



Feb 4th, 2026

A NOTE FROM

Pastor Laura



Dear Church,

I hope you learned a few things about the Lord's Prayer from the sermon last Sunday, and I hope that it changes the way we pray it. It's such a powerful prayer, but that power can get lost beneath the memorized words that we speak each week.

Death and the Afterlife

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



And thank you to those who have suggested topics for our Death and the Afterlife series for Bread & Broth. In addition to the questions I included in last week's newsletter article, I've also been asked to cover cremation/burial and to address what our bodies or souls will be like in heaven. Please continue to send in questions! This study will be a mix of theological and practical conversations. We'll cover what the

Bible says about death and the afterlife, and we'll also look at how to prepare for a good death (making a will, communicating our wishes, getting our finances in order, etc.) Phil French will teach us about near death experiences and what we can learn from the stories of people who have been pronounced clinically dead but then came back to life. And Kirby Gould Marks from Christian Church Foundation will be here on Mar 4 to talk about what kind of legacy we want to leave and how to prepare for it now.

We're also planning activities and lessons for kids and youth during Bread & Broth, so the whole family can come together for a meal and an age-appropriate study on Wednesday nights during Lent (Feb. 18- Mar. 25). The evening will go from 5:30-7:00 pm. The first night

will be a combined lesson and Ash Wednesday service, complete with the imposition of ashes.

See you in worship!

p.s. The office reminds us that contribution statements for 2025 tax preparation are available to pick up on Sunday.

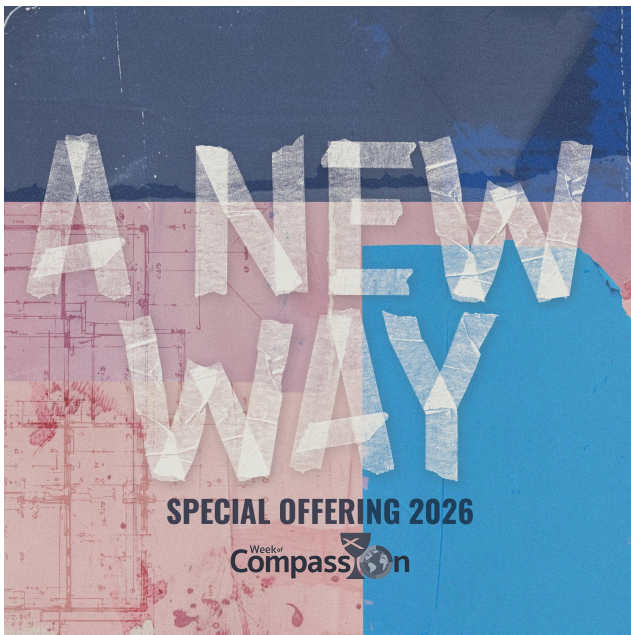
Pastor Laura

laura.guy@smithvillefirstchristian.org,

Cell: 913.515.3720

Scout Sunday, Feb. 8, 2026

Our Scouts will be with us in worship and will participate in the service. Please help us welcome the Scouts and their families!



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 a 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](#).

February Food Pantry

Thank you CWF for collecting soup for "Souper Bowl Sunday." The food pantry is open to anyone in the Smithville community on Tuesdays from 8:30 - 11 AM. Contact Cheryl Parks Hill with questions or to volunteer.



Yoga Group: Here's the Tea

Kim Derry is the insatiable leader of the Yoga group that meets in our SFCC Fellowship Hall MWF from 9:30 to 10:30. They've been meeting now for several years and even when Kim had hip surgery recently, guest teachers came to keep the class going. Usually around four to six participants come to stretch and meditate to the sounds of quiet music and even a bell. This prayerful time is enjoyed by all ages and abilities (some participate with chair rather than mat yoga). Men and Women are welcome. The Yoga group hosts a tea a few times a year to spend time in fellowship. You are welcome to come to their Yoga Tea get together on Feb 13th at 10:30 or try out a class. Contact Kim Derry (816) 225-5699

kimlovescatshorses@gmail.com. ****Stop by or stay after Yoga on Mondays where Shirley Curtis-Klein leads a write-in for both creative and non-fiction writers from 11 to noon.**

Contact shirleytakesahike@gmail.com.

Women's Event: Candlemaking: Sunday Feb 8th

Women of all ages are invited to make a poured candle as a fun craft project. Meagan Jacoby will bring the supplies and lead us in making our own unique candle. Please bring a medium glass container for an 8 oz candle. We also request a \$5 donation to cover the costs of the supplies (or \$10 if you want a larger candle). We'll share a potluck lunch before we start crafting together.



Church Cleanup Day: Sunday February 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



Bread & Broth

coming soon....

**Wednesdays 5:30 pm
during Lent**



SMITHVILLE
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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.

Letter from Sandra Matthews: Dear Church Family,

Thank you for the cards, prayers, and kind words about my mother's recent death. While it is very difficult to lose her so close after losing dad, we are consoled by the fact they are together again in heaven. Your generous support and thoughts are very much appreciated.

Sandra Matthews



LANDSCAPING COMMITTEE



Property Committee: Online Giving Update

Remember this letter ([Read it again here.](#)) from December with a message from our Property Chair, Phil French? It was about an upcoming repair to bring our historic brick and mortar up to date with tuckpointing. Now it is even easier to donate to our Tuckpointing fund or to our Memorial Fund online. Just select which fund you want when you log in or go through our [website link](#). We are excited about these legacies for the future. Thanks so much for your generosity.

Would You like to join the Property Committee? Phil French

This committee does everything from minor repairs to working with contractors on major projects. There is always something to do around the building. Would you like to volunteer? We could use help with Wi-Fi Thermostat watch or even a **"Landscaping Committee."**

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 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..

A photograph of several ornate, glowing lanterns (fanoos) with intricate cut-out patterns, set against a dark background with warm, colorful bokeh lights. The lanterns are lit from within, casting a warm glow.

Ramadan
Presentation & Dinner
Sunday, Mar 15
6:30 pm
Smithville First Christian Church
201 N. Bridge St.
Smithville, MO 64089
www.smithvillefirstchristian.org

A banner with a warm, golden-brown background. On the left is a small logo for Smithville First Christian Church. The text 'PRAISE & PRAYER' is in large, bold, black capital letters, and 'requests' is written in a large, elegant, cursive script below it. On the right, there is a close-up photograph of a person's hands clasped in prayer, resting on a wooden surface.

PRAISE & PRAYER
requests



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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> .

*"No eye has seen,
no ear has heard,
no mind has conceived"
what God has prepared for those
who love him."*

1 Corinthians 2:9, NIV

A banner with a blue and white geometric pattern. On the left is a small image of a colorful, multi-colored fabric. The text 'WATCH LAST SUNDAY'S SERVICE' is in large, bold, blue capital letters.

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/1DeN6UhYT4/>

Worship Service Schedule for Feb 8th, 2025 WORSHIP

Pulpit: Rev. Laura Guy
Elder: Greg Atkins
Lay Leader: Jan Howard
Greeters: Jan Heath, Susie Clower
Prep & Serve: Cheryl & Argel Merideth
Serve & Clean-up: Sue Boswell, &
Volunteer

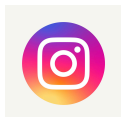
Cash Counter: Greg Atkins
Acolyte(s): Kyla Kays
Nursery: Linda Prout

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

**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>.*



Follow us Online
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Office Hours
Monday -Thursday: 9 am - 1 pm