

### Announcements

- VBS child pre-registration forms are available in the foyer.
- Thank you for your extra offering to NCCS in July, totaling \$502!
- If you want to receive One Call prayer alerts, text Alert to 22300.
- NCCS Eagle Club Donors: Thank you for making your July donation either in the offering with a notation or online at [wfncs.com/make-donation](http://wfncs.com/make-donation).
- Would you like to become a regular donor to Christian education at FCC? Please join the NCCS Eagle Club 2024-25! Donor levels are as follows: Platinum, \$125 monthly; Gold, \$100 monthly; Silver, \$75 monthly; Bronze, \$50 monthly. **\$19,400 has already been pledged to NCCS for 2024-25!** Donor cards are available in the foyer.
- Please see the list on the door of the Helping Hands Pantry for items needed at this time. If you have questions, see Debbie Petkas.
- NCCS is now enrolling for Pre-K to 12<sup>th</sup> grade for the 2024-25 school year!

To better serve the spiritual needs of our church family, those who miss the opportunity to partake of the Lord's Supper during Sunday morning worship or who wish to partake more frequently are encouraged to take advantage of individual communion provided in the chapel at the conclusion of Sunday school and on Sunday and Wednesday evenings following services.

### This Week @ FCC

Today, July 7

- Worship: 9 am (nursery and Junction Kids available; Sunday school follows)
- Evening Service: 6 pm (nursery, Junction Kids, and 4:12 Youth available)

Mon, July 8

- Letter Writers: 9 am

Tue, July 9

- Game On! Seniors' Gathering: 10 am (lunch served)

Wed, July 10

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

Thu, July 11

- Christian Martial Arts: K to 4<sup>th</sup>, 3:30 pm; 5<sup>th</sup> to adult, 4:15 pm

### Coming Soon @ FCC

4:12 Youth VBS in Branson: July 8-11 – LEAVING TOMORROW!

July Men's Bible Study: Sat, July 20, 8 am (coffee and donuts served)

VBS for Pre-K to 4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Aug 4-6, 6-8 pm

### FCC Gathered

Service	Last Week	2024 Average	2023 Average
Morning Worship:	156	145	150
Sunday School:	98	85	95
Evening Worship:	25	35	37
Midweek:	44	36	45

### FCC Gave

#### June 2024 (through June 30)

Regular Giving	Other Giving
Church Operating: \$22,637.00	God's Rebuilding Fund: \$179.84
Missions: <u>\$2,700.00</u>	NCCS Mission Offering: \$502.00
Total: \$25,337.00	NCCS Eagle Club Donations: \$1,180.63
Monthly Need: <u>\$30,515.00</u>	<b>GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER. (2 CORINTHIANS 9:7)</b>
Over (Under): \$(5,178.00)	

#### Year to Date 2024

Regular Giving	Other Giving
Total Received: \$163,326.12	God's Rebuilding Fund: \$640.84
2024 Need: <u>\$317,340.00</u>	NCCS Mission Offering: \$2,206.00
Over (Under): \$(154,013.88)	NCCS Eagle Club Donations: \$1,180.63

To give online, text Give to 618-248-4481 or visit [fccwf.org/give](http://fccwf.org/give).

*God loves each of us  
as if there were only one of us.*

Augustine



Class	Location	Teacher
Nursery	First room on right in office hallway	Rotating
PreK/1st-2nd	Room on left going into cafeteria	Analisa Woods
3rd-4th	First room, second floor, north gym	Ruth Wicker
5th-6th	Second room, second floor, north gym	Susan Hood
7th-High School	Room above the stage, east gym	Tim Woods
Friendship	Room on right, cafeteria	Cynthia Dutton
Right Track	Room in north hallway off sanctuary	Bryan Lawrence
Kum Join Us	Room in south hallway off sanctuary	Tim Grider
Defenders	Chapel	T. J. Gentry



### Prayer Needs – "Pray for one another." (Jas 5:16)

If you or someone you know would like a pastoral visit, let T. J. know.

**Health:** Shirley Gayer, Ed and Lisa Smothers, Bobby Blondi, Winnie Kinnison, Marsha Hogan, Isaiah Williams, Scott Williams, Dottie and Charlie Barton, Kay Levanti, Jodi Jeralds, Raene Summers, John Louis, Jean Smiley, Cindy Carner, Lori Watts, Samantha Tretter, Landon Adkins, Ryan Buckingham, Patricia Uhls, Virgil Zachary, Leah Hughes, Sheldon Smith, Danny Uhls, Timi McMillin, Jerry Wicker, Laura Siedel, Pam Ford, Betty Uhls, Tom Smith, Yula Gunn, Jack Woolard, Doug Cordts, Carolyn Place, Jason Coleman, Lois Golio, Rodney Johnson, Rachel Pollack, Jetta Barton, Tammy Wiggins, Mark Carpenter, Jill Lindhorst, Wayne Webb, Ashton Gentry, Bill Bradley, Dalton Husch, Patty Roland, Rusty Bryant, Maverick Belview, Ryan Mondino, Kyle Britton, Lisa Uhls Bishop, Sharron West, Drake Short, Shirley Ward, Piper Castellano, Rita Allois, Brenda Flowers, Sandy Ellis, Carolyn Jones, LaDonna Bryce, Misty Painter, Danny Rodgers, Linda Upton, Wanda Finn, Pam Jeralds, Renee Mifflin, 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:** the Thomas family as they mourn Bob's passing; the 2024 elections; 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, deacons, and staff; FCC widows and widowers; US Armed Forces; Southern Illinois Christian Service Camp; missionaries; President Biden; Governor Pritzker; Mayor Arview; local, state, and federal government representatives

### Message Notes

Verse by Verse through Mark's Gospel

Sometimes God Takes Longer

Mark 8:22-26

God \_\_\_\_\_ about our \_\_\_\_\_.

God \_\_\_\_\_ us over \_\_\_\_\_.

God \_\_\_\_\_ through our \_\_\_\_\_.

T. J.'s verse-by-verse Bible study, Today's Living Word (7-10 minutes) and his devotional thought, Daily 180: 3 Minutes in God's Word are available Mon-Fri at [fccwf.org](http://fccwf.org) and through the FCC Facebook page. You can also access all FCC messages at Sermon Audio through the QR code to the right.

**So far this year, messages have been heard 12,082 times in 38 states and 40 countries!**



### 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.

**"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: July 7 to 13

### Weekly Memory Verses

I am the bread of life. He who comes to me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst. (John 6:35)

### Daily Devotion, Prayer Guide, and Bible Reading

#### Sun, July 7: Only I Am

"I am..." (John 6:35)

Seven times. That's how many times Jesus tells us something in John's gospel about who He is by beginning with, "I am." Each time He speaks this way, we hear the same I Am that spoke to Moses in the burning bush; the same I Am who spoke to Saul on the road to Damascus. When Jesus speaks, we hear I Am because He is I Am, and I Am is enough. (TJG)  
Prayer Guide: Pray we hear Jesus, the great I Am.  
Bible Reading: Jer. 3; Matt. 17

#### Mon, July 8: Hungry for More

"I am the bread of life." (John 6:35)

When Jesus declares that He is the bread of life, He's talking about more than earthly bread and physical hunger. He's talking about that same hunger that each of us feel even when our stomach is full. Our souls crave what nothing in this life can satisfy, and that's because we are made for the life of God that only Jesus—the bread of life—gives. (TJG)  
Prayer Guide: Pray we find satisfaction in the bread of life.  
Bible Reading: Jer. 4; Matt. 18

#### Tue, July 9: We Must Go

"He who comes to Me..." (John 6:35)

Those without Christ are starving spiritually and all the while a banquet table filled with heavenly bread is theirs if they will come. The only way to receive the meal is to accept the invitation and come to the table. No one will be turned away from the feast if they come, but come they must. God's invitation to the feast is real. Coming to the table is a choice. (TJG)  
Prayer Guide: Pray for those yet to come to Jesus.  
Bible Reading: Jer. 5; Matt. 19

#### Wed, July 10: Hungry No More

"He who comes to Me shall never hunger." (John 6:35)

Never over-promise or under-deliver. That's a rule all sales professionals should live by. It feels awful to find out you've been misled, thinking you're getting what you were promised, yet receiving far less. Jesus never misleads. He always keeps His promises, and when He promises to satisfy our spiritual hunger, He means it. Only He can. Only He will. (TJG)  
Prayer Guide: Pray we live in gratitude for God's faithfulness.  
Bible Reading: Jer. 6; Matt. 20

#### Thu, July 11: Thirsty for More

"They have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters." (Jer. 2:13)

Sin leads us to do foolish, self-defeating things. One of the most foolish things sin leads to is thinking we can ever do better than having a relationship with God. He is the fountain of living waters, and choosing anything else is like trying to quench thirst with a glass full of air. Sounds foolish, right? It is, and we dare not forsake the true fountain. (TJG)  
Prayer Guide: Pray we realize that God is the only living water.  
Bible Reading: Jer. 7; Matt. 21

#### Fri, July 12: We Must Believe

"He who believes in Me..." (John 6:35)

If you're thirsty and a cup of water is offered, the obvious thing to do is accept it and quench your thirst. However, you could stand in the heat and remain thirsty, ignoring the water offered. Sounds like a good way to stay thirsty, doesn't it? What is needed, the only thing needed, is to accept the water. That's the role of faith. We believe to receive. (TJG)  
Prayer Guide: Pray we receive God's offer of grace in every moment.  
Bible Reading: Jer. 8; Matt. 22

#### Sat, July 13: Thirsty No More

"He who believes in me shall never thirst." (John 6:35)

As a soldier on road marches, I carried a pack of water. At regular intervals the march would stop, and we would be ordered to drink water. I often mused that it would be so much faster if one drink satisfied thirst for the whole march. While that never happened, it is true that drinking of the water offered by Jesus means never thirsting again. Never. (TJG)  
Prayer Guide: Pray we drink deeply of the water Jesus offers.  
Bible Reading: Jer. 9; Matt. 23

#### ***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)

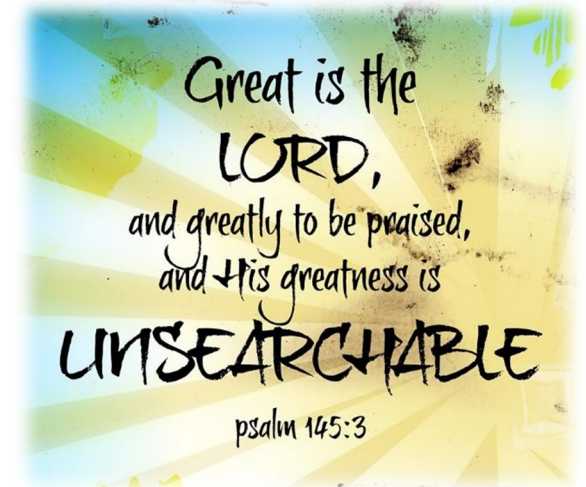
First Christian Church

West Frankfort, IL  
fccwf.org



## THE LORD'S DAY

July 7, 2024



### **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. Pastor & 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