

# The Current Weekly



**December 31st, 2025**

*Dear Church,*

THANK YOU for everything you did to make the Christmas Eve service so special! I am still in awe of all the ways everyone helped in big and small ways. From the volunteer greeters and deacons and singers and acolytes and readers to everyone who parked somewhere else and sat up close to the front of the sanctuary - all of those contributions made our church welcoming and friendly and prepared for our guests. And so many of you brought friends and family with you to the service! I also want to thank those who worshipped online and left a greeting there, too.



I also want to say THANK YOU for the gifts and love offerings given to me this season. I am truly blessed to be your pastor!

Next Sunday is Epiphany, the day we celebrate the arrival of the Magi. We'll each receive a star word to help guide us in the coming year. Sometimes God can use those words to frame the experiences we will have, even if we don't understand what the words mean when we get them. Last year, I accidentally got two words - Believe and

Bold. They were stuck together, so I kept both of them. I wasn't sure what either of them would mean to me, especially when I was just starting out as your pastor last January. But I think they've both played a big role in my first year with you. I BELIEVE God is calling us to do some BOLD things together. I'm excited to see what my star word will be this year.

We will take down the Christmas decorations after worship, so if you're able to stay for an hour or so, we can use lots of help. We'll order some pizzas to feed our hungry volunteers.

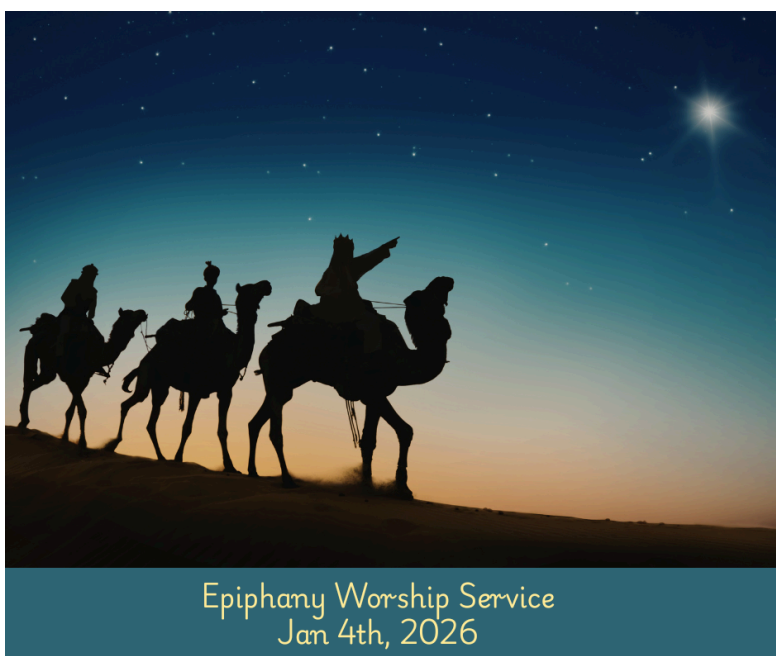
One last thing - Polly McCann has been our Office Administrator for many months, but now she will also be our Children's Church leader. We're excited to welcome Polly on board in this new role. As she begins working with the children this month, I'd like to structure the Sunday morning time so that the kids start out in the worship service for the first 10 minutes or so. This helps the kids see the adults worshipping (and they begin to learn the Lord's Prayer), and it helps the adults see the kids so they remember how important it is to provide spiritual development for them. We will dismiss all the kids for Children's Church after the Gloria Patri.

I'm excited to start my second year with you, and I can't wait to see what God has in store for us in 2026!

*Pastor Laura*

[laura.guy@smithvillefirstchristian.org](mailto:laura.guy@smithvillefirstchristian.org),

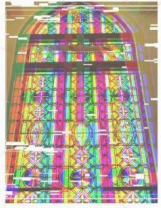
Cell: 913.515.3720



Epiphany Worship Service  
Jan 4th, 2026

### Epiphany Worship: Jan 4th

We will close out the Christmas season with our Epiphany worship service on Jan 4th as we welcome the Magi who came to see the newborn king. For this first Sunday of the new year, we will also receive our own star words that can guide us in the coming year. After worship, volunteers are needed to take down the Christmas decorations. Lunch will be provided.



# WATCH LAST SUNDAY'S SERVICE

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

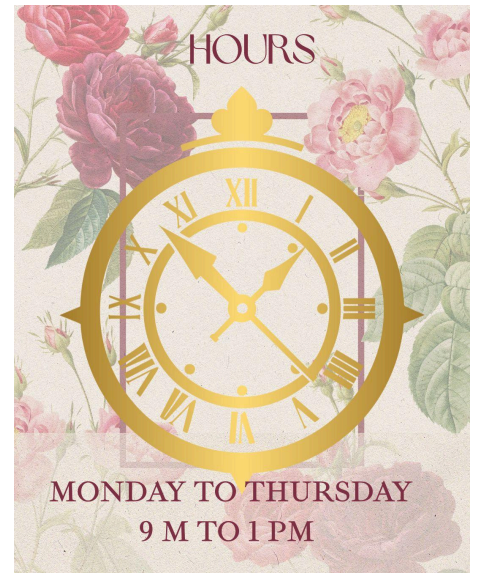
**Watch Last Sunday's Service:**

**<https://www.facebook.com/share/v/17jXqqU6NF/>**

## **Church Office Holiday Hours and New 2026 Hours**

The church office will be closed Christmas day and the Friday afterwards. In 2026, Church office hours will change to Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

\*Our inclement Weather Policy is that the Church and Food Pantry will be closed when Smithville School District is closed due to weather. You may always call to confirm if we're open.



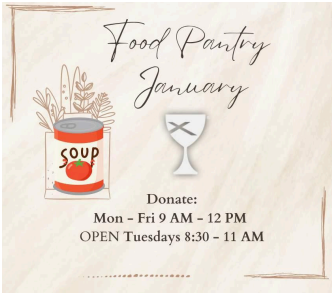
## **Coffee & Donut Fellowship** **Every Sunday at 10 AM**

Chat and chew, get to know new friends and old. Join us each Sunday at 10 AM (prior to Worship Service) for coffee, donuts, and fellowship! What a sweet time together. Come hang out with us on Sunday before service.

## **Ramadan Friendship Meal: March 15th**

Our Turkish friends from the Dialogue Institute will give a presentation about Ramadan, and then they will break their fast by sharing a traditional Turkish





## January Food Pantry

Thank you for your generosity this year! Because of our church, and other churches and community members' generosity, we were able to provide 182 cloth bags of food to 91 families for Christmas this year with bags of fresh fruit and fresh protein as well. We SO appreciate those who helped fill and deliver these on December 13th. Without the help of the FFA students and other volunteers, we could not do this project. Thank you!

I'd also like to thank the Food Pantry volunteers who worked hard to prepare for this project, and work tirelessly all year. Thank you, Paula Andres, Mark Brewer, Susie Clower, Judy Clough, Steven Cornwell, Homer Davidson, Doreen Farmer, Kathy Hamilton, Jennifer Harmeyer, Jan Heath, Jan Howard, Mark Johnson, Cheryl Lewis, Martin Lynch, Linda Neer, Janice Roberts, Bill Schwartz, and Bill Swendson. The Food Pantry would not exist without your hard work!

Alpha Book Club  
 Paula Andres  
 Andy from General Mills  
 John & Tammy Armstrong  
 Greg & Kathy Atkins  
 Ron & Kathy Backus  
 Frank & Jan Bagley  
 Lisa Barber  
 Ryan & Sarah Berdiner  
 Shelly Biondi  
 Mark Brewer  
 Kent Bridges  
 Joyce Callahan  
 Gerry & Sharon Carson  
 Church of Good Shepherd  
 Richard & Evelyn Clark,  
 Mac, Judy, & Keith Clough  
 Steve & Susie Clower  
 Steven Cornwell  
 Cosentino's Price Chopper  
 CWF  
 Homer Davidson  
 Diane & Christine Dickson  
 Tim Dougherty  
 Eagle Heights Elementary School  
 Shay East  
 Pat Enomoto  
 Jeanne Epperson  
 Eric Craig Real Estate Team  
 Joan Fahlstrom  
 Doreen Farmer  
 French, Denney & Shirley  
 Phil French  
 Sharon Gibson  
 Good Shepherd Alter Society  
 Mike & Mary Gordon

Rev. Laura Guy  
 Ashley Hall  
 Brian Hall  
 John & Kathy Hamilton  
 Don Hanks  
 Sharon Harper  
 Marcia Hayes  
 Pat & Jan Heath  
 Kathy Holliday  
 Jan Howard & Bill Swendson  
 Scott & Meagan Jacoby  
 Mark Johnson  
 Pam Johnson  
 Mark & Kathy Kalin  
 Cathy Kamphefner  
 Dennis & Edna Kenslow  
 Kyle & Connie Kimzey  
 Koinonia Sunday School Class  
 Barbara Krueger  
 Jeanette Leslie  
 Cheryl Lewis  
 Little Platte Baptist Church  
 Rick & JoEllen Lincoln  
 Pat Luce  
 Gary & Debi Luppert  
 Martin Lynch  
 Rachael, Anthony & Mattie  
 Marchetti  
 Tom & Cara Massie  
 Polly McCann  
 Linda McComas  
 Sharon McComas  
 Diane McKown  
 Mid-Continent Public Library  
 Rader Miller

Anthony, Shirley & Kimberly Ann  
 Morgan  
 Mt. Olivet Christian Church  
 Les & Linda Neer  
 Tom & Cheryl Nelson  
 New Hope Church  
 New Hope Christian School  
 Diane Nichols,  
 Olivia Owen, and Charise  
 Paradise United Methodist Church  
 Berry & Margaret Parks  
 Jim & Linda Pendleton  
 Platte Clay Electric Company  
 Janice Roberts  
 Rotary Club of Smithville  
 Bill Schwartz  
 Bill & Marcia Schulz  
 Smithville First Christian Church  
 Smithville High School Theater  
 Club  
 Smithville School District –  
 Wayne Krueger & Lisa Manz  
 Earl & Diane Soetoert  
 Makaela Stout  
 Tim Sublett  
 Dannie & Beverly Summers  
 Bill & Delia Thrall  
 Three Link Sisters  
 Town and Country Quilt Guild  
 Trimble Food Pantry  
 Russell & Erin Walter  
 Karla Webb  
 Susan Whitacre  
 Todd & Barbara Wilson  
 Steven Wolcott  
 Numerous Anonymous Donors



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We've reopened the in person handwritten prayer box, however you can also share prayers or praises through the [Prayer Request Form](#) online. If you've shared prayer requests with an elder, but want your prayer to be in a Sunday bulletin, make sure to send it to us through our online form by Wednesday before. Let's all pray for each other and for the needs in our community together. Where two or three are gathered, God is there! To share a Prayer Concern: <https://bit.ly/3WIOXyf>.

“Say to those with fearful hearts, Be strong, do not fear; your God will come.”  
Isaiah 35:4a, NIV

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### Worship Service Schedule for January 4, 2025 WORSHIP

**Pulpit:** Rev. Laura Guy  
**Elder:** Greg Atkins  
**Lay Leader:** Kathy Hamilton  
**Greeters:** Jonica Merritt  
**Prep & Serve:** Sue Boswell & Becky Crosby

**Serve & Clean-up:** Cheryl & Argel Merideth  
**Cash Counter:** Susie Clower  
**Acolyte(s):** Keaton Crosby & Case Crosby  
**Nursery:** Linda Neer

### Worship Service Schedule for January 11, 2025 WORSHIP

**Pulpit:** Rev. Laura Guy  
**Elder:** Susie Clower  
**Lay Leader:** Jan Howard  
**Greeters:** Connie Murphy, Donice Ratliff  
**Prep & Serve:** Barbara Millard,  
Cheryl Lewis

**Serve & Clean-up:** Coen Hickman,  
Jack Massie  
**Cash Counter:** Phil French  
**Acolyte(s):** Clay Hickman,  
Lincoln Viebrock  
**Nursery:** Linda Prout

*\*If you are unable to serve, please find a replacement and update the office by Wednesday at noon. The Volunteer List can be viewed online by scanning this QR code or going to <https://bit.ly/4ktjhGm>.*

**-CONNECT WITH US:**

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

**OFFICE HOURS**

Monday thru Friday: 9 am - Noon  
Saturday/Sunday: Office is Closed  
Phone: (816) 532-0773

[office@smithvillefirstchristian.org](mailto:office@smithvillefirstchristian.org)



**[www.smithvillefirstchristian.org](http://www.smithvillefirstchristian.org)**