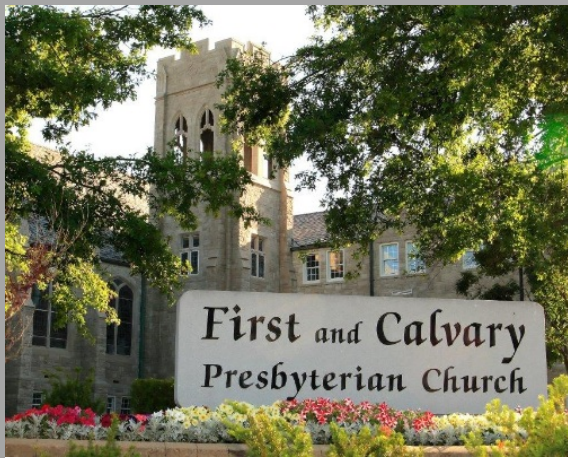




Weekly Update

October 31, 2025

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This Sunday's Sermon:

Talk about God's Word

Philip Herzog

2 Timothy 3:14-17

Questions for Reflection & Discussions

1. Do you have a special memory/experience involving a Bible? Or when has the Bible acted "like a friend" or been "powerful" in your life?
2. When you approach scripture, do you observe, interpret, and apply? Which is your go-to and why?
3. How and with whom is the Holy Spirit calling you to Talk About God's Word and be Wise for Salvation?

Sunday Morning Adult Classes at 9:45 am

Bad Girls and Bad Boys of the Bible | We're exploring how God uses imperfect people for His purposes—like a Hebrew with a speech impediment, a prostitute, a persecutor of believers, and a tax collector. Despite flaws and weaknesses, God still chooses us. **This class is hosted by Little Bacon in Room 020.**

Faith | Elder Neil Stenger will lecture on this essential topic through October. This is hosted by McClung in Room 026. **This class is hosted by McClung in Room 026.**

Revelation | This study by Dr. W. Robert Godfrey (Ligonier Ministries) offers encouragement and hope for every generation. Originally written to a church wrestling with the tension between Christ's reign and life in a fallen world, its message still speaks powerfully to believers today. **This class is hosted by the 49rs in Room 115.**



FACE time with Pastor Don

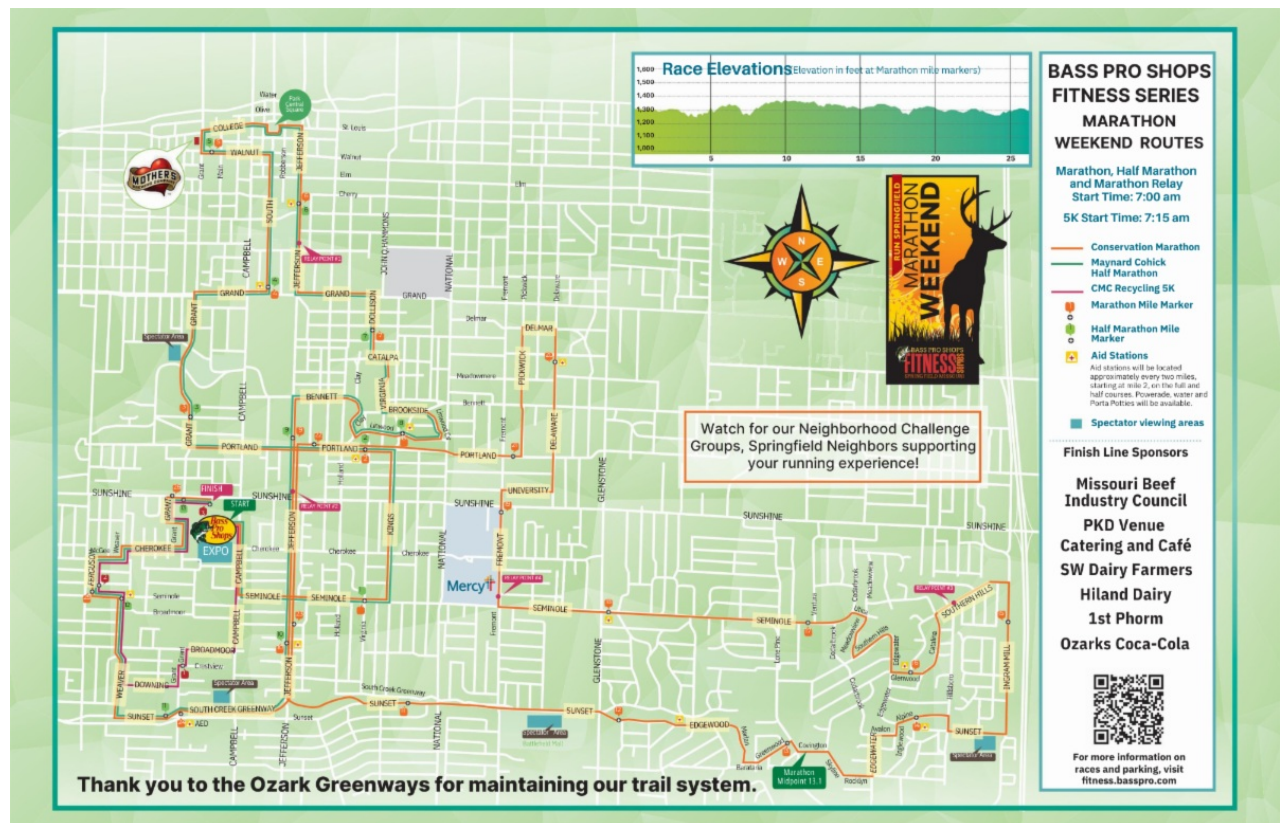
Click the image above to watch Pastor Don's latest FACE time.

Session Minutes from Tuesday, September 29, 2025

[View Session Minutes](#)



SET YOUR CLOCKS BACK THIS SATURDAY NIGHT.



This Sunday, Bass Pro will host its annual Fitness Series Marathon, and several of the race routes will pass through the downtown area. If you live nearby or plan to travel to church from one of the impacted areas, please allow extra time for possible delays and detours. Consult the map above to see which routes may affect your usual drive.

EVENTS

FIRST & CALVARY

FIRST FRIDAY ART WALK

NOV 7TH | 6PM - 8PM

Experience the art of Judith Garson, live music by Faith Zimmer, Claire Herzog and friends, architectural tours, and a kids' craft.



Join us for our first-ever First Friday Art Walk! For more information, contact Tyler Heckman at t.heckman@firstandcalvary.org.

**ARTISTS
ANONYMOUS**



November 3rd | 6:00 PM | F&C Library

Life as an artist can be trying at times.

Whether you're crafting a story, art, or music, the journey can be littered with questions.

Am I really an artist?

Is what I'm laboring to make worth it?

Are my struggles normal?

How do my faith and my making intersect?

If you love your craft, but also struggle with it, Artists Anonymous is for you!

Together, we'll share our latest projects, the joys and struggles we're experiencing in the making, and how our faith is crucial to our creative process. Come be encouraged!



FIRST & CALVARY
a house of prayer for every generation

Musical Offerings Series
2025-2026 Season

November 9th
3:00 PM
North Atrium

Director Dr. Andrew Campbell

Central Springfield Community Choir

Join us on Saturday, November 9, at 3:00 p.m. in the North Atrium for the next performance in our Musical Offerings Concert Series.

We're delighted to welcome the Central Springfield Community Choir, a non-auditioned community choir for singers ages 15 to 115. Founded in 2023 and directed by Dr. Andrew Campbell, the choir has grown to include more than 60 singers from a variety of backgrounds and musical experiences. The ensemble performs throughout the Springfield region—in venues ranging from churches to breweries—and frequently collaborates with other local groups.

This concert is free and open to everyone, and new members are always welcome. To learn more about the ensemble, visit www.centalspringfieldcommunitychoir.org.

Come and enjoy an afternoon of music, community, and inspiration!



\$10 Tickets!
Scholarship Options Available

MSU Bears Game & Tailgate

November 15th | 11AM-1PM

Register by November 12th

Join us for food, fun, and community as we cheer on the Bears on November 15 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Tickets are \$10, and MSU students attend free with a valid student ID. Scholarships are available for other college students and young adults who may need assistance.

Please register by November 12 using the form below. Everyone is welcome.

[Register Here](#)



For your service to your country, let us honor you on Sunday, November 16, 2025, at

Noon, after the 11:00 a.m. service in the First & Calvary North Atrium.

For reservations, call the church office at 417.862.5068 with your name, branch of service, rank, and the names of your guests.

Please RSVP before November 3rd.

Veteran Photos

With Veterans Day approaching, the Congregational Life Committee would like to honor our First & Calvary Veterans by collecting service photos to display during the month of November. If you would like us to include a photo of yourself or a loved one, please drop off your photos in the church office by October 31st. Along with the picture, please provide the name, rank, years of service, branch, duty stations, etc., as well as your name and phone number. All photos will be handled with extra care. Photo frames are welcomed and encouraged.



Please join us as we celebrate the beauty of the Advent season and the joy of waiting for the fulfillment of God's promises. There will be carols to sing, ornaments to create, cookies to decorate, and a special project to help your family spread cheer to others. This event is best for families with children elementary-age and younger, and there will be fun options for infants and toddlers as well as your older children. Make plans to Celebrate While We Wait! Register by November 30 (registration linked below), or email a.davidson@firstandcalvary.org with any questions.

[Register Here](#)

LIFE OF THE CHURCH



With your help, we can deliver great joy and the Good News of Jesus Christ to children in need around the world through gift-filled shoeboxes. Each box—packed with quality toys, school supplies, and personal care items—becomes a tangible expression of God’s immense love. For many children, it is their very first gift!

Delivered by local church partners, each shoebox provides an opportunity to share the Gospel with boys and girls in a clear, child-friendly way.

How to participate:

1. Pick up a shoebox at the Samaritan’s Purse Christmas Child display in the South Atrium from October 31 to November 16, or in the vestibule of the Sanctuary before/after services on November 2, 9, and 16.
2. Pick up a mailing label for each box you intend to fill. Select the child’s gender and age range; grab one label per box.
3. Fill your box with thoughtful items. Suggested items:
samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/what-goes-in-my-shoebox-suggestions.
4. Pray for the child who will receive your box (“pray without ceasing,” 1 Thess. 5:17), their family, the pastor who delivers it, and their community.
5. No shipping donation needed. The Missions Committee will cover mailing costs.
6. Return your completed shoebox (with label attached) to the Samaritan’s Purse Christmas Child displays at First & Calvary by November 24.

We’ll handle the rest!

For more information, contact Catherine Clippard at **ckclippard@yahoo.com**.



Advent Devotionals!

This Advent, we invite your family to read *Darkness, Then Light*, a 4-week devotional published by Christianity Today.

Reserve Your Free Copy: Sign up by clicking the button below, while supplies last!

Pick-up Dates:

- Sunday, November 23 in the South Atrium
- Sunday, November 30 in the Gathering Area.
- After Nov. 30, pick up your copy from the church office during office hours.
- Unless other arrangements are made, any devotionals not picked up by Dec. 1 will be available to give to friends.

Join the Advent Group on Our Church App:

We will encourage each other as we read together by connecting through a feature in our church app. To access this, download the First & Calvary app on your smartphone and create an account with your email. Further instructions will be emailed to you ahead of the plan's beginning.

Preview the Advent Devotional here: [CLICK HERE](#)

Questions? Email Pastor Jamie at j.swope@firstandcalvary.org.

Please complete a sign-up form for each individual in your household who would like their own copy.

Sign Up Here

Scholar Spotlight: Madeline Begin

This week, we're excited to share the next article in our Scholar Spotlight series—written by our Writing Scholar, Kylie Burks.

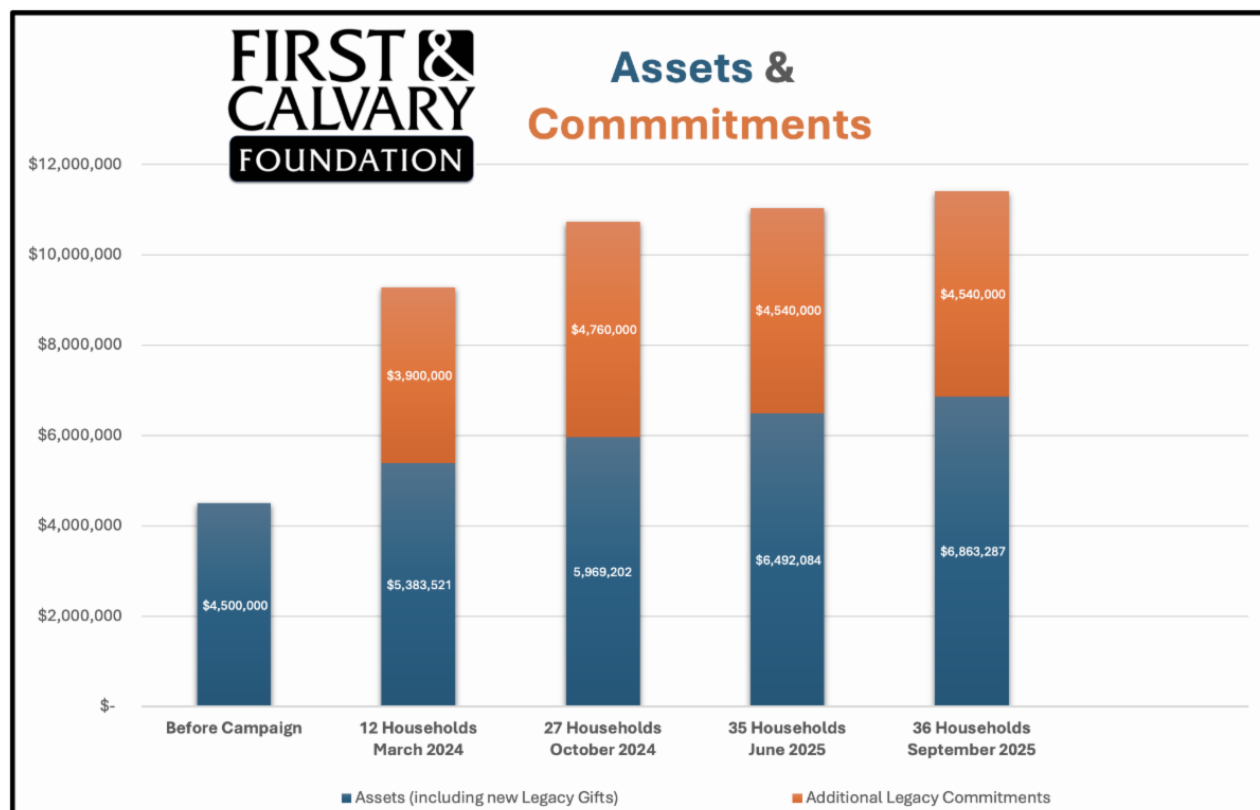
In this piece, Kylie introduces us to Madeline Begin, a Contemporary Scholar and musical theatre student at Missouri State University. Madeline shares how her faith shapes her work on stage, how community and friendship have strengthened her walk with Christ, and how she seeks to reflect God's love through the art of performance.

Click the button below to read Kylie's full article and discover how Madeline is living out her calling—on stage and beyond.



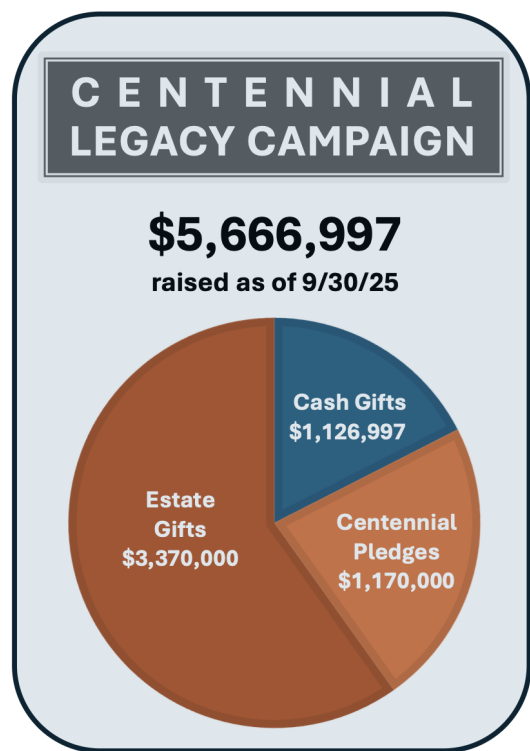
[Read Madeline's Story Here](#)

Centennial Legacy Campaign Update



We, as a church, are thrilled that as of the end of September 2025, 36 different households have taken part in our Centennial Legacy Campaign. Every single gift and commitment to our Legacy Campaign is an investment in securing the enduring legacy of this church in the heart of Springfield!

If you want to find out more about the campaign, contact the church office, and they will put you in touch with someone from the Legacy Campaign Committee.



Donation Drive for Ambassadors for Children

F&C Kids and the First & Calvary Missions Committee are sponsoring a donation drive to benefit Ambassadors for Children, an outreach program of Crosslines that serves the needs of local kids and youth in foster care. You can help by donating any of the items on their general needs list ([click here](#)). They have a particular need for socks and underwear for children aged 0–4/5T.

We will be accepting donations from September 28–November 1, and donations can be brought to the bin outside Amelia Davidson’s office in the South Atrium. For more

information or questions, contact Amelia Davidson at a.davidson@firstandcalvary.org.

Click the graphic above to also watch our Minute for Mission video, spotlighting this important outreach program.

Thank you for your support!



Minister to Next Generations Update

We are continuing to seek a Minister to Next Generations who would oversee ministry to youth, college students, and young adults. We are having conversations with potential candidates and appreciate your prayers. If you know anyone who would be a great addition to our team, please refer them to our jobs page on our website: <https://www.firstandcalvary.org/jobs>.



Contemporary Service Livestream

Can't make it in person? Join us online! Each Sunday at 9:45 a.m., we livestream our Contemporary Worship Service, allowing you to stay connected wherever you are. Click the link in the Weekly Update to watch the service live. Whether you're traveling, homebound, or just tuning in from afar, we're glad to worship with you!

[Click here to watch the 9:45 AM Contemporary Service](#)

Let's continue growing in faith—together, wherever we are.

SERVE

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Celebrate While We Wait

DECEMBER 6TH | 10 AM - 12 PM



The Children's Ministry team is hard at work on our annual family advent event, Celebrate While We Wait (December 6, 10 AM-12 PM). This is a wonderful time to help our children enjoy the anticipation of Jesus's birth, but it takes many hands to make it happen. If you would like to be a part of this special ministry to children and families, there are many possible ways for you to serve—even if you are not available on the day of the event. You can register to volunteer by clicking the button below or emailing a.davidson@firststandcalvary.org with any questions. We can't wait to welcome you to the team!

Register to Volunteer



You and your family are invited to join F&C in serving with Crosslines Community Outreach on Saturday, Dec 20th, at their Christmas Distribution from 8:30 am-12:30 pm. This event will be held at the Ozarks Fairgrounds Eplex. Children and families welcome. Our commitment goal: **40 volunteers**.

This is a family-friendly event, full of energy and impact. The day begins with a group training and orientation at different stations. Families receiving support go through a qualifying process for participation, and volunteers who serve them get to walk with them as they select toys and are given groceries they take home to make their holiday meal. Last Christmas, Don Everts, Jamie Swope, their families, and 33 First & Cal pals joined Crosslines' Christmas distribution, where over 400 volunteers helped families select new Christmas toys for children and provided food for thousands of neighbors.

First & Calvary helped found Crosslines Food Pantry and the Crosslines Holiday Distribution process. This experience is an amazing way to get to know the people being served and celebrate Advent and God's love by being Jesus' Christmas hands and feet.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Philip Herzog.

[Sign Up to Volunteer](#)

College Dinners

We are seeking people to bring parts of our meal for the Bible study and dinner we do for college students and young adults on Wednesday evenings. You can sign up to bring a main dish, a vegetable dish, a side dish, or a dessert for 10 people. Please click the button below to sign up or contact Pastor Jamie at j.swope@firststandcalvary.org.

[Sign Up](#)

Media Team Volunteers

We're looking for volunteers to join our Media Team for the 9:45 AM and 11:00 AM worship services!

If you have an interest in helping with audio, slides, livestream, or camera operation, we'd love to have you on the team. No experience needed—training is provided!

If you're interested, please email Sarah Orlandos, our Ministry Assistant, at s.orlandos@firststandcalvary.org.



Friday 10/31

12:00 pm – Women's Table Talk / Room 114

Saturday 11/1

9:00 am – Building and Grounds Outdoor Workday

Sunday 11/2

8:45 am – Service / Sanctuary

9:45 am – Sunday Morning Classes

9:45 am – Service / Multi-Purpose Room

11:00 am – Service / Sanctuary

Monday 11/3

5:00 pm – History Committee Meeting / History Room

6:00 pm – Artists Anonymous / Library

Tuesday 11/4

6:30 pm – Deacons Committee Meeting / Conference Room

6:30 pm – Men's Bible Study / Room 015

Wednesday 11/5

5:00 pm – College Bible Study & Dinner / Youth Lounge

6:00 pm – Adult Pickleball / Gym

6:15 pm – Bell Choir Rehearsal / Bell Choir Room

7:15 pm – Chancel Choir / Choir Room

Thursday 11/6

8:30 am – Binnie Clements Cinnamon Roll Baking / Kitchen

11:00 am – Prayer Meeting / Prayer Chapel

6:30 pm – Women's Bible Study / Room 020

Friday 11/7

12:00 pm – Women's Table Talk / Room 114

6:00 pm – First Friday Art Walk at F&C

To see the full church calendar, [visit our events page here](#) (the calendar is at the bottom).

The Weekly Update is sent out Friday mornings. To post events or messages, please complete [this Communications Request form](#) or contact Mary Charpentier at 417-862-5068 or at m.charpentier@firstandcalvary.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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