



# First Christian Church of Effingham

Issue 256

December 1, 2021

*In God's hands*

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## **Mark Your Calendar**

**Saturday, December 4th** Women's Tea & Conversation will meet for the November and December gathering.

**Sunday, December 5th** Calvary Baptist Food Pantry items Flour, Sugar, Cereal or your choice due

**Tuesday, December 7th** Young @ Heart meets @ 9:00 a.m.

**Tuesdays Online Prayer Time** Starts @ noon on the First Christian Church Effingham Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/FCCEffingham> and You Tube [First Christian Church of Effingham - YouTube](#)

**Wednesday, December 8th** W.O.W. will meet @5:30 p.m. with pizza for supper and bible study will follow

**Saturday, December 11th** Children's and Youth are invited to come from 10:00 a.m. to Noon. The Christmas Program will be rehearsed.

**Sunday, December 12th** Christmas Program will be during the worship service. Pot Luck lunch will be directly after the worship service.

**Tuesday, December 14th** Women's Christmas Party will meet at 6:00 p.m.

**Saturday, December 18th** Men's Breakfast will meet @ 8:00 a.m.

## **Ponderings of the Preacher . . .**

Decorating for Christmas is a part of most family traditions. Fighting over who gets to put the star on top of the tree or forcing the kids to help untangle the lights is all part of the "fun". No matter how your family celebrates Christmas, there's no doubt your home is decked out in red and green. The colors red and green are almost synonymous with Christmas, but do you know why? Did you know there are also a few other colors traditionally tied to Christmas? Read on to learn the story behind each traditional color, where it came from, and its significance to the holiday season:

### **Green**

Even though Christmas takes place in the middle of winter, green is everywhere. From our Christmas trees to the wreaths hanging from our doors, green is probably the most prominent color of Christmas. Evergreen plants are an obvious choice for winter decoration, because they never lose their color. Pine trees, holly, ivy, and mistletoe are classic holiday plants. Green is regarded as the promise of life and spring.

### **Red**

Probably one of the biggest reason red is popular in holiday directions is Santa's suit. The legend of Santa Claus comes from St. Nicholas of Smyrna. St. Nick was a bishop in Turkey who was known to be generous to the poor and children. A bishop's attire was, you guessed it red. Today the beautiful poinsettia is considered the perfect Christmas plant because of its bright red leaves.

### **Gold/Yellow**

The color gold is obviously a representation of the precious metal. But when it comes to Christmas gold has a few other connections. The color gold is considered to represent royalty and wealth. Poor people who couldn't afford gold colored decorations substituted yellow. Gold was also an important part of the Christmas story because gold was one of the gifts the wise men brought Jesus.

### **White**

In the northern hemisphere it is easy to equate the prevalence of white with snow. Everyone wants a white Christmas. White wafers were used to decorate trees in the 18th century. The white wafer and the red apple were Catholic symbols of the body and blood of Christ. White has also traditionally considered welcoming and peaceful. Christians covered their homes with white to represent the welcoming of Jesus' birth.

### **Blue**

The color blue was extremely hard to make so it wasn't part of early Christmas decorations. But blue was an obvious choice for Christmas because of winter. Blue is often associated with cold and ice. Ice was originally thought of negatively, but now fake icicles are a common decoration. Today blue is commonly included as one of the five main colors of Christmas lights.

Have a great Christmas season!

C U N Church,  
David



<i><b>Serving In December</b></i> <i><b>Communion Table :</b> December 7th —Dennis Bushue ; December 14th—Troy Bloemker</i>	
<b>11/21/2021 Attendance &amp; Giving</b> <b>Total: \$4,018.00</b> <b>includes Faith Promise &amp; Online Giving</b>	<b>11/28/2021 Attendance &amp; Giving</b> <b>Total: \$4,119.00</b> <b>includes Faith Promise &amp; Online Giving</b>
Attendance: Sunday-61 Property Ministry (Building) \$40.00 Quilt Guild:\$100.00	Attendance: Sunday-63 Property Ministry (Building): \$40.00
<b>Faith Promise 2021/2022: \$316.00</b> <b>Furnace Repair:\$500.00</b>	<b>Faith Promise 2021/2022: \$970.00</b>

## *Women's/ Girl's Gathering*

**Saturday, December 4th**

All women and girls are welcome to come to tea and conversation @ 10:00 a.m. This month we will help set up Christmas Decorations at church.

This will be our November and December meeting.



### **Tea & Conversation**

All ladies and girls!  
Come Saturday, December 4th @ 10:00 a.m.

Come and Visit, share  
In prayer & help set up  
Christmas in Church

## *Calvary Baptist Food Pantry*



**Food  
Collection**

**Sunday, December 5th**

Bring to the Fellowship Hall One or more of the following items to donate to the food pantry.  
Flour, Sugar, Cereal or your choice.



## Prayer List



**Cancer:** John Lee (Cancer & Dialysis), Jerry & Cindy (Jerry/Surgery)

**Special Needs:** Tom Newman (heart valve surgery), Karen Hakman (open heart surgery/11/11), Lynn Cazier (heart issues), Carl Lipcamon (surgery 1/2022), Diane Donaldson (surgery 11/29/21), Breanna (pain)

**Missions:** Faith Promise 2021/2022, Project Bible Runners, St. Louis Christian College

**Pray For These Families:** Sharon Stifler Family, Michael Niebrugge Family, Mike Cutright Family, Mary Cline Family, Mary Beck Family

**NEW: Prayer Bulletin Board:** Anyone can add anonymous prayers to the board. Note paper & pen available.



## Young @ Heart

### Tuesday, December 7th

All over 50 meet @ 9:00 a.m. Coffee will be available along with a snack cake. Come for the conversation and prayer time.



## Salvation Army

### Bell Ringing—Sign Up Sheet In The Foyer

Friday, December 3rd From 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 4th From 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Friday, December 10th From 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 11th From 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Friday, December 18th From 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 19th From 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Friday, December 24th From 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.







# WOW!

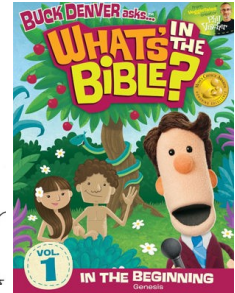
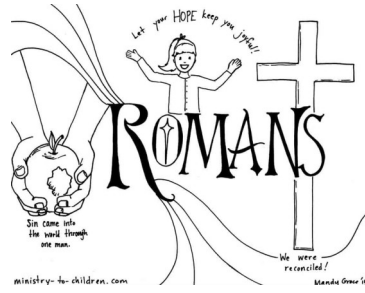
## Wednesday, December 8th

There is something for everyone at W.O.W. so plan on being there!.

We will serve a light meal at **5:30 p.m.** The menu will be Pizza  
The **children, youth & Young adults** will begin their classes and worship @ **6:00 p.m.**

The **adults** will meet @ **6:30 p.m.** They will study the **book of Romans.**

Faith  
is not hoping  
**God** can  
it is knowing  
He **Will**



## *Children's Event*

### Saturday, December 11th

All children and youth are invited to the Christmas Event from 10:00 a.m. to Noon.  
There will also be a practice for the Christmas program



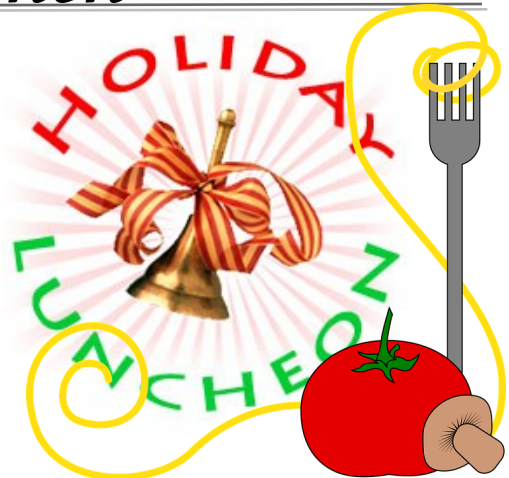
### Sunday, December 12th

Christmas program will be presented during worship service.

## *Pot Luck Lunch*

### Sunday, December 12th

Lunch will be directly after the worship service. Please, signup in the foyer for a dish to bring and how many will attend. The turkey and ham and drinks will be supplied by the church. If you would like to cook the turkey or ham, let the office know.



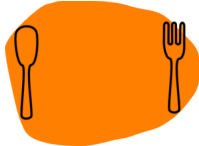


## *Women's/Girl's Christmas Party*

**Tuesday, December 14th**

This will be the **Women's And Girls Christmas Party**.

Please, come and fellowship with us.  
Secret Sisters will be revealed.



A **light supper** will be held @ **6:00 p.m.** There will be an ornament **gift exchange**. We suggest \$15.00 limit on the gift. To reveal **who your Secret Sister is**: Bring a Christmas Card and sign your name; then, give it to your secret sister.



## *Faith Promise*

**2021/2022 Giving**

**Promises:** \$42,662.00

**Theme:** Take God At His Word

**Bible Verse:** "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." Matthew 6:33

**Giving so Far:** \$5,611.00

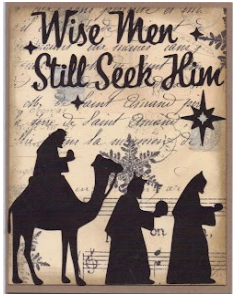


## *Men's Gathering*

**Saturday, December 18th**

All men and boys are invited to have breakfast and fellowship together @ 8:00 a.m.





First Christian church  
901 N. Henrietta  
Effingham, IL 62401  
SERVICE REQUESTED



901 N. Henrietta St.  
Effingham, IL 62401

**Sunday Times**

9:00 a.m. Sunday School  
9:40 a.m. to 9:50 a.m. Fellowship Time  
10:00 a.m. Worship Service

**Tuesday Morning**

9:00 a.m. Young @ Heart Coffee & Prayer Time

**Wednesday Evening**

6:00 p.m. Bible Study & Worship Time

