



# FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

## 2026 APRIL NEWSLETTER

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I feel like I'm living my life on a seesaw right now. A few days ago the high was 30° and today the high will be 86°. Tomorrow it will be back down in the 50s. One day the weather is calm, and the next day we have winds that will blow the hair off your head. I put on three layers earlier this week trying to stay warm. Today I have a thin polo shirt trying to stay cool. As people say, "Welcome to Southern Illinois!" It is springtime and you just never know what you're going to get. In a lot of ways, I suppose it keeps us on our toes. Never knowing exactly what to expect helps us to prepare for the unexpected.

There are some things I think it would be difficult to be prepared for in the unexpected. Even though the apostles were told multiple times Jesus would come back from the dead, it would have been difficult to believe Him. As the women went to the tomb early on Sunday morning expecting the stone to be in place, they never expected what was about to happen. The stone is rolled away, the tomb is open and empty, and angels are there with the message reminding them of what Jesus had told them about His resurrection. "He has risen just as He said!" What followed must've been turmoil, excitement, confusion, hope, and apprehensive wonder. Then to try to share all of that information and emotion as they ran back to the place where the apostles were staying.

Imagine, the ladies returning from the tomb, banging on the door and then trying to share what they had just experienced. Remember, this happened first thing in the morning. Perhaps the apostles were still waking up or having a few moments of quiet reflection about the days that just passed. Certainly this wouldn't of been what they had planned for the day.

Have you ever had a day start very normally or in a boringly mundane way and something happened during the day to change everything. It is a day that you couldn't have never imagined or expected to be what came to be when you awoke in the morning. They were told to expect Jesus to rise again, on this day though, it was still stunningly unexpected. Peter and John ran toward the tomb to verify it being empty as they wondered and hoped for the unexpected.

Truly it was an incredible day and it is one we continue to celebrate now. I cannot help but be excited about our family of believers gathering together in an all-in-one service to celebrate the unexpected truths of the empty tomb and the resurrection. April 5 is going to be a wonderful day of celebration in remembrance of Jesus conquering death! I hope you will join us for service at 9:00 AM for worship and celebration. I would also encourage you to join us for sunrise service at 6:30 AM as were reminded of the early morning visit to the tomb. Thanks to Terry Hall and the Hospitality crew, we will also be having a Fellowship breakfast at 7:00 AM on that morning. All in all, it should be a great morning to celebrate the resurrection of our Savior and Lord!

I also would like to encourage you to invite someone to join us on April 5. It is a great time to make a simple invitation during this season when people would be more receptive. Especially if they know someone will be meeting them there or coming with them. I'm looking forward to seeing you in some of your friends as we gather to celebrate the hope we have in Jesus Christ.

So grab your sweatshirt, umbrella, hat, flip-flops, boots, shorts, heavy jacket, and make an invitation and join us for a great celebration. Happy spring and I'll see you on Sunday to celebrate!



Vacation Bible School is on the horizon and this year we've got some BIG NEWS! We're changing our the VBS dates! Instead of having it in the middle of the summer, we're actually going to kick the summer off with VBS! **May 17-22 5:30pm-8:00pm**. The goal is to use VBS to try and get some visitors to come back throughout the summer and connect to some of our volunteers and our kids! We're praying God uses this change to grow His church and impact Fairfield in big ways!

We're also excited because we're jumping back in time to Paul and the Underground church. This will be a great opportunity to watch scripture COME TO LIFE for our kids! This is for **ages 3 years - 5th grade**.

**April 17, 5:30pm-8:00pm**



Nerf Wars is HERE! This is one of my favorite events of the year! It's so much fun to watch as dads have potentially more fun than there kids. I love how the kids band together to try and figure out how to beat the adults. Just the

sheer joy everybody experiences when they come to the nerf war. This is an event for ages **kindergarten - 5th grade and their families**. All you will need to bring is a nerf gun, everything else (including dinner and nerf ammo) will be provided! Sign up by scanning the red QR code above!



**May 10 (Mother's Day)  
During the 10:15 service.**



We are having a Child Dedication on Mother's Day this year! This is intentionally a "child" dedication for those who have new babies in their families or for families that have adopted/fostered or recently started attending to our church. If you would like to dedicate your baby or child to the Lord, please reach out to Caleb by calling the office (618)842-4311 or email him directly at [caleb@fccfairfield.com](mailto:caleb@fccfairfield.com)

**NURSERY SCHEDULE**

	<b>SUNDAY SCHOOL</b>	<b>10:15 SERVICE</b>
<b>Apr 05</b>	<b>9:00am Combined Service:</b> 45min Elizabeth Long / 45min Jordan Atwood/Diana H.	
<b>Apr 12</b>	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>	Morgan Griffith / Macie Edwards
<b>Apr 19</b>	Jacque O'Daniel / Alex Vaupel	Jackie Gre pares
<b>Apr 26</b>	Mason & Marissa Spitzner	Bob & Dena Hall

# STUDENT MINISTRY

KYLE@FCCFAIRFIELD.COM



In the month of April, we are walking through the heart of Psalm 51 and exploring the theme of salvation. We are sinners in need of a clean and pure heart. We'll explore topics of confession, repentance, and baptism.



All incoming 6th & 7th graders are encouraged to sign up for Oil Belt's Jr. High 2 Camp. This camp is July 19 -24th. Sign up using Oil Belt's website. Contact Kyle for more information, including FCC's discount code!



On April 12, we will start a young adult Sunday school for anyone 18-25.

We will start at 9:00 am. This will be a time of learning and fellowship for those of us in that transition into adulthood.

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

**April 1**  
Shaelynn Hall

**April 2**  
Eric Basnett  
Jill Mitchell

**April 3**  
Linden Borah  
Matthew Legg

**April 5**  
Sara Vaughan

**April 6**  
Brandi Hall  
Water Richardson

**April 8**  
Dayne Gray

**April 9**  
Elena Borah

**April 10**  
Nash St.Ledger

**April 11**  
Faith Grepares  
Steve Liston

**April 13**  
Dave Bliss, Jr.  
Scott Lambrich

**April 14**  
Malori Simpson  
Rhett Simpson

**April 15**  
Terri Carter

**April 16**  
Amy Doty  
Matta Gray  
Jade Lewis  
Fred Read

**April 17**  
Talan Keoughan

**April 18**  
Mason Beckman  
Levi McCulley

**April 19**  
Clinton Legg

**April 20**  
Bruce Gualdoni

**April 21**  
Lucy Britt

**April 22**  
Olivia Vaughan

**April 23**  
Karsen Keck

**April 24**  
Lydia Green

**April 25**  
Jarad Blanton  
Sheri Lavine  
Linda Vinson

**April 26**  
Brenda Hiatt  
Brandon Webb

**April 27**  
Cassidy Spitzner  
Terry Weedman

**April 28**  
Dylan Fleener  
Radley Wright

**April 29**  
Annette Bliss  
Robin Crawford  
Bruce McKibben

## FEBRUARY 2026 FINANCIALS

Fund	Beginning Balance	Income	Expense	Ending Balance
General	\$531,766	\$61,498	\$91,351	\$501,913
Mission	\$141,423	\$29,210	\$32,533	\$138,100
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$673,189</b>	<b>\$90,708</b>	<b>\$123,884</b>	<b>\$640,013</b>

# PRAYER MINISTRY



HALLELUJAH! WE SERVE A RISEN SAVIOR! PRAISE HIS HOLY NAME! This truth is the reason that prayers of praise should be a regular part of every Christian's prayer life. To be clear, God doesn't need our praise and worship, but He does deserve it. Every Christian should be able to look at their life and see all the abundant blessings. Some of our blessings are large and obvious and some of our blessings are so small as to almost be overlooked if we aren't paying attention. Our gratitude and love for Him should result in a natural flow of praise. We also benefit from these prayers. These prayers help to shift our focus from us to Him. They act as a reminder that God is in control. Praise also invites God's presence. This opens our hearts and minds to receiving more blessings and strength to face challenges. In praying prayers of praise, we are recognizing that he is our creator and our hope. He is our redeemer, healer, provider, and deliverer. He is our truth, faithful and loving and we understand that he is worthy to be praised. I will exalt you, my God and King; I will praise your name for ever and ever. Every day I will praise you and extol your name for ever and ever. – Psalm 145:1-2

**To learn more about prayers of praise, check out the church prayer page on Facebook as we explore this topic during the month of April.**

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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.**

	<b>8:00am</b>	<b>10:15am</b>
<b>Apr 5</b>	<i>Easter Combined Service 9:00am- Terri Shreve</i>	
<b>Apr 12</b>	<b>volunteer needed</b>	June Reeves
<b>Apr 19</b>	Archie & Jean Duckworth	Jacob Butcher
<b>Apr 26</b>	Cindy Hayes	Connie Mitchell
<b>May 3</b>	CIT Class	CIT Class
<b>May 10</b>	<b>volunteer needed</b>	June Reeves
<b>May 17</b>	<b>volunteer needed</b>	Carolyn Griffith
<b>May 24</b>	Jack Tribe	FCC Youth
<b>May 31</b>	Cindy Hayes	volunteer needed

# MISSION SPOTLIGHT

*"We at Pioneer Bible Translators know that God answers prayer – faithful, persistent, and unified prayer in Jesus' name."*



**Please join in praying for Pioneer Bible translation work.  
These are prayer requests from PBT:**

## **SOUTH ASIA:**

- We praise you, God, for the completion of a New Testament in a language spoken in South Asia. Please bring lasting transformation as people interact with Scripture in their own language.
- Thank you, God, that local translators in the South Asia area have finished drafting Luke and Acts into another language. Thank you for their start on Genesis.
- God, please provide the right teammates to help meet Scripture impact needs in a South Asian country.
- Thank you, God, that the newly published book of Jonah in a language spoken in the South Asia area is being distributed to people who are eager to receive it. 400 copies have already been sold.
- Thank you, God, for the men and women who will serve as interns for PBT this summer. Please strengthen and encourage them as they prepare. Please provide the prayer and financial partnerships they need. God, please show us how to serve well in difficult contexts without endangering others. God, please help everyone on our worldwide team to faithfully represent you and your Kingdom as they interact with each other and with those you have called them to serve.
- God, please open doors for teammates who need visas and other permits to legally live and serve in their locations. Please comfort those whose ministry plans are being impacted by inability to receive or renew their visas. God, we pray that national teammates who are not believers will encounter you as they interact with your Word and with Jesus followers working with them. Please empower us to form multicultural teams so that our workforce reflects the culture-transcending power of Jesus.

## **ASIA AND THE NEXT GENERATION:**

Bill and Leah DeLaughter, who we support with Outreach International, sent a note of thanks to FCC. Their daughter, Katrina, who grew up on the mission field desired to serve on a school mission trip to Asia this summer. With our Faith Promise Special Needs funds, FCC was able to contribute financially.

The family wrote, "We want to say a huge thank you to everyone who gave towards Katrina's mission trip this summer to Asia! She has been able to raise her full funds, thanks to everyone who gave so generously." FCC prays for continued calling and growth in young people to serve in full-time missions.





**PIZZA** with the   
**PASTORS**

SUNDAY  
**APRIL 19**  
EAST BASEMENT

**FCC**  
**101**

**Sunday School Class**  
**Starts Sunday April 26**

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