

January 2021
Volume 67, Issue 2

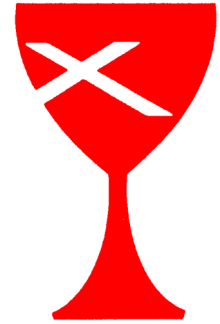
Office Hours
Monday & Wednesday
8:30 a.m.-11a.m. & 11:30a.m.-4p.m.

Tuesday & Thursday
8:30 a.m.-11a.m. & 11:30a.m.-3p.m.

First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)
215 West Elm Street
Canton, IL 61520-2496
Church office (309) 647-1363

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP
9:00 Worship & Children's Church
10:00 a.m. Coffee Fellowship
10:30 Sunday School



From the Pastoral Search Committee-

Good News!!! The Pastoral Search committee is unanimously recommending a new pastor for our church to the congregation! The board unanimously voted to approve the recommendation of our next minister. On **Sunday, February 7th at 10am**, we will have a congregational meeting both in person and on Zoom to vote on this recommendation. As a part of this meeting, we will share thoughts on why we felt the calling for this minister to serve our church and you will also see a video from him and his family. If you choose to worship in person on February 7th, you are welcome to stay to view this information in person. If you do not worship in person, do not feel like you need to make a trip to church! We will show the videos and hold the vote simultaneously in-person and on Zoom. I hope you can take the time to attend this meeting that is so important in the life of our church. We are excited and look forward to having you meet this new person. We know you will all love them as much as we do.



PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE



With Great Anticipation,
The Search Committee- Chuck Taylor-Chair,
Kara Fitzjarrald, Amy Allard, Mark Reneau,
and Grant Stephenson

Useful Websites:

Website- <https://cantonfcc.org/>

Facebook- <https://www.facebook.com/Canton-First-Christian-Church-192804694616/>

YouTube- <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChlr0uGWtYHF7SUNXg27F5Q>

Online Giving- <https://engage.suran.com/cantonfcc/s/give/new-gift>

Hank Anderson: Pastor

Rick Coulter: Building Supervisor

John Davis: Director of Music

Misti Crossland: Office Coordinator

Gretchen Fuller: Organist

www.cantonfcc.org

Church Email: contact@cantonfcc.org

From Hank

There have been several points in my life when I knew that I was standing on the threshold of the future. I didn't know exactly what the future was going to be like, but I knew that things would be different. Some examples would include graduating from high school; the days leading up to Deann's and my wedding; the birth of our children; moving from co-pastoring with Deann to serving on my own as interim. These were all decisions that I was totally onboard with and even excited about. But still, I knew that my life was about to change and I didn't know what all that would mean. And, in the examples above, they are changes that worked out well.

Today, Canton FCC stands on the threshold of the future. The board is recommending a candidate to become the new settled pastor of this congregation. And while the decision will not be final until the congregational vote is taken, we are reminded that all of the work this congregation has done over the past two and a half years is coming to fruition. I know that I am excited about the future of this church and I certainly pray that you are too.

Regardless of how the congregational vote turns out, we will have the opportunity to close out our time together and to say our good-byes. I have said this before, but I want to say it again. It is good for you to be excited about the future. I want you to be excited about the future. It is okay to be excited in front of me. I want to be excited with you. I came to this church to help you prepare for this moment in time.

There is much that will be happening over the coming weeks. Please continue to pray for the search committee. Pray for the board, the elders and all of the leaders of this congregation. Pray for this church as a whole. Pray for yourselves. Pray for the candidate. And, yes, I welcome your prayers for me.

This congregation stands on the threshold of the future. And though we may not know exactly what that future will look like, we know that we do not venture into it alone. This congregation ventures together and God will be present every step of the way.

Grace and peace, Hank

Wise Stewards

Biblically, the term "steward" simply refers to "the manager of a large household." Although that term has a pretty simple definition, it holds great significance for those of us who follow Jesus. God's people are called to manage God's household, which means that we have a great responsibility. Our stewardship focus for 2021 is *Wise Stewards*. This is a call for us to wisely manage all that God has given to us, to trust that God will continue to provide and to give back to God out of our blessings. This focus begins on January 31 and will continue until February 14.



Update from the Re-Entry Committee:

We will resume in-person worship this Sunday, January 31! After discussions, the Re-Entry Committee made this decision on Wednesday night. We will follow much the same format as we did back in the fall. It should also be stressed that we don't want anyone who does not feel comfortable participating in-person to feel obligated to attend. As a result, we will continue to live stream the service as well.



In order to keep everyone as safe as possible, please note the following:

- Masks will be required throughout the service.
- All entering and exiting will be through the lower west parking lot doors.
- Temperatures will be taken.
- Unless you are part of a group that normally lives together, we ask people to spread out. Seating will be spaced as it was back in the fall.
- Either bring your own elements for communion or pick up one of the pre-packaged communion sets in the Narthex. Communion will not be passed.
- Offerings should be placed in the box as we did this past fall.
- Seating upstairs will be limited to 50 people. If there are more than 50 people present, we will ask others to sit in the fellowship hall where you will be able to see the service on a large screen television.
- Hand sanitizer and wipes are available throughout the building.
- Please wipe down any surfaces you might touch in the restroom.
- The elevator will be available. In addition to being cleaned before the service, it will be cleaned after the service starts for use following worship.
- Should the number of Covid cases in the area begin to rise or we are moved into a different phase, we may cancel in-person worship and resume live streaming only.

We thank everyone for their patience through this time and continue to seek your prayers for wisdom as we work our way through these challenging times.

The Re-Entry Committee

Ash Wednesday

The start of the season of Lent is just around the corner. We will begin this important time with an **Ash Wednesday service at 7:00 PM on February 17.** Many of the details for this service are still being worked out. More information will be posted on Facebook and sent out through a congregation-wide email closer to the date. For now, we simply encourage you to plan to participate.



Update from the Board

In the January Board Meeting, the newly elected church board met for the first time. The purpose of the board is to focus on the future and the vision that we have laid out. Thankfully, the vision is only that, a vision! When we created this vision, we knew it was a living document that would grow and change as the church grows and changes. It is not etched in stone. Throughout the process of working through our vision, we all need to keep our eyes and ears open to who God is calling us to be in this community in this time. When this vision was created, we had no idea what the next year would bring! We paused our work on the vision during COVID. Now, we are analyzing how our vision fits with the pandemic and how it might be changing. Parts of the vision might fail, others may require us to pivot, and other parts may be wildly successful and require more resources than originally planned. Throughout it all, we will keep our hearts firmly focused to the trunk of our tree, Becoming Dedicated Disciples, and, with that, we cannot not fail. -Kara Fitzjarrald



Life Together

The church is a community of believers that is called to stand together as we seek to follow Jesus. This is particularly important to remember in a time of uncertainty and change. As a result, our focus for the season of Lent will be "Life Together." Through this series, we will take a closer look into some of the important qualities of a community of faith. This series will begin on Sunday, February 21 and continue through Sunday, March 28. Please join us each Sunday at 9:00 AM.

News from Outreach

Our church supports members of our church who are pursuing a college education. The students submit an application and high school or college transcript.

We gave \$700 per student for spring semester scholarships to the following college students:

Luke Miller: Pre-med major at Spoon River College

Jake Smith: Construction Management major at Western Illinois University.

Gillian Spiva: Communications major at the University of Missouri

Mikayla Osborne: Animal Science major at the University of Illinois

John Osborne: Diesel Technician at Illinois Central College

We pray for these students as they pursue their dreams. These college students grew up in our church and we are proud to support them and their endeavors.

Valentine's day is approaching. Please consider reaching out to shut-ins, people you have not seen for a while, a child who is just starting back to school, or someone who is battling illness or grief. You can send a card or make a phone call. We are a church family and want to show we care. I know it will truly be appreciated and bring a smile.

"Love one another as I have loved you...by this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" -John 13:34

We continue to financially support local organizations and the Regional Disciples of Christ. We have not been able to do our usual outreach projects due to the Covid restrictions. Again, I thank the congregation for their support of the Angel and Mitten tree children tags at Christmas.

Would you like to be a part of the Outreach Committee? Please contact me if you would like to participate in this important ministry of our church. As a committee, we budget the money for community outreach and look for opportunities to serve. If you have ideas, I would appreciate your input. I see us as an important part of the church as we give to others as Christ taught us.

In Christian Love,

Judy Kemper jkkrrn1@gmail.com

Outreach Committee: Kevin Dearing, Ron Rupe, Doreen Shaw, Amy Smith & Paula Grigsby

Bible Study on the Holy Spirit

We will look at passages from throughout the Bible to come to a deeper understanding of the Holy Spirit during our next Bible study set to begin the week of February 1. During this study, we will look at a number of verses from the Old Testament, the Gospels as well as the various letters of the New Testament. We expect the study to last

around eight weeks. The plan is to offer two sessions. The first will meet on **Monday mornings beginning at 11:00 AM**. We will have room for a few people to join us in person, but plenty of room for people to join us by Zoom. The second session will be held on **Tuesday nights beginning at 6:30 PM**. This session will be totally by Zoom. If you would like to participate, please contact Misti in the church office.



The Holy Spirit
BIBLE STUDY

CHI RHO

I am so happy that our Region has returned to Phase 4 so that small gatherings are allowed once again! While we wait for the reentry committee to devise a safe plan for Chi Rho to meet at the church, I have decided to plan a fun new activity for our Chi Rho friends. On **Sunday, February 7th** we will be renting out the Majestic Theater for a private movie showing at 1pm. Since that day is also Superbowl Sunday, I have chosen the Disney movie, *Invincible*, for us to watch. This is an inspirational true story about football and following your dreams against all odds. In addition to watching the movie, we will also have a Superbowl Squares game board available with prizes. Everyone who attends the movie will have a chance to win. No knowledge of football is needed to participate. All of our friends will also receive popcorn and soda during the movie. Yum! The movie will be over by 3pm so we will all have plenty of time to get home before the big game starts. Go Chiefs!

Hopefully we will be able to have our rematch of Werewolf and our game of dodgeball this month as well. We will just need to wait for the reentry committee to give us permission to meet inside the church first. As always, children will be asked to wear a mask and social distance whenever possible. If you have any questions please feel free to email me at Michellespiva@live.com. -Thanks, Michelle



CHI RHO
SUN. FEB. 7TH
1PM TO 3PM

JOIN US ON SUPERBOWL SUNDAY
AT THE MAJESTIC THEATER IN CANTON
TO WATCH THE INSPIRING FOOTBALL MOVIE,
INVINCIBLE.
POPCORN AND SODA WILL BE PROVIDED.
MASKS AND SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIRED.

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND.....
SUPERBOWL SQUARES GAME WITH PRIZES!!!!



Scriptures, Sermons, & Serving Schedules

2/7/2021		2/14/2021	
Scripture	Exodus 16:4-6	Scripture	Exodus 35:4-10
Sermon	Wise Stewards: Trusting God	Sermon	Wise Stewards: Giving Back
Children's Moment	Daryle Coleman	Children's Moment	Janet Krulac
Invitation	Bill Leitze	Invitation	Mike Krulac
Elder	Tammy Weaver	Elder	Alan Coleman
2/21/2021		2/28/2021	
Scripture	Galatians 3:26-29	Scripture	Ephesians 4:11-13
Sermon	Life Together: One	Sermon	Life Together: Equip
Children's Moment	Jean Edwards	Children's Moment	Judy Kemper
Invitation	Trygve Meade	Invitation	Jennifer Miller
Elder	Daryle Coleman	Elder	Jan Dearing

Events & Meetings

Mon, Feb 1	11:00a.m.	Bible Study on the Holy Spirit (Zoom & In-person)
Mon, Feb 1	7:00p.m.	Elder Meeting
Tue, Feb 2	6:30p.m.	Bible Study on the Holy Spirit (Zoom)
Sun, Feb 7	10:00a.m.	Congregational Meeting (Zoom & In-person)
Sun, Feb 7	1-3:00p.m.	Chi Rho-Majestic Theater
Mon, Feb 8	11:00a.m.	Bible Study on the Holy Spirit (Zoom & In-person)
Tue, Feb 9	6:30p.m.	Bible Study on the Holy Spirit (Zoom)
Mon, Feb 15		Office & Building Closed for Presidents Day
Mon, Feb 15	11:00a.m.	Bible Study on the Holy Spirit (Zoom & In-person)
Mon, Feb 15	7:00p.m.	Cabinet Meeting
Tue, Feb 16	6:30p.m.	Bible Study on the Holy Spirit (Zoom)
Wed, Feb 17	7:00p.m.	Ash Wednesday-more info to come.
Mon, Feb 22	11:00a.m.	Bible Study on the Holy Spirit (Zoom & In-person)
Tue, Feb 23	6:30p.m.	Bible Study on the Holy Spirit (Zoom)
Wed, Feb 24	10:00a.m.	Newsletter Deadline

Office Closure

I will be working from home until February 11th. If you need assistance please email me, contact@cantonfcc.org. You can also call the office and leave a message, I will be checking them on work days. Thank you! -Misti Crossland

Prayer List – February 2021

Our prayers and sympathies go out to the family and friends of **Ron Bankes**. Ron passed away on 1/10/21.

Terry Foland (a previous interim minister at FCC) has been in and out of the hospital with severe health issues and is looking ahead to hip replacement surgery.

Ava Leitze, granddaughter of Bill & Judy Leitze, is undergoing leukemia treatment.

Pheobe Raker is at the Cleveland Clinic in Cleveland, OH where she is recovering from heart surgery.

Tom Snowman is home following a procedure at Methodist Hospital.

Please Continue to Pray For:

Kevin Allard (brother of Tad Allard); Walker Beal (friend of Daryle Coleman); Gretchen Beaty (friend of Sherry Hardy); Cara Casper (daughter of Marilee Casper); Kent Canevit (friend of Eugenia Warden); Robert Coyle (father of Connie Heller); Cindy Dodd (sister of Dee Doubet); Rachel Erskin (great niece of Doris Taylor); Rev. Arlene Franks (friend of Bea Meeker); Crystal Grabel (niece of Denny Doubet); Blaine Hardy; Lita Harris (daughter-in-law of Jim & Judy Wickert); Dan Heffern (cousin of Janet Stone); Pam Hutton (friend of Paula Grigsby); Jordan (great-great nephew of Doris Taylor); LuAnn Kimbrell (daughter of Bonnie Harn); Karen Latimer (niece of Karen Walker); Larry Latimer (nephew of Karen Walker); David Maier (friend of Marsha Moore); Nancy Moody (friend of Sheila Dye); Cora Rabe (great granddaughter of Ron Bankes); Pam Rabe (daughter of Ron Bankes); Steve Roberson (husband of Heather Roberson); Crystal Robinson; Tom Sandman (friend of Jo Potter keen); Jean Vandergrift (sister of Deann Anderson); Randy Weaver; Brian Wheeler (son of Karen Wheeler); Cain Wilson (grandson of Martha Harr); Jamie Young (friend of Eugenia Warden); Those not named who are carrying great burdens. Our world, that where there is strife & brokenness, God's light will bring healing & wholeness.

February Birthdays

Neville Crossland	Feb. 1
Shirley Taylor	Feb. 1
Daryle Coleman	Feb. 2
Sherry Hardy	Feb. 2
Alexis Shaw	Feb. 4
Nathan Bloyd	Feb. 5
Chris Walters	Feb. 10
Brenda Dilts	Feb. 13
Carolyn Woods	Feb. 13
Marsha Moore	Feb. 19
Derek Schrodtt	Feb. 21
Olivia Walters	Feb. 21
Jaiden Walters	Feb. 22
Jo Potter Keen	Feb. 25
Bruce Edwards	Feb. 27
February Anniversaries	
Mark & Marla Reneau	Feb. 12
Larry & Eugenia Warden	Feb. 23
Tyson & Amy Smith	Feb. 26

Care Facilities:

At Clayberg– **John Wertman** (father of Janet Krulac)

At Courtyard Estates–**Shirley Harris**;

Mildred Weber; **Margaret Wright**

At Red Oak Estates–**Ron Bankes**; **Betty**

Kost; **Tom Neill**

At Renaissance Care Center–**Curtis**

Krock; **Angie Slater**

At Sunset–**Lori Bieber**; **Sadie Clanin**; **Edd**

Ford; **Raymond Lindsey**; **Shawn Nikula**