

# FIRST & CALVARY

a house of prayer for every generation

## Weekly Update November 7, 2025

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### **This Sunday's Sermon:**

#### **Talk about Your Calling**

**Rev. Don Everts**

**2 Timothy 4:1-8**

#### **Questions for Reflection & Discussions**

1. If a young preacher asked you for advice on preaching, what would you tell them?
2. What most stands out to you in Paul's charge to Timothy (verses 1-5)? What stands out in Paul's reflection on his own work (verses 6-8)?
3. Which area of wisdom do you want to reflect on more this week? (#1 Wisdom for how to be a student of the Word, #2 Wisdom for how to curate what you consume, #3 Wisdom for how to approach your various callings, #4 Wisdom for living out your various callings)

## 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.**

**Good Grief!** | Pastor Cooper will be leading a six-week journey toward finding joy in the midst of life's storms. Drawing on wisdom from trusted Christian counselors, pastors, and theologians who have walked through the "furnace of affliction"!, Pastor Cooper will help us discover how God brings hope and healing even in grief. **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.**

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The Christmas season is filled with meaningful opportunities to worship, serve, and celebrate together—and we don't want you to miss a moment of it!

Visit the Christmas page on our website to explore all the upcoming events, services, and special gatherings happening this season at First & Calvary.

You'll find details for concerts, Advent worship, outreach opportunities, and more.

Discover what's coming up at: [firstandcalvary.org/christmas](https://firstandcalvary.org/christmas)

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## Well of Life Immediate Needs

Our ministry partner Well of Life is in urgent need of donations. Last week alone, they served 70 families, and their shelves are now nearly empty. With the government shutdown and SNAP benefits temporarily on hold, many in our community are struggling to make ends meet.

If you're able to give, your support would make a real difference. Items especially needed include dry goods, refrigerated foods, and hygiene products.

Click the button below to view a full list of needed items and learn how to help.

Well of Life Needs

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## Parking Passes

If you visit the church during the week (outside of Sunday services), please stop by the office to pick up a parking pass. We've had an increase in unauthorized parking from nearby MSU students, and displaying a pass will ensure your vehicle is not towed while you're on campus.

You can pick up your pass from Mary in the church office during regular office hours. If you need to stop by on a Sunday, please contact Sarah Orlandos, our Ministry Assistant, to arrange a time to meet and pick one up.

**[s.orlandos@firstandcalvary.org](mailto:s.orlandos@firstandcalvary.org)**



FIRST & CALVARY

# FIRST FRIDAY ART WALK

NOV 7<sup>TH</sup> | 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](mailto:t.heckman@firstandcalvary.org).

FIRST &  
CALVARY

a house of prayer for every generation

Musical Offerings Series  
2025-2026 Season

November 9<sup>th</sup>  
3:00 PM

*North Atrium*



Director Dr. Andrew Campbell

## Central Springfield Community Choir

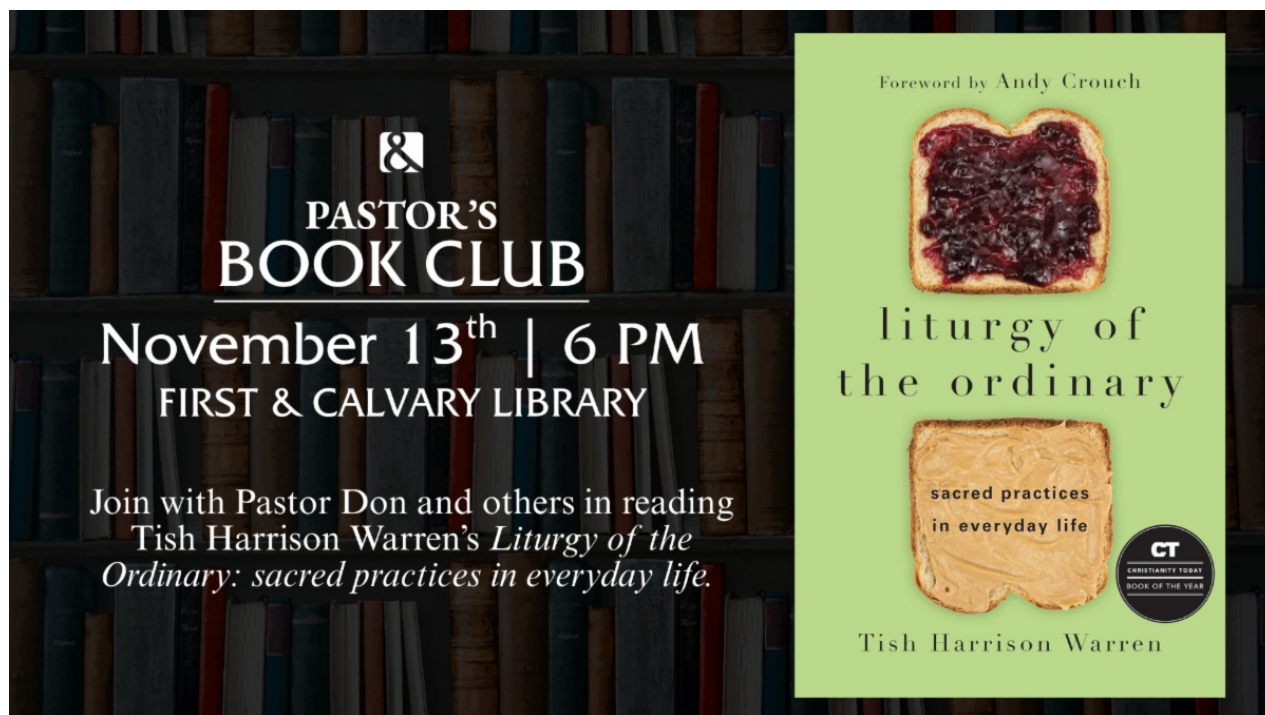
Join us on Sunday, November 9, at 3:00 p.m. in the North Atrium for the next performance in our Musical Offerings Concert Series.

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.centralspringfieldcommunitychoir.org](http://www.centralspringfieldcommunitychoir.org).

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

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The graphic features a background of a bookshelf filled with books. On the left, white text reads: "& PASTOR'S BOOK CLUB", "November 13<sup>th</sup> | 6 PM", "FIRST & CALVARY LIBRARY", and "Join with Pastor Don and others in reading Tish Harrison Warren's *Liturgy of the Ordinary: sacred practices in everyday life*." On the right is a book cover for "liturgy of the ordinary" by Tish Harrison Warren. The cover is light green and features two images of toast: one with jam and one with butter. Text on the cover includes "Foreword by Andy Crouch", "sacred practices in everyday life", and a circular badge that says "CT CHRISTIANITY TODAY BOOK OF THE YEAR".

Next week is our Fall Pastor's Book Club. Join Pastor Don and others for a time of discussion and reflection on Thursday, November 13 at 6:00 p.m. in the Library. All are welcome to attend and be part of the conversation.

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The graphic features a background image of a football stadium filled with spectators. In the center is a large maroon and white logo of a bear's head. Text on the right side reads: "\$10 Tickets!" and "Scholarship Options Available". Large bold text in the center reads: "MSU Bears Game & Tailgate", "November 15th | 11AM-1PM", "Game at 2PM", and "Register by November 12th".

Join us for food, fun, and community as we cheer on the Bears on November 15 for

the Homecoming game. We will tailgate at the church parking lot (or inside if the weather does not permit) from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Game is at 2 pm. Tickets are \$10, and MSU students attend for free with a valid student ID. Scholarships are available for other college students and young adults who may need assistance. The homecoming parade is at 9 am for anyone interested in attending.

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

[Register Here](#)



# *Celebrate While We Wait*

AN ADVENT EVENT FOR FAMILIES

DECEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup> | 10 AM - 12 PM



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](mailto:a.davidson@firstandcalvary.org) with any questions.

Register Here



FIRST & CALVARY

The 93rd Annual

## *Candlelight Musical Service*

on December 7th at 7:30pm in the Sanctuary

This time-honored tradition celebrates the beauty of the arts at First & Calvary through an intimate evening of worship, candlelight, and song. Featuring choirs, instrumentalists, and friends of the church, the Candlelight Musical Service weaves together Scripture, prayer, and a rich variety of musical styles. For nearly a century, this beloved service has invited our community to wonder at the story of Christ's birth. This event will take place on Sunday, December 7, at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary.

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## **Emmanuel Slavic Church: A Joyful Farewell**

Sunday, November 2nd, marked a new chapter for Emmanuel Slavic Church. After worshiping with us for several months, they have purchased their own building at East Sunshine and Route 125.

Their journey has been remarkable. Just a few weeks ago, they had \$18,000 in the bank—far short of the \$170,000 needed to close. But through prayer, persistence, and the generosity of other churches across the country, every dollar was provided. They closed on October 21st, earlier than expected.

Their faith and joy have been steady and contagious. Many of their members came to Springfield after enduring hardship in Ukraine, yet they carried peace and gratitude wherever they went. Their time with us was a quiet testimony to the goodness of God and a reminder of our mission: to labor alongside our Father as He draws people to Jesus and grows them as disciples.

We celebrate with them and give thanks for the part we were able to play in their story. May God bless Emmanuel Slavic Church as they continue to reach the Slavic community here in Springfield with the hope of Christ.

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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!

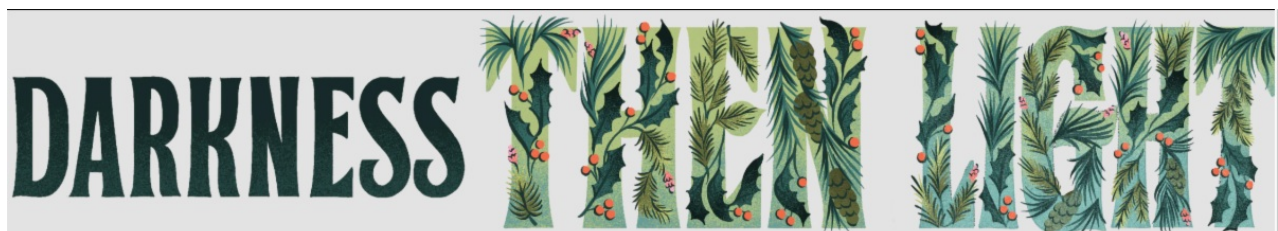
Delivered by local church partners, each shoebox provides an opportunity to share the Gospel with boys and girls in a clear, child-friendly way.

#### **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. Fill your box with thoughtful items. Suggested items:  
**[samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/what-goes-in-my-shoebox-suggestions](http://samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/what-goes-in-my-shoebox-suggestions)**.
3. 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.
4. No shipping donation needed. The Missions Committee will cover mailing costs.
5. Return your completed shoebox to the Samaritan’s Purse Christmas Child displays at First & Calvary by November 23rd.

We’ll handle the rest!

For more information, contact Catherine Clippard at **[ckclippard@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto: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

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## 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](#)

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## Operations & Administration Update

*From the Desk of Steve Young*



Last Saturday was another wonderful example of what can happen when our church family rolls up their sleeves and works together! The weather cooperated beautifully, there was laughter, and by the end of the morning, some major projects around the property were completed. Here's a quick look at what was accomplished. [Click here](#)

to read more.

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## 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>.

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## 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.

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# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

*Celebrate While We Wait*

DECEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup> | 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](mailto: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 at [philipeherzog@gmail.com](mailto:philipeherzog@gmail.com)

[Sign Up to Volunteer](#)

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## 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](mailto:j.swope@firststandcalvary.org).

[Sign Up](#)

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## 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](mailto:s.orlandos@firststandcalvary.org).

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### **Friday 11/7**

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

**6:00 pm** – First Friday Art Walk

### **Sunday 11/9**

**8:45 am** – Service / Sanctuary

**9:45 am** – Sunday Morning Classes

**9:45 am** – Service / Multi-Purpose Room

**11:00 am** – Service / Sanctuary

**3:00 pm** – Musical Offerings Concert / Atrium

### **Monday 11/10**

**5:00 pm** – Building and Grounds Committee Meeting / Conference Room

### **Tuesday 11/11**

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

### **Wednesday 11/12**

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

**6:00 pm** – Adult Pickleball / Gym

**6:00 pm** – Missions Committee Meeting / Conference Room

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

**7:15 pm** – Chancel Choir / Choir Room

### **Thursday 11/13**

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

**11:00 am** – Prayer Meeting / Prayer Chapel

### **Friday 11/14**

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

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

[form](#) or contact Mary Charpentier at 417-862-5068 or at [m.charpentier@firstandcalvary.org](mailto: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.

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## First & Calvary Presbyterian Church



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

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