

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- No midweek service or martial arts this week. Happy Thanksgiving!
- NCCS Thanksgiving break is this Wed-Fri.
- Coat donations are needed. See Jim Bayless. Thank you!
- Our Christmas choir is forming. If interested, please sign up on the list in the foyer. Practices will be in December following Sunday School.
- Upward Basketball registration is now open! Register online at registration.upward.org/UPW85217. The fee is \$70 by Dec 9, then \$72.
- Volunteers needed for Junction Kids and Nursery. See Tim Woods.
- If you want to receive One Call prayer alerts, text Alert to 22300.



Today Is Election Day!

8:30-11:30 am in the fellowship hall. All active members 18 years old and older may vote. Proxy voting is not allowed. **Thank you for your support of the ballot items unanimously recommended by the FCC Elders.**

THIS WEEK @ FCC

- Today, Sun, Nov 19
- Morning Worship: 9 am (Sunday School following)
 - Community Thanksgiving Service: 6 pm at Faith Assembly Fellowship
- Mon, Nov 20
- Letter Writers: 9:30 am
 - Area Men’s Meeting: 6:30 pm at Southern Illinois Christian Service Camp

FCC GATHERED

Service	Last Week	2023 Average	2022 Average
Morning Worship:	151	152	148
Sunday School:	98	96	96
Evening Worship:	40	35	n/a
Midweek:	43	45	n/a

FCC GAVE

November 2023 (through November 12)

Regular Giving	Other Giving
Church Operating: \$10,894.96	God’s Rebuilding Fund: \$317.00
Missions: \$1,634.24	Extra Missions Offering: \$
Total: \$12,529.20	
Monthly Need: \$21,768.00	
Over (Under): (\$9,238.80)	

Year to Date 2023 (through October)

Regular Giving	Other Giving
Total Received: \$206,267.87	God’s Rebuilding Fund: \$6,518.24
Total Need: \$215,601.00	Extra Missions Offering: \$3,928.52
Over (Under): (\$10,333.13 – two Sundays remaining)	

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

FCC IS GROWING DEEPER AND REACHING WIDER IN 2023!

Baptisms	New Members	Online Message Plays	States/Countries Reached
8	10	28,161 (1/1 – 11/16)	44/66 (1/1 – 11/16)

Through the Bible in Two Years Readings for This Week

(This schedule takes you through the OT once and the NT twice in two years.)

11/19 – 1 Chr 13-14; Jas 1 11/20 – 1 Chr 15; Jas 2
 11/21 – 1 Chr 16; Jas 3 11/22 – 1 Chr 17; Jas 4
 11/23 – 1 Chr 18; Jas 5 11/24 – 1 Chr 19-20; 1 Pet 1
 11/25 – 1 Chr 21; 1 Pet 2

Pantry Items Needed: 5 cans of chicken, 2 cans of vegetable soup, 3 cans of chili or beef stew, 4 jars of jelly, 2 cans of beans, 4 cans of chicken or beef broth, 4 cans of tomatoes, 10 jars/cans of applesauce, 6 boxes of crackers, 8 boxes/bags of sugar, 2 salt and pepper shaker combos, 3 bars of soap, 1 bottle of shampoo, 6 deodorants, 9 bottles of laundry detergent – smaller size, 9 bottles of dish detergent. Most items can be purchased at Dollar Tree for less and the size is perfect (should be normal size rather than supersize). The goal is to keep ten of each item on hand. Thank you! *Debbie Petkas*

Prayer Needs – “Pray for one another.” (Jas 5:16)

(Please let T. J. know if names can be removed from the list.)

Health: Leah Hughes, Sheldon Smith, Danny Uhls, Timi McMillin, Penny Mueller, Jerry Wicker, Laura Siedel, Pam Ford, Darrel Presley, Betty Uhls, Tom Smith, Yula Gunn, Jack Woolard, Wanda Gentry, Doug Cordts, Carolyn Place, Jason Coleman, Lois Golio, Rodney Johnson, Rachel Pollack, Jetta Barton, Tammy Wiggins, Mark Carpenter, Carolee Means, Jill Lindhorst, Wayne Webb, Donnie Turner, Bill Bradley, Vivian Tottleben, Robert Tottleben, Dalton Husch, Patty Roland, Jerry Mumbower, Ashton Gentry, Rusty Bryant, Maverick Belview, Ryan Mondino, Kyle Britton, Lisa Uhls Bishop, Sharron West, Drake Short, Justin Settles, Shirley Ward, Piper Castellano, Rita Allois, Brenda Flowers, Wayne and Sandy Ellis, Carolyn Jones, Charlie Bartoni, LaDonna Bryce, Misty Painter, Danny Rodgers, Bob and Joyce Thomas, Linda Upton, Wanda Finn, Pam Jerald, Renee Mifflin, Jim Carter, Tim Williams, Jim Parker, Gene Williams, Janet Reeves, Avery Potter, Bob Means, Terri Stewart, Missy Story, Barbara Willmore, Denny Bush, Mary Wallace, Barbara Winnet, Amanda Brewer, Nancy Denton, Shirley Williams, Wendy Russell **Other:** peace in Israel and Ukraine; New Covenant Christian School; Shalee, Slade, and Evvy Rich; Trevor Henshaw; FCC’s evangelistic efforts; those in prison; those without sufficient food; the homeless; those struggling with addiction; the grieving and afflicted; FCC Staff, Elders, and Deacons; FCC widows and widowers; US Armed Forces; Southern Illinois Christian Service Camp; Missionaries; President Biden; Governor Pritzker; Mayor Arview

WOULD YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW LIKE A PASTORAL VISIT FROM T. J.? IF SO, PLEASE CONTACT HIM AT 618-967-0222.



Class

- Nursery
- Preschool
- 1st-2nd
- 3rd-4th
- 5th-6th
- 7th-High School
- Friendship/Ladies
- Right Track/Adult
- Kum Join Us/Adult
- Defenders/Adult

Location

- First room on the right in the office hallway
- Second room on the right in the office hallway
- Room on the left going into the cafeteria
- First room, second floor, north gymnasium
- Second room, second floor, north gymnasium
- Room above the stage, gymnasium
- Room on the right in the cafeteria
- Room in the north hallway off the sanctuary
- Room in the south hallway off the sanctuary
- Chapel off the gymnasium

Fall Women’s Bible Study: The Book of John (led by Diana Follmer)

Monday Evening Option @ Gambit Coffee Bar, 6 pm
 Remaining Dates: Nov 27; Dec TBA
 Friday Morning Option @ FCC, 9 am
 Remaining Date: Dec 1

Make sure to get a copy of “Shepherding the People of God,” an article written by T. J. to summarize the Bible’s teaching on Elders and their service to the church body. Copies are available in the foyer.

Fall Mini-Series: Church 101

Message Five: How Does the Church Grow?

_____ gives growth.

_____ is foundational.

_____ is fluid.

_____ is essential.

Reflect: What is God saying to me?

Apply: Is there something I need to believe, change, or do?

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 – every Lord’s Day – to remember and celebrate His mercy in the Lord’s Supper as we commune together.

“The Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, ‘This is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me.’ In the same manner, He also took the cup after supper, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.’ For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death till He comes.”

(1 Cor 11:23-26)

Together We Grow – FCC’s Daily Devotion and Prayer Guide

(Written by the FCC/NCCS team. Author initials are at the end of each entry.)

Sun, Nov 19

“For the kingdom is the LORD’s, and He rules over the nations.” (Ps 22:28)
I’m grateful God is in control. I mean, think about it – if control of all things was left to us, we’d be in trouble. Sadly, all of what is wrong in the world is directly tied to our attempts to be in control; our attempts to take control away from God. It’s one thing to take responsibility for what God entrusts to us; it’s another thing (and a sin) to try to take the place of God. Be faithful with your responsibilities but resist the urge to control everything. You and I cannot control everything, but God can. (TJG)
Prayer Guide: Pray FCC submits to and rejoices in God’s control.

Mon, Nov 20

“My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth.” (1 Jn 3:18)

As Christians, we need to act on love and not just think about it. It is very important to convey love through our speech, but equally important through our actions. Jesus not only spoke about selfless, sacrificial love, but He also provided actions to match His powerful teachings. His death and resurrection are the most powerful evidence of love “in deed and in truth.” A true faith in Christ will be evident in our fruit and works, just as truly loving another person will produce loving action. (TW)
Prayer Guide: Pray FCC speaks and acts in love.

Tue, Nov 21

“For every creature of God is good, and nothing is to be refused if it is received with thanksgiving.” (1 Tim 4:4)

Can you see the sanctity of all God’s creation and the importance of gratitude in this verse? God has given us a world filled with His provisions, and when we partake of them with a thankful heart, we honor Him. Gratitude is a powerful force that turns ordinary moments into sacred encounters. As we recognize God’s goodness in every aspect of life, we find joy in His blessings. Let us be mindful to give thanks for His abundant grace and providence in all that we receive. (AW)
Prayer Guide: Pray FCC receives God’s goodness with gratitude.

Wed, Nov 22

“Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.” (2 Cor 3:17)

Ever tried to grab a handful of wind? It’s impossible. Wind blows and is not to be held. So it is with God’s Spirit. He moves as He sees fit, and we cannot control Him (nor should we try). There is no greater peace than that which comes with simply following the lead of God’s Spirit. He will always lead us into truth. He will always move us to greater trust and gratitude. He will never direct us into sin. Rather than trying to hold the Spirit, let the Spirit hold you. You can trust God’s Spirit. Always. (TJG)
Prayer Guide: Pray FCC follows the Spirit’s leading.

Thu, Nov 23

“In everything, give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” (1 Thes 5:18)

It is not easy to express gratitude for everything in life. However, this verse reminds us of the importance of thankfulness in our lives. Even in tough situations, we are called to find reasons to be grateful. Gratitude is not just a response to favorable circumstances but also a deliberate choice to acknowledge God’s goodness. When we give thanks for everything, we align our hearts with God’s will and experience His peace and presence, knowing that He works all things together for our good. Let gratitude be a constant attitude in our journey of faith. (AW)
Prayer Guide: Pray FCC gives thanks today and always.

Fri, Nov 24

“Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him and bless His name.” (Ps 100:4)

The people would enter through the gate to gather at the courtyard of the tabernacle or temple. God was telling them to be thankful as they proceeded through those gates. Once in the courtyard, they would offer praise to God. This is a critical part of worship even today. Too often we think about our current situation or problems and do not focus on thanksgiving or praise. As we enter the church house each week we should start concentrating on God. Our thanksgiving fuels our praise, and our praise leads to worship. Let’s bless His name! (TW)
Prayer Guide: Pray FCC always approaches God with thanksgiving.

Sat, Nov 25

“Deliverance is of the LORD.” (Pr 21:31)

Where do you turn when you’re in trouble. We all have that one person we call when things go bad, that person we can rely on to help in our darkest moments. While it’s good to have that person in our lives, only God can always be trusted to deliver us from the lowest point and the darkest hour. This is good to know, to remember, to believe. When God tells us that He is our deliverer, He means it. Deliverance always has been and always will be of the LORD. No matter the challenge, He is our deliverer and defender. Only God can be trusted no matter what. (TJG)
Prayer Guide: Pray FCC relies on God for deliverance.

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

A: Acknowledge the Gospel, God’s good news of salvation for all.

“God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” (John 3:16)

B: Believe the Gospel that God’s only Son, Jesus, died to pay for your sins and rose from the dead so that you can have a relationship with God and spend eternity in Heaven. Repent and turn to Jesus, the only Savior.
“Repent and believe in the gospel.” (Mark 1:15)

C: Confess your faith that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God, and obey His command to be baptized.

“Confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus.” (Rom. 10:9) “Repent and let every one of you 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
November 19, 2023

*Give thanks
TO THE
Lord
FOR HE IS GOOD
HIS love ENDURES
forever*
- Psalm 107:1 -

Welcome to First Christian Church!

Here’s what to expect as we worship together...

- * Most importantly, know that you are loved. You are a person of infinite worth and dignity. Also, know that God never leaves us as we are. He knows that we are made for a relationship with Him. Because God loves us, He will challenge and graciously speak to us. He offers to heal our brokenness and forgive our rebellion. His love is for all of us, even you!
- * As we gather for worship, we will hear God’s call to us to lift our hearts and voices in song and prayer. Sing to the Lord! He delights in our praise.
- * God’s Word will be proclaimed in what we hope is a clear and practical way so that we can better know and serve Him. Let God speak to you!
- * We commune at God’s Table, sharing in the emblems of the precious body and blood of Jesus. All baptized Christians are invited to partake.
- * We will worship God in giving, and we know He loves a cheerful giver!
- * We are sent forth on a mission to love and serve God and others.

1001 S. Cherry St. ~ West Frankfort, IL 62896

Website: fccwf.org ~ Facebook: @fccwf03

Church Phone: 618-932-6360

Church Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9 am – 4 pm

Dr. T. J. Gentry: Sr. Minister & NCCS Supt. – tgentry@fccwf.org

Mrs. Analisa Woods: NCCS Principal – awoods@wfnccs.com

Mr. Tim Woods: Director of Student Ministries – twoods@fccwf.org

Ms. Ashton Gentry: Director of Worship – agentry@fccwf.org