

Christ the Savior Orthodox Chapel – Ministry Report 2025

Location:

- In the early Spring, Kevin Rains and I (Spencer Settles) began looking for a suitable location for our once-a-month evening Vespers services.
- We initially looked at an empty former bank building for sale in Florence. Afterward, upon guidance from the Council, we looked only at locations available for rent or lease.
- In August, we began pursuing the possibility of renting a unit in the Florence Mall. This ultimately fell through in December.
- Thus, we ended 2025 back at square one in our search for a location.
- Our first Vespers service was held on Monday, April 28 at Kevin and Tracy's home in Wilder. This remains our meeting place as we continue to search for a location. Many thanks to Kevin and Tracy for their hospitality!

Communication/Commitments/Community engagement:

- Jeff Geiser designed our website, which went public in September.
- We continue to build an email list of interested and/or committed people. We now have over 70 email addresses on the list.
- Many new visitors to CTS in recent months have been Northern Kentucky residents. Some of those have already attended Vespers at Kevin's house and others have expressed interest and gotten on our email list.
- We have our Vespers services scheduled for 2026, occurring one Thursday each month.

Challenges:

- The primary challenge continues to be finding a location that is 1) available, 2) within our budget, and 3) in a suitable condition and location.
- As interest and engagement grows, we will likely begin to feel the pinch as we outgrow our current location.
- The use of Kevin's home has been a great blessing to us but comes with the challenges and uncertainties inherent to a domestic location: space, parking, and the potential of becoming a nuisance to Kevin's neighbors.

Conclusion:

Despite the challenges last year presented in terms of finding a more permanent location we enjoyed wonderful services and fellowship in Kevin's home. There is a sense of community which continues to deepen, as well as a visible commitment on the part of many who faithfully attend our monthly services. We enter the new year in a continued state of growth and excited about the potential for finding a home in Northern Kentucky.