

March 25th, 2026

A NOTE FROM

Pastor Laura



Dear Church,

I'm a little bit sad that our Bread & Broth Lenten series is ending. The meals have been fantastic, of course, and the fellowship has been even better. And I know it sounds strange, but I've actually had fun talking about death! We've covered some really big, important topics, and we have one more class to go - with a special guest speaker. The Rev. Kristin Dow, a hospice chaplain, will be here to talk to us about hospice and palliative care.



Last Wednesday, I handed out a lot of "homework." These important documents help our loved ones know what our wishes are - for healthcare

decisions and funeral arrangements. If you weren't in the class last week but would like those documents, let me know, and I can email them to you. I also offered that I will be here on Wednesday, Apr. 1 at 5 pm for anyone who wants to work on these together or have some accountability to make sure we complete them. There's no Bread & Broth next week since it's Holy Week, and we'll have a Good Friday service at 7 pm on Apr. 3.

And even if you don't want to fill out those documents, there is one special one that I created as your pastor, and I would really like for you to fill it out for me. I call it the Legacy File because it is the document that will guide me or another pastor in how to lead your funeral. It is where we will find some of your favorite Scriptures to read and some of your favorite songs to include in the service. It will also be the words you want to share with friends and family about what your faith means to you. I created this document at Living Water, and sadly, only about 10% of the congregation turned it back in to me (it's that whole death-denying thing - we think there will be time later to think about all of this). But for the people who did turn it in, I was able to create a funeral that truly reflected what was most important to that person. In fact, for my mother-in-law's service in January, we used her Legacy File to guide us in planning her service. She wanted the Hallelujah Chorus - which is hard to do without an orchestra and a choir! - but we played a recording and invited people to sing along however they wanted. It was a joyous and unexpected moment in her service that made it distinctly hers. I'll have printed copies of the Legacy File available for you to pick up here at the church, or I can email it to you.

This Sunday is Palm Sunday, and I saved the disciple Judas Iscariot for my sermon this week (along with the other one we haven't discussed yet). We'll find out why Judas got it so wrong, and we'll complete our list of the twelve Disciples.

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.



NOMINATING FORM ONLINE

PLEASE NOMINATE PEOPLE TO
SERVE ON OUR BOARD, AND
ALSO LET US KNOW HOW YOU
ARE WILLING TO SERVE IN THE
COMING YEAR.



Volunteers & Nominations Survey:

It's time for nominations. Thank you for filling out a nomination form on paper or online. And please, nominate yourself if there is a place you're willing to serve! We also want to know what interests people have in volunteering, so this form helps us with that information, too.

[Click here for the volunteer and nomination survey online.](#)



Thank you Letter from Dr. Eyyup Esen.

Dear Friends,

I hope this message finds you well.

On behalf of all of us, I would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude for your warm hospitality during this Ramadan season. Your generosity, kindness, and openness created such a meaningful and welcoming space for everyone who attended.

Gathering together around shared meals and conversations reminded us of the true spirit of Ramadan—bringing people together in kindness, harmony, and friendship. Your efforts made each evening truly special, and we are deeply thankful for the time, care, and thoughtfulness you put into hosting.

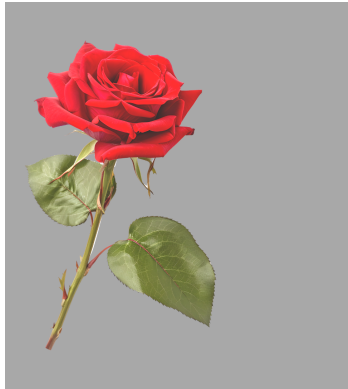
These moments of connection and mutual understanding are what strengthen our community, and we are so grateful to walk this journey with you.

With sincere appreciation and warm regards,
Eyyup Esen, PhD
Representative

Dialogue Institute of Kansas City

4215 Shawnee Drive,

Kansas City, KS 66106 hvillefirstchristian.org | Phone: (816) 532-0773



Thank you Letter to Care Connection:

Dear Church Care Connection,

Thank you for the lovely flower you sent in memory of our Mother, Lou Kindred. We enjoyed all the cards sent her and read every one. Appreciate all your care and thoughts.

Sincerely, Carolyn and Valerie.

—

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.



GOOD FRIDAY

Good Friday Service: Ap

The path to Resurrection led through the cross first. This reflects how much Jesus sacrificed for us. We will have a special Good Friday S

Apr. 3rd at 7 pm

Come remember and worship.

Easter Day Activities

Annual Potluck Easter Brunch 9:00 AM
Rader's Waffles 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.



5TH APRIL
RIGHT BEFORE



Food Pantry Wish List

Smithville
First
Christian
Church



March

PASTA & RICE SIDES

March Food Pantry

This month we are asking for Pasta and Rice Sides. The food pantry is open to anyone in the Smithville community on Tuesdays from 8:30 - 11 AM. ~ Contact Cheryl Parks Hill with questions (816) 225-0571.

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. Contact Cecelia McMaster rmcmast@gmail.com 816-309-4135



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/1Djic3QApdi/>

[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>.

For God is not a God of confusion but of peace.

1 Corinthians 14:33, NIV

WORSHIP SCHEDULE: SUNDAY, March 29, 2026 PALM SUNDAY

Pulpit: Rev. Laura Guy

Elder: Jennifer Schoonover

Lay Leader: Kathy Hamilton

Greeters: Ruth Anne Porter

Prep & Serve: Scott Schoonover & Barbara Millard

Serve & Clean-up: Sandra Matthews & John Matthews
(Cheryl Lewis if needed)

Cash Counter: Susie Clower

Acolyte(s): Keaton & Case Crosby

Nursery: Joyce French

April 5, 2025 WORSHIP EASTER

Pulpit: Rev. Laura Guy

Elder: Angie Viebrock

Lay Leader: Jan Howard

Greeters: Connie Murphy, Donice Ratliff

Prep & Serve: Sue Boswell & Linda Neer, Belinda Miller

Serve & Clean-up: Cheryl Merideth & Argel Merideth & Volunteer

Cash Counter: Susie Clower

Acolyte(s): Kyla Kays & Lincoln Viebrock

Nursery: Joyce French & Chloe Easton

**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>.*

