



First Christian Church of Effingham

Issue 306 January 16, 2024 In God's hands

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Mark Your Calendar

Saturday, January 20th Children and Youth event playing board games starting at 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, January 23rd 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, January 24th W.O.W. will begin to meet again with a 5:30 p.m. light supper and fellowship time to follow

Saturday, January 27th Women's Tea & Conversation meets @ 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Sunday, February 4th Calvary Baptist Food Pantry items of canned fruit, Jell-O, cereal or your choice are due in the Fellowship Hall.

January

Serving & Giving

Serving In /January

Communion Table : January 21—Don Millman; January 28—Jon Zerkel

1/7/2024 Attendance & Giving

Total: 6,364.00

includes Faith Promise & Online Giving

Attendance:

Sunday —64 *Sunday School*—11

Property Ministries:\$40.00

Recital Donation:\$100.00

Faith Promise 2023/2024: \$155.00

Prayer List

Special Needs: Ukraine & Russia Standoff, Israel/Palestine Conflict, Church leadership, Cheryl Mix (cancer), Lisa Lipcamon (foot to heal), Sue Thomason (Myasthenia-Gravis), John Weiffenbach (intestinal issues), Barb Morrison (eye issues), Darlene Reynolds (eye issues), Gene Roley (health issues)

Missions: Faith Promise 2023/2024, Project Bible Runners

Pray For These Family: , Betty Crum Family, Peg Eident Family, Rev. Carroll Lewis, Shorty Beals Family, DeAnn Pomelow Family





2023 Recap

Hello Church Family!

2023 was a wonderful year filled with change and challenges, but God continued to show His faithfulness. As I mentioned last January, one of my goals as your pastor is to be as open and honest as I can be, so here is a recap for 2023, and a couple of goals we have for 2024.

In 2023, our average attendance on Sunday's was 64.3 worshipers; an increase from 2022's average of 63.95, (or 60.13 if we count the 8 months of 2022 after I became your Lead Pastor). And, in 2023, we had 9 baptisms (7 in 2022). In 2023, our total giving, excluding Faith Promises, was \$142,675; a decrease of 2.62% from 2022 total giving of \$146,510.

Last year, we completed the sale of the parsonage and we are currently working on putting that money in CDs, earning interest until we need it. We want to use that money to reach out to more people and to serve the kingdom. One of the ways we are looking to do so is by hiring a Children Ministry Coordinator and a couple of Nursery Leaders. Since becoming the Lead Pastor, we have had young families attend/join our church. Our church needs part-time help in the Children and Nursery ministries, and I'm looking forward to working with part-time staff to meet those needs and to help me in those areas.

When praying to God for the direction for our church this year, God reminded me of Matthew 6:33: *"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."* So, this year as a church, we want to seek the kingdom and His righteousness; starting by learning what His kingdom is like, then what it means to live in His kingdom, and focusing on practicing the way of His kingdom.

In 2024, I would like you to continue to focus on 5 things:

1. Daily prayer and Bible reading.
2. Be consistent in your Sunday worship attendance.
3. Be faithful in your giving of tithes and offerings.
4. Join, start, or continue to be part of a small group.
5. Lead one person to Christ or to join our church.

If you have any questions or concerns, or if you want help in implementing these focuses, please let us know. I hope that this article encourages you, helps you know what to pray for, and gives you a sense of where God is leading us this year.

At His service,
Pastor Martin Reyes





First Christian Church of Effingham

901 N Henrietta Effingham, IL. 62401

January 11, 2024

Duties and Responsibilities for Children Ministry Coordinator

Purpose

First Christian Church of Effingham seeks to help parents in our congregation with God's call in their life found in Deuteronomy 6:6-9 to raise their children in the ways of the Lord. We want to provide and promote an environment of worship, learning, and fellowship where children might encounter God, learn about Him, and worship Him.

Summary

The Children Ministry Coordinator is to provide support to our Lead Pastor in achieving the purpose described above by helping plan, organize, and promote monthly children events, weekly children Bible Study groups, summer events (like Vacation Bible School and soccer camp), and special children led worship services (like Psalm Sunday and Children Christmas Program).

Qualifications

The Children Ministry Coordinator should:

- Be a baptized believer of Jesus Christ.
- Be a member of First Christian Church of Effingham.
- Be able to provide letters of recommendations.
- Be able to pass a background check every 2 years.
- Have at least 4 years of experience in Children Ministry.
- Be organized, self-motivated, caring, a good listener, and able to teach Biblical lesson to children.

Have at least 2 years of experience supervising others.

Job Responsibilities

- ◆ To help the Lead Pastor with the planning, organization, and promotion of any activities associated with the Children Ministry.
- ◆ To help with the planning, organization, and promotion of Vacation Bible School.
- ◆ To help with the planning, organization, and promotion of Summer Soccer Camps.
- ◆ To help with the planning, organization, and promotion of the Psalm Sunday Children Program.
- ◆ To help with the planning, organization, and promotion of Treat-Town.
- ◆ To help with the planning, organization, and promotion of the Christmas Children Program.
- ◆ To help with the planning, organization, and promotion of the monthly Children Events.
- ◆ To provide support and oversight to the teachers leading Children's WOW and Children's Church.
- ◆ To schedule the weekly lessons and schedule teachers and helpers.
- ◆ To order any approved curriculum, supplies, or snack for the children ministry.



- ◆ To help promote children summer camps.
- ◆ To provide support and oversight to Nursery Leaders and Children Ministry volunteer.
- ◆ To offer support and encouragement while serving as a role model.
- ◆ To help create a warm and loving atmosphere for child care-giving.
- ◆ To establish dynamic personal relationships with the teachers, children, and their parents.
- ◆ To provide positive discipline when discipline is necessary.
- ◆ To maintain and stock the needed supplies, such as, snacks, wet-wipes, etc.
- ◆ To develop and suggest outreach ideas.
- ◆ To report any concerns to the Lead Pastor.
- ◆ To accomplish any task related to the children ministry that the Lead Pastor deems necessary.

Compensation

The Children Ministry Coordinator position has an irregular schedule, since some month my required more time than others, but we estimate an average of 24 hours per month (including preparation), so the Children Ministry Coordinator shall receive a stipend in a fixed amount \$600 per month.

Review

A performance review will be conducted 3 months from the hire date. Thereafter, performance reviews and goal setting are conducted annually, typically at the end of the calendar year by the Lead Pastor.





First Christian Church of Effingham

901 N Henrietta Effingham, IL. 62401

January 11, 2024

Job Description for Nursery Leader

Purpose

First Christian Church of Effingham seeks to care for all children who come to our worship services and to help their parents reduce distractions during our worship services by providing a Biblical, loving, caring, and safe atmosphere for all of them.

Summary

The Nursery Leader is to provide a Biblical, caring, and safe atmosphere for the infants of First Christian Church during our worship service and to assist the children Sunday school class in certain circumstances.

Qualifications

The Nursery Leader should:

- Be a baptized believer of Jesus Christ.
 - Be able to provide letters of recommendations.
 - Be able to pass an annual background check.
 - Have at least 2 years of experience caring for infants and babies.
- Be able to work on Sundays from 9:45am to 11:45am

Job Responsibilities

To care for the infants and babies (2 years and under) in the nursery.

[To establish dynamic personal relationships with the nursery age children and their parents.](#)

To offer support and encouragement while serving as a role model.

To create a warm and loving atmosphere for child care-giving.

To provide positive discipline when discipline is necessary.

To maintain and stock the needed supplies, such as, snacks, wet-wipes, etc.

To maintain and keep all toys and nursery equipment clean and safe.

To help the Children Church Teacher when there are no infants or babies in the nursery.

To report any concerns to both the Children Ministry Coordinator and the Lead Pastor.

Compensation

The Nursery Leader shall receive a stipend in a fixed amount \$40 per week.

Review

A performance review will be conducted 3 months from the hire date. Thereafter, performance reviews and goal setting are conducted annually, typically at the end of the calendar year by the Lead Pastor and Children Ministry Coordinator.



Oil Belt's Men's Night 2024 Schedule—Friday, February 2, 2024

3:30pm —Doors open for Pre-session—*pre-session for Church Leaders*)

4:00-5:00pm—Pre-session with Mark Moore—*How do we effectively reach the lost?*

5:00pm —Doors open for Evening Meal

5:30-6:30pm—Meal

7:00-8:30—Worship and Main Session

Pre-register by January 24th to help us with meal numbers, and to create seating for your church if you'd like. Let Pastor Martin or church office know if you would like to attend.

Oil Belt Christian Service Camp

MEN'S NIGHT

FISHING FOR MEN

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2024

DOORS OPEN: 3:30 PM • PRE-SESSION: 4:00–5:00 PM
(PRE-SESSION FOR CHURCH LEADERS BY MARK MOORE)
SUPPER AVAILABLE: 5:30–6:30 PM • WORSHIP: 7:00 PM

FEATURING SPEAKER MARK MOORE

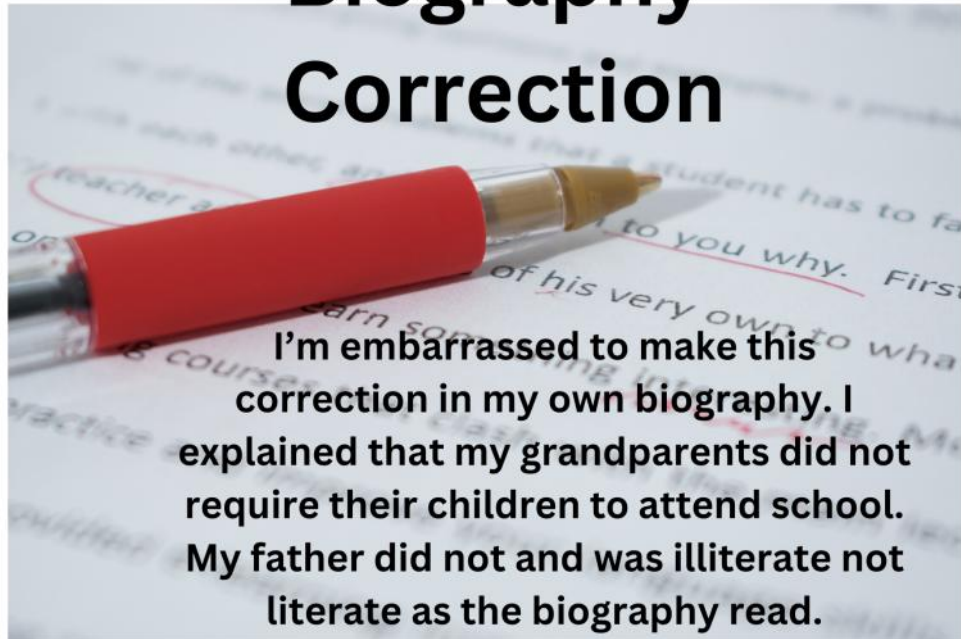
Mark Moore joined the staff at Christ's Church of the Valley (CCV) in Peoria, Arizona in 2012 as a teaching pastor. CCV has 15 thriving sites all over the city, dead-set on reaching lost people for Christ. Prior to joining the CCV team, Mark was a Professor at Ozark Christian College in Joplin, Missouri for 22 years. He is also the author and co-author of many books including Core52 and Quest52. His life passion is to make Jesus famous.

Worship led by Christ's Church of Effingham.
Catering provided by Niemerg's Steakhouse of Effingham.

COST IS \$25 • REGISTER NOW AT: OILBELT.COM



Biography Correction



Claudine Rush



Women's Tea & Conversation

We will meet Saturday, January 27th
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.





OUR CHURCH FAMILY

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

PAMELA JO (DEVALL) SIDENER

I was born May 16, 1968. I grew up on a farm at. Greenup, IL (Cumberland County). I was the third oldest of eight children and the oldest of four girls. My oldest brother died at birth. A sister, Julia Devall, is deceased. My living siblings are Richard and Mike Devall, Sheila Stratton and Lisa Davis.

I went to Cumberland Junior and Senior High graduating in 1977. I started working in the health field the day I graduated. I also worked for a cleaning company . A good friend in Greenup introduced me to my husband Kenton DeWayne Sidener. We were married at Alpine, Alabama December 6, 1988. We were divorced December 6, 1997. I have no children, but a lot of children have adopted ME as their mother and grandmother. Now, I am retired and live in Effingham.

I attended the Block church in Greenup and started attending First Christian Sunday School and church in spring of this year.



More Bios Needed!

This is the last biography we have received. It would be great if more can send in a biography for the church family to know you better. Send to fcceffingham@gmail.com



**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