

**FIRST &
CALVARY**

a house of prayer for every generation

**Weekly Update
August 21, 2026**

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This Sunday, our 9:45 AM Contemporary Worship Service will be held in the Sanctuary.

Back to School Sunday

Join us this Sunday for a time to pray over the upcoming school year and to celebrate our students and educators in worship.

Lunch for college students will be served at noon, following the 11 AM service.

Nominations

This Sunday marks the start of Nominations Season at First & Calvary! Yellow Nomination Cards will be available—simply fill one out and place it in the depository outside the church office.

You can also submit your nominations online [[HERE](#)] or by emailing nominations@firstandcalvary.org.



**This Sunday's
Sermon:**

Reflection & Discussion Questions:

1. What are different ways people today decide what is "good and acceptable and perfect"?
2. What stands out to you most in today's text about the contrast between being conformed and being transformed? What

**Welcome the
Learner
Rev. Don Everts
Romans 12:1-2**

stands out to you about the mechanism of transformation (the renewal of your mind)?

3. Which of the 3 ways mentioned in the sermon has God used most to shape you and your understanding of what is "good, acceptable, and perfect"? (1. Being in the Word, 2. Welcoming the Holy Spirit, or 3. Being active in a local church?)

Sunday School & Weekly Classes

Beginning August 30, 2026, the McClung Sunday School Class will begin a series on the Holy Spirit - "The Bible, The Holy Spirit, and You". August 30, 2026 through October 25. Discussion led by Neil Stenger

This fall, women are invited to join us for God of Creation: A Study of Genesis 1–11 by Jen Wilkin. Together, we'll journey verse by verse through the opening chapters of Genesis, exploring what these familiar stories reveal about the character, attributes, and promises of our Creator and what they teach us about ourselves.

This 10-session study will meet Thursdays from 6:00–7:30 PM, September 17 through November 19. Through personal study, group conversation, and teaching videos, participants will grow in their understanding of Scripture through comprehension, interpretation, and application.

Join us as we return to the beginning and discover more deeply the God who creates, sustains, and reveals Himself through His Word.

The Youth Sunday Discipleship Class is starting back this week! This semester we will be looking at what it looks like to live a life of deep discipleship. All 6th-12th grade students are welcome! 9:45am in the Student Lounge on the Lower Level.

Weekly Calendar

Friday 8/21

12:00 pm – Women's Table Talk | Room 026C

Sunday 8/23

8:45 am – Worship | Sanctuary

9:45 am – Worship | Sanctuary

11:00 am – Worship | Sanctuary

12:00 pm – College Lunch | Fellowship Hall

Tuesday 8/25

1 pm – Abigail Mary Martha Circle Meeting | Conference Room 221

6 pm – Session | Conference Room 221

Wednesday 8/26

6:00 pm – Adult Pickleball | Gym

7:15 pm – Chancel Choir | Choir Room

Thursday 8/27

11:00 am – Prayer Meeting | Prayer Room

Friday 8/28

12:00 pm – Women's Table Talk | Room 026C



Looking Ahead

September 14 | Artists Anonymous | 6 PM | Off-Site

September 16 | Pastor's Book Club | 6 PM | F&C Library

September 20 | Church Picnic | 5 PM | South Lawn

September 27; October 4, 11, 18 | Alpha Live | 5:45 PM

To See All Our Events: [**CLICK HERE**](#)

If childcare would assist you with participating in any event, please email Amelia Davidson at least a week in advance. While we cannot guarantee childcare staff will be available, we would love to help you as we are able. If you can no longer attend after reserving childcare, please email Amelia at a.davidson@firststandcalvary.org so we can adjust our staffing accordingly.

Artists Anonymous

Artists Anonymous will meet Monday, September 14 at 6:00 PM. This month, we'll be gathering off-site for a special evening together.

More details, including the location, will be coming soon, so stay tuned! If you have any questions in the meantime, please reach out to the church office.

Pastor's Book Club

For our September Pastor's Book Club, we'll be diving into **Victor Hugo's classic Les Misérables**. We'll be reading the Fantine section of the unabridged novel, with special focus on the **first 110 pages and the Bishop of Digne**. Pick up a copy and join us in the Library on **September 16 at 6:00 PM** for snacks and great conversation. We'll also open up the discussion to the beloved musical and film adaptations of the novel!

Bonus Reading: For those wanting to spend more time with the Bishop, also read **Book Second: Cosette, Chapters 11–13**, which brings his role in the story to its memorable conclusion.

Church Picnic

Join us for an evening of food, fellowship, and fun at our annual Church Picnic on Sunday, September 20, from 5:00–7:00 PM on the church lawn!

The Congregational Life Committee will provide fried chicken, beverages, plates, and utensils. Everyone attending, including families and individuals, is asked to bring a dish to share according to the first letter of your last name:

A–D: Bring a dessert

E–Z: Bring a side dish

Be sure to bring your lawn chairs or picnic blankets and settle in for the evening. We'll also have activities for the kids, including a bounce house for younger children and 9-Square.

Some outdoor seating will be available, and if the weather doesn't cooperate, we'll move the picnic indoors.

Come hungry and ready to enjoy a great evening together as a church family!

Alpha Live

Who in your life is looking for a place to talk about faith?

Everyone has questions. Whether it's about the purpose of life, the identity of Jesus, or why it all matters, Alpha provides a safe, no-pressure space to explore those answers.

We are hosting a 4-week Alpha series on Sunday evenings starting Sept. 27 at First & Calvary, and we're asking our church family to pray and invite a neighbor, a coworker, or a friend, and come with them to Alpha.

If you have never attended in Alpha before and are interested in attending yourself, please feel free to join us. Let's all be praying for those who will gather around these tables.

To learn more about Alpha and sign up here: [Alpha](#) | [First & Calvary](#)

We are seeking volunteers to help with hospitality, leading discussion tables, and join our prayer team. Email Pastor Jamie at j.swope@firstandcalvary.org to learn more about joining the Alpha team.

LIFE OF THE CHURCH



Click the image above to watch the newest FACE time with Pastor Don.

Links to videos mentioned:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fTHBEflgsFI>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jmxnDm7D7u8>



Update 8/21/26

By this point many of you have seen that there is a hole in the ceiling of the Gathering Place...([**CLICK HERE TO READ MORE.**](#))

Let's Welcome Kyleigh Hendrix

Dear First & Calvary Family,

I'm so excited to share the wonderful news that we have hired Kyleigh Hendrix to serve as our contemporary worship leader for the coming year!

After a thoughtful process of prayer and discernment with leaders from across the church, we're grateful to welcome Kyleigh into this role and excited for this next season of ministry together.

I'm also deeply grateful for every leader who has helped carry and lead the service over these past several months. God has been faithful to us in this season of transition, and I'm excited to see what God will do in the season ahead.

In Christ,

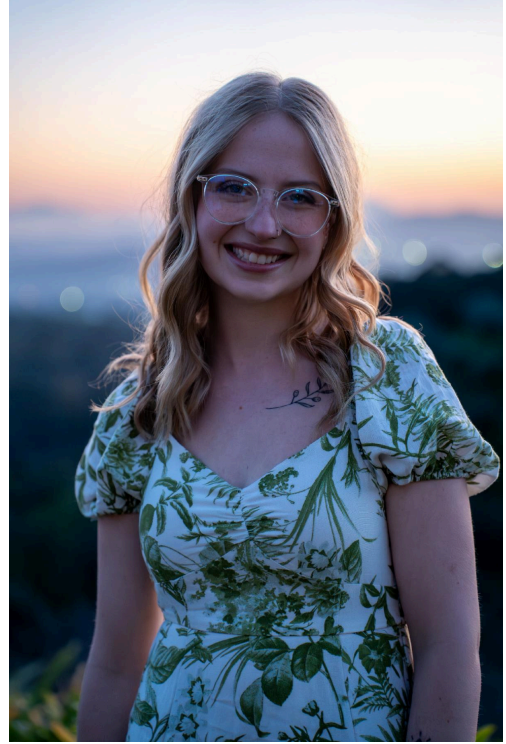
Tyler Heckman

Hello!

Some of you may already know me, but if we haven't met yet, my name is Kyleigh Hendrix! For the past two years, I've had the joy of serving as a soprano scholar, and this year I'm excited to be joining the staff as the Interim Associate Director of Contemporary Music.

I started this week, and I'm looking forward to serving the church in a new capacity. I'm grateful for the opportunity to continue being part of this community, and I'm excited to get to know you all better and work with you!

Kyleigh Hendrix



New & Featured in the First & Calvary Library

Looking for your next read? Stop by the First & Calvary Library and check out a few of our featured titles!

Pastor's Book Club: Four copies of *Les Misérables* are now available for checkout near the Library entrance. Pick up a copy and start reading ahead of our September gathering.

New Reads: You'll also find two copies of *Change for the Poor*, the book referenced this past Sunday in connection with Victory Mission, as well as a copy of *Safe to Sleep*. Look for the New Reads display on the right side of the Library.

College Bible Studies

If you're a college student at F&C we invite you to sign up for one of our College Bible studies! Link for more info and to sign up:

<https://forms.gle/GxrNPP8na8eHN8KS6>

Tuesdays - 6pm (in home)

Thursdays - Noon (in PSU)

Sundays - 7pm (no Christians allowed)

Sunday Flower Donations

We are grateful to everyone who has donated flowers to beautify our worship space and honor loved ones. Your generosity has helped make this a meaningful tradition at First & Calvary.

Due to rising flower and supply costs, the price of a Sunday flower arrangement will **increase from \$50 to \$65.**

Thank you for your continued generosity and for helping make our worship services beautiful and special.

Praying for the New School Year

Campus Hospitality is one of our core values at First & Calvary. As MSU prepares to begin a new school year, we invite you to join us in praying for our campus neighbors:

- That the Lord would draw students, professors, and staff to Himself and use First & Calvary as He sees fit.
- For our upcoming Welcome Week events, including Campus Fest, Frozen Frisbee Fest, and Sunday Lunch.
- For opportunities to serve students and point them to Jesus.

Join us Sunday, August 23, for a special time in worship as we pray over the upcoming school year and celebrate the students and educators in our congregation.

Fall Invite Challenge

Did you hand someone an invite card this season? Share your story and let us know how we can pray for them.

[Share Here!](#)

Fall Music Ministries Kickoff

Make music with us!

No auditions—just reach out!

Chancel Choir: Currently Meeting

Bell Choir Kickoff: September 2 at 6:15 PM

Children's Choir Kickoff: September 13 at 9:15 AM

Contact: t.heckman@firstandcalvary.org

There's never a bad time to join choir, and we're celebrating the start of our fall season for the next few weeks with especially marvelous music, tasty treats, and fun fellowship! Join us Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m. No audition, no fees, no pressure—just a

group of friends making music, growing in faith, and leaning into worship. If you're looking for a way to deepen your delight in God and widen your welcome of others, we'd love to have you. Bring a friend!

F&C Gear Store

We're excited to launch the new F&C Gear store! From apparel to accessories, the shop is a fun way to represent First & Calvary and support the life of our church community wherever you go. Take a look at the new designs and offerings by clicking the button below!

F&C Gear



F&C Kids Volunteers

As fall approaches, we are gearing up for F&C Kids Sunday School, planning some exciting fall events for kids and families, and even beginning to think about Celebrate While We Wait! We would love to have you on our team to help with any or all of these, and there are opportunities to be involved whether you can commit to every week or only once a year. We will be hosting a Children's Ministry Volunteer Training Luncheon on August 23rd, so please contact Amelia Davidson at a.davidson@firststandcalvary.org to find out how you can be involved in Children's Ministry this fall or for details about the Training Luncheon.

There's a place for you here. Discover how you can use your gifts to serve, love, and make a kingdom difference, within our church and throughout our city. Check out our Serve Page: www.firststandcalvary.org/serve.

The Weekly Update is sent out on Friday mornings. To post events or messages, please complete [this Communications Request form](#) or contact Jake SanSoucie at 417-862-5068 or at j.sansoucie@firststandcalvary.org for assistance. Events submitted prior to the end of the day on Tuesday will be posted on the Friday of that week. Events submitted past that deadline will be posted on the following Friday.

First & Calvary Presbyterian Church



First & Calvary Presbyterian Church, Springfield MO | 820 E. Cherry | Springfield, MO 65806 US

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