FIRST & CALVARY Weekly Update November 13, 2026

a house of prayer for every generation

firstandcalvary.org. | blessings@firstandcalvary.org | firstandcalvary | firstandcalvary
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This Sunday's Sermon:

Ready for Addictive Temptations
Rev. Jamie Swope
1 Corinthians 6:12, 10:12-14, 10:23

Questions for Reflection & Discussion:

1. Discuss the difference between having personal freedom and being mastered by a habit.

2. The four covenant practices listed for resisting addictive temptations include: Fasting, Distancing, Confessing, and Practicing the Way of Escape**.** Which of these might be something you can put into practice this week?

3. What are ways that you could better support people in your life who have chemical or behavioral addictions?

Sunday & Weekday Classes

[View the Full List of Sunday & Weekday Classes]

Weekly Calendar

Friday 11/13
12:00 pm – Women's Table Talk | Room 026C

Sunday 11/15
8:45 am – Worship | Sanctuary
9:45 am – Worship | Sanctuary
9:45 am – Sunday Morning Classes
11:00 am – Worship | Sanctuary
3:00 pm – Musical Offerings Concert | Sanctuary

Monday 11/16
12:00 pm – Binnie Clements Guild Brown Bag Luncheon | Fellowship Hall

Tuesday 11/17
6:00 pm – Session | Conference Room
6:30 pm – Men's Bible Study | Room 26C

Wednesday 11/18
6:00 pm – Adult Pickleball | Gym
6:00 pm – Youth Night | 1984 Arcade
6:15 pm – Bell Choir Rehearsal | Bell Choir Room
7:15 pm – Chancel Choir | Choir Room

Thursday 11/19
8:00 am – Binnie Clements Baking Day | Fellowship Hall, Kitchen
11:00 am – Prayer Meeting | Prayer Room
6:30 pm – Prayer Ministry Hour | Sanctuary

Friday 11/20
12:00 pm – Women's Table Talk | Room 026C



Looking Ahead

November 15 | Musical Concert - Byung Sook Kong | 3 PM | Sanctuary
November 19 | Prayer Ministry Hour | 6:30 PM | Sanctuary
November 23 | Hanging of the Greens | 9 AM
November 29 | Single Service Sunday | 11 AM
December 4 | First Friday Art Walk | 6 PM - 8 PM
December 5 | Celebrate While We Wait | 10 AM
December 6 | 94th Annual Candlelight Musical Service | 6:30 PM
December 7 | Artists Anonymous | 6 PM | F&C Library
December 19 | Crosslines Christmas Toy Drive | 8 AM | Fairgrounds

To See All Our Events: **CLICK HERE**

If childcare would assist you in 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@firstandcalvary.org so we can adjust our staffing accordingly.



Holy Spirit Workshop | Canceled

Due to low registration, the Holy Spirit Workshop originally scheduled for Sunday, November 22, has been canceled.

We look forward to offering this workshop again during our next Alpha season! Thank you for your understanding, and we hope you'll join us when the workshop returns.



Help us prepare First & Calvary for the Christmas season! Join us on Monday, November 23, from 9:00 AM–12:00 PM as we decorate our church and fill our spaces with the beauty and joy of Christmas.

To sign up and help decorate, please call the church office at 417-862-5068.





Christmas is just around the corner! As we prepare to celebrate the Advent and Christmas season, we invite you to explore all that's happening at First & Calvary! Visit our website to discover our Advent Reading Plan, upcoming Christmas events, and opportunities to celebrate this special season together. (Click the graphic to learn more.)



Calling all makers! Rather than taking a deep dive into one artist's work, we'd love to bring together many artists and makers to showcase the breadth of creativity within our congregation! We're envisioning tables throughout the atrium walkways and catwalks, each featuring a selection of someone's work.

Have more than a table's worth of work to share? We can accommodate! Can't make it that evening? We'd still love to display your work.

Interested in participating? Sign up by clicking the button below.

Sign Up Here



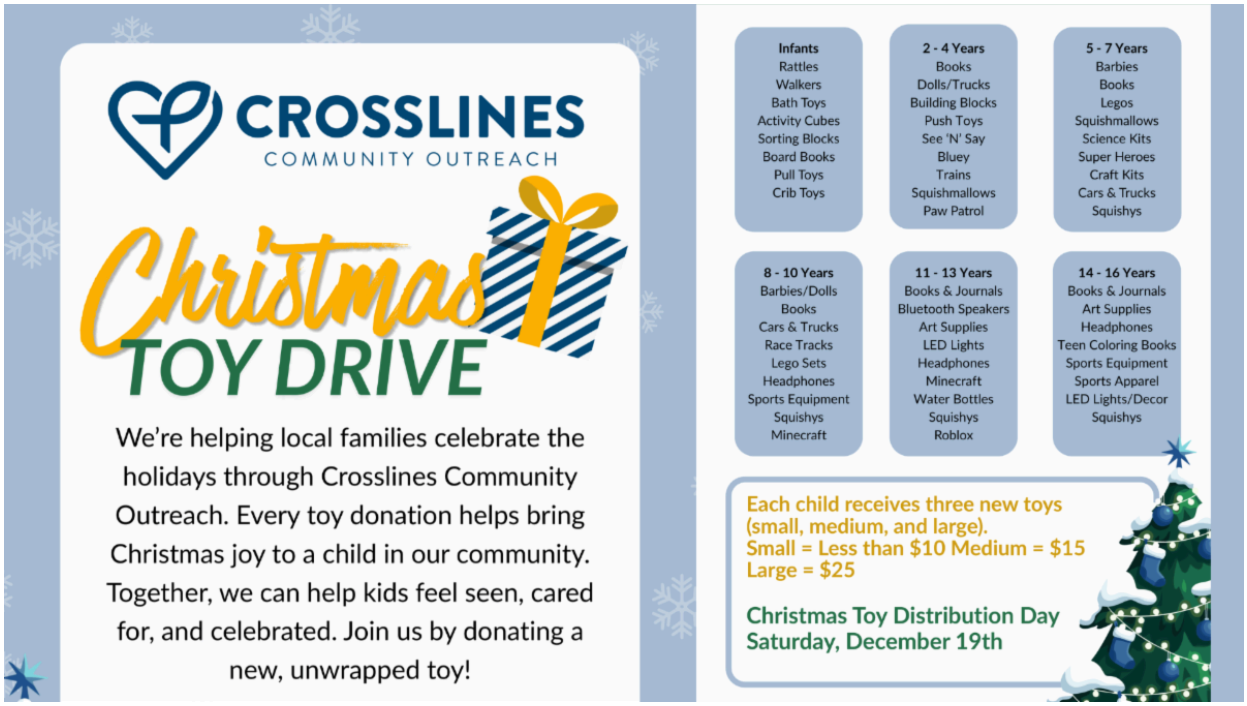
Please join us as we celebrate the beauty of the Advent season and the joy of waiting for the fulfillment of God's promises. There will be keepsake ornaments to create, cookies to decorate, and interactive ways to experience the Nativity story. This annual Advent event is best for families with children 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 29 (registration linked below), or email a.davidson@firstandcalvary.org with any questions.

RSVP HERE



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 Christmas, First & Calvary is partnering with Crosslines Community Outreach to help bring joy to children and families in our community!

Crosslines is collecting new, unwrapped toys for children of all ages, from infants through teenagers. Each child receives three gifts: one small (under $10), one medium (around $15), and one large (around $25). Donations of toys, books, games, art supplies, and other age-appropriate gifts are greatly appreciated.

Your generosity can help make Christmas a little brighter for families throughout the Ozarks!

Toys can be dropped off at the Crosslines Resource Center, 3055 E. Division St. Springfield, MO 65802.

Serve with Crosslines: Christmas Distribution Day

The Missions Committee also invites you to join First & Calvary in serving at Crosslines' Christmas Distribution on Saturday, December 19, from 8:00 AM–12:30 PM at the Ozarks Fairgrounds E-Plex.

This family-friendly volunteer opportunity begins with a brief training before volunteers accompany families as they select Christmas gifts and receive groceries for a holiday meal.

First & Calvary helped establish Crosslines and its Holiday Distribution, making this a particularly meaningful opportunity to celebrate Advent by serving our neighbors and sharing Christ's love in tangible ways.

The deadline to sign up is Friday, December 11. Use the button below to register! Questions? Contact Philip Herzog at **philipeherzog@gmail.com**.

Volunteer Sign Up



Kitchen Closure | November 20-29

Please note that the First & Calvary kitchen will be closed November 20–29 while repairs are made to the grease trap. The kitchen will be unavailable for use during this time. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we complete these necessary repairs!



If you have a child in 4th-8th grade, consider this special opportunity for your child to serve as an Acolyte during Advent. Acolytes help open the worship service by lighting the altar candles, and there is a long history of young disciples leading worship in this way. All children who serve as Acolytes are required to attend an orientation with a parent or guardian on November 22nd. If you're interested in this service opportunity, register for orientation using the button below.

Register Here



Reflections on a Tech Fast: Listen Now!

Fasting is an ancient Christian practice that helps us focus our attention and prayers. But what happens when we fast from technology? In this special episode of the First & Calvary Podcast, Pastor Don shares his reflections from a two-week tech fast.

SPOTIFY LINK HERE



In observance of Veterans Day on November 11, the Congregational Life Committee will present a special display honoring the veterans of First & Calvary.

The display will feature information about veterans within our congregation, along with a Missing Man Table, a meaningful tribute to those who are missing, fallen, or have not returned home from military service.

We invite you to visit the display in the South Atrium from November 8–15 to learn more about our veterans and reflect on the sacrifices they have made. We also encourage you to join the Congregational Life Committee in personally thanking these men and women for their service when you see them.

May we take this opportunity to remember, honor, and express our gratitude to those who have served our country.



Help share the joy of Christmas and the Good News of Jesus Christ with children in need around the world through Operation Christmas Child!

Each shoebox, filled with toys, school supplies, and personal care items, becomes a tangible expression of God's love. For many children, it will be the very first gift they've ever received!

Through local church partners, these gifts also provide opportunities to share the Gospel with children and their families.
How to Participate:

1. Pick Up a Shoebox: Beginning Sunday, October 25, shoeboxes and packing lists will be available at the Welcome Center in the South Atrium.
2. Fill Your Shoebox: Use the packing list to fill your box with thoughtful gifts, including toys, school supplies, and personal care items. **View suggested items here.**
3. No Labels Needed: You do not need to select a gender or age range or attach a mailing label this year. At the processing center in Dallas, volunteers will inspect each shoebox, remove any items that cannot be shipped (such as liquids), add items if needed, and label each box for a boy or girl.
4. Pray for the Recipient: Pray for the child who will receive your gift, their family, the local church delivering it, and their community.
5. Shipping Is Covered: The Missions Committee will cover all shipping costs. No additional donation is needed.
6. Return Your Shoebox: Bring your completed shoebox back to First & Calvary by Sunday, November 22.

We'll take care of the rest!

See the Impact! Watch the **2026 Operation Christmas Child video** to learn more about how these simple gifts are sharing God's love with children around the world.

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



From the Desk of Steve Young: 11/13/26

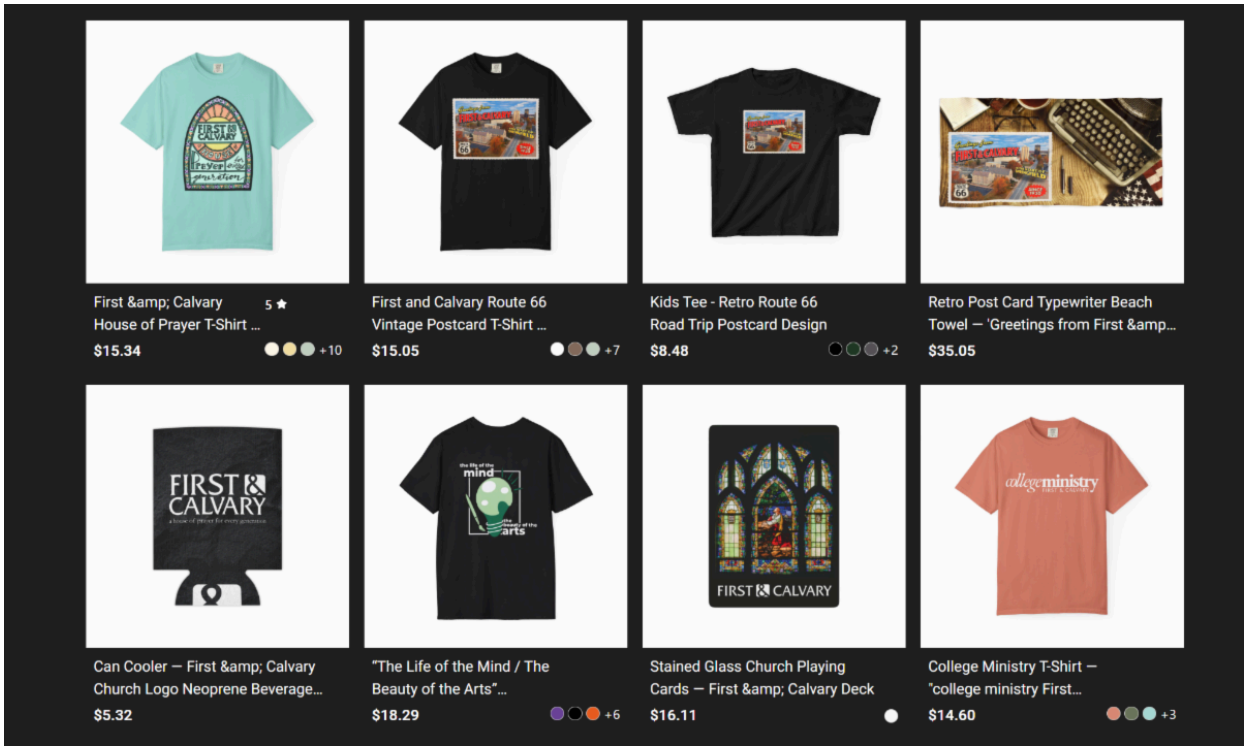
Here is the next bit of news to share with you concerning the status of 820 E Cherry Street...**(CLICK HERE TO READ MORE.)**

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. You can pick up invite cards near the sanctuary entrances.

Share Here!

F&C Gear Store



Check out the 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

Created & Creative

See the digital journal, and keep up with performances, exhibitions, publications, concerts, and other creative projects by people at First & Calvary. **[CLICK HERE]**



Photography & Videography Team

Help Capture the Life of First & Calvary!

Do you enjoy taking photos or creating videos? We're looking for volunteers to help capture and share the life of First & Calvary through photography and video!

From worship services and special events to everyday moments of fellowship and ministry, your creativity can help us tell the stories of what God is doing in and

through our church.

You don't need professional equipment or experience to get involved! We have cameras available, and even a smartphone can be a great tool for capturing meaningful moments.

Whether you're an experienced photographer, enjoy making videos, or simply have an interest in learning, we'd love to have you join our Photography & Video Team! Interested in serving? Click the button below!

Sign Up Here



The Children's Ministry team is hard at work on our annual family Advent event, Celebrate While We Wait (December 5, 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 or email **a.davidson@firstandcalvary.org** with any questions. We can't wait to welcome you to the team!

Register Here

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.firstandcalvary.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@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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