



# THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER

First Christian Church, Maryville, MO

fccmaryvillemo.com

March 5, 2026

## Tabling The Table

Over the past few months, we've appreciated everyone who helped make our Wednesday night gathering, The Table, possible. Thank you especially to the youth and adults who assisted with food preparation and helped create a welcoming space for those who came to share a meal and conversation together.

For now, we will be "tabling" The Table and pausing this midweek gathering. We're grateful for those who supported it during this season and for the spirit of fellowship it brought.

As we look ahead, we'll be exploring other ways to gather and grow together during the week. We look forward to sharing more soon about what may take its place.



Have an event idea?  
Share it at  
[www.fccmaryvillemo.com/upcoming-events](http://www.fccmaryvillemo.com/upcoming-events)

## Seeing Our Stewardship

February 2026

### General Fund

Beginning Balance	\$	6,695.72
Income*	\$	11,918.21
Expenses	\$	16,720.02
Ending Balance	\$	1,893.91
Net Loss	\$	4,801.81

### Missions

Beginning Balance	\$	2,265.67
Income	\$	40.00
Expenses	\$	922.38
Ending Balance	\$	1,383.29
Net Loss	\$	882.38

\*Includes \$1,500 transferred from General Fund Savings

## Church Growth

Month	Points
<b>February Highlights</b>	
• Volunteer at service	207
• Social Media Comments,	176
• Reactions & Shares	
• Attend The Table	124
• Attend Sunday Service	122
• In-person Financial Giving	105
• New web site visitors	101
<b>Total Month's Points</b>	<b>1244</b>



# Pastor's Pen

*A message from my heart to yours*



**T**his past Sunday as we continued our journey, we reflected on Mordecai's refusal to bow and Jesus' refusal in the wilderness. In the ancient world, bowing signified acknowledgment of authority, where your allegiance was placed, and a declaration of who or what was shaping you. Mordecai's decision to remain upright was not just rebellion for its own sake; it was clarity about who he belonged to. Jesus' refusal to bow in the wilderness was not stubbornness but it was rooted in his identity. Both stories remind us that the deepest spiritual battles are happening in the interior regardless of the exterior circumstances. This is where one must stand strong in truth and trust in the one we call, Jehovah. Most of us do not bow before statues or rulers, yet we are constantly invited to bow to the world in subtle ways. We bow to the noise of the world and it will grow louder. That's why it is so important to seek the quiet voice of God. Where we consistently place our attention and focus will gradually shape our allegiance.

I was thinking about how steel is formed. The raw iron may appear strong, but it becomes strong only after repeated exposure to heat and thus careful shaping. The forging process is not rushed and it is not visible from a distance. This process is not merely for strength of the metal but also integrity, so that when pressure comes the steel will hold rather than bend. Lent functions in much the same way. It is a season in which God refines what is easily bent and strengthens what must endure. As we continue in the wilderness more will start to unfold, tension will intensify, but before external pressures get too high...take a pause and recognize you are being invited into interior alignment. Trust the process and remain upright!

Walking the Journey with You,

*Gina* ♥

# Welcome Home



**FCC**  
MARYVILLE, MO  
*You belong here.*

## Sunday Mornings

**9 a.m.**  
Sunday School Classes

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

## Sunday Worship Attendance

Feb. 8 .....	30	Feb. 22.....	23
Feb. 15.....	27	Mar 1 .....	34

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

The next issue is  
**March 19, 2025**

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FCCMaryvilleMO

## Keeping in touch with our church families

### Our Community Prayer List...

Jennie Lamb  
Mary Ross

### In Sympathy...

Family of Bob Colville  
Family of Joan Farquhar

YOU ARE INVITED TO NORTH  
STAR ADVOCACY CENTER'S

# 4th Annual Fundraiser

Thursday, March 26, 2026  
NWMSU Ag Learning Center  
22893 US HWY 71, Maryville

HAPPY HOUR-CASH BAR| 05:00 PM

DINNER| 06:00 PM

Dress Code: Anything from jeans to formal

**BRING \$1 BILLS FOR THE PADDLE  
AUCTION OR BUY AN ALL IN  
PADDLE FOR \$40 WITH CASH,  
CHECK, OR VENMO**

RSVP to Linda Mattson by March 12  
director@northstarac.org  
(660)-562-2320

## Our Staff

**Gina Johnson**  
Senior Pastor

**Peggy Dowis**  
Custodian

**Virginia Ripple**  
Office Administrator

**Kendric Santos-Briggs**  
Audio Lead

**Anita Dew**  
Organist

**Chloe Petersen**  
Live Stream Lead



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

## March 9



**Board  
Meeting  
6 pm**

## Elders' Meeting

Tuesday,  
March 10

6 p.m.



## Looking Ahead...

**Mar. 8:** Daylight Savings Time begins

**Mar. 9:** Board meeting, 6 pm

**Mar. 29:** Palm Sunday

**Mar. 29:** 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Potluck

**Apr. 5:** Easter Sunday

**Apr. 6:** Office closed for Easter

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directly to your inbox!



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