

December 2022

Office Hours
Monday — Thursday
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.



First Christian Church

www.cantonfcc.org

215 West Elm Street
Canton, IL 61520

office (309) 647-1363

[] ADVENT *at a glance...* CONSPIRACY

Every *Christmas photo station*
Sunday *continues*

Dec 3/4 *Spoon River Community
Chorus concerts*

Dec 24 *Christmas Eve worship @ 7p*

Dec 25 *online Christmas message*

Jan 1 *Pajama Day: carols, stories
of Christmas and communion*

[] ADVENT CONSPIRACY



MAKING CHRISTMAS MEANINGFUL (AGAIN)

Daily devotionals are available to you to help each day be a part of your Advent Conspiracy!

Families, we also have discussion guides to help you make the season have new depth—perfect for the dinner table, minivan or tuck-in time!

All resources are free and there are enough to share with anyone!

Inspiring Generosity Grants to be awarded in worship Dec. 18th!

Don't miss 9 am worship as we award this year's recipients. We had another bold response, with 18 applicants and \$49,000 of requests. Celebrate what good God is doing thru the Ingersoll legacy and FCC's dedication to Inspiring Generosity.



Learn more and apply today at: cantonfcc.org/grants

Save the Date!

Our annual congregational meeting will take place **December 11**, following worship. We'll be presenting the 2023 Budget and leadership slate.

Steve Mason: Pastor
Emily Douglas: Office Coordinator
Email: contact@cantonfcc.org



Rick Coulter: Building Supervisor
John Davis: Director of Music
Gretchen Fuller: Organist

This month, instead of a long reflection on activities or programs going on, I thought I would share a poem that speaks to someplace deep in my feelings about Advent and Christmas. It's called "Welcome Morning" by Anne Sexton:

There is joy in all:
 in the hair I brush each morning,
 in the Cannon towel, newly washed, that I rub my body with each morning,
 in the chapel of eggs I cook each morning,
 in the outcry from the kettle that heats my coffee each morning,
 in the spoon and the chair that cry "hello there, Anne" each morning,
 in the godhead of the table that I set my silver, plate, cup upon each morning.

All this is God,
 right here in my pea-green house each morning
 and I mean, though often forget, to give thanks,
 to faint down by the kitchen table in a prayer of rejoicing
 as the holy birds at the kitchen window peck into their marriage of seeds.

So while I think of it, let me paint a thank-you on my palm
 for this God, this laughter of the morning, lest it go unspoken.

The Joy that isn't shared, I've heard,
 dies young.

There is much that could be said about the meanings of Advent and Christmas, the many ways we try and touch the source of the amazingly good news that God is with us, in a way that we can understand and touch and feel.

But sometimes it's just waking up to see that holiness all around us in ordinary places... and that often requires us to slow down to see it.

Finally, notice the wisdom Sexton shares in reminding us that once we've discovered the Divine beauty all around us, like a Holy Spirit flame that needs air to breathe, that beauty and joy can only thrive when we share it!

So, this Advent and Christmas, I pray that you will slow down to see the joy, the beauty and the holiness that is all around us; and I pray that you'll find ways to nurture those gifts and share them with the ones God has put in your life!

May you savor this season, may you see God showing up every day and may you pass it on!

—Peace, Pastor Steve



FIRST CHRISTIAN IS LOOKING FOR A
Wedding Coordinator
 Hospitable and welcoming person needed
 for weddings and rehearsals at FCC.
 This person hosts the wedding party at FCC so they
 can assist the party in respectful use of the building.
 \$100 for each wedding
 speak with Steve for more details

**The Worship
 Team Needs *You!***

ONLINE HOST
 Help connect online
 congregation
 during worship



contact Steve or Tammy

FCC MISSION TRIP

July 16-21, 2023 to Kansas City, MO

- service and learning trip--with focus on hunger, housing and education
- accommodations at KC DOC church with showers
- breakfast and lunch provided, we decide dinners
- ALL ages and abilities
- each day work with two non-profits, discuss how we can apply lessons in Canton
- daily led devotion and de-briefing by site host
- one day free to explore KC
- \$325/person (scholarships available)
- 10 participant minimum, 40 max
- **\$50/person deposit**

due by Dec 31

with Disciples partners

Be The
NEIGHBOR



Women's
BIBLE STUDY

Join the women of G.E.M.S.
Thursdays at 10am



YOUR WEEKLY
MINUTE AT FIRST

Find your **Minute at First** every Monday morning.

Information and spiritual formation on Facebook or in your email.

Watch, like and share!

FCC Outreach Committee News!

Cookie Decorating Family Ministry Night

We had a great crowd for our Family Ministry "We are Thankful" cookie decorating night on Nov13th!

Thanks to all who baked, or donated cookies and thanks to all who came out and decorated cookies for our First Responders!

We had a hot chocolate bar and of course extra cookies for everyone to enjoy!

Thank you to Kevin Dearing for delivering the cookies to our First Responders around town and some to our friends at Renaissance!



With the busy holiday season coming, this was our last FMN for the year.

Save the date for Family Game Night Jan 29th, more details TBA

FCC Thankful Dinner

We served over 220 meals at our Thankful Dinner Sunday, Nov. 20th! We are so blessed to have so many wonderful volunteers to help with this big event. Thank you to all who helped prep, serve, deliver or donated cookies and desserts!

Special thanks to our cooks, Judy Kemper and Kevin Dearing who've been preparing for several days!

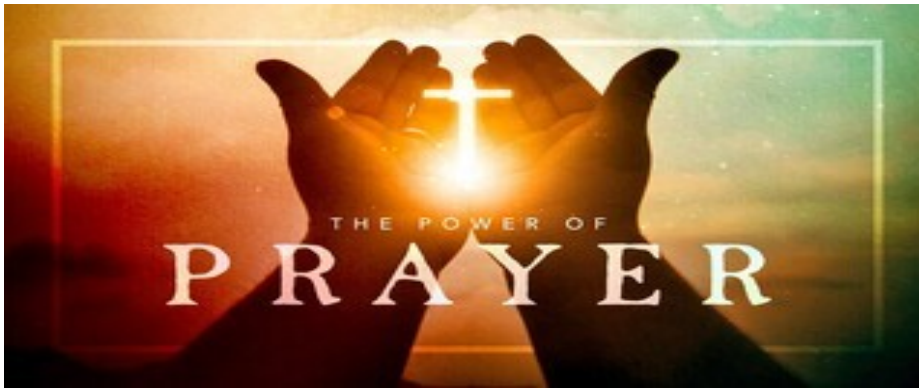
We are so thankful to be able to provide meals and fellowship to our community members!



Outreach Christmas Giving

This year we will once again be taking donations for the **Salvation Army Angel Tree** and the **Fulton Mason Crisis Services Families Mitten Tree**. Angel Tree tags and FMCS Mitten tags will be available on the trees in the Narthex starting this Sunday. Please return all gifts (unwrapped) to the church by Dec 11th.





Please Continue To Pray For:

Cathey (friend of Keith M.); Kathy Burton; Janet Krulac; Bill Kemper; Mark Reneau; Steve Moore; Betty Tracey and Family; Elaine Putrich with breast cancer (friend of Daryle Coleman); Bob Stockham; Harriett Schleich; Tracy Snowman; Kay Bricker; Cora Murphey; SueEllen Stephenson; Crystal Gabel (Denny D's niece); Journee Vineyard (Doreen Shaw's friend); Allard Family; Sarah Eskridge (friend of Alan Coleman); Melody with breast cancer (friend of Daryle Coleman); Brenda Lybarger (Melissa Dean's mom); Gretchen Beaty (friend of Sherry Hardy); Blaine Hardy; David Maier (friend of Marsha Moore); and Brian Wheeler (son of Karen Wheeler).

BECOMING
DEDICATED

Disciples

Passionate **SPIRITUALITY**

Joyful **SERVICE**

Inspiring **GENEROSITY**

Care Facilities:

At Courtyard Estates

Mildred Weber; Margaret Wright

At Red Oak Estates

Betty Kost; Tom Neill

At Renaissance Care Center

Curtis Krock; Angie Slater; Shirley Harris

At Sunset

Lori Bieber; Ed Ford; Raymond Lindsey

The Loft Nursing Home - Jeff Zehring
(Lorraine Neill's son)

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Luke Allard	12/1
Mike Krulac	12/1
Sherry Lindzey	12/2
Kevin Morgan	12/3
Tammy Weaver	12/6
Connie Reed	12/7
Chuck Taylor	12/9
Carter MacVean	12/14
Parker DeRenzy	12/19
Barb Pollitt	12/27
Dick VanRossem	12/29
Hank Anderson	12/29
Bill Leitze	12/31
Tad Allard	12/31
Cade Walters	12/31

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Jacob & Lauren Ray	12/13
Hank & Deann Anderson	12/16
Bill & Judy Leitze	12/18
David & Bea Meeker	12/30

Scriptures, Sermons, & Serving Schedules

December 4, 2022		December 11, 2022	
Scripture	Matthew 6:19-33 Spend Less	Scripture	Luke 1:39-56 Give More
Greeters	Bruce & Sherry Fisher	Greeters	Tad & Amy Allard
Ushers	Barb Pollitt	Ushers	Bruce & Jean Edwards
CtW Reader	Video	CtW Reader	Grant Stephenson
Scripture Reader	Liz Pollitt	Scripture Reader	Kara Fitzjarrald
Children's Moment	Jean Edwards	Children's Moment	Jen Miller
Children's Church	Marsha Moore & Becky Wilcoxon	Children's Church	Jean Edwards & Amanda Stephenson
Invitation	Alan Coleman	Invitation	Daryle Coleman
Prayer	Bill Leitze	Prayer	Trygve Meade
Counters	Bruce Edwards & Jen Miller	Counters	Alan Coleman & Tammy Weaver
Coffee Fellowship	Rhonda & Kevin Morgan	Coffee Fellowship	Caitlin Mason
December 18, 2022		12/24/2022 (Christmas Eve)	
Scripture	Luke 2:8-20 Love All	Scripture	John 1:10-14 Advent Conspiracy
Greeters	Mike & Susan Walters	Greeters	Don & Connie Heller
Ushers	Mark & Laura Taylor	Ushers	Corey & Jen Miller
CtW Reader	Video	CtW Reader	Janet Krulac
Scripture Reader	Tammy Weaver	Scripture Reader	Bill Leitze
Children's Moment	Amy Allard	Children's Moment	Michelle Spiva
Children's Church	Rhonda Morgan, Mike Meade & Trygve Meade	No Children's Church	
Invitation	Jan Dearing	Invitation	Tammy Weaver
Prayer	Jen Miller	Prayer	Trygve Meade
Counters	Kevin Coleman & Doreen Shaw	Counters	Daryle Coleman & Vinnie Cufaude
Coffee Fellowship	Judy Leitze	No Coffee Fellowship	
12/25/2022 - (Christmas Day) Online Video Service			

December 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 G.E.M.S. Room 104 10:00 A.M.	2	3
4 Worship 9:00 A.M. Bible Study 10:30 A.M. Room 104	5 Elders Meeting 6:30 P.M.	6 Outreach Meeting 5:00 P.M.	7 Chancel Choir 7:00 P.M.	8 G.E.M.S. Room 104 10:00 A.M.	9	10
11 Worship 9:00 A.M. Annual Congregational Meeting 10:00 A.M. Bible Study 10:30 A.M. Room 104	12 Worship Meeting 6:00 P.M.	13	14 Finance Committee Meeting 6:00 P.M. Chancel Choir 7:00 P.M.	15 G.E.M.S. Room 104 10:00 A.M. Newsletter Deadline	16	17
18 Worship 9:00 A.M. Bible Study 10:30 A.M. Room 104	19 CE Committee Meeting 6:00 P.M.	20 Card Club 2:00 P.M.	21 Chancel Choir 7:00 P.M.	22 G.E.M.S. Room 104 10:00 A.M.	23	24 Christmas Eve Service
25 Christmas Day Video Worship 9:00 A.M.	26 Property Committee Meeting 4:00 P.M.	27	28	29	30	31
FCC Office Will Be Closed This Week						