





FIRST & CALVARY

a house of prayer for every generation

Weekly Update April 17, 2026

 firststandcalvary.org |  blessings@firststandcalvary.org |  [firststandcalvary](https://www.facebook.com/firststandcalvary) |  [firststandcalvary](https://www.instagram.com/firststandcalvary)
820 E. Cherry St. Springfield, MO 65806 | (417)862-5068



This Sunday's Sermon:

Hidden Leaven
Rev. Don Everts
Matthew 13:33

Questions for Reflection & Discussions:

1. What are the similarities and differences between the parable of the sown mustard seed (Mt. 13:31-32) and the parable of the hidden leaven (Mt. 13:33)?
2. How have you seen Jesus change people (including yourself) over time? How have you seen Christians (including yourself) change the world?
3. What do you find most encouraging and most challenging about this parable?

April 19, 26, & May 3 | Alpha LIVE

- 6 PM
- [RSVP HERE](#)

April 26 | Graduation Celebration

- More Info Coming Soon
- Contact:
p.ragon@firststandcalvary.org

May 4 | Artists Anonymous

- 6 - 8 PM
- F&C Library

May 17 | Next Steps Lunch

- 12:30 - 2 PM
- [REGISTER HERE](#)

May 9 | Building & Grounds Work Day

- 9 AM - 12 PM

May 31-June 3 | Serve City

- 6th-12th Grade
- [REGISTER HERE](#)

July 6-10 | Faith & the Arts Academy

- [Learn More Here](#)
- [Register Here](#)

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.



Alpha

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 special 3-week Alpha series at First and 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.

The Topics:

- April 19: Is There More to Life than This?
- April 26: Who is Jesus?
- May 3: Why did Jesus Die?

We'll start with a free dinner at 6:00 PM (childcare opens at 5:45 PM for those who have registered for that in advance) and wrap up at about 7:30 PM.

It's been a couple of years since we hosted Alpha at our church, and so we are excited to bring this back. If you have never attended an 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.

[**Sign up & Learn More about Alpha Here!**](#)

Musical Offerings Series

Join the Missouri Choral Artists on April 19 at 4:00 PM in the North Atrium for their season finale concert, *This Place*. This immersive evening of powerful choral music explores connection, reflection, and the shared spaces that bring us together.

Under the guest direction of Dr. Marques Jerrell Ruff, the program journeys from moments of quiet contemplation to soaring expressions of hope and joy. Featuring

music that spans centuries, cultures, and traditions, This Place promises a meaningful and moving concert experience.

We are so excited to invite you to the Faith & the Arts Academy. This isn't just a camp—it's a week where gospel seeds are planted through the beauty of the arts for children (ages 8-12).

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!!! We are already at 60% capacity, so register soon if you haven't!

This year, we have an incredible lineup of 7 specialized tracks!

2026 Art Tracks include:

Mixed Media: Painting and printmaking wooden tile crosses.

Acrylic Painting: Creating a vibrant "Tree of Life" on canvas.

Picture Books: Writing and illustrating a complete original story.

Musical Theatre: Performing an ensemble number with choreography.

Praise Dance: Exploring worship through liturgical movement.

Drumming: Percussion and ensemble skills for a Friday performance.

When: July 6-10 | 9:00 AM – 12:15 PM

Cost: \$50 per child (includes a t-shirt and materials). Scholarships are available by need on a limited basis.

Ready to create? Register today!

[Register Here](#)



Building & Grounds Work Day

Hey First & Calvary friends, the Building and Grounds Committee is looking for volunteers to help with outside cleanup on May 9th from 9 AM to 12 PM. We will be raking leaves and picking up tree limbs for all of our grassy areas. Please bring some work gloves and rakes for this endeavor. Your help is needed and greatly appreciated!

Online Directory

Those who signed up for the directory by completing the directory form should have received an email from our church management system to create their account. If you need assistance, please contact the office at [blessings@firststandcalvary.org](mailto: blessings@firststandcalvary.org). If you would like access to the online directory, please complete the [directory form here](#). Printed copies of the directory will soon be available during office hours; we will announce that when they are ready.

Passing of Mary Lou Stufflebam

First & Calvary wishes to extend its sympathies to the family and friends of Mary Lou Stufflebam, who passed on March 31, 2026. Mary Lou was a long-time member of F&C. Services are under the care of Gorman-Scharpf Funeral Home. To read her obituary, [click here](#).

It's Graduation Season!

If you are graduating from college or have a child graduating from high school this year, we want to celebrate you/them on April 26th! Plans are still being finalized, but please reach out to Paul (p.ragon@firststandcalvary.org) for more info.

We are searching for our next Associate Director of Contemporary Worship & Music! If someone comes to mind who may be gifted for this kind of ministry, we would be grateful for your recommendations. We are also grateful for your prayers in this process. <https://www.firststandcalvary.org/jobs>

Well of Life

Items needed:

Items needed by WELL OF LIFE - Center City Christian Outreach

DRY GOODS

Item	WK Inv Level
GREEN BEANS	80
CORN	80
PEAS	48
CARROTS	48
MIXED VEGETABLES	48
CANNED TOMATOES	60
TUNA	120
DRY BEANS	80
CANNED BEANS	60
FRUIT	160
PEANUT BUTTER	80
JELLY	80
TOMATO/Vegetable SOUP	48
CHICKEN NOODLE/Rice SOUP	80
KETCHUP	10
MUSTARD	10
MACARONI & CHEESE	160
RICE	80
PASTA	80
PASTA SAUCE	80
HOT CEREAL - boxes or cannister	40
COLD CEREAL	80
RAISINS - Individual box	40
CRACKERS - Individual sleeve	80
Candy	
Juice box - 1	

PERSONAL HYGIENE

Item	WK Inv Level
TOILET PAPER	200
BAR SOAP	100
LAUNDRY SOAP	100
TOOTHBRUSH	100
TOOTHPASTE	100
DEODORANT	100
SHAMPOO	100
DISH SOAP	100
Can Opener	6

Classes

[CLICK HERE](#) to see a list of current Sunday and Weekday classes.



Serve City is an amazing opportunity for our youth to serve Springfield and the greater community by living out our Church's mission to labor alongside our Father. We will serve the community by helping local organizations so that they can focus on and carry out their mission. This year, Serve City will be an overnight experience for our students. Serve City is open to incoming 6th graders through graduating Seniors. Reach out to Paul (p.ragon@firstandcalvary.org) for more info, to sign your student up by clicking [here](#), or if you are an adult who is interested in helping with this experience!

We are seeking volunteers for our upcoming **Faith & the Arts Academy**, happening July 6–10 from 9:00 am to 12:15 pm. This outreach program serves children ages 8–12, and we have a variety of ways for you to get involved:

- **Art Faculty & Assistants:** Lead or support a specific artistic track.
- **Troupe Leaders:** Connect with the same small group of children all week.
- **Support Squad:** Help with check-in, snacks, or games.
- **Behind the Scenes:** Assist with preparation if you aren't available during the week.

Sign-Up 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.firststandcalvary.org/serve.



Friday 4/17

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

6:30 pm – Trivia Night | Fellowship Hall

Sunday 4/19

8:45 am – Worship | Sanctuary

9:45 am – Sunday Morning Classes

9:45 am – Worship | MPR

11:00 am – Worship | Sanctuary

4:00 pm – Musical Offerings Concert | North Atrium

6:00 pm – Alpha | Fellowship Hall

Tuesday 4/21

6:30 pm - Men's Bible Study | Room 015

Wednesday 4/22

6:00 pm – Adult Pickleball | Gym

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

7:15 pm – Chancel Choir | Choir Room

Thursday 4/23

11:00 am – Prayer Meeting | Prayer Room

Friday 4/24

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).

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

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!