

Announcements

- Join us for Defender's Q&A in Adult Bible Study on Wed, 6 pm, and learn *really good reasons to believe!*
- Sun, Feb 19, 6 pm – Q&A with T. J. Bring your Bible questions!
- Starting Sun, Feb 26, T. J. will preach through Revelation during evening worship. The series is entitled, "Back to the Future".
- Benevolence items needed: toilet tissue, toothpaste, shampoo, body soap, deodorant, laundry soap, and dish soap. Please bring to office.
- Young and Rested Canasta and Lunch, Thu, Feb 16, 9:30 am.
- If you would like to receive One Call alerts, text Alert to 22300.

This Week @ FCC

Today, Sun, Feb 5

- Morning Worship: 9 am, followed by Sunday School.
- New Member Orientation: 4:45 pm, Right Track classroom
- Evening Worship: 6 pm – 2 Thessalonians 3:6-18

Tue, Feb 7 – Letter Writers: 9:30 am.

Wed, Feb 8 – Junction Kids, 4:12 Youth, and Adult Bible Study: 6 pm.

God's People Gathered

Morning Worship Last Week: 188 / 2023 Average: 162

Sunday School Last Week: 112 / 2023 Average: 105

Evening Worship Last Week: 36 / 2023 Average: 40

Midweek Services Last Week: Canceled / 2023 Average: 42

God's People Gave: January 2023 (as of January 29)

Budget Giving

Church Operating: \$29,259.00

Missions: \$2,700.00

Total Giving: \$31,959.00

Monthly Budget: \$22,216.00

Over (Under): \$9,743.00

Other Giving/Receipts

God's Rebuilding Fund: \$990.39

Extra Missions Giving: \$305.00

NCCS Donations: \$395.00

NCCS Payments: \$12,348.96

NCCS Fundraising: \$0

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

Memory Verse for This Week: 2 Thessalonians 3:13

But as for you, brethren, do not grow weary in doing good.

3-Year Lectionary Bible Readings for This Week

Sun, Feb 5: Isa 58:1-12; Ps 112:1-10; 1 Cor 2:1-16; Matt 5:13-20

Mon, Feb 6: Ps 119:105-112; 2 Ki 22:3-20; Rom 11:2-10

Tue, Feb 7: Ps 119:105-112; 2 Ki 23:1-8, 21-25; 2 Cor 4:1-12

Wed, Feb 8: Ps 119:105-112; Prov 6:6-23; Jn 8:12-30

Thu, Feb 9: Ps 119:1-8; Gen 26:1-5; Jas 1:12-16

Fri, Feb 10: Ps 119:1-8; Lev 26:34-46; 1 Jn 2:7-17

Sat, Feb 11: Ps 119:1-8; Deut 30:1-9a; Matt 15:1-9

Today's Living Word and Daily 180: 3 Minutes in God's Word are available every day through the church website, fccwf.org, and on Facebook at T. J.'s ministry page (facebook.com/gentrytj).

FCC Family, you are invited to a baby shower for Stephen and Ireland Dillard's little-girl-on-the-way! Join the celebration on Sat., Feb. 18, 2-4 pm, in the Right Track classroom. It's an open-house-style shower, so come anytime!



FCC Is Growing Deeper and Reaching Wider in 2023!

Our verse for 2023 is "Christ in you, the hope of glory." (Col. 1:27)

How will we grow deeper and reach wider this year?

1+2+3+4+5=15

1 Daily FCC Devotion and Prayer Guide: Together We Grow

Let's get everyone on the same page, every day. It's all in your bulletin!

2 Daily Focused Prayer Requests

"God, make my faith stronger and use me."

"God, bless FCC and cause us to grow."

3 People You Invite Each Week

Invite your Jerusalem People – those you know well.

Invite your Judea People – your acquaintances.

Invite your Samaria People – those different from you.

4 Commitments to Gather

Morning Worship, Sunday School, Evening Worship, Midweek Service

5 Sacrificial Dollars to Missions per Month

Place an extra \$5 in the dedicated Missions Offering Box by the last

Sunday of each month. Let's grow FCC's Missions Giving by 20% plus!

On Sun, Dec 17, we will celebrate the "Top 15 Blessings of 2023"!

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

Health: Ashton Gentry, Bill Burks, John Hopkins, Ryan Mondino, AJ Farkas, Bob Johnston, Kyle Britton, Carl Jackson, Seth Follmer, Alberta Morris, Maverick Hines, Lisa Uhls Bishop, Sharron West, Drake Short, Justin Settles, Shirley Ward, Piper Castellano, Jim Wangler, Rita Allois, Brenda Flowers, Wayne and Sandy Ellis, Carolyn Jones, Charlie Bartoni, Todd Jennings, Peggy Stanley and family, LaDonna Bryce, Misty Painter, Danny Rodgers, Alice Campbell, Joyce Thomas, Linda Upton, Wanda Finn, Pam Jeralds, Lance Baldwin, Heather Vogel, Renee Mifflin, Jim Carter, Tim Williams, Arnita and Jim Parker, Joyce Lucas, Gene Williams, Hudson Pace, Keith Alsip, Janet Reeves, Avery Potter, Bob Means, John Shum, Donna Bozarth, Terri Stewart, Missy Story, Sue Bellamy, Barbara Wilmore, Denny Bush, Mary Wallace, Barbara Winnet, Amanda Brewer, Kelly Burkitt, Nancy Denton, Shirley Williams, Wendy Russell **Other:** Bailey family as they prepare for the mission field; FCC Staff, Elders, and Deacons; FCC Widows and Widowers; US Armed Forces; Southern Illinois Christian Service Camp; Missionaries; President Biden; Governor Pritzker; Mayor Jordan; **NCCS:** Mrs. Reilly (K), Ms. Ember (1st/2nd), Mrs. Coleman (3rd/4th), Mrs. Mullins (5th/6th), Mrs. Malone (7th/8th), Ms. Ashton (Music), Mrs. Eldridge (PE, Art, Keyboarding, and 3rd Grade Aide), Mrs. McClerren (Reading Specialist), Mrs. Van Zandt (Administrative Liaison), Mrs. Woods (Principal), Dr. Gentry (Superintendent)

3-2-1 Journal for Today's Message

Message Title: _____

What are **3 things I learned** from this message?

1.

2.

3.

What are **2 ways I will apply** this message to my life?

1.

2.

What is **1 prayer request I will make** based on this message?

1.



Why Communion Every Week @ FCC?

At Communion, Christians meditate upon the Sacrifice of Jesus for their salvation. Then they examine themselves, to ascertain if they have grown in the grace and knowledge of Christ during the past week. Finally, 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 – on 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 names are at the end of each entry.)

Sun., Feb. 5 – He Hears Us When We Call

“Hear me when I call, O God of my righteousness!” (Ps 4:1)

“Amy!” After I said it, I waited. I said it again, “Amy!” Soon my wife came running to the room where I was standing. She saw the look on my face, the flush of my skin, and the trembling manner in which I was standing. I was in the early stages of a stroke episode, and I needed my wife’s help. When I called, she heard and gave me aid. She quickly got me to the hospital, and I received the care I needed. I’m so glad she heard me when I called. Even more so, all of us can take comfort in knowing that God hears our cry for help. He hears us when we call. (Dr. Gentry)

Prayer Guide: Pray FCC will cry out to God for help.

Mon., Feb. 6 – A Fight for Sight

“Lean not on your own understanding.” (Prov 3:5)

Sometimes we see God incorrectly. We see our circumstances imperfectly, but God’s perspective is always perfect. When we choose to see our situation only through our own eyes, it can cause us to question and doubt God. Jason Meyer said, “The Christian life is a fight for sight.” We must not lean on our own understanding alone, limiting ourselves to our own view. Our view is not always correct, and our understanding can and will fail us without God’s heavenly perspective. We may not see things correctly but take heart; God always does! (Ms. Ashton)

Prayer Guide: Pray FCC will see from God’s perspective.

Tue., Feb. 7 – Do You Trust Him?

“But as for me, I trust in You, O LORD; I say, ‘You are my God.’” (Ps 31:14)

Together, we are blessed to serve such an awesome God who is in complete control. He assures us that our life is in His hands. He is in complete and loving control as we walk in bold trust in the path He has put before us. Sometimes we mistakenly believe that if we just put enough work into the issue we are facing and try really hard, we’ll come up with the solution all on our own. However, the truth is that letting go is a total act of surrender, and we must learn to trust that God will always see us through. (Mrs. Analisa)

Prayer Guide: Pray FCC grow deeper and deeper in trusting God.

Wed., Feb. 8 – Don’t Let Go

“I will not let You go unless You bless me!” (Gen 32:26)

My grandson, Miles, has discovered his grip. He’ll grab my finger and squeeze. He doesn’t just squeeze and let go. He holds on. He smiles and turns his head as he holds on. Eventually, I have to pull away but not because he lets go. Miles has a lesson for us, doesn’t he? Yes. We learn not to let go of the hand that reaches for us – God’s hand. Take hold, and don’t let go. The blessing comes when we hold on, and God loves to bless our stubborn faith. Don’t let go. The blessing is coming. Hold on to God and wait for the blessing. (Dr. Gentry)

Prayer Guide: Pray FCC always seek God’s blessing.

Thu., Feb. 9 – #DoTheWork

“Your labor is not in vain in the Lord.” (1 Cor 15:58)

As I sit here looking around the room at all the faces of my students, a phrase from one of my sons’ favorite songs comes to mind: “Hard times breed better men.” Teaching, at times, is not easy, whether it be in an elementary classroom or when sharing the love of Jesus with others in our daily life. But, when all work is done to the glory of God, it does not go unnoticed by Him and makes us ALL “better men” (and women!) for His kingdom. Indeed, our labor is not in vain in the Lord, and He will always help us do the work! (Mrs. Coleman)

Prayer Guide: Pray FCC will give their all to the Lord’s work.

Fri., Feb. 10 – No Rush

“Wait on the Lord; be of good courage.” (Ps 27:14)

Does your life resemble rush hour in New York City? Are you going nonstop day after day? Are you caught up in the rush hour traffic of life? We tend to live our lives where we want God to be immediate with His response to our prayers. However, His answer may not be immediate, but He will respond. Waiting on the Lord draws us closer to Him. It allows us to trust Him in all aspects of our lives. Do you want to live in God’s will? Rely on Him and be patient. Remember, everything is in His timing, not ours. No rush. (Mr. Woods)

Prayer Guide: Pray FCC will learn to wait on the Lord patiently.

Sat., Feb. 11 – Send More, Lord!

“Pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers.” (Matt 11:38)

“How many do you need?” That was the question asked in response to a request I made for helpers. I was setting up for a field service while serving as a chaplain in the Army. The time was drawing near for the service, and I needed more help getting ready. My commander was eager to meet my request, but I had to make it. I asked. He delivered. God is the same way, and He wants us to ask for help in the spiritual harvest. Souls are at stake, and we need all the help heaven will give. Ask God, the Lord of the harvest, and He will send laborers. Ask and believe. The laborers will come. (Dr. Gentry)

Prayer Guide: Pray FCC will ask for and receive laborers for the harvest.

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

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 be baptized into Christ for the remission of your sins.

“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

Sunday, February 5, A.D. 2023



Welcome to First Christian Church!

If this is your first time joining us and/or if you have a prayer request, please complete a Welcome/Prayer Card (located in the pew back) and place it in the offering plate. Thank you! We are glad you are here!

Here’s What to Expect in Worship Today

- * 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, and He is about the gracious work of changing us more and more into the image of Jesus. Because God loves us, He will challenge us and confront our sins. He offers to heal our brokenness and forgive our rebellion so that we live the best life – His life! 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@wfncs.com

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

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