

January 2023

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

Christmas Workshop

Nov. 27th, we kicked off Advent with a fun evening for the community with decorating, card-making, dancing and singing, s'mores and the Stephenson's even brought out a pair of donkeys for the occasion. We had a great time and spread lots of Christmas cheer, as you can see in these pictures!



IGG Awarding

In worship on Dec. 18th, the 2nd year of the Inspiring Generosity Grants were awarded to local non-profits who are creatively working to make life better in Canton. Team leader, Don Heller, presented grants to a variety of proposals: providing meat and dairy to food pantries, affirming students' good behaviors, giving foster kids basic supplies, making pollinator sanctuaries for children with disabilities and making community gardens accessible for all.



Grant recipients will share their stories throughout the year.

Welcome Jessa and Wes!

On Dec. 11, Jessa Tompkins and Wesley Wenger joined the church. Wes is a firefighter with Canton FD and Jessa works at the Fulton County Courthouse. The two are scheduled to be married at FCC on Oct. 21st!

Congrats!



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



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

There's a joke in my family about a time when my father, who is always youthful in spirit, couldn't read the fortune in his cookie after a meal at the local Chinese restaurant. Because as I read the fortune out loud, it said, "Your eyes are the window to your soul." So, if that's true then dad not only needed some prayer, but he needed glasses!

Well, the joke's on me, because recently I've realized things aren't quite as sharp and I've gotten some readers to help my eyes on those long days of reading and screen time. Guess he wasn't so old after all—or maybe I am?!



It makes me think about the connection between literal and metaphorical vision that's often described in the Bible, maybe no more so vivid and direct than in Proverbs 29, "where there is no vision, the people perish." Yikes! It shows how important it is for us to know as individuals, and a community where we are going.

I hope you will join me in giving gratitude for the great vision that this community's leaders discerned in 2019. We started to live into it in such a strange time, not only during an interim ministry, but right before COVID changed how we would be church. As I've attempted to steward our congregation this last year and a half, I've constantly thought about how we can best live into that vision, how we can apply it and update it as we go.

Usually this happens as board meetings, in committee meetings, but we don't often name it explicitly in worship. That's what I'm hoping we can do these next few weeks as we seek ***A Clear Vision***. Each week we'll explore some part of our mission statement and what it means for us going forward. Then, after we've unpacked everything, we'll take a week in worship to discuss where we feel like we're really living into our vision and what we might do to more completely do so.

I hope you'll join us for ***A Clear Vision*** because we will not only be talking about the vision we have as a church, but how to we have guiding vision for each of our lives. Join us, and sharpen your vision for this new year! —Peace, Pastor Steve

	<p>Thank you to everyone who contributed to the love offering for Ukrainian student and refugee, Ignat Striletskyi.</p> <p>Together we raised \$2110 to help his education that will one day help bring peace to his homeland.</p> <p>Way to go, church!</p>	<p>The Worship Team Needs <i>You!</i></p> <p>ONLINE HOST</p> <p>Help connect online congregation during worship</p> <p></p> <p>contact Steve or Tammy</p>
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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!

JAN 29TH @ 530PM



FCC FAMILY
GAME
NIGHT



BRING A GAME TO SHARE

This summer, consider representing FCC at the General Assembly.

This is a conference where Disciples gather from across the country in worship, learning, fellowship and service.

We can send 3 voting representatives, for business sessions, but participation is open to all.

Don't miss out on this life-changing and faith-enhancing opportunity. Financial support is available through the church.

Please check out ga.disciples.org and speak with Pastor Steve for more information.

REGISTRATION IS **NOW OPEN!**

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2023

in Louisville, Kentucky

JULY 29 - AUGUST 1, 2023



**KINDOM
 OF GOD
 WITHIN US
 AMONG US**

As a part of FCC's Vision outcomes, we are committing each year to partner with a local agency. This year, the Canton Area Heritage Center was chosen. You'll be hearing from them throughout 2023 of how we can support one another through this ministry. Here's a word from their board secretary, Cheryl Bielema:

Thank you for the opportunity to share who we are and to ask for your help, as part of the "Connecting with Community Agencies" grant. Canton's own museum, the Canton Area Heritage Center, was founded in 2015 and was opened to the public in September, 2018. We have received thousands of artifacts, hosted 2100 visitors, and presented at dozens of groups and events in the past seven years.

We are a non-profit educational organization and offer tax-deductions on gifts. An Executive Board of 15 persons focuses on our mission and acquisition goals. Working committees, Acquisitions, Facilities, Fundraising, Programs and Promotion/Marketing, have specific responsibilities. New committee members are always welcome.

We solicit specific projects by our volunteers. For example, the "Histories of Fulton County Churches," was a display suggested by Jack Pollitt, one of our charter members. Seven churches ultimately joined the project. More recently, a group of History students and their teacher Harold Rose collaborated with us to create an online survey. They enlisted participation of their Canton High School classmates, and prepared a research report based on the data they had collected. The report is titled, "*Students' Pandemic Reflections – Making History in 2020-2021.*"

A weekly need is for volunteers to staff the museum. Two volunteers work shifts of 2-3 hours; we recommend staffers commit to working at least once a month. Training is conducted with new staffers. Museum hours are Fridays, 10am-12 noon; Saturdays, 10am-2pm; and, Sundays, 1-4pm.

I'm a believer in helping make the world a better place, however and wherever you can. I've had the pleasure of seeing the museum develop and grow, having been involved in its plans since the beginning. It's been exciting to learn what a proud, unique history Canton and Fulton County have experienced. All I've seen and heard has moved me to do what I can to preserve and share our heritage for future generations. I want others to get excited about the museum and its programs, as well! The Canton area has a great story to tell, and it's still unfolding.

There continues to be need for additional people to do the work of the Heritage Center. With more people involved, we can expand hours and outreach activities. We would love to recruit 10 people and believe this special partnership with the First Christian Church will increase awareness and enthusiasm for our historical preservation goals. Here is the variety of ways volunteers can be engaged at the museum:

Staff in shifts of 2-3 hours

Research featured and new artifacts

Write narratives for displays or articles for the quarterly newsletters

Develop fundraising activities

Help setup and tear down exhibits

Clean and maintain facility

Care for and store artifacts

Solicit stories from those with connections to the Canton area

Bring your own ideas to life with other passionate people



Find out more and ask questions by telephoning (309) 647-2242 and leaving a message. You may also email cahcpo19@att.net. I'll get right back to you!

Contributed by Cheryl Bielema, Secretary
Executive Board



Please Continue To Pray For:

Jax (friend of Jan Dearing); Family & Friends of Betty Kost upon her death; Family & Friends of Dee Cox upon her death; 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); Harriett Schleich; Tracy Snowman; Kay Bricker; Cora Murphey; SueEllen Stephenson; Crystal Grabel (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**

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Chuck Jarvis	1/1
Amanda Stephenson	1/5
Brody Webb	1/5
Sherry Fisher	1/10
Jan Taylor	1/16
Bea Meeker	1/18
Timothy Scott	1/18
Peg Hays	1/19
Kevin Dearing	1/25
Jennifer Miller	1/26
Vivian W. Lefferts	1/29
Vinnie S Cufaude	1/31
Michael W Walters	1/31

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Don & Connie Heller	1/1
Curt & Leta Krock	1/16
Bill & Doris Svob	1/16

Care Facilities:

At Courtyard Estates

Mildred Weber; Margaret Wright

At Red Oak Estates

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)

Scriptures, Sermons, & Serving Schedules

January 1, 2023		1/8/2023 - Growing In The Spirit	
Scripture	Zephaniah 3:16-20	Scripture	Matthew 3:1-2, 11-17
Greeters	Alan & Daryle Coleman	Greeters	Mike & Susan Walters
Ushers	Mike & Susan Walters	Ushers	Wanda Carmack
CtW Reader	No Call To Worship	CtW Reader	Vinnie Cufaude
Scripture Reader	Trygve Meade	Scripture Reader	Randy Weaver
Children's Moment	No Children's Moment	Children's Moment	Jen Miller
Children's Church	No Children's Church	Children's Church	Jen Miller and Family
Invitation	Kevin Dearing	Invitation	Daryle Coleman
Prayer	Bill Leitze	Prayer	TBA (Trygve Meade)
Counters	Bruce Edwards & Jen Miller	Counters	Alan Coleman & Tammy Weaver
Coffee Fellowship	Don & Connie Heller	Coffee Fellowship	Tammy Weaver & Liz Pollitt
1/15/2023 - Becoming Dedicated Disciples		1/22/2023 - Passionate Spirituality	
Scripture	John 1:29-42	Scripture	Psalms 27:1 and 4-9
Greeters	McLean Family	Greeters	Tad & Amy Allard
Ushers	Liz Clark	Ushers	Chuck & Denise Jarvis
CtW Reader	Video	CtW Reader	Trygve Meade
Scripture Reader	Jan Dearing	Scripture Reader	Liz Pollitt
Children's Moment	Grant Stephenson	Children's Moment	Janet Krulac
Children's Church	Janet Krulac and Eugenia Warden	Children's Church	Jan Taylor and Lyn Snowman
Invitation	Doreen Shaw	Invitation	Tammy Weaver
Prayer	Jen Miller	Prayer	Mike Krulac
Counters	Kevin Coleman & Doreen Shaw	Counters	Daryle Coleman & Vinnie Cufaude
Coffee Fellowship	Jean & Bruce Edwards	Coffee Fellowship	Maida Williams
1/29/2023 - Joyful Service			
Scripture	Micah 6:1-8	Children's Moment	Michelle Spiva
Greeters	Bonnie Harn	Children's Church	Michelle Spiva and Kathy Langlais
Ushers	Nancy Cluts	Invitation	Bill Leitze
CTW Reader	Video	Prayer	Tammy Weaver
Scripture Reader	Kara Fitzjarrald	Counters	Doreen Shaw & Jen Miller
Coffee Fellowship	Susan & Mike Walters		

January 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Worship 9:00 a.m. Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Room 104	2 Elders Meeting 6:30 P.M.	3	4 Chancel Choir 7:00 P.M.	5 G.E.M.S. Room 104 10:00 A.M.	6	7
8 Worship 9:00 a.m. Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Room 104	9 Worship Meeting 6:00 P.M.	10 Outreach Meeting 5:00 P.M.	11 Finance Committee Meeting 6:00 P.M. Chancel Choir 7:00 P.M. Minutes Packet Deadline	12 G.E.M.S. Room 104 10:00 A.M.	13	14
15 Worship 9:00 a.m. Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Room 104	16 CE Committee Meeting 6:00 P.M. Board Meeting 7:00 P.M.	17 Card Club 2:00 P.M. Newsletter Deadline	18 Chancel Choir 7:00 P.M.	19 G.E.M.S. Room 104 10:00 A.M.	20	21
22 Worship 9:00 a.m. Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Room 104	23 Property Committee Meeting 4:00 P.M.	24	25 Chancel Choir 7:00 P.M.	26 G.E.M.S. Room 104 10:00 A.M.	27	28
29 Worship 9:00 a.m. Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Room 104	30	31				