

The Current Weekly

January 21st, 2026

A NOTE FROM

Pastor Laura

Dear Church,

I wanted to share with you the report I wrote for the Board meeting this month. There was a lot to celebrate at the year-end.

- We had 13 people join the church this past year, either by baptism or transfer of membership.
- We ended the year in much better financial shape than we had anticipated.
- We had a choir for the Advent season.
- We had 132 worshippers in person at the Christmas Eve service and many others who joined online.
- Our average attendance has increased throughout the year.
- Polly McCann has become our Children's Church leader.
- Tyrell Childress is providing consistent coverage of the AV booth which has freed up multiple volunteers who used to run the sound system, the livestream and the worship slides.



There are many other things we could celebrate from the past year - kids who went to camp, a new women's Bible study, a new women's fellowship group, a signed contract for TUCKPOINTING, and many more. Plus, we recognize the continuation of the amazing ministries that run throughout the year, whether people notice them or not - food pantry, Care Connection, Threads of Faith, recovery groups, Children's Church, greeters, deacons,

elders, fellowship dinners and events, decorating for holidays, outreach events like Candyland Christmas and many more.

None of this happens by accident, and none of it happens just because a particular pastor is at the church. This is the work of God's people, and you, the people of Smithville First Christian, have worked hard to make the church welcoming and vibrant. I'm excited to see what God will do with us in 2026.

This Sunday we will look at the first sermon Jesus preaches, found in Luke 4. See you Sunday!

Pastor Laura

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Online Giving Update: Tuckpointing & Memorial Funds

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. We asked for donations to this fund, but this fund wasn't available to select online as an option. 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.

CANDLE MAKING

Sunday, Feb. 8th after worship



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



B.Y.O.S.
Bring Your Own Supplies

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 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. We will have game nights and movies.

Bread & Broth

coming soon....

**Wednesdays 5:30 pm
during Lent**



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.



January 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.

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..





- BEES \$30
- CHICKS \$20
- WATER BUFFALO \$250
- HOPE BASKET (BUNNIES) \$50
- PIG \$120
- DUCKS \$20



Thanks to the kids in children's church for choosing how to spend our offering toward a donation to families with Heifer International....



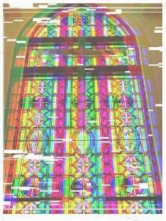
Noisy Offering Proceeds

Thanks to the children in Children's Church for choosing how to spend our noisy offerings to help families with Heifer International. We raised almost \$500. They chose a water buffalo for its double benefit of a lower cost than a heifer and its friendliness as a family pet, as well as small animals for eggs, a basket of bunnies, and bees for honey!



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> .

*"Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted."
Matthew 5:3-4, NIV*



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/1HnrfrmGWo/>

Worship Service Schedule for January 25, 2025 WORSHIP

Pulpit: Rev. Laura Guy
Elder: Jennifer Schoonover
Lay Leader: Susie Clower
Greeters: Glenda Cantwell, Carol Summers
Prep & Serve: Linda Neerer

Serve & Clean-up: Linda Prout, Kathy Hamilton
Cash Counter: Phil French
Acolyte(s): Keaton & Case Crosby
Nursery: Joyce French

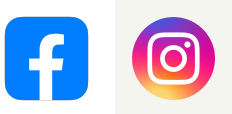
Worship Service Schedule for Feb 1, 2025 WORSHIP

Pulpit: Rev. Laura Guy
Elder: Angie Viebrock
Lay Leader: Kathy Hamilton
Greeters: Marilyn Simrall, Sue Lake
Prep & Serve: Amy Heath, Danny Heath

Serve & Clean-up: Barbara Millard, Larson Viebrock
Cash Counter: Susie Clower
Acolyte(s): Brinley & Becket Milne
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>.*

Follow us Online



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Office Hours
Monday -Thursday: 9 am - 1 pm