December 2026 | Volume XLV Issue XII

The Messenger

First Christian Church

Sunday School
9:00 am

Service Times
10:00 am
10:00 am (Online)



Sermon Series: The Savior Has Come

Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you."
— Luke 2:11
Join us this Christmas as we celebrate the joy of God's greatest gift, Jesus Christ! In this four-message series, we'll see how Joseph obeyed, Mary said yes, the Magi worshiped, and the shepherds shared the good news. Come rediscover the wonder of Christmas and consider how you'll respond to the Savior who came for you.

Christmas Food Boxes

This Christmas we are sharing the love of Christ with our community by collecting, packing, and delivering dinners to our elderly and/or disabled neighbors at Walnut Village. Our goal is to serve 80 families over this holiday. The mission is to share, pray, and lift up our great Savior Jesus Christ while preparing and presenting those meals.

For food donations: Bring items each week leading up to the time we will pack boxes and place them in the colored bins below the Information Table.

For monetary donations: Any and all monetary donations are greatly appreciated. Please remember to memo "food boxes".

Dates:
- Hand out flyers: Dec. 12th, 9:30am
- Pack boxes: Dec. 13th, 5pm
- Deliver boxes: Dec. 19th, 9:30am

If you have any questions or are interested in helping to collect, sort, pack, and/or deliver, please contact Steve Owens (call or text 931-319-7784).

Church Christmas Party

Sunday, December 13th 5:00pm
Family Life Center (gym)

This will be a Christmas potluck so please bring your favorite dish and/or dessert to share. Drinks will be provided. If you plan on volunteering to pack the Christmas boxes and attend the Christmas party please sign up at the Information Table.

Women's Christmas Party

Christmas Without Calories (Just kidding!)

The Women's Ministry is having a Christmas party on Thursday, December 3rd, at 6:00 pm at Christina Goolsby's home. This event is open to all women of the church. Come enjoy food, fellowship, crafts, games, and an opportunity to give. Please bring a finger food and/or a dessert to share. Sign up at the Information Table. If you have any questions, contact Kelly Windlan (989-316-6550).

Sonshiner's Christmas Party

12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

Adults 50+ are invited to a Christmas party on Saturday, December 12th, at 12:00 pm, in the Family Life Center (gym). Please bring a side dish and/or dessert to share. Meat will be provided. Also bring a wrapped gift, $20 limit. Ladies label your gift "Ladies". Men, label your gift "Men". Sign up by December 6th at the Information Table.



Angel Tree



The Angel tree is set up in the Coffee Corner. Each angel on the tree represents a child in need this Christmas season. Take an angel, purchase items from the list, and return unwrapped items with the angel tag (this helps us make sure the gifts are given to the correct child) to the church by December 13th.

Live Nativity

December 11th, 12th, & 13th

6:30 pm - 8:30 pm each night



CHRISTMAS Eve Service

DECEMBER 24, 6:00PM

CONGREGATIONAL VOTE

Sunday, December 13, 2026

First Christian Church will hold a congregational vote on Sunday, December 13, 2026. A single ballot will be provided containing two items for consideration.

ITEM 1 – Proposed By-Law Amendment: Elder Terms

Currently, the By-Laws allow an Elder to serve two consecutive three-year terms (six years). After completing those terms, the Elder must rotate off the Elder Team for at least one year before becoming eligible for reappointment.

The proposed amendment would remove this mandatory one-year rotation requirement, allowing an Elder to be considered for additional consecutive three-year terms when the Elder/Pastor Team believes continued service would benefit the church.

What would remain the same?

- Elder terms would continue to be three years.
- Elders would continue to be evaluated by the Elder/Pastor Team.
- Each additional term would require approval by the Elder/Pastor Team and confirmation by a congregational vote.
- All existing qualifications and approval requirements for Elders would remain in place**.**

ITEM 2 – Approval of the 2027 Church Budget

The congregation will be asked to approve the proposed operating budget for First Christian Church for the 2027 calendar year. The budget will outline the anticipated expenses supporting the church's ministries and operations for the coming year.

The budget will be available on the Information Table beginning Sunday, November 29th.

VOTING OPPORTUNITIES

Voting will take place on Sunday, December 13, 2026, at the following times:

- During Sunday School
- During morning Worship
- During the evening Church Christmas Party

One ballot will be used for both items. Members will have the opportunity to vote YES or NO on each item independently.

We encourage all eligible voting members to review the proposed amendment and 2027 budget and participate in this important congregational vote.