTS Class
Mar 29	Cindy Hayes	Debbie McKibben

Easter is right around the corner! We will be having a combined service at 9:00am to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord on April 5. I enjoyed planning, serving and singing with our Christmas choir and would love to do it again for Easter. If you are interested in joining the Easter choir, please send me an email.

As we continue with our weekly worship songs, I have had multiple people suggest bringing back the "classics." If you have a song or two in mind, please let me know what songs you would like to hear.

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit" -Romans 15:13

MISSION SPOTLIGHT

**THE
HOPE
CENTER
READY
TO SERVE**



WWW.ECHOPECENTER.ORG

Easter Golden Bowl special offering is March 29. This year, it is dedicated to The Hope Center, based in Albion, IL. The Hope Center, a faith-based nonprofit serving Edwards County, Illinois and the surrounding areas. It provides essential community assistance programs such as: food, clothing, diaper aid, and toy drives. They also provide the services: Pregnancy resource center, adoption and foster care support, cancer support, veteran assistance, and local missions. The Hope Center also conducts wellness checks, home visits, Marketplace Ministry, Feed the Family initiatives, and a welcoming space for legislators to meet. Rooted in faith, we provide Bibles, prayer support, and compassionate outreach to those in need. The next "Feed the Family" event is March 21st, providing meals and groceries to local families.

Envelope books have "Golden Bowl," to write-in giving. The memo section of a check can also note what amount is being gifted to FCC's Easter Golden Bowl. We are grateful to partner with The Hope Center!

Ryan Sudsberry, Executive Director of Global Church Planting, and his wife, Lori, serve with GO Ministries. They have worked primarily on the field in the Dominican Republic. Ryan is now a leader in GO Ministries church planting across all its locations. GO has missions based in church planting, medical missions, and sports missions. Ryan shared across all missions some of the impact the ministry has recognized in 2025:



87 new churches planted | 67 churches operating independently | 762 baptisms, 260 from prison ministries



"It's been four years since the Russian invasion in February 2022, yet a few of our Polish churches continue to transport goods into Ukraine," David Hatfield, Executive Director of Polish Christian Ministries reports. Teams traveled recently into Ukraine to deliver food, medicines, hygiene supplies, and gifts for the children. "We are amazed at their commitment and blessed by their example as they serve as the hands and feet of Jesus to those in need."

David shared: "Praise God- for His faithfulness to provide in such wonderful ways during 2025, the many seeds of the Gospel that have been planted in the nation of Poland, the successful events proclaiming the name of Jesus, the Polish churches as they continue to care for Ukrainians - both in Poland and via transports to Ukraine, the many churches and individuals in the States who faithfully support PCM's ministry."

Please pray for: An end to the war in Ukraine and protection over Poland and neighboring nations, the hearts of the Polish people to be open to the Gospel message, God to raise up the next generation of Polish pastors and church leaders, the process of selecting the next PCM Executive Director."

Easter

Combined Service 9:00am

April 5 2026

GOOD Friday

SEDER SERVICE 6:00PM

April 3 2026

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
100 W. CENTER ST.
FAIRFIELD, IL 62837

618-842-4311
WWW.FCCFAIRFIELD.COM

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

US POSTAGE
PAID
FAIRFIELD IL
PERMIT NO. 25
NON-PROFIT ORG
BULKMAIL