

December Celebrations

01–Paxton Joliff
Molly Krog
02–Jeff Wise
03–John Fletcher
Cyndi McCord
06–Brennen Holmes
Stacey Smith
10–Chris Layton
12–Gwen Clemens
Bert Shannon
Christy Snider

14–Brienne Asbury
Heidi Joliff
15–Nicki Coslet
15–Sherry Shannon
18–Karolyn Caldwell
20–Jill Buck
Meg Kissner
21–Emily Kueker
22–Linda Dryer
23–Amanda McCord
24–Carolyn Buck

24–Kevin Dryer
Seth Cline
26–Ann Pannell
27–Virginia Bryant
Jeff Dryer
27–Wayne Wise
28–Kevin Ash
Tyler Smith
31–Sarah Dowell
Abby Gass

ANNIVERSARIES

1–Justin & Abby Schroeder
10–Matthew & Jessica Green
12–Lloyd & Ann Pannell
17–Paul & Michelle Scarff
23–Todd & Christy Marshall
31–Josh & Natalie Hoffelmeyer

January Celebrations

01–Christy Coslet
Ann Rea
02–Amber VanDyke
04–Jarred Amary
05–Emily Ward
08–Jim Jackson
09–Doris Ash
10–Tim Clemens
12–Sandra Miller
Karla Seigfreid

13–Tom Phillips
Owen Schroeder
Doug Swinger
16–Kathryn Jones
19–Darlene Arnett
Brad Richards
Charlot Thornton
21–Alexia Bowlen
Megan Phillips
22–Roger Barnes

22–Adrienne Layton
23–Trevan Joliff
24–Vince Buck
25–Judy Frerking
Parilee Jackson
29–Jim Edwards
30–Linda Clark
Jeff Kreisel
31–Missie Kreisel



ANNIVERSARIES

02–Chris & Lori Layton
20–Jim & Sue Crawford
21–Prichard & Lois Mencil
28–Butch & Doris Ash

Christmas Happenings...

Our Church is signed up to “ring the bells” on December 12th from Noon-8:00 PM in front of Wal-Mart. If you would like to help spread the Christmas cheer, please call the office for available time slots. There will also be a sign up sheet in the Parlor. Merry Christmas!

If you would like to remember a loved one with a Poinsettia displayed this year, please have them in the Church office between December 15-18. If you would like them back, they will be available for pick-up after December 28th.



Our Mitten Tree is waiting to be filled! Please help us cover the tree with “warmth” so that we can help keep little hands comfy this season.



Church closings due to inclement weather will be announced on KMMO, and a One-Call will be sent with as much notice as possible.



There will be a brief **congregational meeting** following worship service on December 7th to approve next year's budget.

This year our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be held Wednesday, December 24 at 7:00 PM. Join us as we share together in communion and lighting of candles.



OUTREACH



COMMITTEE

The Outreach Committee would like to give a big "THANK YOU" to everyone at FCC for all the support given to the Outreach projects through the past year.

Whether you offered:

YOUR TIME with Chili Supper set-up, clean-up, or making and serving the chili, by learning to use the church's AED equipment, or by donating blood at our first Blood Drive.

YOUR TALENTS to cook yummy desserts or frozen meals for the Chili Supper or contributing a dish for The Bridge suppers, or

YOUR TREASURE to support any of the projects including the Cake Mix Drive, the Special Offerings, the Spare Change for Real Change projects, groceries for the Frozen Meal Prep, items for the Mitten Tree, food for the food pantries, and **SO MUCH MORE!**

In the next newsletter, we plan to give the results of these efforts as measured by what we can donate to our community as we reach out in Christian love.

Thank you, FCC!

Ladies Luncheon

The Ladies Luncheon will meet December 4th at 11:00 AM in the Church Parlor. Bring your favorite salad to share!

In January, the lunch will be at Bloomfield's, on the 8th at 11:00 AM.

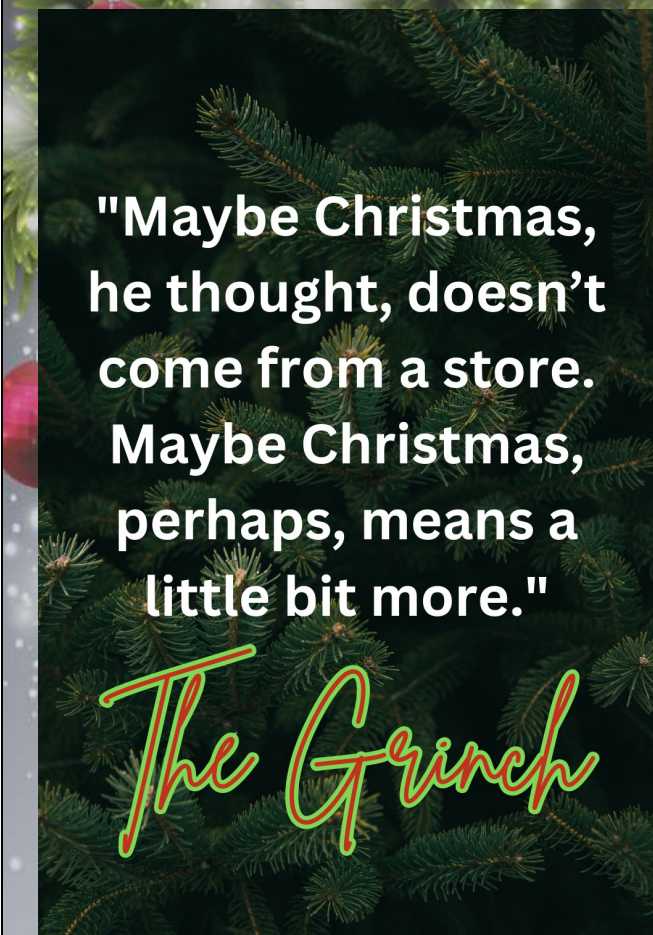
Tid-Bits...

The **CWF** will not meet in December. The next meeting will be on January 20th at 10:00 AM in the Church Parlor, weather permitting.



FELLOWSHIP DINNER

The next Fellowship Dinner will be on January 11th. There will be four different kind of soup, and sandwiches. Please bring a dessert to share if able.



"Maybe Christmas,
he thought, doesn't
come from a store.
Maybe Christmas,
perhaps, means a
little bit more."

The Grinch



Share the Warmth: Supporting Marshall's SAFE Program

The SAFE Program at Marshall Public Schools has identified a couple of local families who need a little extra love this holiday season. We invite our Church Family to open your hearts and help ensure these children experience the warmth, magic, and joy of Christmas morning.

How You Can Help:

A detailed list of specific needs and clothing sizes will be available in upcoming bulletins and posted

on our website under the **Upcoming Events** section soon.

In the meantime, we welcome contributions of any kind:

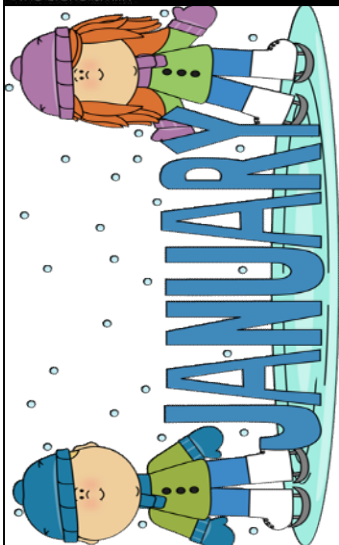
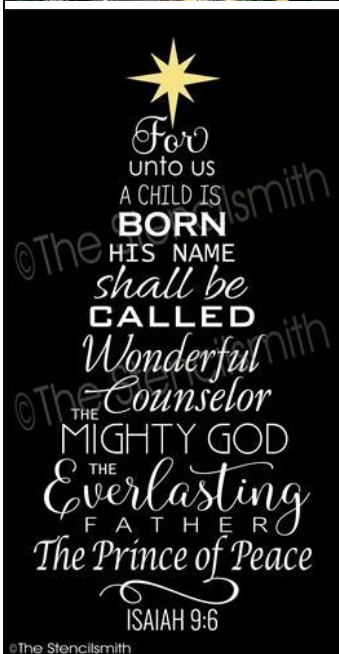
Purchase Items: Feel free to purchase items from the list once it's available, or purchase general items not on the list—everyone loves a surprise!

Drop-Off Times: Please bring all donated items to the Church office Mondays through Fridays between 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM, or on Sunday mornings before or after the service.

Monetary Donations: We gladly accept monetary donations. Our "Santa helpers" are ready to shop for items on the list on your behalf. Whether you contribute \$1 or \$100, every bit helps us reach our goal.

Let's come together to share not just gifts, but the true spirit of giving. Your kindness and compassion will help these families feel the blessing of unconditional love, just as Jesus does for us. We thank you ahead of time for your kindness and generosity!





First Christian Newsletter

Dec/Jan 2025-26

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From the Pastor...

It must be the season. I can tell this is true by the number of things that require my attention. Not the usual day to day requests for my attention but well beyond the usual.

I am referring to the many questions that require answers and answers right now or it will be too late.

Thanksgiving questions come first: Are we going to Grandmother's house? What does a Vegan eat? What is a Vegan anyway? Will my table sit everyone, or will cousin Jack have to sit at the children's table again? Does he have to tell those awful jokes? Do Oysters have to go in the dressing? And so it goes until that wonderful day of thanks has passed on and we can enjoy the true highlight of the holiday...football. Or...we could give thanks to God as the holiday was meant to be. Maybe we could even be mindful of the needs of others.

Next in the order is Black Friday. It follows way too quickly and as expected the questions continue: What time do the stores open? Where are the best sales? What did we give to Uncle Brad last year? Did he like it? Who gave us that ceramic elephant? Can we find what Auntie Mildred wanted? Or we might take the time to prepare ourselves for the truly Holy-day celebrating the birth of Christ.

Next in order is Christmas Day proper:

And so begin, a new set of questions: Is Uncle Harold going to guzzle the eggnog like last year. Remember how he gets after that? He does it every

year? Can Sadine be restrained from singing Carols this year? Why did I get that thing for my brother and his wife? What about the Christmas cards? Did we send the funny card to Mom instead of Joseph? Should we have gotten what the kids had their hearts set on this year? How could we afford it? Can we stand to see the disappointment in their little faces since we didn't? What football game are we watching after we open the gifts? Do we have enough refreshments? Maybe we could focus on the birth of Jesus and not all of the "extras"?

This is about the time everyone is worn out and ready to take a rest. But, the realization hits. New Year is only a week away. What are we going to do and who is planning to be at our home? Are we even hosting the party this year? Can you keep Cecil from trying to kiss the girls under the mistletoe? Is he likely to bring his own mistletoe again this year? Can I lose five pounds before the office party? And so it continues.

The entire season is so full of questions and uncertainty. Isn't it wonderful that we can count on one thing through this time of year.

Jesus the Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. There is no question about the love of God for us. We know and believe. Everything else is extra.

Let us all find the true reasons for celebration. May the coming days keeping us mindful of whose we are and what is really important.

Rev. Randal