



# First Christian Church of Effingham

Issue 303 December 5, 2023 In God's hands

Martín Reyes-Lead Minister  
217.317.3800  
pastormartinfcc@gmail.com

Cleone Bloemker-Secretary  
217.342.6797  
fcaffingham@gmail.com  
Website: www.fcaffingham.com

## Mark Your Calendar

**December 9th** Women's Tea & Conversation meets @ 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

**Tuesday, December 12th** Young @ Heart meets @ 9:00 a.m. the church for snack, prayer & fellowship Hall

**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 13th** W.O.W. for all ages meets at 5:30 p.m. supper and fellowship week. This is the last W.O.W. till January.

**Saturday, December 16th** Children's Event to celebrate Jesus. Also, Children's Program practice. 10:00 a.m. to noon.

**Sunday, December 17th** Children's Program in worship service. Pot luck lunch directly after worship service.

**Sunday, December 24th**  
Worship Service @ 10:00 a.m.  
Christmas Eve Service @ 5:00 p.m.

## Serving & Giving

### Serving In /December

**Communion Table :** December 10—John Donathan; December 17—Don Millman

#### 11/26/2023 Attendance & Giving

**Total: 2,830.25**

**includes Faith Promise & Online Giving**

**Attendance:**

Sunday — 50 Sunday School — 11

Property Ministries: \$40.00

Title Center Refund: \$371.25

Operation Christmas Child: \$100.00

**Faith Promise 2023/2024: \$75.00**

#### 12/3/2023 Attendance & Giving

**Total: \$4,497.00**

**includes Faith Promise & Online Giving**

**Attendance:**

Sunday — 69 Sunday School — 11

Property Ministry: \$65.00

Quilt Guild Donation: \$145.00

**Faith Promise 2023/2024: \$160.00**

## Prayer List

**Special Needs:** Ukraine & Russia Standoff, Israel/ Palestine Conflict, Church leadership, Quad Graphics Closing in December, Cheryl Mix (cancer), Lisa Lipcamon (foot to heal), Jennifer Tonn (to heal from surgery 11/6/2023), Barb Morrison (eye to heal), Sue Johnson (knee fracture), Justin Thomas (bone marrow biopsy), Van Bogan (leg injury), Mildred (oxygen levels low), Betty Crum (cancer/hospice), Lisa Davis (health issues), Sue Williams (on a respirator), Warren Duncel (breathing problems newborn)



**Missions:** Faith Promise 2023/2024, Operation Christmas Child; Salvation Army

**Pray For These Family:** Shirley Angel Family, Cade Wolfe Family, Lolita Hutson Family, Terri Bequette Family, Orville (Scoop) Merry Family



## OUR CHURCH FAMILY

### **This is written to help members of our church family better know each other**

Hi, my name is **Amanda Haynes**, and I was born on July 18, 1982 in Mattoon to Gary and Jean Bohnhoff. I am the youngest of 4 daughters: Tabitha Bailey, Brandy Niccum, and Stacey Tebbe.

I lived in Watson until 3rd Grade, and attended Sunday school at the Watson Baptist Church. After my family moved to Dieterich in 1990, I attended church at the First Christian Church of Dieterich for many years. In 1993 my parents built a house on their farm south of Dieterich in Elliotstown. My sisters nor I ventured very far after moving out. We all live in Effingham or Teutopolis. My sisters and I have always been very close, and I'm very grateful for that.

I graduated in 2000 from Dieterich High School. After graduation, I earned a degree in Early Childhood Education from Lakeland College and was a private nanny for a few years. I was baptized into Christian faith at Red Brush Christian Church in Louisville when I was 21 years old.

I went back to school in 2010 at Lakeland College and became a licensed Massage Therapist in 2012. I own and work at Effingham Massage Clinic, and love the flexibility of my job.

I met my spouse in 2011. We were married on the beaches of Cancun in 2013, and in 2014 we welcomed our daughter Brooklyn to complete our family of 4. My husband's name is Casey, and my step son's name is Colby, he is 18. Casey is a superintendent at Davis Houk Mechanical in Urbana. Colby is in his first year of college at Lakeland to pursue his nursing degree. Brooklyn is a 4th grader at Sacred Heart School. We have 2 dogs, Tucker and Aly, and we reside in Effingham.

In my free time I enjoy baking. I am a member of the Sacred Heart PTA and I organize the school's Christmas Store.

I found FCCE while trying to find a church that I felt comfortable in. I watched services online for almost a year before I came to my first in person service on Easter 2023. I am a very introverted person, I'm happy staying at home where it's quiet and I don't have to interact with a lot of people. Large crowds, and meeting lots of new people is hard for me, but greeting fellow parishioners each week has opened me up a bit.



*Tuesday, December 12th*  
*For Coffee, Prayer & Fellowship*

**Coffee Break**

**Young @ Heart 9:00 A.M.**



**W.O.W.**

**Fellowship Evening**

**Wednesday, December 13th**

**5:30 p.m.**

This is the last W.O.W. until January, 2024

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**



# Faith Promise--Use Your Gifts

**2023/2024 Promised: \$15,720.00**

**Received: \$2,900.00**



*"God's gifts of grace come in many forms. Each of you has received a gift in order to serve others. You should use it faithfully."*

**1 Peter 4:10 (NIV)**



## Salvation Army

### Red Kettle Christmas Event




Signup Sheet is in the foyer  
Every Friday and Saturday until Christmas Eve  
North Door At Walmart



# Women's Tea & Conversation

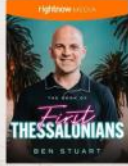
We will meet Saturday, December 9th  
from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.



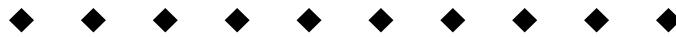
**The Book of 1 Thessalonians**

**BEN STUART**  
Description

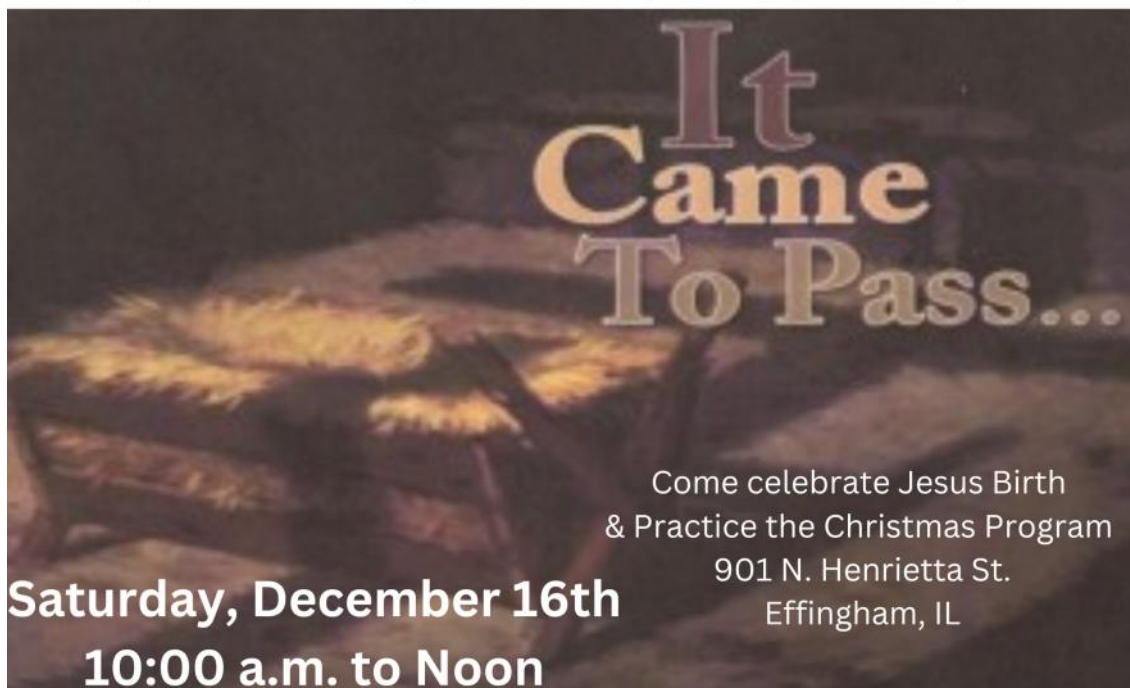
Living for Christ in a Culture that Doesn't  
What is God's will for our lives, and why is it important to know? In this eight-session series, Pastor Ben Stuart shows us that Jesus calls us to live our faith openly, letting the world see our allegiance to him. When we are being faithful, pressing against culture, others can't help but notice. As we live confident of our good future in God's kingdom, we show the world where—and in whom—their hope lies.



*The Date for The Tea & conversation was changed to December 9th*



## FCC Children's Event



**It Came To Pass...**

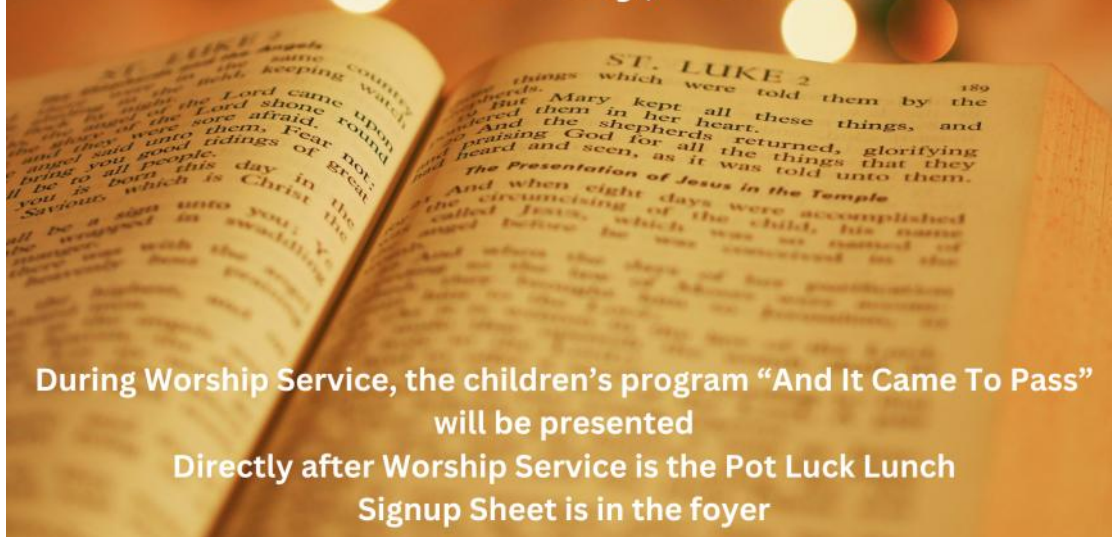
Come celebrate Jesus Birth  
& Practice the Christmas Program  
901 N. Henrietta St.  
Effingham, IL

**Saturday, December 16th**  
**10:00 a.m. to Noon**



# Children's Program & Lunch

Sunday, December 17th



During Worship Service, the children's program "And It Came To Pass"  
will be presented  
Directly after Worship Service is the Pot Luck Lunch  
Signup Sheet is in the foyer



December 24th @ 5:00 p.m.



***Christmas Eve  
Candlelight  
Service***



# Calvary Baptist Food Pantry

*Sunday, January 7th*

**Soup & Crackers**

**Cereal Or Your Choice**



## Men's Night


**Friday, February 2, 2024**

Mark Moore speaking on *Fishers of Men*





**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**  
5:30 p.m. Bible Study & Worship Time