

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
100 W CENTER ST
FAIRFIELD, IL 62837

618-842-4311
FCCFAIRFIELD.COM

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

CRAIG SCOTT
craig@fccfairfield.com

100 W. Center St. Fairfield, IL
(618)842-4311
fcc@fccfairfield.com
fccfairfield.com
Follow Us On:

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
2026 NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

It's hard to believe we are about to enter into the holiday season. 2026 has passed by at a dizzying pace. Thanksgiving is coming upon us quickly. Most of us will eat way too much turkey with all of the fixings, and enjoy more than one desert. We will then dismiss from the table and crawl off to the couch or our favorite chair to pretend were watching football while we really rest our eyes. These actions all make for a truly great day with our family and friends.

While we enjoy these activities, we may need to be reminded of why this day is set aside and called Thanksgiving. We may say to those around the table what we are thankful for from the past year. However, the most important piece is who to which we give thanks. This day was set aside as a national holiday by Abraham Lincoln. I wanted to share some lines from Lincoln's proclamation of Thanksgiving which help center us on the true meaning of what this day is about.

"The year that is drawing toward its close, has been filled the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature, that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever watchful province of Almighty God.

...No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy. It has seems to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently, and gratefully acknowledge as with one heart and one voice by the whole American people. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent father who dwelleth in the Heavens. And I recommend to them that while offering up the ascriptions justly due to him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, come into His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility and Union." – Abraham Lincoln, October 3, 1863

President Lincoln, perhaps during one of our nation's darkest times, felt it was important to recognize our blessings. More importantly he wanted us to recognize the one who provided those blessings. He thought it important we ask for healing for the wounds of the nation and to ask the Almighty to restore it. Although I do not believe we are in as dark a place as we were during Lincoln's time, I believe it is still imperative to offer thanks to God for our many blessings and to also pray for healing and restoration for our nation.

As we gather to eat, watch football and nap let us be reminded at the very beginning of our time together to offer Thanksgiving and praise to Him who provides every good and perfect gift. Let us also ask for His Almighty hand to heal the wounds of the nation and the world.



Happy Thanksgiving to you all!

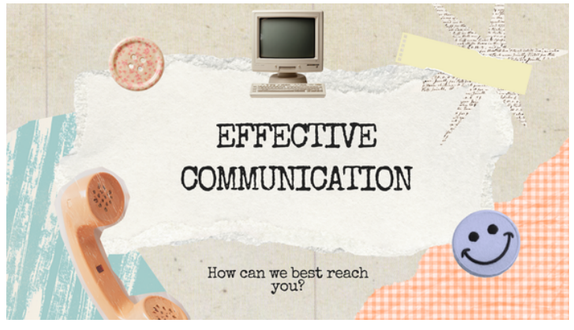
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY
CALEB@FCCFAIRFIELD.COM

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." **Philippians 4:6-7**

"With Thanksgiving" is quite the statement in this verse. Defeat anxiety with Thanksgiving. We're also called to give thanks in all circumstances. But how? Of course we want our kids to live lives of gratitude, but it can be difficult to instill in our children. Intentionality is a way we can make it happen. Scan the QR code with your phone to read an article with great and practical tips for helping our children develop gratitude in their hearts and minds.

The countdown is on! There's roughly one more month until our Gingerbread Bash. Bust out your best Christmas fit and join us on Sunday, December 13. This is a super fun, hands-on celebration where we'll build and decorate gingerbread nativities while hearing the Christmas story from the Bible. This is an event for all families to join in together. Mark you calendars! You won't want to miss it! There will be drinks and light refreshments served, please plan to eat before coming at 5:30pm!





Parents, we have a question for you. We have lots of really good, cool, and useful things we'd like to get to you. Bible reading plans, conversation guides, memory verses, challenges, and just information about what your kids are learning with us. What is the best way to get this information to you? Facebook, texts, emails, monthly take home sheets? Reach out and let us know! We want to partner with you and do it well. Message Caleb with your answer at caleb@fccfairfield.com

NURSERY SCHEDULE

	SUNDAY SCHOOL	10:15 SERVICE
Nov 1	Elizabeth Long	Diana Higginbotham
Nov 8	***Volunteer Needed***	Morgan Griffith / Macie Edwards
Nov 15	Jacque O'Daniel / Alex Vaupel	Jackie Grepares / Jordan Atwood
Nov 22	Mason & Marissa Spitzner	Bob & Dena Hall
Nov 29	Mariah & Anthony Vaughan	Shane & Heather Neuman

STUDENT MINISTRY
KYLE@FCCFAIRFIELD.COM



Young Adult Ministry

Ages 18-25 are a busy seven years. For example, I am 24 years old. In my 6 years out of high school, I have started my time at FCC, gotten married, and had two children. As good as all these things are, they can be a lot. Young Adults need a community of believers who are walking alongside them as they go throughout these changes and challenges. These are the times we meet:

Sunday School: Sunday, 9:00 am @ FCC
Bible Study: Tuesday, 5:30 pm @ Fusion Coffee



Q&A Series

This month, we will start a student favorite series titled "Q&A." In this series, I have no idea what we're going to talk about! Each week, students will have the opportunity to write questions that will be answered the next week. This done so students can comfortably ask their questions and so they can better know what they believe and why!

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Nov 4
Brantley Wright

Nov 5
Joan Wallace

Nov 6
Bentley Baker
Evelyn Doty

Nov 7
Elizabeth Long

Nov 8
Morgan Duckworth

Nov 10
Elisa Taylor

Nov 12
Mackenzie Billington

Nov 13
Carolyn Griffith
Linda Hodges
Dennis Mitchell
Bernadine Obrecht

Nov 14
Jess Duckworth

Nov 15
Louisa Blessing

Nov 16
Caden Best
Haylee Neuman
JoAn Sons
Dawson Young

Nov 18
Mike Duckwroth
Aleeah Livesay

Nov 19
Laura Ethridge

Nov 10
Savannah Basnett
Ian Puckett

Nov 22
Ruth Braddock
Steven Crawford

Nov 24
Heath Basnett
Terry Hall

Nov 25
Debbie Legg
David Read

Nov 30
Barkley Barnard

SEPTEMBER FINANCIALS

Fund	Starting Balance	Income	Expense	Ending Balance
General	$478,761	$58,212	$61,941	$475,032
Missions	$152,937	$26,306	$36,282	$142,961
Totals	$631,698	$84,518	$98,223	$617,993

PRAYER MINISTRY

I write a lot about prayers of thanksgiving. As I began the research for this article, I felt like I was rehashing old ground. Honestly I don't think it can be stressed enough how important it is to give thanks to God. So let me make, what is probably going to be a poor attempt, to drive this home. God is our provider of all things. ALL things. The Hebrew people had many names for God, one of which was Jehovah - Jireh. The Lord will provide. The Lord will provide shelter. The Lord will provide physical needs. The Lord will provide material needs. The Lord will provide relationships. The Lord will provide counsel and guidance. The Lord will provide mercy, grace and forgiveness. One resource provides all of these things. Do we deserve it? No. The Lord provides because He loves us. He wants what is best for us, because He is generous. Prayers of thanksgiving honor God for everything He does for us. They remind us all we have is from Him.

Prayers of thanksgiving should change our mind set and humble us. When you wallow in self-pity, complaints and see everything as a hardship, you turn your back on the abundance that God wants to share with us. Being grateful and thankful for what we have opens that door for the Lord to shower us with more blessings. Humility and gratitude for what the Lord has done for you will keep you grounded in the truth. "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows." James 1:17

UPCOMING CRAFT DATES:

Meeting in the East Basment of the church
9:00-3:00 come and go. Plan to bring your own lunch.

Wednesday November 8 | **Wednesday December 2** | **Monday January 18**

CURRENT HOME PROJECTS:

Materials and patterns will be available in the Prayer Corner in the foyer of the church.
Completed projects can also be turned in there or at the church office!

Crocheted hats for FCC Pre-K Students



Pocket Prayer Quilts



Crocheted Animals & Baby Blankets



Pillow Case Dresses



INTERCESSORY PRAYER SCHEDULE

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 Service	10:15 Service
Nov 1	CIT Class	CIT Class
Nov 8	Marlene Rogers	June Reeves
Nov 15	***Volunteer Needed***	Carolyn Griffith
Nov 22	Jack Tribe	FCC Youth
Nov 29	Cindy Hayes	Debbie McKibben

	8:00am Service	10:15 Service
Dec 6	SALT Class	SALT Class
Dec 13	Marlene Rogers	June Reeves
Dec 20	**Combined 9:00am Service** Judy Griswold	
Dec 27	***Volunteer Needed***	ACTS Class

MISSION SPOTLIGHT



We are Thankful for what God is doing through us to support missions.
"No Spectators: Ready, Set, Go."

If you haven't submitted a Faith Promise card and want to support missions in 2027, please drop your card in the offering or at the office. Remember our goal is 360,000. New cards can be found at the Welcome Center or you can fill one out online through our website (scan the QR Code for a direct link). Faith Promise is the way we support missions. After we have received the cards and calculated the funds promised, we will then inform our missions/missionaries of what they can expect to receive from us this coming year.

This will be the 13th year of our Thanksgiving Golden Bowl Offering being dedicated to our **Weekend Bag Food Program!** Did you know there is an estimated 47 million children in our country that experience food insecurity? In Illinois alone, there are more 1.5 million kids and specifically in Wayne County, we have an estimated close to 2,300 kids in need. Food insecurity, defined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture is "the condition of not having access to sufficient food, or food of an adequate quality, to meet one's basic needs."

We currently have 42 local school children enrolled in the program across 3 local schools: North Side Elementary, New Hope Grade School, and Fairfield Community High School. The bags are filled with non-perishable food such as cereal, canned meals (Ex. Spaghettios, ravioli) snacks, powdered milk, canned fruit, and juice.

Prayerfully consider your support and label the offering to"Golden Bowl" so your funds are directed to the children's food backpack program.

IDES (International Disaster Emergency Service) meal packing was another successful mission project! A lively group of all ages worked together October 4th and churned out over 16,000 meal kits headed to Haiti. IDES helps meet basic needs for others and show the love of God in places of great need. Thank you to the 120+ people who meal-packed "for the least of these." Matthew 25:40

WORSHIP MINISTRY

DREW@FCCFAIRFIELD.COM

My wife and I recently had dinner with some friends a couple of weeks ago. At one point they asked me for my opinion on a certain popular worship song currently sung on the radio and in many churches all over the globe. They wanted to know my opinion if it was a good worship song or not. A simple question really, but if there's one thing I know about worship music ...people have their preferences and opinions. Which is great! It can also lead to some murky waters and confusion on how to actually select the songs we sing on Sunday mornings in church. How should I pick the songs? Do I just pick ones I like? Do I pick the popular ones? Do I pick the ones I hear on K-Love? Do I pick the ones that the band likes to play? Do I pick a certain amount of upbeat and a certain amount of slow ones? Do I pick the old ones? In my years of leading worship in various contexts, I have learned we must have a higher standard for choosing songs than this! Honestly, if I just picked my favorite songs based on what I personally like to listen to in my free time, it would be a pretty short list.

Colossians 3:16 tells us when we sing together, we are teaching and encouraging one another with biblical truths. We are active in our discipleship and we are singing theology that forms us. When we sing, we aim for the word of God to dwell within us richly through our songs. So, this begs the question: *What do I actually consider to be a good worship song for church?*

In my opinion, a good worship song must be saturated with scripture, keep Christ at the center (not self), and be congregationally friendly in language, structure, and musicality. It doesn't have to be a perfect song and I don't even have to like everything about it, but if it checks most of these boxes - chances are that they will feed our souls and allow the word to dwell richly as we encourage and sing together.