

HELP US GET TO KNOW YOU!

December 1, 2024

I am...

- New to FCC
- Updating My Information

Please print clearly:

First Name

Last Name

Age or Grade in School

Phone Number

Email Address

Street Address

City

State and Zip

Birthday (Day and Month)

Anniversary (Day and Month)

Please complete, tear off, and place in the offering plate or giving box.

Message Notes

Advent 2024: Are You Prepared?

Titus 2:11-13: ¹¹For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, ¹²teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, ¹³looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ.

Have you _____? (v 11)

Are you _____? (v 12a)

Are you _____? (v 12b)

Are you _____? (v 13)



Why Communion Every Week @ FCC?

At Communion, Christians meditate upon the sacrifice of Jesus for their salvation. They examine themselves to ascertain if they have grown in the grace and knowledge of Christ during the past week. They reaffirm their covenant with God: to love Him with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength. Communion is the only way Jesus Himself asked to be remembered. Let us come together on this Lord's Day and every Lord's Day to remember and celebrate His mercy in the Lord's Supper as we commune together.

Do you want to be right with God and have a fresh start?

The solution is as simple as **ABC**:

A: Admit that you have sinned and need a Savior.

"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23)

B: Believe that God loves you and gave His Son for your salvation.

"While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8)

C: Confess your faith in Jesus, repenting of your sins and being baptized.

"Repent...be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." (Acts 2:38)

First Christian Church

West Frankfort, IL
fccwf.org



THE LORD'S DAY – DECEMBER 1, 2024

WELCOME TO FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH!

If this is your first time at FCC, here's what to expect.

Most importantly, know that you are loved. **God loves you and so do we!**

As we gather, hear God's call to lift our hearts and voices. **Sing to the Lord!**

God's Word is proclaimed and applied to our lives. **Let God speak to you!**

At God's Table, the baptized share in the Lord's Supper. **Eat and drink in faith!**

We worship God in giving, knowing that all we have is from Him. **Give joyfully!**

We are sent forth on mission for the Gospel. **Grow deeper and reach wider!**

First Christian Church

Address: 1001 S. Cherry St., West Frankfort, IL 62896

Website: fccwf.org **Facebook:** @fccwf03 **Phone:** 618-932-6360

Office Hours: Mon. thru Thu., 9 am to 4 pm

Elders: Sloan Brown, T. J. Gentry, Tim Grider (Vice-Chairman), Larry Martin, Ryan Martin (Chairman), Danny McClellan, Mike Riva, Laverne Throgmorton

Staff: T. J. Gentry, Sr. Pastor/NCCS Supt.; Analisa Woods, NCCS Principal; Tim Woods, Director of Student Ministries; Ashton Gentry, Director of Worship

Deacons: David Bartoni, Jim Bayless, Stephen Dillard, Greg Smiley, David Summers, Scott Williams, James Willingham

Announcements

- Volunteers needed for Upward Basketball! See Tim Grider to volunteer.
- Thank you for giving \$460 to NCCS in November!
- Text Alert to 22300 to receive FCC's One Call Prayer Alerts.
- If you or someone you know would like a pastoral visit, please let T. J. know.
- NCCS Eagle Club Donors: Thank you for making your December donation.
- To become an NCCS Eagle Club Donor, visit wfnccs.com/eagle-club.

FCC Gathered			
Service	Last Week	'24 Average	'23 Average
Morning Worship:	147	143	150
Sunday School:	97	86	95
Evening Worship:	30	35	37
Midweek:	--	37	45

FCC Gave	
<u>November 2024 (through Nov. 24)</u>	
Regular Giving	Other Giving
Church Operating: \$17,791.31	God's Rebuilding: \$10.00
Missions: <u>\$2,668.69</u>	NCCS Missions: \$460.00
Total: \$20,460.00	NCCS Eagle Club: \$1,760.63
Monthly Need: <u>\$24,412.00</u>	
Over (Under): \$(3,952.00)	

<u>Year to Date 2024</u>	
Regular Giving	Other Giving
Rec'd YTD '24: \$288,082.13	God's Rebuilding: \$789.84
Total '24 Budget: <u>\$317,340.00</u>	NCCS Missions: \$4,365.00
Over (Under): \$(29,257.87)	NCCS Eagle Club: \$10,396.89

To give online, text Give to 618-248-4481 or visit fccwf.org/give.



Remaining Fall 2024 Dates

Morning: 12/12, 12/19

Evening: 12/9, 12/16

See Diana Follmer for more information.

2nd Annual

Ladies' Christmas Cookie Baking Fellowship

Sat., Dec. 21, 10 am to last batch baked!

Contact Bobbi Martin for more details.



This Week @ FCC

Today, Dec. 1

- Worship: 9 am (Nursery and Junction Kids Available)
- Sunday School: Following Worship
- Adult Christmas Choir Practice: Following Sunday School
- Bible Study, Junction Kids, and 4:12 Youth: 6 pm

Mon., Dec. 2

- Letter Writers: 9:30 am

Wed., Dec. 4

- Bible Study, Junction Kids, and 4:12 Youth: 6 pm

Sat., Dec. 7

- NCCS LEGO Fan Event: 10 am to 4 pm



NCCS LEGO FAN EVENT FUNDRAISER

Sat., Dec. 7, 10 am to 4 pm, FCC Gym

LEGO Activities, Vendor, and Displays!

Free admission. Donations at door. Concessions offered.



Registration Now Open! <https://registration.upward.org/UPW87675>



Class

Nursery
PreK/K
1st-3rd
4th-6th
7th-12th
Friendship
Right Track
Kum Join Us
Defenders

Location

Office hallway
Office hallway
Cafeteria hallway
Second floor, gym
Above stage, gym
Across from cafeteria
Off north sanctuary
Off south sanctuary
Chapel

Teacher

Rotating
Rotating
Analisa Woods
Susan Hood
Tim Woods
Cynthia Dutton
Bryan Lawrence
Tim Grider
T. J. Gentry

HOW CAN WE HELP YOU?

December 1, 2024

I would like to... (Check all that apply)

- Become a Christian.
- Learn about membership.
- Find a place to serve.
- Learn about Sunday School.
- Learn about Junction Kids.
- Learn about 4:12 Youth.
- Receive counseling.
- Speak with the pastor.

Other: _____

PRAYER REQUESTS AND PRAISES

Please complete, tear off, and place in the offering plate or giving box.

Mon., Dec. 2: Everyone Can See It

“Salvation has appeared to all men.” (Titus 2:11)

Ever felt like everyone was looking at you? Like you stood out in the crowd, and maybe not for the right reasons? It’s an uncomfortable feeling, and probably not even close to being true. However, when Christ came to bring salvation, He brought it to all. He appeared for all and to all. You’ve never met a person that isn’t offered salvation. All is all. (TJG)

Prayer Guide: Thank God for offering salvation to all.

Two-Year Bible Reading: Micah 7; Luke 16

Daily Proverbs: Prov. 2

Tue., Dec. 3: Does Grace Teach?

“Salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us.” (Titus 2:11-12)

Some think that grace saves but does not transform. Accept Jesus, then live like before accepting Him. That’s not how salvation works. Grace saves us to teach us. Grace teaches us what it did (we were justified), what it’s doing (we are being sanctified), and what it will do (we will be glorified). Grace saves and teaches. Jesus is Savior and Lord. (TJG)

Prayer Guide: Ask God to help you learn what grace teaches.

Two-Year Bible Reading: Nahum 1; Luke 17

Daily Proverbs: Prov. 3

Wed., Dec. 4: Double Denial

“Denying ungodliness and worldly lusts.” (Titus 2:12)

“I’ve never been, and I’m never going again.” That’s what a friend said to me when I asked him about a particular establishment. Of course, he was joking, and his words revealed he had been to the place in question. His double denial meant nothing. But grace calls for a real double denial. It calls and enables us to deny ungodliness and worldly lusts. (TJG)

Prayer Guide: Ask God to help you deny ungodliness and worldly lusts.

Two-Year Bible Reading: Nahum 2; Luke 18

Daily Proverbs: Prov. 4

Thu., Dec. 5: How Are You Living?

“We should live soberly, righteously, and godly.” (Titus 2:12)

Are you living soberly? Are you living righteously? Are you living godly? By God’s grace you can. God’s grace enables such living. God’s grace produces such a life. Sober living is serious living for God. Righteous living is right living before God. Godly living is letting God live His life through you. Live soberly, righteously, and godly. Live in grace. (TJG)

Prayer Guide: Ask God to show His grace through you in how you live.

Two-Year Bible Reading: Nahum 3; Luke 19

Daily Proverbs: Prov. 5

Fri., Dec. 6: Are You Looking?

“Looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing.” (Titus 2:13)

“Keep looking and you’ll see it.” That’s what I told my boys as we waited to see a comet passing through recently. We never saw it. It was there, we just didn’t wait long enough. What about the hope and glory of Christ’s return? Are you looking for it? Do you see it as a source of blessed hope? Do you know it will be glorious? Are you looking? (TJG)

Prayer Guide: Ask God to give you eyes to see the coming of Christ.

Two-Year Bible Reading: Hab. 1; Luke 20

Daily Proverbs: Prov. 6

Sat., Dec. 7: Great!

“Our great God and Savior Jesus Christ.” (Titus 2:13)

God is great. You probably agree. “Yes,” you say, “God is great.” You’re right to say so, but why is He great? He’s great because He’s God, the almighty creator of heaven and earth. He’s great because He took on flesh and brought salvation to the world. Jesus Christ, the Savior and Messiah is our great God. We look to Him and marvel. He is great! (TJG)

Prayer Guide: Thank God for His greatness.

Two-Year Bible Reading: Hab. 2; Luke 21

Daily Proverbs: Prov. 7

Prayer List

Health: Peggy Shum, Jim Wangler, Joe Crawford, Korey Williams, Angela Brown, Katherine Rice, JoAnn Mondino, Mario and Rita Allois, Cindy Lingle, Tom Burton, Judy and Terry Campbell, Jack Hogg, Charles and Amber Reed, Shirley Gayer, Ed and Lisa Smothers, Bobby Blondi, Winnie Kinnison, Isaiah Williams, Scott Williams, Dottie and Charlie Bartoni, Kay Levanti, Jodi Jeralds, Jean Smiley, Cindy Carner, Lori Watts, Samantha Tretter, Landon Adkins, Ryan Buckingham, Patricia Uhls, Virgil Zachary, Leah Hughes, Sheldon Smith, Jerry Wicker, Laura Siedel, Pam Ford, Tom Smith, Yula Gunn, Jack Woolard, Carolyn Place, Jason Coleman, Lois Golio, Rodney Johnson, Rachel Pollack, Jetta Barton, Tammy Wiggins, Mark Carpenter, Jill Lindhorst, Ashton Gentry, Bill Bradley, Patty Roland, Ryan Mondino, Kyle Britton, Lisa Uhls Bishop, Sharron West, Drake Short, Shirley Ward, Piper Castellano, Brenda Flowers, Sandy Ellis, Carolyn Jones, LaDonna Bryce, Misty Painter, Danny Rodgers, Linda Upton, Wanda Finn, Pam Jeralds, Jim Carter, Tim Williams, Jim Parker, Gene Williams, Avery Potter, Terri Stewart, Missy Story, Barbara Wilmore, Denny Bush, Barbara Winnet, Amanda Brewer, Nancy Denton, Wendy Russell

Other: peace in Israel and Ukraine; New Covenant Christian School; FCC's evangelistic efforts; prisoners; the hungry; the homeless; those struggling with addiction; the grieving and afflicted; FCC elders, staff, and deacons; FCC widows and widowers; US Armed Forces; Southern Illinois Christian Service Camp; missionaries; President Biden; President-Elect Trump; Governor Pritzker; Mayor Arview; local, state, and federal government representatives

President Washington's Prayer for the Nation

"Almighty God; We make our earnest prayer that Thou wilt keep the United States in Thy holy protection; that Thou wilt incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to government; and entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another and for their fellow citizens of the United States at large.

And finally that Thou wilt most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility, and pacific temper of mind which were the characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed religion, and without a humble imitation of whose example in these things we can never hope to be a happy nation. Grant our supplication, we beseech Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."



December 1-7, 2024

Bible Memory

¹¹The grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, ¹²teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, ¹³looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ. (Titus 2:11-13)

Devotion, Prayer Guide, Two-Year Bible, Daily Proverbs

Sun., Dec. 1: What Does Grace Bring?

"The grace of God that brings salvation has appeared." (Titus 2:11)

Some people light up the room. Some don't. Some bring joy and laughter, and some bring pain and sadness. What does grace bring? Everywhere grace appears, it brings the offer of salvation. It brings hope. It brings healing and life. When Christ came to this world, He lit it up with truth and mercy. He is grace come to us, and He's coming again. (TJG)

Prayer Guide: Thank God for bringing salvation in Christ.

Two-Year Bible Reading: Micah 6; Luke 15

Daily Proverbs: Prov. 1

Do you want to know and grow more as a disciple of Jesus? Using your smartphone, scan the image to the right and access the First Christian Church Sermon Audio site where you'll find biblically faithful, practical, relevant audio resources from T. J.'s Bible teaching ministry.



Included at the site are his daily (Mon-Fri) verse-by-verse study through books of the Bible, **Today's Living Word** (7-10 minutes); his daily (Mon-Fri) topical devotion, **Daily 180: 3 Minutes in God's Word**; a collection of his sermons, **Cherry Street Pulpit**; and the **Together We Grow** daily (Sun-Sat) devotion and prayer guide in audio version. Remember, you're as spiritually mature as you decide to be. **Decide to grow deeper!**