



# THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER

First Christian Church, Maryville, MO

fccmaryvillemo.com

February 27, 2025

## “Fat” Tuesday Pancake Dinner

**March 4  
5 p.m.**

Start your Lenten season off with a delicious pancake dinner hosted at FCC by our youth. Learn a few fun facts about what “Fat” Tuesday is all about and find out why eating pancakes is a super way to usher in the beginning of Easter.



### Did you know...

In the United Kingdom, Ireland, Australia and Canada, “Fat” Tuesday (aka Shrove Tuesday) has another name... Pancake Day! Traditionally during Lent, Christians would give up rich, tasty foods such as butter, eggs, sugar and fat. Shrove Tuesday was the last chance to eat them – and what better way to do so than with a delicious pancake!



# Welcome Home



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

## 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

Feb. 2.....42

Feb. 9.....28

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

The next issue is  
**Mar. 13, 2025**

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

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FCCMaryvilleMO

## Keeping in touch with our church families

### Our Community Prayer List...

JoAnn Nanninga  
Maddie Kauffman  
Phil Poynter  
Emily McLain

Sue & John Schenkel  
Karla Parman  
Linda Davison  
Anita Dew

### Prayer List Guidelines...

Names are added to the prayer list by request and remain on for two weeks unless we receive an update requesting to be left on. Please let us know what your request is and if we can share it with others. Contact the pastor or the church office at 660-214-3414 or officemanagerfccmaryville@gmail.com with prayer requests.



## 2025 Dates and Hostesses

Circle of Joy, our Women's Fellowship group,  
Meets on the first Monday of the month  
At 1:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall  
unless otherwise noted  
Please contact hostesses to RSVP

Mar. 3	Carol Peters	Jul. 7	Lenda Kling
Apr. 7	Linda Baker	Aug. 4	Karen Brown
May 5	Donna Rickman	Sep. 1	Carol Peters
		Oct. 6	
Jun. 2	Betty Praiswater	Nov. 3	
		Dec. 1	

*Sign up to be a hostess for 2025*

**Call or email today!**

## 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*



Greetings FCC Family,

I know not everyone has an understanding nor an observance of the season of Lent. I personally have always seen Lent as a great time of preparation and self-discovery in this awesome journey of life!

As we approach the sacred season of Lent, I want to invite you into something more than just tradition. Lent can be commonly seen as just a time of fasting or giving something up or some older Catholic tradition. This year, I invite you on a journey of rediscovering yourself. Life has a way of burying us under expectations, routines, and the constant noise of the world. Sometimes I have to stop and recognize that it's not the world that is so loud but it's my programming that keeps turning the volume knob up. Over time, the truest parts of who we are can get lost in the noise and in some cases get drowned out before we even get to recognize and claim these very special parts of ourselves.

Through the world and circumstances that come into play the minute we are born it's easy and actually expected that we will perceive a loss of our joy, our purpose, or our connection with God. In some individuals these parts were muted before they could even be known. Life has a way of making us feel lost beneath layers of responsibility, doubt, distractions and the biggest one ~ FEAR. But the truth is, you have never been lost. You have never been separate from the divine presence within ~ that is you!

This Lent, beginning March 5th, we will embark on a resurrection of the self, peeling away the layers that have been used as masks, facades, and dimmers of our divine light. These layers have deafened us to our calling and numbed us from our authentic connection with God. This is not about becoming someone new—it's about remembering who you've always been. We have a favorite saying that I use often when teaching people about self remembrance, this is "a journey without distance to the place you never left." The presence of God has never been far from you. Your purpose has never been absent. Your soul has only been waiting for you to quiet the noise and listen.

Over these coming weeks, I encourage you to prepare your heart and spirit for this beautiful unfoldment. Let's lock arms and walk this path of renewal. Together, we will experience true resurrection, not just in hearing a biblical story of Christ, but in the very depths of our own being.

Ready for the Journey,

*Gina* ❤️



# March



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>23</p> <p>8:00 AM–9:00 AM Sanctuary Open</p> <p>9:00 AM–10:00 AM Sunday School</p> <p>10:30 AM–11:30 AM Praise Team Sunday</p>	<p>24</p> <p>7:00 PM–9:00 PM Nodaway Chorale</p>	<p>25</p> <p>4:30 PM–5:30 PM Youth Choir of NWMO</p> <p>6:00 PM–8:00 PM Girl Scout Leader meeting</p>	<p>26</p> <p>12:00 PM–1:00 PM Small Group</p> <p>5:30 PM–7:00 PM Praise Team rehearsal</p>	<p>27</p> <p>5:15 PM–6:15 PM Troop 5720</p> <p>6:30 PM–7:30 PM Troop 2942</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>1</p> <p>8:00 AM–10:30 AM The Giving Tree (appointments only)</p> <p>9:30 AM–11:30 AM PEO</p>
<p>2</p> <p>8:00 AM–9:00 AM Sanctuary Open</p> <p>9:00 AM–10:00 AM Sunday School</p> <p>10:30 AM–11:30 AM Worship</p> <p>11:30 AM–12:30 PM Standing On His Promises ~ 50 years and Counting Fellowship Dinner</p>	<p>3</p> <p>1:30 PM–2:30 PM Circle of Joy</p> <p>7:00 PM–9:00 PM Nodaway Chorale</p>	<p>4</p> <p>4:30 PM–5:30 PM Youth Choir of NWMO</p> <p>5:00 PM–7:00 PM "Fat" Tuesday Pancake Dinner</p> <p>5:30 PM–6:45 PM Troop 2220</p> <p>6:00 PM–7:00 PM Maryville Garden Club</p>	<p>5</p> <p>5:30 PM–7:00 PM Praise Team rehearsal</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>
<p>9</p> <p>Daylight Saving Time starts</p> <p>8:00 AM–9:00 AM Sanctuary Open</p> <p>9:00 AM–10:00 AM Sunday School</p> <p>10:30 AM–11:30 AM Worship</p>	<p>10</p> <p>1:00 PM–3:00 PM Troop 3376</p> <p>6:00 PM–7:00 PM Team Planning &amp; Board Meeting</p> <p>7:00 PM–9:00 PM Nodaway Chorale</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7:00 PM–9:00 PM Youth Choir Concert</p>	<p>12</p> <p>5:30 PM–7:00 PM Praise Team rehearsal</p>	<p>13</p> <p>5:15 PM–6:15 PM Troop 5720</p> <p>6:30 PM–7:30 PM Troop 2942</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>16</p> <p>8:00 AM–9:00 AM Sanctuary Open</p> <p>9:00 AM–10:00 AM Sunday School</p> <p>10:30 AM–11:30 AM Worship</p> <p>4:30 PM–7:00 PM Youth Choir of NWMO</p>	<p>17</p> <p>St. Patrick's Day</p> <p>7:00 PM–9:00 PM Nodaway Chorale</p>	<p>18</p> <p>4:30 PM–5:30 PM Youth Choir of NWMO</p> <p>5:30 PM–6:45 PM Troop 2220</p>	<p>19</p> <p>5:30 PM–7:00 PM Praise Team rehearsal</p>	<p>20</p> <p>5:00 PM–7:00 PM Optimist Club &amp; Board</p> <p>5:00 PM–7:30 PM The Giving Tree (appointments only)</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>
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# Make A Difference for Oak Pointe Seniors

Every 4th Tuesday at 10:30 AM, our elders and/or Pastor visit Oak Point to share a brief devotional message and Communion with the residents. This is a beautiful opportunity to extend love, presence, and fellowship beyond our church walls. We'd love to invite more of our church family to join us in this meaningful ministry. Whether through prayer, participation, or simply offering a warm presence, your involvement can make a difference.

Interested in joining? Let us know! We'd love to have you with us!



## A Lent Series You Won't Want To Miss

This Lent, we invite you to embark on a transformational journey of rediscovering who you truly are beneath the noise of the world.

"A Journey of Remembering – Rediscovering the You That Was Never Lost."

Each Sunday, we will explore a different step in the process of awakening, reflecting on what it means to pause, receive, and embrace the transformation that is already unfolding within you.

March 9 – Sacred Stillness ~ Finding the Pause Button

March 16 – Receiving ~ Tuning in to the Station of You

March 23 – Afraid ~ Questioning Everything

March 30 – Who's That ~ Recognizing Your Transformation

April 6 – Bridging ~ Bringing the Sacred to the Secular

April 13 – Release ~ Merging What Was With What Is

April 20 (Easter Sunday) – Resurrection ~ Remembering the Fullest Expression of You

Lent is not just about giving something up. It's about remembering who you truly are!

Join us each Sunday as we walk this path together. The journey begins March 9!





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

FCC  
MARYVILLE, MO

## SPRING FORWARD



Daylight Savings Time

# March 9

Find us on



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## Looking Ahead...

- Mar. 4:** "Fat" Tuesday Pancake Dinner
- Mar. 5:** Lent begins with Ash Wednesday
- Mar. 9:** "A Journey of Remembering"  
Lenten series begins
- Mar. 10:** Board meeting
- Mar. 25:** Scholarship applications due
- Mar. 30:** Graduate Celebration Luncheon

## Did you know...

Pancake races are a super-fun "Fat" Tuesday (aka Shrove Tuesday) tradition. In this mad-cap activity, people race each other whilst tossing a pancake in a pan.

**"Fat" Tuesday Pancake Dinner  
March 4**