

ANNUAL REPORT 2025



First Church
of Christ

GOD HAS BEEN SO FAITHFUL

2025 was an incredible year in the life of First Church. Through every challenge and every moment of celebration, God has continued to show His faithfulness.

This past year, we saw people take next steps in faith, generosity, and service like never before. We launched The Way of Jesus initiative, celebrated record baptisms across our campuses, and served our community in powerful ways.

As we look ahead to 2026, our prayer is that we continue to be a church that loves God deeply, loves people genuinely, and serves the world boldly.

Darin Mirante

Lead Pastor

OUR MISSION & VISION

MISSION

To lead people to **KNOW**, **WORSHIP**
and **SERVE** Jesus Christ.

VISION

Our Vision is to become a Disciple-Making church through Relational Engagement (small groups) and Leadership Development (discipling/mentoring relationships).

CORE VALUES

Grace
Growth
Connection
Care
Prayer



2025 BY THE NUMBERS

123

total baptisms

71

next gen baptisms

2,026

average attendance

1,153

people in groups

141

new members

472

first time guests

\$4,289,754

given

\$1,000,000+

given to local & global missions
through FC and our congregation

BEHIND EVERY NUMBER IS A STORY

JAMES'S STORY

James stepped into serving at Summer VBS at Campbell County without much experience in kids ministry, but God used it to shape him in unexpected ways. Watching the children engage in worship and Bible lessons was striking. "They were joyful, open, and completely uninhibited," James shared. "They simply received what was being taught with trust and excitement."

That experience brought Matthew 11:25 to mind, reminding him that God is not looking for sophistication, but for "hearts that are humble, receptive, and willing to receive."



Through this simple step of obedience, James discovered what he calls "a quiet, spiritual joy" on the other side of serving, a reminder that God has prepared good works for us to walk in, and joy to meet us there.



ALLEE & ANA'S STORY

Allee and Ana are graduating high school seniors who serve together as K and 1st grade leaders in fclKids Elementary at the Burlington Campus. They have been faithfully serving for years, quietly showing up each week with consistency, care, and a genuine love for the kids in their class.

Though they would never seek the spotlight, their impact is often seen behind the scenes through the meaningful relationships they build each week.

Ana shared that serving has shaped her in unexpected ways. "I believe through serving God has taught me to enjoy the small things," she said. "Kids find joy in little things, and everything is a story. Being excited about small things has made me happier."

Their joy in serving is contagious, and their faithfulness is a powerful reminder that God is raising up young leaders who are making a real difference through simple presence, commitment, and love.

UNION CONSTRUCTION

2025 marked a pivotal year in the story of our future Union Campus. What began as vision and prayer moved steadily into action, as each month brought tangible progress toward a space that will serve families, neighbors, and generations to come.

In July, we celebrated a significant milestone with a groundbreaking ceremony, marking the official start of the project. Excavation followed in August as the site began to take physical shape.



Groundbreaking (July 2025)

By October, building plans were approved by Boone County, and November brought several critical steps, including the signing of the sales contract on our current building and the closing of the construction loan.

As the year came to a close, work continued with the final grading of the building footprint and future soccer field in December, followed by the start of footer construction. Momentum continued into the new year with the closing of the out lot in front of the current campus, helping further support the Union Campus project.



Aerial view of building footprint (January 2026)

Each milestone represents more than construction progress. It reflects the generosity, prayers, and shared commitment of our church family to create a place where people can encounter Jesus, find community, and take their next step of faith. Our best days truly are ahead.

\$4,258,321

given to Together Initiative

8,100

new households projected
in the next 10 years

121

Union Campus first time guests in 2025

1/2027

projected completion

2026

BEING THE CHURCH

As we look ahead to 2026, we sense God calling First Church to something both timeless and timely—to be the Church in a way that is *real*, *visible*, and *transformative* in the world around us.

For generations, people have talked about going to church. But the movement Jesus started was never meant to be confined to buildings, programs, or a single hour on Sundays. It's a living community of people who carry His presence into everyday spaces—homes, schools, workplaces, and neighborhoods. This is what it means to be the Church.

Throughout the coming year, we'll focus on what that looks like in practice. We'll revisit the foundational truths that shape our identity and call us into mission: the authority of Scripture, the purpose of the Church, the power of community, and the joy of living generously. We'll learn again what it means to be formed by the Word, united in love, and sent out for the sake of others.

Our focus for 2026, **Being the Church**, is about moving from observation to participation, from attending to embodying. It's about rediscovering the Church not as a place we go, but as a people we are becoming. And as we live this out together, we believe we'll see God's movement grow stronger, deeper, and wider across our campuses and communities.

2026 will be a year to remember not for how much we do, but for how faithfully we live as the Church Jesus envisioned—a *people rooted in truth, transformed by grace, and mobilized for love*.





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