



“THE VISITOR”
Davis Memorial Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

January
2026

Annual Meeting



The annual Meeting of the Elders, Diaconate and Associate Diaconate will be held at the end of the potluck on Sunday, January 4 in the fellowship hall. All information such as schedules and duties will be handed out along with any questions that may need to be answered.



Family Game Night

We will have a Family Game Night again this year! It will be held on New Year's Eve, Wednesday, December 31st at 6:00 p.m. You are invited to bring a dish to share. Any & all are welcome. See you there!!!



Minister's Column

Friends, Some of you need to move from being believers into being followers. Being a follower of Jesus is an entirely different thing than just being a believer.

The Bible tells us in James 2:19 that even the demons believe, but we must go beyond believing into following.

There are different stories in the bible where Jesus would say, "Come and follow me."

We can read about these encounters, such as in Luke 9:57-62, where prospective followers came up with various excuses: One person wanted to "test drive" his oxen first (a common misinterpretation of a different parable, but fitting the theme of prioritizing worldly concerns).

Others needed to go back and say goodbye to their folks.

"Can I go do this and do that first?"

For Jesus, the excuses were never anything more than that. He kept moving forward, while people found reasons not to follow Him.

Jesus even addressed the excuse of disciples pointing to other disciples and comparing themselves. We see this in John 21:21-22, where Jesus responds, "What about him? What if he kind of..." Jesus looks and says, "Forget about him. You follow me."

The biggest difference between believers and followers is sacrifice.

The disciples left their nets and followed Jesus, as described in Matthew 4:18-22.

(Continued)

Paul counted his life as already lost for Christ's sake in Philippians 3:7-8.

They were followers who were willing to give their all. They were willing to sacrifice. They weren't just believers, sitting on their hands; they made the sacrifice to follow Jesus.

Are you willing to give your all today, or are you just a believer?

Lord Jesus, I'm so sorry for the times that I just live my life as a believer. I want to grow beyond that. I want to be a follower. My life is Yours! Please come and fill me so that I have the courage to follow You wherever You lead me. Amen.

—Dennis



Taylorville Care & & Taylorville Estates

On Sunday, January 25th, Davis Memorial will lead the worship service at Taylorville Care at 2:30 p.m. and Taylorville Estates at 3:00 p.m. We would love to have more volunteers to help out with the brief service or just to be there for moral support. We are on a schedule with several other churches in the area to provide this weekly service.



Women in Recovery



There is a Women in Recovery group that meets on Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m. here at the church. If you feel like you could benefit from being with others that may be facing the same challenges, please come and join us. If you have any questions, please call Kandi Smith at 217-825-8079.

Sympathy

We offer our deepest sympathy to the Pastor Dennis & Chris Metsker after the passing of their Grandson, Dixon on December 2.



Don't Sit In My Pew

by Tim & Mary Alice Lovelace

Well I went camping just a while back with a couple of high school friends.

And on Sunday morning I wanted to find a church to worship in.

So I packed my truck and headed out, it was there in a cloud of dust.

It was the Ebeneezer Fellowship Non-Denomination Bapti Costal Free Will Church.

When I walked in they were ready to start, and that little church was packed.

There was only one seat in the very front row even though I really wanted the back.

So I walked right in and I took a seat, a hush fell over the place.

And this sweet little gray haired woman walked up and said boy I got something to say.

Folks around here call me Granny, I'm as sweet as I can be.

Well I volunteer for everything they couldn't make it without me.

I teach Sunday School, I sew and bake, why I'm even in charge of the Christmas play!

And there's only one thing I ask in return, a lesson you should learn.

I've been sittin' right here for at least 40 years, and that's the way it's gonna be.

I can tell that you are new around here so you'd better get one thing clear.

If you know what's good for you, don't sit in my pew.

Well I walked to the back of the church and I was feeling just about as tall as a flea.

One of those Deacons walked up and handed me a brown ice cold metal folding chair.

So I sat out there and I listened to the choir as they sang "I shall not be moved".

And then the preacher looked at me and he said 'now we want our special guest to stay when the service is over for some of Granny's Red Velvet

Cake. And that's what I did.

But just about the time they were saying the blessing, I noticed I didn't have a fork.

Well, I figured I'd caused enough commotion for one day. So I thought I'm gonna ease on over there to the kitchen and find the utensil drawer and help myself. And that's what I did..

But just about the time I found that utensil drawer, guess who spun me around? Yep, ole Granny!

Stay out of my kitchen, you know it belongs to me.

I been cookin' in here for at least 40 years, and that's the way it's gonna be.

So if you need a fork or if you need a spoon, the next time stay in the other room.

Boy you'd better pay attention.

Stay out of my kitchen!

And then she reached up, kissed me on the cheek and said "you know,

Granny hopes you'll come back next week. But if you do, don't get in my parking space, don't sing so loud, wear a coat and tie, come early for Sunday School, stay out of my kitchen, but most of all...

I can tell that you are new around here so you'd better get one thing clear.

If you know what's good for you, stay out of my pew.

And remember, Granny loves you!

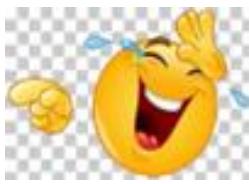
Celebrate Recovery

5:30-6:30 p.m.—Meal
6:30-7:30 p.m.—Large Group
7:30-8:30 p.m.—Small Group

Celebrate Recovery is a faith-based 12 step program designed to help anyone with:
Hurts Hang-ups Habits

Held at:
Davis Memorial Christian Church
1500 W. Franklin, Taylorville

Children's Prayers to God



Dear God, maybe Cain and Abel would not kill each other so much if they each had their own rooms. It works out Ok with me and my brother.

—Larry

Thought for the Day

It's the little things in life that determine the big things.



J-Walkers: Walking with Jesus



J-Walkers (an afterschool program) is being held on

Thursdays at First United Methodist Church (200 S. Walnut) this year. Each week students will be transported from North School & Memorial School. The goal of this program is to introduce children to Jesus, letting them know how much they are loved. The times are from right after school until 5:00 p.m.



Serving Sunday

January 4, 2026

Elder — Randy Smith, Tracie Boehme
Diaconate — Team 1

Serving Sunday

January 11, 2026

Elder — Randy Smith, Tracie Boehme
Diaconate — Team 2

Serving Sunday

January 18, 2026

Elder — Randy Smith, Tracie Boehme
Diaconate — Team 3

Serving Sunday

January 25, 2026

Elder — Randy Smith, Tracie Boehme
Diaconate — Team 4

Serving Sunday

February 1, 2026

Elder —
Diaconate — Team 1

Serving Sunday

February 8, 2026

Elder —
Diaconate — Team 2

Women in Recovery

There is a Women in Recovery group that meets on Monday evenings at 5:00 p.m. here at the church. If you feel like you could benefit from being with others that may be facing the same challenges, please come and join us. If you have any questions, please call Kandi Smith at 217-825-8079.



Men's 12-Step Program



We have a Men's 12-Step Program that meets on Sunday afternoons at 1:30 p.m. If you are interested, call Dennis Metsker (217-254-5027).

Office Hours

Monday—Closed

Tuesday—8:00 a.m. to noon
& 1-3:30 p.m.

Wednesday—8:00 a.m. to noon
& 1-3:30 p.m.

Thursday—8:00 a.m. to noon
& 1-3:30 p.m.

Friday—Closed

Choir Practice

Our Choir meets every Wednesday for practice and provides our special music for 2 out of the 4 Sunday's each month. Anyone who loves music is invited to come at 6:30 p.m. We hope to see you there!!!



Nursery



We have a nursery available during our Sunday church services (for 5 year olds and under). All other children and youth are invited to attend our Children's Church or must remain with their parents.

Men's Breakfast

We cordially invite you to the next "Men's Breakfast" which will be held on Saturday, January 3rd from 8:00-9:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Come join us for some fine food and fellowship. Sons and friends are always welcome.



Sincerely, Jonathan &
Disciples Men



Janet Montgomery	January 1
Dorris Schroyer	January 5
Carmelo Montes	January 5
Cara Montgomery	January 9
Grant Allen	January 13
Roy Conrad	January 16
Kim Cornwell	January 17
Alice Newlin	January 18
Kandi Smith	January 24
Shelley Carlen	January 25
Barb Miller	January 25
Kevin Boehme	January 31



Corey & Nancy Hafliger	January 16
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First Sunday Potluck



Our next Potluck will be on Sunday, January 4th right after our worship service.

We will be serving breakfast at this one. Everyone is invited to stay and eat with us. The main dish and drinks will be provided, but you are asked to bring a side dish. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

CWF Luncheon

CWF met at Angelo's on Thursday, December 18



with 12 members present. We enjoyed some very yummy sweets that were shared by several of the ladies and a candle made by Nancy Honn. Our next meeting will be January 15 at 11:30 a.m. at Angelo's (weather permitting).

And the winners are....Bob Shake won the diamond paint picture of the Nativity and Dennis Metsker won the Christmas picture. CWF made a little over \$400 on these pictures. Thanks are extended to Linda Binger for donating the pictures and selling tickets, Kandi Smith for selling tickets every Sunday and to all who bought tickets.

We wish you a happy, healthy and prosperous new year.



Jaxton Oliver, Malakai
Wilson, Peggy Cisco,
Bethany Beeson, Dylan
Beeson, Nora Audry,
Penny Moomey, Brad Mansfield,
Shelby Cook, Max Wayman, Chris
Ferrill, Nicholas Shaw, Celine, Sharyl
Craggs, Lynn Higgason, Gale
Christopher, Roy & Joelynda Conrad,
Karen Lowis, Dani Moore (Jennifer
Tracey's cousin), Darlene Wilson,
Brenda Finfrock, Donna Depolo,
Steve & Connie Damery, Sharon
Manning, Earlene Fisher



Serving our Country

Alex Dees (USMC), Spc. Rodney
Gatton, Sgt. Jonathan Grawe,
Chelsea Boehme (Illinois), Benjamin
Jones (USMC), Nicholas Jones
(California), Lance Alaria, Jaden
Graham, Ricky Martinez, Skylar
Stafford (USMC California), Tyler
Ungerer Stephens, Dalton Thomas,
Michael Fay



Offering for 11/23/25

Attendance: 105
General Fund: \$1368
Thanksgiving: \$10

Offering for 11/30/25

Attendance: 40
General Fund: \$20640

Offering for 12/7/25

Attendance: 62
General Fund: \$4179

Offering for 12/14/25

Attendance: 44
General Fund: \$3203.26

Offering for 12/21/25

Attendance: 91
General Fund: \$2103
Celebrate Recovery: \$150



Church Hours:
Tues.-Thurs. 8:00a.m. till 3:30p.m.
(12:00-1:00p.m. lunch)
Monday & Friday Closed
If you have special needs,
please call ahead.

Mission Statement:
Our Mission is to live as Disciples and lead others to Jesus Christ.

Vision Statement:
Our Vision is to make known the love of God.

Dennis Metsker, Minister
Rev. Jim Whitaker, Minister Emeritus
Worship is 10:15 a.m. each Sunday.
Editor of the "Visitor" Sheryl Nagle
Our church phone is (217) 824-8181. All guests are welcome!

Davis Memorial Christian Church
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Taylorville, IL 62568
Phone: (217) 824-8181
Church Office Email: dmccs@ctitech.com