



# First Christian Church

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## *Pressing Toward The Goal*

March 9, 2025  
10:00 A.M. Worship Service

Welcome

\*Opening Hymn - #292 - Because He Lives

\**Passing of the Peace*

### Call To Worship - from Psalm 27

Leader: The Lord is my light and salvation, whom shall I fear?

**People: The Lord is the stronghold of my life, of whom shall I be afraid?**

Leader: One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek, that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

**People: For in the day of trouble, he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his tabernacle.**

**ALL: Hear my voice when I call, O Lord, be merciful to me and answer me. Your face, Lord, will I seek. I am still confident of this; I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.**

### Opening Prayer

*Creator and author of life, warned anew of the threats to human survival, we confess that the way we live and order society sets us against one another and alienates us from your creation, exploiting as though dead, things to which you have given life. Separated from you we live in emptiness. We long in our own lives for a new spirituality of intention, thought and action. Help us to struggle to conserve the earth for future generations, and free us to share together, so that all people may be free.*

*In the powerful name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.*

Prayer Hymn - #227 – There’s Something About That Name  
 Prayers of the People

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.  
 Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
 Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses,  
 as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
 and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
 For Thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory forever.  
 AMEN*

Please continue to remember in prayer...			
- Our Church Family	- Cole Dunlap	- Barbara McVicker	- Sharon Arnold
- Jim Phegley	- Nancy Dunlap Sr.	- Jim Lefler	- Kayln Hall
- Bethel Ford	- Meg Smith	- Marsha Gastineau	- Luke Smith
- Larrinda Wolf	- Kate DeWees	- Jan Merritt	- Mia Berarducci
- Patti Coons	- Vianne Lewis	- Audrey Parmele	- Rick Williams
- Phil Lewis	- Tonya Todd-Barker	- Larry & Betty Lintner	- Sandra Schauer
- Shirley Maxwell	- Dan Wood	- Dawson Ploss	

**Pressing toward the Goal**

**12** Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. **13** Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, **14** I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus. **15** Let those of us, then, who are mature think this way, and if you think differently about anything, this, too, God will reveal to you. **16** Only let us hold fast to what we have attained.

**17** Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. **18** For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. **19** Their end is destruction, their god is the belly, and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. **20** But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. **21** He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself.

**4 1** Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

Scripture Readings - Romans 10: 1 – 17 (NRSV)

Sermon - *Pressing Toward The Goal* — Pastor Jeff Seger

Invitation to Generosity and Presentation of the Gift

\*Doxology

\*Prayer for the Gifts

Intro to Communion - #287 - Were You There?

Words of Institution

Prayer for the Bread and the Cup - Distribution of both Bread and Cup

*OFFERTORY & COMMUNION*

*The bread and the cup are distributed together.*

*Please hold until you are invited to partake together.*

\*Closing Song - #283 - What Wondrous Love Is This?

\*Benediction

Leader: Go into the world to spread the good news of salvation in Jesus Christ.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Todays Meeting:**

10:00 a.m. - Sunday Worship Service - Second Sunday in Lent - Pastor Jeff Seger

**Weekly Meetings:**

Sunday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>

10:00 a.m. - Worship Service - Third Sunday in Lent

Beginning Balance As Of 3-9-25	2782.31
Expenses/Payroll	1827.48
Weekly Offering	1930.00
Difference	+\$102.52
Ending Balance	2884.83

**Announcements:**

**Week of March 9<sup>th</sup>** - Attendance: 27 ; Live Stream Views on Facebook

Live: 0, YouTube: 13 Approx. Views: 20-47

**Youth Group – Wacky Wednesday:** will not meet Wednesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025 due to Freshman Orientation. The next meeting will be Wednesday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. The meal will be provided by Ron & Betty Lintner. Thank you Ron & Betty!

**Lenten Luncheon Schedule:** Serving Times: 11:45-12:45

3/19 — First Christian Church

3/26 — Brushwood

4/2 — St. Luke's

4/9 — Trinity UMC

4/16 —

**Beginning Monday April 7:** we will begin back with Balance exercises followed by a Bible Study. We will start at 9:30 am and take about 15-20 minutes to do a few exercises and then will start Bible Study immediately after in the church basement. It will be a 10-week Bible Study on the book "Ten Women of the Bible One By One They Changed the World" by Jenna Lucado Bishop and Max Lucado. I need to know if you are interested by March 17. The books are \$14 payable at the first session. I will order and have them shipped to the church so that they can be picked up by March 30. You can start the first Lesson on March 31 and we will discuss Lesson 1 on April 7. As we study the lives of the women in the Bible, we find important truths that God wants us to grasp. They lived in a different world than our own, but we find ourselves facing the same issues they faced. Yet even more, these women show us there is a God who see us where we are and loves us for who we are. He is the one who hovers over all the pages of the Bible, shaping lives, rescuing hearts, healing sicknesses, raising what was dead to life and assigning high callings to those who choose to follow him and have faith in him. In this ten-lesson workbook, Max Lucado recounts some of his favorite stories of these ten women - Sarah, Abigail, Esther, the Samaritan Woman, Mary Magdalene, and others -and describes what set them all apart. Please contact Karen Wiseman by call or text 219-869-3513 or [karenr6403@gmail.com](mailto:karenr6403@gmail.com) by March 17 if you are interested in attending. Missing you all!

**April is First Christian Church's:** month to volunteer at The Good Samaritan Food Pantry. As you know, the pantry provides a vital service to our community and with the new location, volunteering is easier than ever. The pantry is open each Tuesday morning from 10 a.m. to noon and Thursday afternoons from 1 p.m. to 3. Please sign up for one of these times on the sign up sheet at the back of he church. Thanks in advance for volunteering.

**To The Women of FCC:** Please join us for a See You Later party as we celebrate the journey ahead for our dear friend Abbie Parmele as she heads off to San Diego! Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, from 2pm till 4pm, lower level Carnegie Center. Please RSVP to 219-866-1133.

**Lenten Services:** Maundy Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 pm CT, Trinity United Methodist, with Rev. Sean Johnson. Good Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 pm CT, First Presbyterian, with Rev. Michelle J. Bartel.

**March Birthdays**

- 3 - Viana Lewis
- 4 - Kris Bailey
- 5 - Pauline Amsler
- 6 - Matt Beehler, Stephen Nicole
- 7 - Charles Griffin, Kalyn Hall
- 8 - Haylie Newcomb
- 9 - Andy Morris, Ali Phillips
- 10 - Cathy Eldridge, Addie Dobson
- 11 - Josh Eldridge
- 14 - Sandy Todd
- 15 - Regina Sanders
- 18 - Cody Lintner, Heidi Phillips
- 19 - Laura Lefler-Kinnaird,  
Jim Lefler
- 21 - Craig Jackson
- 23 - Casey Boose
- 25 - Travis Mattocks
- 26 - Jeff Phillips



**March Anniversaries**

- 3 - Dennis & Pam Saylor - 1973
- 6 - Marcia & Ote Wood - 1982
- 26 - Gary & Regina Sanders - 1988

