

# FAITH AND VALUES

## Altamont Area Churches

### Baptist

**First Baptist Church:** Pastor Bill Weaver, 102 1st Baptist Dr, Office 618-483-3250. Sunday Events: Worship at 9:30am with Bible Study Following at 10:45am. See us at Google Maps or like us on our Facebook page at Altamont First Baptist Church to see our other events and times. Feel free to join us for any events.  
**Blue Point Baptist Church:** Pastor Brad Shaw, 217-663-3811, Moccasin Rd. at Blue Point Trail. Sunday School 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

### Catholic

**St. Clare Catholic Church:** Rev. Joseph Havrilka, KCHS, 216 N. Ninth St. Altamont, 618-483-5346, Parish Liturgies: Sat. 5:30 p.m. at St. Marys in St. Elmo, Sun. 8 a.m. at St. Anne and 10 a.m. at St. Clare, Mon. No Mass Offered, Tues. 5:30p.m. at St. Mary in St. Elmo, Wed. 9:30 a.m. at LCC Chapel, Thurs. 8 a.m. at St. Anne in Edgewood, Fri. 8 a.m. at St. Clare in Altamont(except First Fridays - 4:15 p.m. Holy Hour, Reconciliation followed by Mass at 5:30 p.m.). PSR Classes for K-12 from all three parishes on Wed. eve at St. Clare, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

### Christian

**Altamont Christian Church:** Pastor Jody Kitts, Office 483-6018, Sunday School, 9:00 a.m. and Worship at 10 a.m., A.W.A.K.E. Children's Church 10 a.m., Wednesday 5:30 p.m. meal, Bible Study 6:15 p.m.  
**Mason Christian Church:** Pastor Mark White, 624 N. Rt. 37 P.O. Box 116 Mason. Office:618-238-4724, Sun. Fellowship, 9 a.m., Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:15 a.m., Wed. Youth Group Bible Study 7 p.m. www.masonchristianchurch.org

### Lutheran

**St. Paul ELCA:** Interim Pastor Brian Wachendorf, 483-5249, 2293 E. Highway 40, Worship Service 8:30 a.m., Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. Find us on Facebook: St Paul ELCA-Altamont.IL; YouTube: St. Paul ELCA-Altamont, Illinois; and on our website at: www.stpaulcelcaaltamontil.com  
**Immanuel Lutheran Church:** Rev. Scott Niermann, 483-6395 203 E. Division St., www.immanuelaltamont.org, Saturday Worship 6 p.m., Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 11 a.m., Sunday School and Bible Class 9:45 a.m.  
**Zion Lutheran Church:** Pastor Marcus Manley, 5534 E. 600th Ave., Altamont, 483-5571, Sunday School 9:15 a.m., Worship Service 8:00 a.m.  
**Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church:** Marcus Manley, Pastor: 618-483-6756, 6351 N. 200th Street, Altamont, Divine Service 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45-11:30 a.m.  
**St. Paul (Blue Point) Lutheran Church:** Rev. David Speers, Pastor, Sunday School 8:30 a.m.; Church Service 9:30 a.m., 14026 N. 500th St., Altamont, 618-483-6993

### Methodist

**First United Methodist of Altamont:** Pastor Tonna Percival, 101 West Monroe Ave, Altamont , 618-483-6036. Sunday Worship at 9 a.m.; Sunday School at 10:30 a.m. **Methodist Circuit:** Pastor Edward Wojnar, 483-9849, First and Third Sundays: Funkhouser 10:45 a.m. Second and Fourth Sunday: Salem 11 a.m. **First United Methodist of St. Elmo:** 215 N. Walnut Street, St. Elmo, 829-3364, Sunday: Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:35 a.m.

### Non-Denominational or Other

**LCC Chapel Worship:** 702 West Cumberland Road, Altamont 62411, (618) 483-6136, 2nd Sunday - 9:30 a.m. Immanuel's Christ Care; Every Sunday- 11 a.m. Catholic Communion; Sunday - 2:30 p.m. Church Service; Monday - 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion ELCA, Tuesday, 9:30 a.m.; Catholic Mass; Wednesday, 10:30 a.m. Bible Study; Second Wednesday, 2 p.m.

## St. Elmo and Brownstown Area Churches

### Baptist

**First Baptist Church of Brownstown:** Olen Evans 503 East Oak, P.O. Box 146, Brownstown, 427-3280 Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Morning Worship 10:30 a.m., Evening Worship 6 p.m., Prayer Meeting and Bible Study Wednesday 7 p.m. Mission Groups for Children Wednesday 6 p.m.  
**Heartland Baptist Church:** Pastor Troy Kurtz, 618-829-5974, 801 N Walnut, St. Elmo, Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m.; Sunday Evening: 6 p.m.; Wednesday Prayer Meeting: 6:15; Wednesday night Service: 7 p.m. .

### Catholic

**St. Mary's Catholic Church of St. Elmo:** Rev. Joseph Havrilka, KCHS, Cumberland Rd, St. Elmo. See St. Clare Catholic Church above for schedule

### Methodist

**Trinity Chapel:** Pastor John Heicher, Located west of St. Elmo on Rt. 40, 6 miles N. on Avena Rd. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. and 3 p.m., Bible study Wed.  
**United Methodist of Brownstown:** Pastor Don Thomas, 103 Maple St., Brownstown 427-3803, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Church Services 10:40 a.m.

### Christian

**St. Elmo Christian:** Pastor Jim Quick, 112 W. 6th. Sunday morning worship: 9:30 a.m.; Youth group: Wednesday evening 6-7:30 p.m.; Office phone: 618-829-5050  
**Liberty Christian Church:** Minister Clayton Richison, Located at corner of 1600 St and 2300 Ave., 5 1/2 miles north of Route 40 618-347-2271 Sunday services are: Adult Sunday school at 9:00 a.m. followed by worship at 10:00 a.m.  
**First Christian Church of Brownstown:** Nathan Brands, Minister; 516 West Cumberland Road; 618-427-3687; Sunday Morning Worship 9:30 am; Sunday School 10:45 am;  
**Macedonia Christian:** South of St. James 829-5183 or 349-6126 Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship Service 10:30 a.m. and Class 6 p.m. Everyone Welcome.

### Lutheran

**Zion Lutheran:** Pastor Brad Frye, Loogootee, 283-0725, Sunday Worship service with communion 8:30 a.m.

### Non-Denominational or Other

**Aperion Care:** Sunday Worship Service at 2 p.m.  
**Connection Church:** Pastor Tim Caraway; 2230 US Rt.40 St. Elmo; 618-829-9757; info@connectionse.org; www.connectionse.org; Sunday: Connection Cafe 9:15 a.m., Worship service 10 a.m.; Wednesday: Bible study 6:30-7:30 p.m.; Thursday: prayer meeting 7 p.m.  
**First Church of God:** Pastor Jeremy Smith, 412 N. Walnut, St. Elmo, 829-5640, 829-3389, Sunday: Morning worship, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday school, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday night, 7 p.m., Wednesday: Kids Klub, Youth Fellowship, and Adult Bible Study, 7 p.m.  
**Kaskaskia:** Pastor Nick Robertson, Sunday School 9 a.m., Sunday Service 10 a.m. Bible study and Frog Children's Program Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.; Located 2 1/2 miles west of Wright's Corner  
**New Horizons:** Pastor Kent "Pee Wee" Denton, 502 W. Tower Rd. St. Elmo, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m.  
**St. Elmo Seventh Day Advent:** Pastor Florin Liga, 801 N. Main, St. Elmo, 829-9227 www.stelmoadventist.org Church Service Saturday 11 a.m. and Sabbath School - Saturday 9:30 a.m. Prayer meeting every Thursday night at 7 p.m..  
**The Table:** 501 N. Main, Wednesday and Saturday, Cafe opens at 6 p.m., Service at 7 p.m.; Bible Study Tuesday evenings, Cafe at 6 p.m., study at 7 p.m.; Young Adult Group Friday evenings at 7 p.m.  
**The Fields Church** (Launching Fall 2025): Pastor Samantha Landrus, 100 S Olive St., St. Elmo, 217-234-2795, online services - 8:30am, 10am, 11:30am, samantha.landrus@thefields.church, https://thefields.church/st.Elmo/  
**St. Elmo Community Church:** Pastor Jeff Morrison, 215 N. Walnut, St Elmo 829-3364, Sunday Worship 10:35 a.m., Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

## Vandalia Area Churches

**Bethel Baptist Church:** 182 IL 185, Vandalia, IL 62471, 618-326-7451  
**CenterPointe Church:** 1616 Veterans Ave, Vandalia, IL 62471, 618-283-9100  
**Crown Point Church:** Country Club Road South, Vandalia, IL 62471, 618-339-1646  
**Family Worship Center:** 1803 Janette Dr, Vandalia, IL 62471, 618-283-0700  
**First Christian Church:** 305 N 5th St, Vandalia, IL 62471, 618-283-2001  
**First Church of God:** 3001 Thril Hill Road, Vandalia, IL 62471, 618-283-1718

**First Pentecostal Church:** 1009 W Gallatin St, Vandalia, IL 62471, 618-283-0714  
**First Presbyterian Church:** 1221 W Fillmor St, Vandalia, IL 62471, 618-283-0937  
**First United Methodist Church:** 127 N 4th St, Vandalia, IL 62471, 618-283-3684  
**Holly Cross Lutheran Church:** 726 W Fillmore St, Vandalia, IL 62471, 618-283-1133  
**Metro Community Church:** 1500 W Jefferson St, Vandalia, IL 62471, 618-283-3465  
**Mother of Dolores Catholic Church:** 322 N 7th St, Vandalia, IL 62471, 618-283-0214

**Northside Christian Church:** 1845 Jackson St, Vandalia, IL 62471, 618-283-1970  
**Parkview Free Methodist Church:** 1507 W Jefferson St, Vandalia, IL 62471, 618-283-0799  
**St James Lutheran Church:** 727 W Gallatin St, Vandalia, IL 62471, 618-283-0725  
**Unity Baptist Church:** 716 County Rd 1700 N, Vandalia IL 62471, 618-283-1113

## Focus On The Family with Jim Daly

### Praise Child's Character More Than Her Cuteness

Q: Our whole extended family has been doting on our sweet 4-year-old daughter since she was born. She loves being the center of attention and "performs" on cue if given the opportunity. But I'm starting to wonder -- how do we avoid overindulging our cute little girl?

Jim: I'd observe that it's little wonder your daughter "performs on cue." She's been receiving positive reinforcement for that behavior for as long as she can remember. So far, it's all fun for everyone. But there's a danger that she'll grow up believing that her value as a person is based on her cuteness and her performance, not on her character.

You'll need to start helping her develop solid character traits while she's still young, impressionable and teachable. Our culture says that "cuteness," physical attractiveness, popularity, power and success are the important things in life. But we intuitively know better. The things that truly make a person of character are what the Bible calls the

"Fruit of the Spirit" -- qualities such as love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

I suggest you make a conscious effort to praise your daughter whenever she displays those positive traits. It's important to model these kinds of qualities for her and look for "teachable moments" to talk about the things that truly matter. It would also be a good idea to teach her how to serve others, whether that means caring for a neighbor's pet when they're on vacation or donating some of her toys to a local homeless shelter.

If you'd like to discuss these thoughts at greater length, I invite you to contact our staff counselors for a free consultation. Call 855-771-HELP (4357) or sign up online for a counseling callback at FocusOnTheFamily.com.

Q: After just a couple of years of marriage, I'm already starting to sense that the original "shimmer" of our romance is beginning to fade.

Is something wrong with us? Are we "falling out of love"?

Dr. Greg Smalley, Vice President, Marriage & Family Formation: Take a breath: You're normal. Most couples find it hard to maintain the emotional excitement of romance once the day-to-day reality of married life sets in. But here's the good news -- you can still have a healthy, vibrant marriage even when routine begins to take over. It's actually pretty simple. You just need to grab hold

of the fundamental "anchor points" of daily existence and turn them into meaningful relational moments. Here are some suggestions:

- Waking up. Instead of muttering "Good morning," turn to your spouse first thing and whisper something like: "I love you and I'm glad to be waking up together."
- Leaving the house. When it's time to go, kiss your spouse goodbye -- and kiss like you really mean it!
- Checking in. Stay in

touch when you're apart. A quick call or even a text message can go a long way toward maintaining and strengthening connection.

- Coming home. When you come back together in the evening, kiss and hug, talk about your respective days and really listen to your spouse. You'll be surprised what a difference it makes.
- Mealtimes. Sit at the table and make eye contact -- no phones, TV or other screens! Meals are ideal times for

reconnecting and celebrating your shared identity as a couple.

-- Bedtime. The end of the day, like the beginning, is a universal "anchor point." It's a time when you can "clean the slate" and express gratitude and appreciation with a goodnight kiss.

Obviously, this isn't rocket science. Neither is it about "doing more" or "doing things right." It's purely a matter of making the most of the moment.

## These Fine Businesses Support Area Churches

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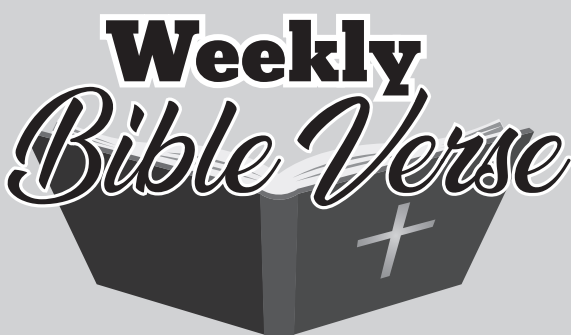
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God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them.

Hebrews 6:10 (New International Version)