



THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER

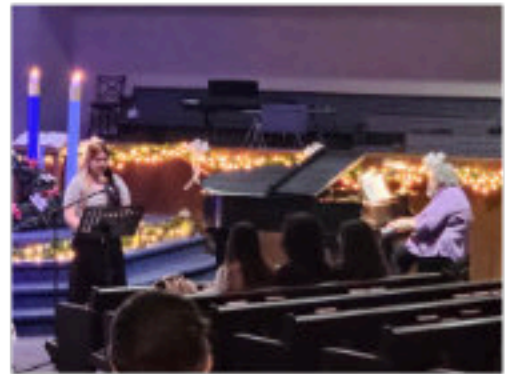


First Christian Church, Maryville, MO

fccmaryvillemo.com

January 2, 2024

Unwrapping The Greatest Gift 2024 Christmas Eve Service





Sunday Mornings

**Last Supper Leftovers
Sunday School Class
9 a.m. Room 106**

**Children's Sunday School
(K-4th Grade)
Youth Sunday School
(5th - 12th)
9 a.m. - 10 a.m.
Downstairs**

**10:30 a.m.
Service in the Sanctuary**

Monthly Worship Attendance

Dec. 8.....39	Dec. 2458
Dec. 1546	Dec. 2931
Dec. 2241	

The Christian Messenger is published bi-weekly. Information is due in by noon the Tuesday before publication.

The next issue is
Jan. 16, 2025

First Christian Church
Disciples of Christ
201 West Third, Maryville, MO
660.214.3414

www.fccmaryvillemo.com
fccmaryvillemo@gmail.com



Keeping in touch with our church families

Our Community Prayer List...

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Karla Parman | JoAnn Nanninga |
| Emily McLain | Steve & Heather F. |
| Stephanie Marr | Sandi Mull |
| Susan Hall-Furlong | Elliot Punch |
| Mike Walker | Maddie Kauffman |
| Rob McDaniel | |

In Sympathy...

- Family & friends of Northwest Prof. Kat Bilbo
Family & friends of Frieda Dougan

Is your info up-to-date?

Has your family grown recently? Have you moved or changed your phone number in the last year? Do you have a new favorite picture of yourself?

If you answered yes to any of these, it's probably time to update your information in our directory. It's easy and only takes a few minutes. You can call or email to update your information or you can update it in the member app or on the member website.

Need some help figuring it out? Go to <https://help.instantchurchdirectory.com/article/1295-how-members-submit-updates-to-their-information> for more information or contact Virginia in the office at 660-214-3414.



Our Staff

Gina Johnson
Senior Pastor

Anita Dew
Organist

Virginia Ripple
Office Administrator

Pat Immel
Technical Director

Deena Poynter
Music Director

Peggy Dowis
Custodian

Pastor's Pen

A message from my heart to yours



Well, Christmas is over and once again we celebrated the birth of Jesus, but did we take a moment to see it was more than shopping, decorating, and social obligations. I noticed on Christmas Eve day as I looked around, people looked stressed, angry, confused, and disconnected during what should be a time of joy and reflection. So now Christmas is over and what have we learned? How can we step into this new year and truly understand what Jesus' birth meant for us?

For me I like to spend time reflecting on the year! I like to look at all that took place, grab the lessons, and cherish the memories. This is not a time of criticism, self-judgment, or wishing things were different. This is a time for me to go beyond the surface of some "New Year's Resolution," and make a resolution to continue to experience transformation on a deep soulful level. It's not just about letting go of the past and changing habits. This is an opportunity to align with the divine truth of who we are and all that's to come. As we grow and transform, we are then equipped to be good stewards and help others do the same.

Embark on the inward journey, allowing God's truth and love to unfold within you. Have you heard the phrase, "easier said than done"? We like to over complicate things when it comes to change so I encourage you to start by recognizing that past mistakes, upsets, and failures were all teachers who showed up to introduce us to the truth of who we are, prepare us and teach us what it means to be present. The more we release, the more can be revealed. The scripture, "The old has gone, the new is here," is our own personal reminder and invitation to let go of what was and stand in the knowing of what is!

Investment in real transformation is never easy, yet it is always worth the return. What gift did you receive this Christmas that you can use to step confidently and faithfully into the new year? As we wrap up an amazing year, let's resolve to do more than set goals. Let's commit to a journey of transformation, gratitude, and celebration. Embrace the new you in the new year!

Happy New Year!

Gina ♥



January

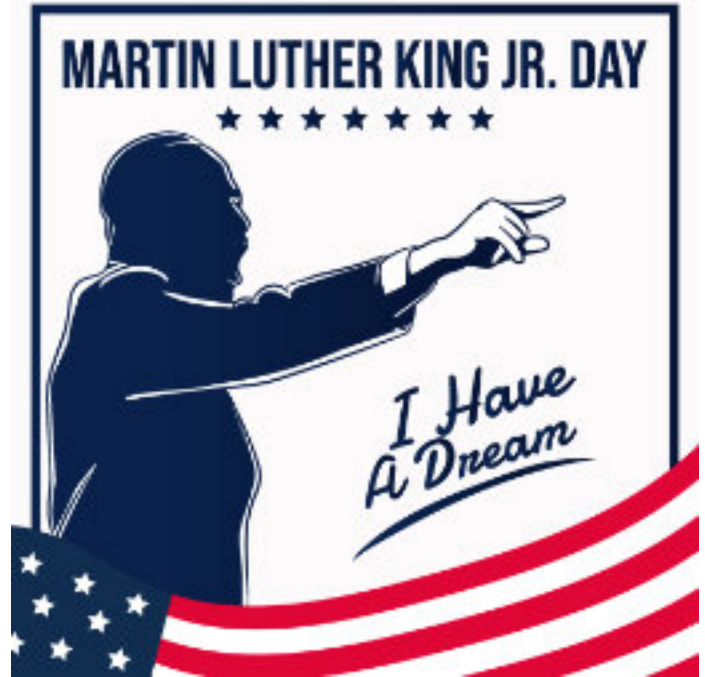


Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 8:00 AM–9:00 AM Sanctuary Open 9:00 AM–10:00 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM–11:30 AM Worship	30	31 New Year's Eve 7:00 PM–9:00 PM Crazy Hair Professor Band	1 Office closed New Year's Day	2 5:30 PM–8:00 PM Optimist	3 Troop 3376	4 9:30 AM–11:30 AM PEO
5 8:00 AM–9:00 AM Sanctuary Open 9:00 AM–10:00 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM–11:30 AM Worship	6 1:30 PM–2:30 PM Circle of Joy	7 4:30 PM–5:30 PM Youth Choir of NWMO 5:30 PM–6:45 PM Troop 2220 6:00 PM–7:00 PM Maryville Garden Club	8 5:30 PM–7:00 PM Praise Team rehearsal	9 6:30 PM–7:30 PM Troop 2942	10	11
12 8:00 AM–9:00 AM Sanctuary Open 9:00 AM–10:00 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM–11:30 AM Worship	13 6:00 PM–7:00 PM Team Planning & Board Meeting	14 4:30 PM–5:30 PM Youth Choir of NWMO 6:00 PM–8:00 PM Girl Scout Leader meeting	15 5:30 PM–7:00 PM Praise Team rehearsal	16 5:00 PM–7:30 PM The Giving Tree (appointments only) 5:15 PM–6:15 PM Troop 5720 6:00 PM–7:00 PM Optimist Club	17	18
19 8:00 AM–9:00 AM Sanctuary Open 9:00 AM–10:00 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM–11:30 AM Worship	20 Office Closed Inauguration Day (regional holiday) Martin Luther King Jr. Day	21 7:00 AM–8:00 AM Optimist Board meeting 4:30 PM–5:30 PM Youth Choir of NWMO 5:00 PM–6:30 PM Nodaway Chorale Board of Trustees 5:30 PM–6:45 PM Troop 2220	22 5:30 PM–7:00 PM Praise Team rehearsal	23 6:30 PM–7:30 PM Troop 2942	24	25
26 8:00 AM–9:00 AM Sanctuary Open 9:00 AM–10:00 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM–11:30 AM Praise Team Sunday	27 7:00 PM–9:00 PM Nodaway Chorale	28 4:30 PM–5:30 PM Youth Choir of NWMO	29 5:30 PM–7:00 PM Praise Team rehearsal	30 11:00 AM–1:00 PM The Chamber Soup Luncheon 5:15 PM–6:15 PM Troop 5720	31	1 8:00 AM–10:30 AM The Giving Tree (appointments only) 9:30 AM–11:30 AM PEO

Dec. 29, 2024 Congregational Vote

All Items Passed

Both ballot items overwhelmingly passed. The changes will begin as of Jan. 1, 2025.



We will be closed
Jan. 20
for MLK Day

Church Growth

Month Points

December Highlights

- Worship Attendance 270
- Social Media comments/reactions/shares 216
- Attend Small Group 156
- Giving/Tithing 132
- Volunteer at Service 128
- Attend Event 102

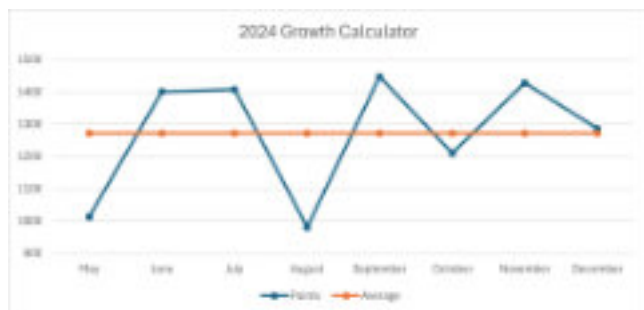
Total Month's Points* 1286

2024 Totals

- May 1013
- June 1401
- July 1408
- August 981
- September 1447
- October 1210
- November 1428
- December* 1286

Average Month's Points 1272

*Total does not include Dec. 30-Jan. 4



Seeing Our Stewardship

December 2024

General Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$ 25,387.06
Income	\$ 31,264.21
Expenses	\$ 23,222.72
Ending Balance	\$ 33,428.55

Missions	
Beginning Balance	\$ 6,449.73
Income	\$ 937.73
Expenses	\$ 4,631.91
Ending Balance	\$ 2,755.55



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
201 WEST THIRD STREET
MARYVILLE MO 64468
Return Service Requested



New Office Hours

Monday - Thursday

9 am - 12 pm
1 pm - 3 pm

Friday
CLOSED

**Are you curious about
life, the universe and
everything?**

We've got you covered!

Is there a book you've always wanted to study, but you hesitated because you wanted someone there to help you understand what you're reading? A topic you're curious about, but you need a trusted teacher to point you in the direction of tools to make it clear? Maybe you want to discuss a film or TV series with a group, but you want someone else to lead the discussion. We've got you covered!

Pastor Gina wants to know what you're interested in learning about during 2025 as she begins planning for future messages and small group studies. You can let her know in person or drop a note in the church office to let her know what you'd love to dive deeper into.

We can't wait to hear from you!