



April 22, 2026

A NOTE FROM

Pastor Laura



Dear Church,

Thanks for taking the time to read through this newsletter. And thanks to Johnny Viebrock for preaching on Sunday so I could sit in the pews and worship with you. His sermon got me thinking of all the places I've seen God, and many of those places have been here at Smithville First Christian Church.

This Sunday is **Graduation Sunday**, and we have 10 graduates with connections to our church who will be honored in worship. We will present them with a devotional book and say a prayer of blessing over them. I've invited a few of them to help me with my sermon, too.

There are two times a year when our congregation meets to make important decisions together. One of those times is in December when we vote on a budget for the next calendar year. The other time is coming up on **May 31** when we'll meet to vote on the slate of candidates the Nominating Committee will present to us. Those people will begin serving in their new roles on July 1 - the start of our programming year. We plan to have that proposed slate available to you by May 17.

We also have another proposal to bring to you on May 31. Since last October, the By-Laws Committee (Scott Schoonover, Linda Neer, Jack Massie and myself) has been meeting weekly and working on drafting a **new set of by-laws**. The Board approved our most recent proposal, and now we'll bring it to the congregation for approval. We're going to hold a Town Hall after worship on May 3rd so you can learn more and ask questions. We'll have printed copies of the proposal as well as a FAQ sheet, but you can also [read them at this link](#). If you're not available on May 3, or if you'd like to meet with the committee at a different time, please let me know, and I'll arrange it.

I'm excited about the **Youth Group Pizza Party** on Friday. If you haven't signed up your youth, call the office and let us know they're coming.

See you in church!

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.



Youth
Group

“Cooked”



PIZZA PARTY

Kick Off

Cooking up
food, movies,
games

**SMITHVILLE
FIRST CHRISTIAN**

24 APR

5:30 - 8:30 PM

**201 N. BRIDGE
STREET**



disciples youth



Youth Group Kick Off Party: Friday April 24th 5:30 pm

Dear Families with teens and preteens,

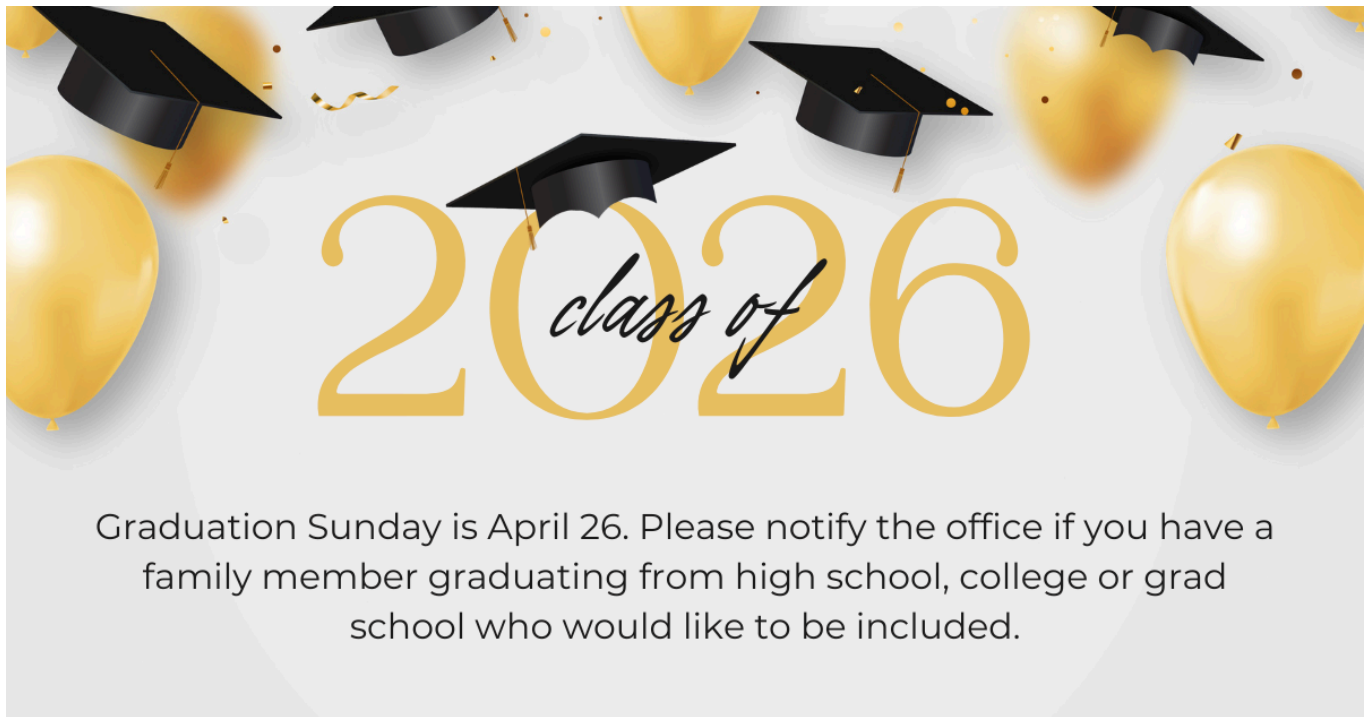
Coming up a week from Friday starts off our youth group going again for the year with two fun events per month. We will have a Youth Group “leave no crumbs” which is GenZ for hanging out during our Fellowship Meal in the Youth room, eating together and sometimes having a family event afterwards. Then we will have Youth Group “No Caps” which is young people speak for having fun truthfully and “for reals” as they said when I was a teen. Those will be the field trips parents and teens picked out on their survey. I’m working to get it all on the calendar.

The first two events are up and ready for you to sign up in the Fellowship Hall or [online](#). Join us for our Spring Youth Group Kick Off Party, Youth “No Caps” where we will cook up some yummy homemade pizza from scratch and homemade popcorn balls. Please bring your favorite pizza topping or sprinkle cheese/ peppers. We will have a movie playing and games! Youth and Families welcome!

Then Join us Every third Sunday for Youth Group in the Youth Room during the Fellowship Pot Luck. For more info, check out our newsletter or website. The next big event is May 31st Save the date Youth Group Bon Fire: Singalong & S’mores, hotdogs. Youth Group grades 6 to 12. Join us for "No Caps" When we really are going to have fun, for real.

Polly McCann
c (816) 507-4193





Graduating or in College?

Scholarships are now available to apply for online or paper copies in the office. Apply by Sunday May 31st at noon. Awards given in service Sunday June, 14th, 2026. [SFCC Scholarship Form](#) for those who have completed 24 hours of college or the [Miller Scholarship](#) Form for high school graduates, upcoming Freshmen.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CHILDREN'S CHURCH

We are looking for volunteers willing to be with kids during Children's Church. You'll be scheduled once every 2-3 months. No preparation needed, just another loving adult presence with our kids. Please let Pastor Laura know if you're willing to help out!



Volunteers needed in Children's Church:

Changes are happening with our Sunday morning children's programming. Chloe has been our nursery attendant for years, but with her upcoming graduation, she will be stepping down from that position. We rarely have babies in the nursery, so we have decided that we won't try to hire someone else in that position for the time being. However, our Children's Church *is* growing! We need an adult volunteer to be with Polly and the kids on Sunday mornings. Volunteers would serve once every 2 to 3 months. Please let Pastor Laura know if you're willing to be on a rotation schedule of helpers.

PROPAGATION FAIR

Potluck lunch after worship, then it's all about the plants! Bring in starter plants to give or swap. Learn more about plant care and propagation.

SUN, JUNE 7

following worship



Calling all plant lovers! Propagation Fair on June 7 after worship

What's a Propagation Fair? It's just a fancy way of saying that we'll be doing all things plant-related, especially sharing our new plant starts with others. Bring in starts of as many plants as you want - houseplants or outdoor plants or both - doing your best to write on each the name of the plant and what kind of care it needs. And then come pick up some new plants to take home and see if they'll grow! This is for everyone who loves plants, whether you have any to share or not. We'll eat a quick potluck lunch of salads and then start perusing plants and learning their names and how to best care for them. We'll have a "potting station" so bring in clean pots and potting soil if you have it.

*Wish List
Food Pantry*



*S m i t h v i l l e
F i r s t
C h r i s t i a n
C h u r c h*

**PASTA
& RICE SIDES**



April

April -May Food Pantry

Our numbers have been lower in the pantry the past few weeks, but the Blessing Box has been used more! We are confused with the lower numbers on Tuesday mornings, but are glad people are able to get food from the Blessing Box.

Angie Viebrock has donated additional eggs to the pantry and these have been a true blessing! They are SO much better than store eggs, and have allowed us to use funds for other things. Thanks again, Angie!

Rader Miller is preparing the garden for tomatoes, and has begun the process of catching and releasing the squirrels. We really appreciate your work to provide these "home-grown" tomatoes for the pantry, Rader. Thank you!

The generosity of our congregation and community continues to amaze us. Thank you Carole Summers, Sue Lake, Rachel Drake, Denney and Shirley French, Frank and Jane Bagley, Kyle and Connie Kimzey, Doreen Farmer, Jess Dao, Kent Bridges, Ashley Hall, Gary and Debi Luppert, Frank Kram, Diane McKown, Richard and Evelyn Clark, Joan Fahlstrom, Joyce Boulder, Chris Elliott, Rader Miller, John and Kathy Hamilton, Bill Swendson and Jan Howard, Marcia Hayes, Town and Country Quilt Guild, Shelly Bondi, Good Shepherd Alter Society, Paradise United Methodist Church, the Church of Good Shepard, Mt. Olivet Christian Church, Little Platte Baptist Church, and all those who donated anonymously this past month!

SAVE THE DATE: Spring & Summer

THE FIRST CHRISTMAS



What the Gospels Really Teach About Jesus's Birth

MARCUS J. BORG &

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

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

In partnership with
Smithville &
NorthCross UMC

More Details Coming Soon!

VBS

SAVE THE DATE

JULY 8-10

SMITHVILLE
FIRST
CHRISTIAN
CHURCH

SAVE THE DATE: VBS & Camps

We will be partnering with Smithville, UMC for VBS again this year. We will meet Wednesday through Friday, July 8th to 10 in the evening

starting with dinner at 5:30 and going to 8 pm. The theme is Snowball Mountain with a celebration during services on the 12th. We will have sign ups and volunteer sign ups ready in May, so please save the date!

EARLY BIRD DEADLINE FOR CAMP IS MAY 1!

REGISTER ONLINE AT KCDISCIPLINES.ORG/YOUTH

IN THE WILDERNESS



2026 GREATER KANSAS CITY DISCIPLES CAMPS

DAY CAMP 1	Pre-K - 3 rd grade	JUNE 24TH
DAY CAMP 2	Pre-K - 3 rd grade	JULY 18
PRIMARY	2 nd & 3 rd grade	JULY 20 -22
JUNIOR	4 th & 5 th grade	JULY 7 - 10
CHI RHO	6 th & 7 th grade	JULY 19 - 23
EIGHTERS	8 th grade only	JULY 6 - 12
CYF	9 th - 12 th grade	JUNE 22 - 27
ADULT	19 and older	MAY 28 - 31
GRANDPARENTS 1	Grandparents & grandchildren	JUNE 19 - 21
GRANDPARENTS 2	Grandparents & grandchildren	JULY 10 -12



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/1AvFm8Si8i/>

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>.

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!”

2nd Corinthians 5:17, NIV

April 26, 2025 WORSHIP

Pulpit: Rev. Laura Guy

Elder: John Merritt

Lay Leader: Susie Clower

Greeters: Marilyn Simrall

Prep & Serve: Linda Neer, Janice Roberts

Serve & Clean-up: Volunteer, Kathy Hamilton

Cash Counter: Greg Atkins

Acolyte(s): Maeve Jacoby, Stella Jacoby

Nursery: Jonica Merritt, 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>.*

