



THE CURRENT WEEKLY

April 28th - May 4th, 2025

Smithville First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

A NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR

I've never had an Installation Service. The only other church I served is one that I started, so I came pre-installed on Day One! And honestly, I don't usually appreciate the formal liturgies that accompany an Installation Service. But I spent some time looking through old documents about our church and reading some history. And I saw the names and faces of some of the many people who have been pastors here over the past 100+ years. It seems fitting, then, that I should be officially installed as the next in a long line of servants of God who have served in ministry here.

Some of my family members will participate in the service - my son Rob will be lay leader, my sister-in-law Jennifer Hall and her husband Clifford Hall will play instruments and sing, and my husband Clif will run sound for the instruments and voices. My grandkids are also excited to return and get donuts again! My mother-in-law and brother-in-law are hoping to attend as well. The Rev. Ron Routledge and Rev. Amy Shoemaker will be here from the Greater Kansas City Regional Office. And there will be cake after worship!

It will be a great day! I am really looking forward to the chance to make music again with my family members. They were part of the original praise team at Living Water, and we've been singing together for over 20 years. Steven and Gerry and Angie will join with us to fill the sanctuary with God's praises.

So let's mark this special day together. However many pastors have come before me, and however many will come after me, God has brought us together in this moment, "for such a time as this." I can't wait to celebrate that with you this Sunday!

Have a great week,

Laura

laura.guy@smithvillefirstchristian.org

Cell: 913.515.3720



Sunday, May 4th is Pastor Laura's Installation Service. We will have guests from the region as well as her family here in worship. After worship, we'll celebrate with cake!

WATCH LAST SUNDAY'S SERVICE:

Click link below to watch the April 27th AM Service:

<https://www.facebook.com/smithvillefcc/videos/478618871929775>

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Turkish Food Festival:



Saturday, May 10th is a Turkish Food Festival at The Dialogue Institute. Several of us attended the Ramadan Dinner with them last month, and this festival is another opportunity to share some delicious food with our Muslim friends. This is a fundraiser, so the food is available for purchase. It's an outdoor event at their location, 4215 Shawnee Drive, Kansas City, KS.

Mother's Day:

Sunday, May 11th is Mother's Day! Pastor Laura makes a special effort to honor all women in that service, whether they are mothers or not. There are many ways that women can nurture us and support us, and we'll celebrate all those special women - aunts, teachers, grandmothers, neighbors - and have a gift for all of them.



Hospitality Task Force Meeting:



Monday, May 5th is the first meeting of the Hospitality Task Force. Since it's Cinco de Mayo, we're going to meet at 6 pm and enjoy a nacho bar. If you'd like to join in our work, please let Pastor Laura know.

Church Office Hours:

(Effective April 7th, 2025)

The Office Hours are:

Monday - Thursday 8:00 am- 4:00 pm (closed daily for lunch from 12-12:30pm)

Friday, Saturday and Sunday - Closed



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](#).

NEW! Women's Group Gathering:

Our first get-together will be Sunday, June 1st at 5 PM!

With the blessing of CWF, we are launching a new women's ministry that we are calling "Women Together" (until we come up with a better name). We recognized a need for women to have opportunities for fellowship and friendship, so we're creating monthly get-togethers or outings for any women in the church who are able to attend.

Our first get-together will be at the home of Jonica Merritt on Sunday, June 1st at 5 pm. She will have a fun craft for us to try, and then we will roast hot dogs and marshmallows around the fire pit. We hope you can join us!



Bridge Street is now open!

(Sunday Morning Greeters, please see note below ↓)

Bridge Street is finally open! This means we will have the East Entrance open again on Sunday mornings!

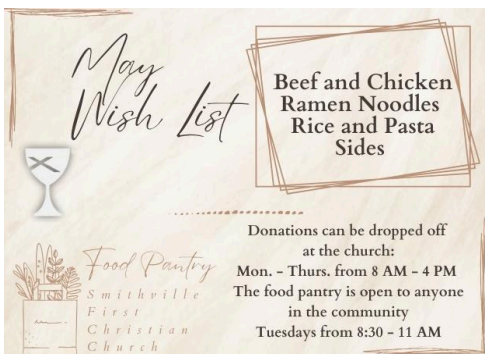
→ **Greeters:** Please note that we will need one Greeter at the East Entrance, and one Greeter at the West Entrance.

Thank you!



SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

May Food Pantry:



For May, the food pantry is requesting Ramen Noodles (Beef and Chicken flavors) and Rice/Pasta Side dishes.

Donations can be dropped off at the church:

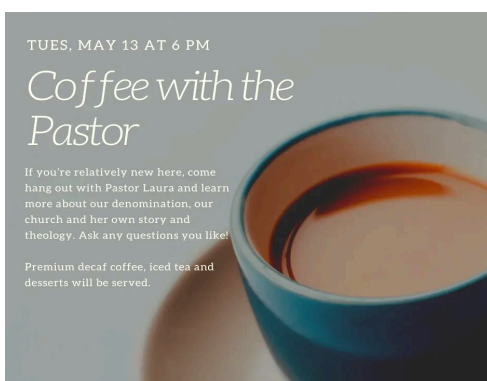
Monday - Thursday from 8 AM - 4 PM

The food pantry is open to anyone in the community on

Tuesdays from 8:30 - 11 AM

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

NEW! Coffee w/ the Pastor:



Tuesday, May 13 at 6 PM.

If you're relatively new here, come hang out with Pastor Laura and learn more about our denomination, our church and her own story and theology. Ask any questions you like! Premium decaf coffee, iced tea and desserts will be served.

Weekly Coffee & Donut Fellowship:

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

We look forward to seeing you on Sunday!



YOUTH NEWS

Scholarship Applications: Due next Friday, May 2nd (by 12:00 PM)

****APPLICATIONS ARE DUE THIS FRIDAY BY NOON (MAY 2ND)****



! DUE TOMORROW! (Friday 5/2/25) !

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 May 4th, 2025- (Pastor Laura's Installation Service)

Elder – Greg Atkins

Lay Leader - Rob Guy

Prep & Serve – Susie Clower and Jonica Merritt

Serve & Clean-up – Sandra Matthews and John Matthews

***Greeters** – Bob & Barbara Arnold *

(Attention Greeters: Since both Entrances are now open, we will need one Greeter at the East Entrance, and one Greeter at the West Entrance. Thank you!)

Cash Counter – Phil French

Acolyte(s) – Lincoln Viebrock

Nursery – Ruth Anne Porter

Worship Service Schedule for May 11th, 2025 (Mother's Day)

Elder – Cara Massie

Lay Leader - Susie Clower

Prep & Serve – Janice Roberts & Kathy Hamilton

Serve & Clean-up – Danny Heath & Amy Heath

***Greeter** – Charles & Ruth Anne Porter

(Attention Greeters: Since both Entrances are now open, we will need one Greeter at the East Entrance, and one Greeter at the West Entrance. Thank you!)

Cash Counter – Susie Clower

Acolyte(s) – TBD

Nursery – Joyce French

*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:

Phone: (816)532-0773

First Christian Church of Smithville, MO

201 N. Bridge Street

Smithville, MO 64089

office@smithvillefirstchristian.org

www.smithvillefirstchristian.org

To submit a Prayer Request: <https://bit.ly/3WIOXyf>

Office Hours:

Monday thru Thursday: 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

(closed daily for lunch from 12:00-12:30)

Friday/Saturday/Sunday: Office is Closed

Office Administrator: Jennifer Carr Email: jennifer.carr@smithvillefirstchristian.org