

Feb 11th, 2026

## A NOTE FROM

*Pastor Laura*



Dear Church,

You might notice a few changes in the worship slides in upcoming weeks. Deanna Barnes has been our media person since before I arrived, working from her home in St. Louis and keeping all our communications humming while I got settled in. I've been SO grateful for her! But gradually, Polly has taken over the responsibility of the newsletter and bulletin, and now we're transitioning to Tyrell Childress, our AV operator, taking over the creation of the worship slides. (FYI, I am doing the social media posts and Deanna is still helping with the completion of the website.) Tyrell has some new ideas, and he has some new software that the church purchased, so he's learning and figuring out how it all works. Which means that things haven't always gone exactly as planned, but we're fine-tuning it each week.

One of the issues we faced since we bought the new software is that the sound from videos wasn't playing through the sanctuary sound system. Tyrell found the problem, and it worked when we tested it on Sunday. So now we'll be able to play videos again! We're also working on making the text on the screen as readable as possible. But there are learning curves with all of this, so thank you for your patience as we find the sweet spot in creating slides that are easy to read and hopefully pleasant to look at. And be sure to thank Tyrell when you see him!

This Sunday, we'll finish our series on the Lord's Prayer. Then, Lent begins next week. On Wednesday, Feb. 18, we'll have our first Bread & Broth meal and study at 5:30 pm. The theme for the adult class will be Death and the Afterlife. Our first night will be a study of what the Bible says about death and how Jesus faced his own death. We will end the evening with the placing of ashes on our foreheads, a reminder that we are all "ashes to ashes and dust to dust." I know that sounds like a morbid topic to talk about for six weeks,

# Death and the Afterlife

Bread and Broth study  
Wednesdays at 5:30 pm  
Feb 18 - Mar 25



but I promise we'll include lots of humor, and we'll explore theological and practical themes. I plan to give you information on writing a will and directive for health care decisions, as well as think through what you want for your funeral or service (i.e. organ donation, burial, embalming, cremation, etc.).

I have found that, rather than being morbid, having all of this communicated with loved ones frees us up to live our lives to the fullest. I hope you'll join us, and I hope you'll invite some friends who might be interested in learning more about death and our hope in the afterlife.

And finally, if you have not been baptized but you've been thinking about it, I'd love to talk with you and answer your questions. Easter is a perfect day to get baptized, so contact me if you'd like to know more.

## Pastor Laura

*My office hours vary each week depending on my schedule. I'm happy to meet with you, but ask that you make an appointment so I'm sure to be in the office.*

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913.515.3720

## Week of Compassion Offering

Our special offering will be received in worship on Feb. 8 and 15. Week of Compassion provides disaster relief and other kinds of ongoing support wherever there is crisis nationally or internationally. We will have printed envelopes available if you wish to give with cash or check, or you can [give online at this link](#).



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## Church Cleanup Day: This Sunday Feb 15th

Find your favorite lemon polish and duster and let's make the church sparkle for Lent and Easter! Sign up for the area you want to clean, and bring your own supplies from home. We do have some new bottles of wood polish and wax here!

**SUNDAY, FEB 15**  
**AFTER POTLUCK**

**Church Cleanup Day**

- ✓ Sanctuary
- ✓ Fellowship Hall
- ✓ Entryways
- ✓ Bathrooms



## Fellowship Dinner, Sunday February 15th

Every Month on the third Sunday or thereabouts we have our fellowship dinner, a pot luck lunch to share with your church family. It's community time to regroup and relax. Bring a dish to share and enjoy a warm, hearty meal with friends after the service on Sunday.



Fellowship Potluck  
Sunday, Feb 15th  
after worship

Bring a dish to share and enjoy a warm, hearty meal with friends.



## Lent Season Begins: Wednesday, February 18th

Lent is a season of forty days of contemplation, prayer and fasting beginning with Ash Wednesday and then going to Easter. This year we will again be doing a Bread & Broth meal and study on Wednesday nights at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please sign up to provide food. Children and Youth break out sessions available.

**Bread & Broth**  
coming soon....

**Wednesdays 5:30 pm  
during Lent**



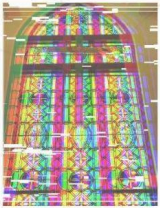
**Ramadan Friendship Meal: March 15th 6:30 pm**

Save the Date - 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 meal with us. Sign up in the fellowship hall.



Ramadan  
Presentation & Dinner  
Sunday, Mar 15  
6:30 pm

Smithville First Christian Church  
201 N. Bridge St.  
Smithville, MO 64089  
[www.smithvillefirstchristian.org](http://www.smithvillefirstchristian.org)



**WATCH LAST SUNDAY'S SERVICE**

***Click here for website-->***[ALL ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS ARE ON OUR WEBSITE](https://www.facebook.com/share/v/1AUTF3Rqyd/)

Watch Last Sunday's Service: <https://www.facebook.com/share/v/1AUTF3Rqyd/>

**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.



Coffee  
Time

Weekly Fellowship  
Sundays 10 am



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We've reopened the in person handwritten prayer box, and put out prayer cards in the pews and in the back of the sanctuary, 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>.

*"Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always.  
Remember the wonders he has done, his miracles..."*  
**Psalm 105: 4-5a, NIV**

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## Worship Service Schedule for Feb 15th, 2025 WORSHIP



**Pulpit:** Rev. Laura Guy  
**Elder:** Jennifer Schoonover  
**Lay Leader:** Cheryl Merideth  
**Greeters:** Shirley Curtis-Klein  
Kathy Hamilton  
**Prep & Serve:** Belinda Miller & Jack Massie

**Serve & Clean-up:** Scott Schoonover  
Cheryl Lewis  
**Cash Counter:** Phil French  
**Acolyte(s):** Brinley & Beckett Milne  
**Nursery:** Joyce French

## Feb 22th, 2025 WORSHIP

**Pulpit:** Rev. Laura Guy  
**Elder:** John Merritt  
**Lay Leader:** Susie Clower  
**Greeters:** Judy Clough, Mac Clough  
**Prep & Serve:** Lind Prout & Cathy Hamilton

**Serve & Clean-up:** Diane & Earl Soetaert  
**Cash Counter:** Janice Roberts  
**Acolyte(s):** Kayla Kays & Lincoln Viebrock  
**Nursery:** Jonica Merritt

*\*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>.*