

HELP US GET TO KNOW YOU!

December 29, 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

The ABCs of TRUST in 2025

A: _____

B: _____

C: _____

Knowing the _____ will you _____ God in 2025?

T: _____

R: _____

U: _____

S: _____

T: _____



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 29, 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:** fccwf1903 **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

- Today is our mission offering for NCCS. Thank you for giving!
- No Sunday evening or Wednesday evening services this week.
- Upward Basketball practices start this week, Mon. and Thu., 5-8 pm. Games begin Sat., Jan. 18, 9 am. See Tim Grider to help!
- Join us Sun., Jan. 5 @ 6 pm for our FCC Vision 2025 kick-off gathering!
- 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 *January* donation.
- To become an NCCS Eagle Club Donor, visit wfncs.com/eagle-club.

Service	FCC Gathered		
	Last Week	'24 Average	'23 Average
Morning Worship:	170	145	150
Sunday School:	99	87	95
Evening Worship:	n/a	36	37
Midweek:	n/a	36	45

FCC Gave	
<u>December 2024 (through Dec. 22)</u>	
Regular Giving	Other Giving
Church Operating: \$43,076.83	God's Rebuilding: \$166.00
Missions: <u>\$2,700.00</u>	NCCS Missions: TODAY
Total: \$45,776.83	NCCS Eagle Club: \$2,255.63
Monthly Need: <u>\$30,515.00</u>	
Over (Under): \$15,261.83	

Year to Date 2024	
Regular Giving	Other Giving
Rec'd YTD '24: \$336,558.96	God's Rebuilding: \$955.84
Total '24 Budget: <u>\$317,340.00</u>	NCCS Missions: \$4,365.00
Over (Under): \$19,218.96	NCCS Eagle Club: \$12,652.52

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

**Plan now to join us for the
FCC 2024 Year-in-Review and
2025 Vision Kick-Off!
Next Sun., Jan. 5, 6 pm.**



This Week @ FCC

- Today, Dec. 29
- Worship: 9 am (Nursery and Junction Kids Available)
 - Sunday School: Following Worship
- Mon., Dec. 30
- Upward Basketball Practice: 5-8 pm
- Thu., Jan. 2
- Upward Basketball Practice: 5-8 pm



Class	Location	Teacher
Nursery	Office hallway	Rotating
PreK/K	Office hallway	Rotating
1st-3rd	Cafeteria hallway	Analisa Woods
4th-6th	Second floor, gym	Susan Hood
7th-12th	Above stage, gym	Tim Woods
Friendship	Across from cafeteria	Cynthia Dutton
Right Track	Off north sanctuary	James Willingham
Kum Join Us	Off south sanctuary	Tim Grider
Defenders	Chapel	T. J. Gentry



HOW CAN WE HELP YOU?

December 29, 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. 30: Declare God's Sovereignty

With God all things are possible. (Matt. 19:26)

Sometimes life goes sideways...an unexpected loss, a scary diagnosis, a failed attempt. Sideways happens. When it does, we have a choice to make. We can either despair and think and speak the worst, or we can believe and declare God's sovereignty. Do we really believe what Jesus said, that with God all things are possible? Do we really believe our sideways moment is also a moment to declare God's sovereignty? (TJG)
Personal Prayer: Sovereign Lord, I believe all is possible with You. Amen.
FCC Prayer Focus: 4:12 Youth Ministry
One-Year Chronological Bible: Gen. 4-7
Daily Proverbs: Prov. 30

Tue., Dec. 31: Trust in God's Sovereignty

My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth. (Ps. 121:2)

Do we trust God? Do we really trust Him? We can, we should, but sometimes we don't. Why is that? We don't always trust Him because we sometimes place too much trust in ourselves and others. Yes, we should trust others and believe in ourselves. But those things have a limit. Our true source of help and our unfailing place of trust is in the LORD. He made all things for Himself, and He can be trusted. Always. (TJG)
Personal Prayer: Sovereign Lord, help me trust You more. Amen.
FCC Prayer Focus: Reaching the Unsaved
One-Year Chronological Bible: Gen. 8-11
Daily Proverbs: Prov. 31

Wed., Jan. 1: Plan by God's Sovereignty

If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that. (Jas. 4:15)

It's true that failing to plan is planning to fail. Plans are good. However, any plans we make must submit to the sovereignty of God. We look to Scripture and plan accordingly, all with the caveat that the highest and ultimate plan is whatever God wills. We can trust His will in all things, including our planning. Do we really want to make a plan that doesn't take God into account? Never. Submit every plan to His sovereignty. (TJG)
Personal Prayer: Sovereign Lord, I gladly submit my plans to You. Amen.
FCC Prayer Focus: Wisdom for Our Elders
One-Year Chronological Bible: Job 1-5
Daily Proverbs: Prov. 1

Thu., Jan. 2: Grow by God's Sovereignty

God who works in you...to will and to do for His good pleasure. (Phil. 2:13)

It's been said that grace is opposed to earning, not effort. This is true, and grace calls for effort. We must put forth the effort to grow in grace. And we must also remember that God is working in us. He is the source of our growth as disciples. He sovereignly works in us to accomplish our growth. No amount of effort will bring growth without God's power. Our commitment to spiritual discipline is first a commitment to Him. (TJG)
Personal Prayer: Sovereign Lord, I look to You for my growth. Amen.
FCC Prayer Focus: Health of the FCC and NCCS Staff
One-Year Chronological Bible: Job 6-9
Daily Proverbs: Prov. 2

Fri., Jan. 3: Witness by God's Sovereignty

Not willing that any...perish but...all...come to repentance. (2 Pet. 3:9)

Every Christian is called to share the gospel. We are all given the privilege of witnessing. Yet, when we open our mouths to share, we cannot forget that God must open the heart. And we can be confident that He wants to, that He will, and that the wonder of salvation is always possible when we share the gospel. God has sovereignly declared His desire none would perish, that all can be saved. He gives all the freedom to receive. (TJG)
Personal Prayer: Sovereign Lord, use my witness. Amen.
FCC Prayer Focus: T. J.'s Preaching, Teaching, and Counseling Ministry
One-Year Chronological Bible: Job 10-13
Daily Proverbs: Prov. 3

Sat., Jan. 4: Forgive by God's Sovereignty

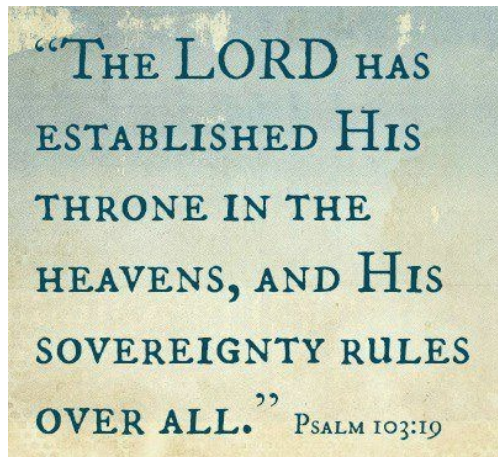
Forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you. (Eph. 4:32)

God is sovereign over grace, over mercy, over forgiveness. It is His to give, and He gives it freely. Why should we do anything differently? The grace God gives us is to be given to others. We are stewards of His grace, and we should give it freely. Withholding forgiveness is disobedience to the sovereign Lord of grace. We can and must forgive freely, trusting God's sovereignty as we do and knowing that to be like Him is to forgive. (TJG)
Personal Prayer: Sovereign Lord, help me to forgive freely. Amen.
FCC Prayer Focus: Upward Basketball
One-Year Chronological Bible: Job 14-16
Daily Proverbs: Prov. 4

Prayer List

Health: Pete Zimmer, Eli Reed, Debbie Wells, Carol Davis, Danny McClellan, 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; local, state, and federal government representatives



December 29, 2024 – January 4, 2025

Weekly Discipleship Focus: God Is Sovereign

Weekly Scripture Memory: There are many plans in a man's heart, nevertheless the LORD's counsel—that will stand. (Prov. 19:21)

Daily Prayer: Sovereign Father, I thank You for Your loving control of my life. Help me to trust in Your justice and mercy, knowing You are working all things together for Your glory and my good. Amen.

Sun., Dec. 29: Rejoice in God's Sovereignty

Let all those rejoice who put their trust in You. (Ps. 5:11)

If we choose to trust that God is sovereign over our lives, then we are free to live a life of rejoicing. Think of it – when we accept God's control, we rejoice in His care and concern. If we find ourselves troubled and without peace, it's probably because we have forgot we are God's and He is in control. Good days and bad days become days of rejoicing when we know and rejoice in God's sovereignty. He is in control. Rejoice! (TJG)

Personal Prayer: Sovereign Lord, I rejoice in Your sovereignty. Amen.

FCC Prayer Focus: Kingdom Kids Children's Ministry

One-Year Chronological Bible: Gen. 1-3

Daily Proverbs: Prov. 29

Scan the QR code to the right for these additional discipleship resources:

- Together We Grow Audio Version (Su-Sa)
- Daily 180: 3 Minutes in God's Word (M-F)
- Today's Living Word (M-F)



Also, on Facebook (fccwf1903) and X/Twitter (drtjgentry).