



THE CURRENT WEEKLY

March 31st - April 6th, 2025

Smithville First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

A NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR

This is a week of firsts for me here at Smithville First Christian Church - my first funeral and my first baptism. Both are holy moments in vocational ministry. It is an honor to walk with people through these pivotal moments, beginnings and endings. Along with weddings and baby blessings, they are the times when God is especially close to us as individuals and as a church, and my presence is just a reminder of that truth. So as we prepare to say goodbye to our sister Fern on Tuesday night and say an official hello to our sister Cheryl as she rises to new life in the waters of baptism on Sunday, may we be aware of God's presence in the midst of our tears and our rejoicing.



Hospitality Task Force: I am looking for volunteers who would be willing to serve on a Hospitality Task Force for the next 6-8 months. We will likely meet monthly and look at everything from how someone initially hears about our church to their experience as a guest, how we do follow up, and how to help them explore membership and baptism. We will need a good cross-section of people from long-timers to more recent members who still remember their first experiences. We will identify best practices in other churches, and implement small changes as we go. Larger changes will be made as recommendations to the Board. Are you ready to make our church as welcoming as we can be? If so, please [fill out](#)

[this form](#) to let me know you're interested!

Have a great week,

Laura

laura.guy@smithvillefirstchristian.org

Cell: 913.515.3720

Watch March 30th Service: <https://www.facebook.com/smithvillefcc/videos/9610050589060555>

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

NEW Office Hours Start Next Week

Since much of the work in the office needs to happen earlier in the week - the newsletter, check requests, payroll, etc. - we are extending the hours that Jennifer Carr works on Mondays - Thursdays and closing the office on Fridays. So the new office schedule will look like this starting Monday, April 7:

Monday - Thursday - 8:00 am-12:00 pm, (lunch break), 12:30 pm-4:00 pm.

Friday - Closed

Easter Choir:



We are putting together a Choir to perform on Easter and need your help!

If you are interested, call, text or email Steven Cornwell (Music Director).

Phone: (785)356-1029 Email: Cornwell313@gmail.com



NEW Praise & Prayer Request Form:

We are working to streamline the process for submitting prayer requests. We want to make sure that every request is prayed over as soon as possible. There is a new form on the website where you can fill out a request for prayer for yourself or someone else. Going forward, we will keep the requests on the Prayer List for a week unless you specify otherwise. Thank you for your help in keeping us informed of the needs in our community! Here is the [link to the new form](#).



Get to Know Pastor Laura:

If you haven't already, please set up time in March to meet Pastor Laura Guy! Here is a [Calendly link](#) where you can sign up for a time that works for you.

If there aren't any appointments that work with your schedule, please email her at laura.guy@smithvillefirstchristian.org and let her know when you are available.

LENTEN EVENTS

Bread & Broth Series: The Screwtape Letters



The 2025 Bread & Broth Series will cover the purple booklet that can be found in the Fellowship Hall, titled "A Lenten Companion to *The Screwtape Letters*" and a copy of the book C.S. Lewis' *The Screwtape Letters*. Wednesday nights will discuss assigned chapters in the book. You don't have to read the book to understand the sermons or participate in the Wednesday night discussions, but I think it will mean more to you if you are able to read along. Most libraries have a copy you can check out, or there are used copies fairly cheap online. There is also a [free version](https://judithwolfe.wp.st-andrews.ac.uk/files/2017/08/Screwtape.pdf) you can read on your computer : <https://judithwolfe.wp.st-andrews.ac.uk/files/2017/08/Screwtape.pdf>

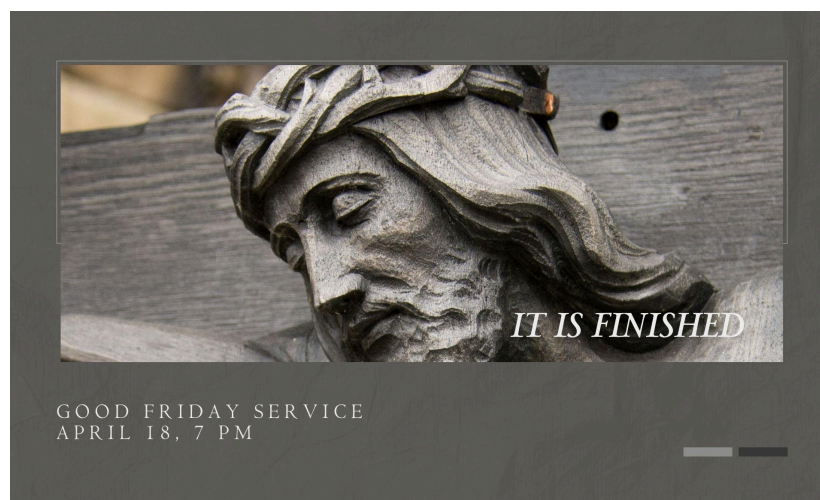
Reading Assignments:

Bread & Broth Week 4 - Wednesday, Apr. 2 at 5:45. Prepare ahead (if able): Read chapters 13-17 in *The Screwtape Letters*.

Bread & Broth Week 5 - Wednesday, Apr. 9 at 5:45. Prepare ahead (if able): Read chapters 18-24.

(There are additional readings and devotional pages for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday/Good Friday and Easter. If your small group wants to meet together to discuss those last pages, you can find a time during Holy Week to meet.)

Good Friday Service



Easter Lilies: The orders have been placed for the Easter Lilies. This is such a beautiful tradition that the Church does every year! It's a great way to Honor and Remember the people we hold near and dear to our hearts!

Easter Sunday



Join us on Easter Sunday at 9am for Potluck Breakfast.

Easter Egg Hunt at 10:00am

Worship at 10:30am

Hopefully, we'll be able to take an all-church photo on the front steps right after worship.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES



Easter Egg Hunt Candy Donations:

*****JUST A FEW DAYS LEFT TO BRING IN THOSE BAGS OF CANDY!*****

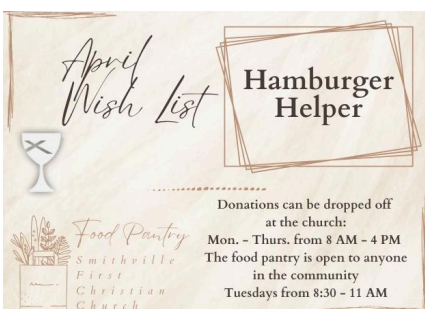
We seek the sweet treasures of Easter Candy for this year's Smithville Chamber of Commerce Egg Hunt on 4/19, as well as our morning Easter Egg Hunt at SFCC! Kindly place your bags of candy in the Fellowship Hall at church by the enchanted date of Sunday, April 6th.



Soup & Bread Needed for Bread & Broth:

We are looking for volunteers to bring soup and bread to our Bread & Broth Series on Wednesday evenings by 5:45 PM during Lent, starting March 12 through April 9th. Please sign up on our Sign Up Genius Form using this link <https://bit.ly/3Qm45Ou>

Thank you for all you do for our church!



April Food Pantry:

For April, the Food Pantry is collecting Hamburger Helper. Donations can be dropped off at the church:

Monday - Thursday from 8 AM - 4 PM

The food pantry is open to anyone in the community on

Tuesdays from 8:30 - 11 AM

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Weekly Coffee & Donut Fellowship:



Join us on Sundays at 10 AM (prior to Worship Service) for coffee, donuts, and fellowship!

We look forward to seeing you there!

YOUTH NEWS

Scholarship Applications:



We are proud to announce that we will again offer both The First Christian Church Scholarship and the Margaret Wilson Miller and David Rader Miller Scholarship Funds (for undergraduate students only).

Applicants must be members of Smithville First Christian Church.

The First Christian Church Scholarship Application is available for applicants who have completed 24 college hours and graduated from high school one year ago. (2.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale is required.) The Margaret Wilson Miller and David Rader Miller First Christian Church Scholarship Fund Application is available for high school graduates.

Applications will be available in the church office and online starting Wednesday March 12th, 2025. If you have any questions or if you would like a printed copy, please call Jennifer (Church Office Administrator) at (816)532-0773 Monday thru Friday from 8am-2pm to arrange a time to pick up a printed Application.

- Completed scholarship applications are due in the church office by noon **Friday, May 2, 2025.**
- Applications may be submitted by mail, email, or in person Monday – Friday 8:00AM – 2:00 PM.
- Applications will not be accepted **after noon Friday, May 2, 2025.**

Scholarships will be awarded during church service on **Sunday, May 18, 2025.** Please be in attendance on that day. If you have any questions, please call the church office at 816-532-0773.

[Read More Information and Apply](#)

Tall Oaks Summer Camps

Summer camps are open for registration. Scholarship funds available for ALL of these camps and retreats. Please apply here. <https://bit.ly/4jCQ7VZ> Register for camp with Early Bird Prices until May 9th. <https://www.talloaks.org/doc-camps>

Click here for website-> **[ALL ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS ARE ON OUR WEBSITE](#)**

SUNDAY MORNING VOLUNTEERS

Worship Service Schedule for April 6th, 2025

Elder –Cara Massie
Lay Leader - RYC Youth
Prep & Serve –John and Sandra Matthews
Serve & Clean-up – Susie Clower & Belinda Miller
Greeter – Mary Gordon & Kyla Kays
Cash Counter – Phil French
Acolyte(s) – Keaton & Case Crosby
Nursery - Janice Roberts

Worship Service Schedule for April 13th, 2025

Elder – Greg Atkins
Lay Leader - Jan Howard
Prep & Serve – Argel and Cheryl Merideth
Serve & Clean-up – Belinda Miller and Jonica Merritt
Greeter – Sue Lake and Marilyn Simrall
Cash Counter – Susie Clower
Acolyte(s) – Olivia Pendleton
Nursery – Suzanne Becker

*If you are unable to serve, please find a replacement and update the office by Thursday. The Volunteer List can be viewed online by scanning this QR code or going to <https://bit.ly/3CWjFO0>.

CONNECT WITH US:

First Christian Church of Smithville, MO
201 N. Bridge Street
Smithville, MO 64089

816-532-0773
office@smithvillefirstchristian.org
www.smithvillefirstchristian.org

Praise & Prayers: <https://bit.ly/3WIOXyf>

Office Hours: *Monday thru Friday 8:00am-2:00pm

***NEW OFFICE HOURS START NEXT WEEK!**

Beginning the week of April 7th, the office hours will be:

Monday thru Thursday 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM (closed for lunch 12:00-12:30)

Closed on Fridays

Office Administrator: Jennifer Carr