

Prayer Concerns

Requests are left for 3 months, **the start date, month and year, is listed at the end of request.** Please notify the office of updates.

Our country and those serving in the military, those adjusting after service
Kevin Farrar—Breathing issues due to RA, RA flare-ups
His House Ministries
Kenn Filkins—Serious health issues
Jeannine Kelly (Therese Boucha's mother) - Parkinson's Disease 3/18
Ron Atkins (Pam Postma's brother) - Cancer treatment is working, no growth! Continuing treatments 9/18
Linda Gades (Nancy Earl-Wojo's sister) - Metastasized cancer, on Hospice care now, prayers also for her daughter's family, who is caring for her 11/18
Brenda Brown—Health issues, that doctors would figure out how to help her 6/18
Therese Boucha—New treatment begun. Continued prayers for healing. 9/18
Gary Ferns (Mary Armstrong's bro) - Tumors are dying! Continued prayers please! 11/18
Trudy Ranta—Melanoma now in her brain, in LTC at WMH 11/18
Evelyn Henry, Terry Lawson, Lee Lawson, and Patty Jones—Family issues 8/18
Jennifer Veum—Tumors shrinking with chemo, having monthly infusions & PT 11/18
Rachael Jones (the Henry's granddaughter) - Strength to stay drug and alcohol free and turn to God, trying to get her children back 8/18
Joanne Arbic (Anne Abbott's sister) - Stent placement successful, prayers for improvement in health 10/18
Tanya Moore (Phyllis Miller)—Cancerous brain tumor removed, to Detroit for chemo 9/18
Leslie Belleau (Judy Vert) - Pancreatic cancer, starting radiation 10/18
Barb Farrar—High muscle enzymes, testing for muscle diseases 10/18
Gary Matheny (Dave's brother) - Diagnosed with stage 4 kidney cancer which is preventing a needed lung transplant, may need kidney transplant first 11/18
Rob Ward (Pam Lahti) - Going through a difficult time 11/18
Odin Eitrem—On list for a kidney transplant 11/18
Carol Garlinghouse (Swick) - Breast cancer 11/18
Gail Williams—Kidney problems 11/18
Caleb, Dianne Baker's grandson—Biopsy showed cancer, started chemo 11/18
AJ Rogers (Marion Rogers) - Health concerns 11/18
Kate (Mike Willett's grand niece) - Prayer for healing from brain surgery 12/18
Dale Brown (Wilma's son, Bob's brother) - Recovering from neck surgery. Prayers for success and complete healing 12/18
Ed Boso—Neck and back pain 12/18
Max Metro (Nancy Darling) - In the hospital at Mayo Clinic, serious health issues 12/18

If you would like a visit from an elder or one of the ministers, please call the church office at 632-6511.

Welcome to First Church of Christ! Announcements for December 30, 2018

Today:

Sunday School—9:00 am
Worship Service—10:00 am
Kid's Church—10:30 am
Mid & Hi School Youth Group—6:00 pm

Wednesday:

Worship Team Practice—5:45 pm



Youth Progressive Dinner and Scavenger Hunt! January 27th during youth group. **High school and Middle School students, invite your friends!** Watch your bulletin or see Zack for more details.



Volunteers are needed to shovel and salt the walkways before the 9:00 a.m. Sunday School hour each week! Please pick a date and sign up in the lobby. Shovels will be outside by the front door. Thank you!



Ladies Prayer and Bible Study meets Thursdays at 10:00 am at FCOC All ladies invited! We are studying "Leading a Life of Balance"



His House Christian Fellowship is on winter break and resumes Thursday, January 10th at 8:00 pm at the Crow's Nest at LSSU! Our LSSU Staff: Matt Monroe, Jessy Stark, and Adam Steinhauer.



We need bakers! FCOC provides treats for His House meetings! If you can help, please sign up at the News Table! The students really appreciate your baking skills! **The January list is out!**

General fund giving last week: \$4,526.50. Weekly requirements: \$4,283.56

PARENTS OF YOUNG CHILDREN:

There are "Quiet Books" in a basket by the AV room door in the lobby.

Nursery at 9:00 and 10:00, located off the lobby.
10:00 Service—This week: Chamberlain Next week: Crompton
Children: Education Classes—9:00 am Jr. Church—10:30 am
Downstairs and straight through. See above schedule for Family Sundays.

Ardis Bruno's 100th birthday is January 7th!



Please see the display by the office window, sign a card, and place it in the basket. We will surprise Ardis with her FCOC church family's birthday wishes!



We are also invited to an open house for Ardis at Freighterview Assisted Living on January 6th from 1:30 to 3:30.



All Church Event! Volunteer Appreciation Banquet January 20th at 11:00 am

Come and say thanks to those who volunteer at FCOC for church events, youth, teachers, worship volunteers, leadership, camp workers, planning events, and church support in any way.

The Youth Group will be making desserts and serving beverages, and Dave Pietrangelo and Zack will be preparing the food!

Please sign up in the lobby if you plan to attend, so we will know how much food to make.

The Annual His House Spaghetti Lunch!



**Sunday, February 10th
after church in the Fellowship Hall**

The lunch is by donation, and the money raised will help our His House crew on their spring break mission, as they partner with Samaritan's Purse helping with hurricane relief in the Carolinas to families hit earlier this summer!

See Matt, Jessy, or Adam for more information.

Mission of the Month FCOC Food Pantry

Needed: Toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, soap, shampoo, lotion, razors and shaving cream, paper towels and toilet paper
Please place donations in the tub on the News Table in the lobby.

The Word Made Flesh: Light in the Darkness

John 1

Final in the series *Awaiting the Already*

Remember when photos were not taken with digital cameras; when there was a risk of ruining the film, creating double exposures, or blurring the picture? Good photographers were very careful photographers. Their work came out well because they respected the subjects they shot—and the process to correctly share those subjects with others through their camera's lens and film.

The photographers of this year's Advent journey have been the four Gospel writers. Each took their pictures of the arrival of Christ from a different angle, panning and zooming; selectively choosing which parts of the narrative would best capture their message.

- Mark wanted us to slow down, turn around, and prepare the way for Jesus.
- Matthew wanted us to confront, rather than ignore, the realities of this hurting world. He wanted us to look for the Jesus who is already here.
- Luke wanted us to sing songs of obedience, praise, faith, joy, and even silence.
- Today on this Sunday after Christmas—and the last Sunday of the year, let's look at John's Gospel portrait of God literally coming to His creation to save it. It is no less than a beautiful work of art.

1. Jesus' light pierces the darkness

2. Jesus' light floods our souls

3. Jesus' light needs to be reflected—by us!

The One we have been waiting for is already present via the Light of God. He is Emmanuel, God with us. He is the light who shines through our shadows. He is hope that will not fade. He is peace that cannot be fathomed. And He is love that will not let us go.

As He has shined on us, we need to reflect his light on others.
