

Feb 25th, 2026

A NOTE FROM

Pastor Laura



Dear Church,

I said it on Sunday, and I'll say it again - WOW! I still can't get over the crowd we had for Bread & Broth last Wednesday night. Don't worry if you missed it and feel like you'll be out of the loop. Each adult class is mostly a stand-alone topic. This week we'll talk about Heaven and Hell and what happens when we die. And upstairs, the kids will be doing fun activities and the youth will learn about Sabbath. The busier and noisier a church is, and the more we experience "good problems" like running out of soup or seats, the more we know that God is up to something. I hope we see more and more of those good problems in upcoming weeks and months. (But we also made sure to have extra soup and bread for this week.)



We already know that this Sunday will be a busy day in worship because we will have a blessing for four(!) babies and one older child. The extended French family will be there with all four generations, and it will be a great day to praise God for the joy of these little ones.

I'm grateful to Rachel Drake and Belinda Miller for sharing about the Ramadan Dinner in worship last week. This might sound like a strange suggestion, but I encourage you to invite a friend who doesn't go to church to come to that presentation and dinner on **Sunday, Mar 15th at 6:30 pm**. Many people don't want to go to church because they think Christians

Ramadan Presentation & Dinner
with the Dialogue Institute of KC

Sunday, Mar 15th
6:30 pm
The community is invited!
RSVP
816.532.0773

Smithville First Christian Church
201 N. Bridge St.
Smithville, MO 64089
www.smithvillefirstchristian.org

are judgmental and hypocritical and unkind. When they see us love and welcome our neighbors, they might begin to rethink what following Jesus really means. (Sign up in the Fellowship Hall or call the office to RSVP)

And keep singing those Lenten songs from our devotional booklet. I've been humming Saint Andrew's anthem "Pass It On" all week!

Death and the Afterlife

Bread and Broth meal and study
Wednesdays at 5:30 pm

Feb. 18 - Ash Wednesday: How thinking of our own mortality makes life more beautiful.

Feb. 25 - Heaven and Hell: What happens when we die?

March 4 - Kirby (Gould) Marks from Christian Church Foundation: How to prepare financially for when we're gone.

March 11 - Phil French: Near Death Experiences and what we can learn from them.

March 18 - Communicating our wishes to loved ones.

March 25 - Rev. Kristin Dow, Hospice Chaplain with Kansas City Hospice and Palliative Care : What a hospice chaplain wants you to know.



Pastor Laura

Laura.guy@smithvillefirstchristian.org , 913.515.3720

p.s. 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.



We have a devotional booklet printed up and available on loop Wednesday night or email the office for a digital copy. The focus of the devotions will be on the songs of our faith. The Scriptures and reflections are connected to many songs we sing in worship. Steven will be incorporating many of those songs in our worship service, and all of the songs can be found on a [Spotify playlist](#) or simply searching on YouTube. In addition to the booklet, we will also have lyric sheets available for all the songs.

Easter Lilies Due, Sunday, March 8th

Order Your Easter Lilies now in honor or memory of a loved one. They cost \$13.75. Please fill out an order form with cash or check by March 8th and put it in the green envelope on the Welcome table in the Fellowship Hall or give to the office. Questions? Ask Susie Clower. clowsk@gmail.com



— Smithville —
First Christian Church

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL
LENTEN STUDY

SABBATH



By the seventh day God had finished his work

which he had done,

and he rested

on the seventh day from all his work.

Then God blessed the seventh day

and made it holy.

— GENESIS 2:2-3 —

Calling All Children, Middle & High School Students Lent Studies & Survey

Join us during Bread and Broth Wednesdays at 5:30 pm as we explore our Faith. Together, teens will spend 40 days learning how to STOP, REST, DELIGHT, and WORSHIP in God. Study led by Cara Massie & Jonica Merritt

Children in Elementary grades will learn about Jesus' Miracles and the Disciples with Polly McCann. *"Hello. I'm excited to start the youth and children's leader position at SFCC. Would you please fill out our survey as we chose two youth events per month to plan for our students."* Warmly, Polly
polly.mccann@smithvillefirstchristian.org
816-507-4193

Please click here to take our YOUTH SURVEY 🙏

Lent Season:

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.



Seasonal Choir
 FOR LENT
 AND EASTER

REHEARSE WEDNESDAYS AT
 7:05 PM, MAR. 18 & 25 (AFTER
 BREAD & BROTH) AND 6:00 PM
 ON WED. APR. 1ST.

Volunteer Your Gifts

Like to Sing? Easter & Lenten Choir

Steven has chosen some hymns for a choir to sing on Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter. Let him know if you can sing with the choir. Rehearsals are on Wednesdays after Bread & Broth (18th, 25th) and will be 45 minutes. Apr. 1st, there is no Bread & Broth, so rehearsal will be at 6 pm. cornwell313@gmail.com

Long Range Facilities & Interior Design Committee Beginning

If you have interest or expertise in interior design or facility improvement, we need you! This committee will research and prioritize ways to improve our facilities to make them efficient and welcoming. See Pastor Laura for more information and let her know if you're interested.



Long-range Facilities Committee

If you have interest or expertise in interior design or facility improvement, we need you! This committee will research and prioritize ways to improve our facilities to make them efficient and welcoming.

Landscaping Help Needed

If you have a green thumb or like working outdoors, we need your help to keep our landscaping and outdoor space looking good. You can work on your own schedule and do the tasks that you enjoy. Talk to Phil French or Pastor Laura and let us know you're available to help.

Thinking About a Beautiful Spring?

It's the perfect time to start planning our flower beds and landscaping. We appreciate any and all willing hands who will help our outdoor appearance look beautiful. Sign up in the fellowship Hall or fill out our online Survey.

Landscaping Volunteer [Survey Here.](#)



Good Friday Service: April 3rd, 7 pm

The path to Resurrection leads us through the cross first. This reflective service will remind us how much Jesus loved us. Join us for a special Good Friday Service at 7 pm.

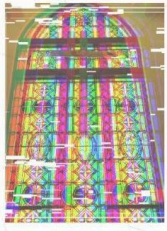
Donate Candy to Easter Egg Hunt by March 25th

While we will be a gold ticket sponsor for the Smithville Chamber of Commerce Egg Hunt the Saturday before, we will be filling eggs for our own Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday before church service at 10 am. Please donate candy by giving wrapped candy or child safe egg-size prizes. Candy can be placed on the Puzzle Table in the Fellowship Hall in the marked box or in the Church Office.



Thinking About Getting Baptized? How about Sunday April 5th?

Easter is the perfect day to enter the waters of new life! If you have not been baptized but you've been thinking about it, contact Pastor Laura to answer your questions. Easter is a perfect day to get baptized. laura.guy@smithvillefirstchristian.org



WATCH LAST SUNDAY'S SERVICE

Click here for website->ALL ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS ARE ON OUR WEBSITE

<https://www.facebook.com/share/v/1Hi1otCj3q/>



Submit prayer requests in person handwritten in our prayer box at the back of the sanctuary by the office AND you can also share prayers or praises through the [Prayer Request Form](#) online. Want your prayer to be in a Sunday bulletin? Make sure to send it to us through our online form or email the office 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>.

“But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of him”
2 Corinthians 2:14, NIV



March 1st, 2025 WORSHIP

Pulpit: Rev. Laura Guy
Elder: Angie Viebrock
Lay Leader: Kathy Hamilton
Greeters: Jonica & John Merritt
Prep & Serve: Sandra & John Matthews

Serve & Clean-up: Linda Neer and Belinda Miller
Cash Counter: Susie Clower
Acolyte(s): Brinley & Beckett Milne
Nursery: Meagan Jacoby

March 8, 2025 WORSHIP

Pulpit: Rev. Laura Guy
Elder: Susie Clower
Lay Leader: Jan Howard
Greeters: Les Neer & Linda Neer
Prep & Serve: Cheryl Lewis & Volunteer

Serve & Clean-up: Argel & Cheryl Merideth
Cash Counter: Greg Atkins
Acolyte(s): Kyla Kays and Clay Hickman
Nursery: Linda Neer

*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>.