



March 18th, 2026

A NOTE FROM

Pastor Laura



Dear Church,

The weather wasn't very cooperative for our first Ramadan Dinner, but we still had some hearty souls who came out to welcome our guests from the Dialogue Institute of KC and learn more about how they practice fasting during Ramadan. Then we shared a wonderful Turkish meal of "Sultan's Delight" and baklava and other traditional Turkish foods, along with some great vegetarian dishes provided by people from our church. Every time I attend one of these dinners, I am reminded of how much the world tries to tell us how different we are from other people, how we can't ever really understand them or trust them. But then we share a meal together and talk and laugh and realize that we're much more alike than we are different. That

was Jesus' message throughout his ministry, too. Those Samaritans? Those people who are outcasts, on the margins? They're God's beloved children as much as we are. And when we view the world like this, it's a lot less scary and a lot more hopeful.

I've heard from many of you that you're enjoying the sermon series on the Disciples. I love to hear that! I know by saying you "enjoy" it, what you're really saying is that you're learning new things, thinking in new ways, and that makes a pastor's heart so happy. As a lifelong follower of Jesus, I also want to be a lifelong learner. I want to continue to grow in my knowledge and understanding of Scripture. I hope that my sermons can help you grow along with me.

Have a great week!

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.

Bread & Broth

coming soon....

**Wednesdays 5:30 pm
during Lent**



Lent Season Continues:

Thank you to those who have brought break and or soup to our Lenten meals. What a great time we've had together! Lent is a season of forty days of contemplation, prayer and fasting beginning with Ash Wednesday and then going to Easter. 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.



Sunday, March 22nd

after the Worship Service

Fellowship
DINNER

Please bring a dish to share

Fellowship Dinner: March 22nd

You are invited. Join us for our monthly fellowship Dinner March 22nd after the service. Bring a dish or side to share Potluck style right after the 10:30 service.



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.

Landscaping Volunteer [Survey Here.](#)

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

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

If you have interest or expertise in landscaping 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. We need any and all willing hands who can help improve the outdoor appearance look better. See Pastor Laura for more information. See Pastor Laura for more information. Survey.

GOOD FRIDAY

Apr. 3rd at 7 pm

Come remember and worship.

Good Friday Service: Ap

The path to Resurrection led
the cross first. This reflects
remind us how much Jesus
for a special Good Friday S

Easter Day Activities

Annual Potluck Easter Brunch 9:00 AM
Pancakes are provided. Bring your fave
breakfast dish to share. Easter Egg Hunt for
the kids at 10 AM, followed by the Easter
Service at 10:30 AM. Please donate candy to
the box in the Fellowship Hall **by March 25th.**

EASTER ACT

EASTER

HUNT

ANNU

POTLU

BRUN

5TH APRIL

RIGHT BEFORE

Easter is a perfect day to enter the waters of new life! If you're thinking about getting baptized or have questions you want to ask first. Contact Pastor Laura to learn more.



Considering Baptism?

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.



HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY

APRIL 12, 2026
ALL-AGES WORSHIP
IMPROV SERMON

DONATE PRIZES BY APRIL 5



SPRING BINGO!

SUNDAY, APRIL 12



Holy Humor Sunday & Bingo: April 12th

Holy Humor Sunday is the week following Easter: All-ages worship with a noisy offering, and our kids and youth might have other involvement, too. And Pastor Laura will give an improv sermon based on words and phrases that YOU write down.

After worship, we'll have a lunch of pizza and salad and then play BINGO. Sign up in the Fellowship hall. We'd love some new or gently used prizes for BINGO, please bring them by Easter, April 5th, 2026



Food Pantry March



- **HAMBURGER
HELPER &
TUNA**

March Food Pantry

CWF's "Souper Bowl Sunday" collected 143 cans of soup! Eagle Heights Elementary School donated eight PACKED boxes of food! Thank you!

This month we are asking for hamburger Helper and Tuna Helper. The food pantry is open to anyone in the Smithville community on Tuesdays from 8:30 - 11 AM.

We continue to have new people almost every week and the Blessing Box has been used much more this past month. We appreciate those who put items in the Blessing Box to help keep it stocked. We have had a special treat the past month with large donations of farm fresh eggs from Angie Viebrock! These are such a special treat for those who visit the pantry. Thank you, Angie!

We continue to be blessed with donations each month, and could not operate without these. Thank you : Jan Howard and Bill Swendson, Marcia Hayes, Kent Bridges, Frank and Jane Bagley, Town and Country Quilt Guild, Andy from General Mills and Linda McComas, Rader Miller, John and Kathy Hamilton, Mark Johnson, Christine Knott and the American Legion Patriotic Stitchers, Shelly Bondi, 201 the Trimble Food Pantry, Community of Christ

worship COMMITTEE



Thank You from the Worship Committee

Thank you to everyone who came ready to WORK on church clean up day on February 15. you did great!

Thanks to the many, many volunteers who have been cooking and cleaning for Bread and Broth. Thank you Pastor Laura for the insightful lessons on death and dying. Thanks Polly for teaching the little kids lessons during Bread and Broth and to Cara Massie for teaching the big kids.

alm Sunday is 3/26 and the palms have been ordered from Jean's Flowers. We will be waving the palms and shouting Hosanna! Thank you Susie Clower for coordinating the Easter lilies again this year. We have started filling plastic eggs with candy for the community easter egg hunt and for our kiddos too.

Thank you Steven for coordinating some Easter Cahoir special music. Easter Sunday we are planning on potluck breakfast at 9am, kids Easter Egg hunt at 10:00am. Church at 10:30am with baptisms!

THE FIRST CHRISTMAS



What the Gospels Really Teach About Jesus's Birth

MARCUS J. BORG &

Wednesday Online Bible Study Resumes: **April 22nd**

The Wednesday Online Bible Study Group would like to invite you to join us in our new book 6 p.m. Wednesdays on Zoom. Our next study book will be “The First Christmas: What the Gospels Really Teach About Jesus’s Birth,” by Marcus J. Borg and John Dominic Crossan. The paperback version is available on Amazon for less than \$10.

Borg and Crossan help us to see this well-known narrative afresh by answering the question, “What do these stories mean?” in the context of both the first century and the twenty-first century. They successfully show that the Christmas story, read in its original context, is far richer and more challenging than people imagine.



Coffee

Time

Weekly Fellowship

Sundays 10 am

Coffee & Donut Fellowship Every Sunday at 10 AM

Enjoy some time with new friends and old. Chat and chew. 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.

*Puzzles are now located in the office. Feel free to borrow, trade, or take home a puzzle.



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

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



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>.

Know therefore that the LORD your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments.

Deuteronomy 7:9, NIV

March 22, 2025 WORSHIP

Pulpit: Rev. Laura Guy

Elder: John Merritt

Lay Leader: *Susie Clower*

Greeters: *Barbara Arnold, Bob Arnold*

Prep & Serve: *Diane Soetaert & Earl Soetaert*

Serve & Clean-up: Jonica Merritt, Kathy Hamilton

Cash Counter: *Susie Clower*

Acolyte(s): Kyla Kays & Lincoln Viebrock

Nursery: *Joyce French*

March 29, 2025 WORSHIP

Pulpit: Rev. Laura Guy

Elder: John Merritt

Lay Leader: Susie Clower

Greeters: Barbara and Bob Arnold

Prep & Serve: Earl Soetaert

Serve & Clean-up: Jonica Merritt

Cash Counter: Janice Roberts

Acolyte(s): Kyla Kays

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 going to <https://bit.ly/4ktjhGm>.*