

July 2021
Volume 67, Issue 7

Office Hours
Monday & Wednesday
8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Tuesday & Thursday
8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Friday-Sunday
Closed

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



Rocky Railway Vacation Bible School

July 25-29th, 2021 from 5:40p.m.-8:00p.m.

This year we are not offering a meal.

We are requiring all volunteers to be vaccinated since they will be working with youth who cannot be. If you do not wish to be vaccinated you can still support VBS by donating items for the take home snacks or items to be used during VBS. We appreciate all the support we receive from our congregation to make VBS run so well!

Positions we still need filled:

Cam Track: You perform with the VBS Leader in the opening skit each day as a train engineer. The character is a little goofy. You would not be required to stay for all of VBS if you take this role.

Bible Adventures: Each day you will tell a story that goes along with the bible point for the day. Some days have skits involved and activities. You will need to do some cutting to the stories that are provided to fit in the 20 minute time slots we have. If you take on this role you need to be able to make adjustments during the stories to allow for questions/responses from the children. Some groups are extremely responsive so they will get less of the scripted story than others.

This year we are requiring that participants register ahead of time, **by July 19th**. We want to be sure none of the groups are too big. Get numbers ahead will allow us to rearrange some of the groupings if needed. We will also do stick on name tags this year instead of lanyards.

Other Important Dates:

- 7/22– 8:00p.m. VBS Set Pick-up from Maples Mill. Anyone with a car, truck, suv, etc. is welcome to help us move pieces.
- 7/23-9:00 a.m. VBS Set-up at the church. Please help us transform the church!
- 7/29– 8:00 p.m. VBS Tear-down. As soon as VBS ends we will take down all décor. This is a fairly quick process.



Useful Websites:

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

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

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

Steve Mason: 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

"Who do *you* say that I am?" This question that Jesus answers Peter is, to some scholars, the most pivotal question in the gospels and some even consider it the advent of Christianity. Up until then the disciples had been observing Jesus, remarking on what other people said about Jesus—but Jesus asks them to personally claim their own thoughts. Because in that moment that Peter is able to respond, "you are the Messiah, the Son of the Living God!" he is making the first statement of faith, the first baby steps of articulating and owning his own discipleship. In other words, in naming Jesus as Messiah, Peter is also taking responsibility for how his life will be transformed—he's naming that how he lives, how he treats his neighbors, how he orders his time will all be based on this confession of faith.

At all times this question of, "who do *you* say that I am?" is asked of churches. This is maybe no more so important than in this moment of history we find ourselves in—after decades of institutional decline, churches have had to be clear about who they are—what their mission calls them to do and what they need to let go of. And while we could wring our hands about youth sports and stores being closed on Sundays, missing overflowing Sunday school classes and pastors being invited to offer opening prayers at city council meetings—we must be honest with ourselves that we can't change that. We're never going back to that time in our culture, for better or worse. And now, that we're coming out of a global pandemic, we're even more aware that *we need to be clear about who we are, how we're specifically called to serve and who our neighbors are*. It is our collective response to, "who do *you* say that I am?"

I'm grateful this church has **amazing** leadership, a community-own vision and that we are gifted through our regional church with a new neighborhood analytics tool designed to help us not just guess, but to know what the gifts and needs of our neighbors are. And after two months of meetings, worship services, everyday conversations and our "Get to Know You" gatherings, I'm starting to get a sense of what our response might be to Jesus' urgent question of First Christian. I'll work with our board and leadership to make sure we continue to clarify, communicate and live out our vision in a way that helps us not only internally know who Jesus is to us; but to help us clearly invite and welcome our neighbors to serve the Messiah, the Living God!

With peace, joy and gratitude,
Steve



From the Re-Entry Committee:

Face masks are required if you have **not been vaccinated** and while **SINGING**, even if you have been vaccinated.

Singing projects the spit from your mouth. Our youth members under the age of 12 cannot receive the vaccine & some of our other members are still at risk.

It is important that we provide a safe & welcoming environment for everyone! Thank you for helping us to provide this!

The Family of Howard Taylor would like to invite the congregation to attend his Graveside Funeral Service on **Saturday July 3rd** at 11:00 a.m. Following the service there will be a funeral dinner at the Venue. Howard passed away on 5/11/2020. The family chose wait until restrictions were lifted to have his services.



Safe Kid's Training:
We had a training on Thursday June 10th at 6p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Michelle Spiva did a wonderful job leading the training. If you were unable to attend you can watch the training on Facebook. It is only 40 minutes long! We have not offered a training in over 3 years, therefore everyone needs to go through training again.

The DCFS Mandated Reporter Training is separate from the training above. Once you complete this step send the certificate to Misti to be placed in your volunteer folder. This training is in addition to the regular Safe Kid's Training but only needs to be done 1 time. There are a few people who have struggled with this online process so we will provide this in person on **7/13/21 at 10 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall**. Misti will put the training on the T.V. & walk the group through the slides. At the end you will be given 13 multiple choice questions to answer and that will serve as your certificate instead of creating the online account. (You have to answer the same questions online if you do it independently.)

The POLICY & PROCEDURES for the Protection of Children and Youth was updated by the Christian Education Committee and Approved by the board on 11/18/19.

Some of the biggest changes include:

- Training will be offered annually, but individuals are only required to attend training once every 3 years. Training will only be an hour long, instead of an all day event!
- Completion of online DCFS Mandated Reporter Training. This is a new requirement that we have added in. **<https://mr.dcfstraining.org>**.
 - ◇ This is a free training that consists of videos and multiple choice questions. It takes about 60 minutes to complete & can be done at home online. There are 13 multiple choice questions.
 - ◇ This needs completed only 1 time, not every 3 years.
 - ◇ We have added this so that we can hold training just 1 time a year, as opposed to every time we get a new volunteer or staff member.
 - ◇ This also allows for the training to consist of more than just going over signs of abuse for the majority of the time.
 - ◇ The videos goes over the various types of abuse/neglect and how to proceed. They also clearly shows the difference between abuse/neglect and you not agreeing with parenting decisions.
 - ◇ The website has many resources available other than just the training video. There are many documents, report forms, and signs, if you need more clarification.

News From Outreach, July 2021

Thank you for participating in the Cleaning & Personal items for the Fulton Mason Crisis Center. I delivered the items & they were very much appreciated. Just another way we are helping our community through sharing. Love, INC is a non-profit organization located in the brick building next to the United Methodist Church on Avenue A. **They are currently in need of twin sheet sets, pots & pans, toasters, coffee machines, crock pots, other kitchen items, & refrigerators.** If you have any you could donate, it would be appreciated. They help out people who have had a disaster or are in need of help. Judy Leitze is a Board member of Love INC & would be happy to answer any questions.



We were able to serve approximately 150 people through our Community Meal on June 6. Thank you to the many members who helped in the kitchen, Pick up station, delivery & packaging. It is very much appreciated. The First Baptist Church graciously donated much of the food through their Food Pantry which helped with the costs. Kevin Dearing & Judy Kemper cooked the meal, Jan Dearing did all of the reservations & logistics for meal delivery/pickup. Doreen Shaw went to Peoria to pick up extra food items, Amy Smith & team did a great job with the pick up station. A special thanks to Pastor Steve, Misti & Rick who did a great job with all the extras that came up. Our next meal will be on **Sunday, September 18** & will be a Friendship Meal. At this time the meal will be carry out or delivery only.



We will be having a **Ministry Fair on September 12**. We will have tables set up in the Fellowship Hall with information about the many committees, groups & opportunities to serve in our church. People will be available to answer questions.

We are participating in the Back to School Bash on **Sunday, August 1 from 3-5pm**. We will have a tent with games. If you would like to help please let me know. We will need 4-5 people.



Scholarship forms may be picked up from Misti. They should be returned along with most recent high school or college transcript by **August 1, 2021**.

Submitted by Judy Kemper, Outreach Chairperson



Emmie Louise Stephenson

was born on Tuesday 6/22/21. She weighed 6lbs & 14oz.

Gavin & Andie are her older siblings. Her parents are Grant & Amanda Stephenson. Greg & SueEllen Stephenson & Greg & Kim Murphy are her grandparents.



Nursery Workers

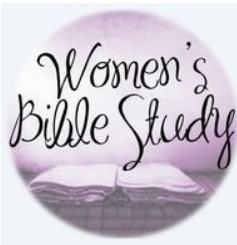
We are planning to reopen the Nursery in August.
Hours: 8:45-10:15. We are requiring COVID Vaccination. You will be primarily working with children infant-age 3. This job is ideal for High School students. You must be at least 15. Contact Misti if interested, contact@cantonfcc.org.



Outdoor Worship On July 4th
Every 1st Sunday-September we will have our Sunday morning service outside. Please come join us for Sunday fun under the Sun (or in the shade if you choose.) Please remember to bring your lawn chair!!!!



Help us celebrate Tom Snowman's 90th birthday on **July 10!** We will have refreshments available in Fellowship Hall at First Christian Church where you can stop in & visit with Tom between 1-4 p.m. We hope to see his family, friends, colleagues & former students to help him enjoy his big day! Please **RSVP by July 2.** (No gifts please. Cards are welcome.)



G.E.M.S. is meeting weekly at 10:30 a.m. on Thursdays at Wallace Park Pavilion. They are currently discussing Women from the "Bible People" study series from Abingdon Press. This group is open to anyone would like to attend. You do need to bring your own lawn chair to the pavilion.



We would love more volunteers to lead Children's Moment! Currently you can choose to record yourself or come up front during worship service. Having new faces deliver the message allows for a wider variety. Please contact Jen Miller or Misti Crossland if you'd like to volunteer or get more information.



The church will collect donations for these individuals:
Kevin Dearing, Cindy Hankins, Amy Smith, and Katie Smith.

Please indicate which individual the donation is for or it will be split evenly between them. Below are the steps to donate from your online giving portal.



New Gift

1. FUNDS 2. PAYMENT 3. REVIEW

JUDE RUN-MEMO LINE DESIGNATE RUNNER'S NAME

0.00

First Christian Church of Canton Giving

New Gift

1. FUNDS 2. PAYMENT 3. REVIEW

VARIOUS FUNDS

REGULAR & MEMORIAL GIVING

CHI RHO

Chi Rho met on June 6th from 6pm to 7pm outside of the church. We had 12 friends in attendance. We did water relays, games and contests. The children all had an amazing time trying to spray and soak their friends. The highlight of the night was a water balloon fight with over 200 water balloons. That sounds like a lot but the kids had them all thrown in 5 minutes flat. We had lots of laughter and some very soaked children by the end!

There will not be a Chi Rho meeting in July. Those who are going into 6th grade and younger are encouraged to attend **VBS July 25-29th**. Those 7th grade and up are welcome to volunteer with VBS!

-Thanks, Michelle



In search for a Chi Rho Leader!

Beginning in August we are looking for a new Chi Rho Leader for FCC. Michelle Spiva has done a wonderful job the past couple years, but she is going to move up with her youngest and begin our High School Youth Group (CYF) again. We are excited for her to return this program to FCC. We would love to see our Chi Rho program continue. If you'd like more information please contact Michelle Spiva or Misti Crossland!

June 13th Family Ministry Night was a BLAST!
We had many activities & games going throughout the evening.

There will not be a FMN in July. **VBS is July 25-29th.**
We encourage our youth to attend & invite those 7th grade & up to volunteer.





Prayer List – July 2021



Our prayers and sympathies go out to Kevin Morgan and the family and friends of **Teresa Morgan**. Teresa passed away on 6/19/21.

Please Continue to Pray For:

Gretchen Beaty (friend of Sherry Hardy); Mark Bitner (friend of Rickey Noe); Terry Foland; Blaine Hardy; Lita Harris (daughter-in-law of Jim & Judy Wickert); Dan Heffern (cousin of Janet Stone); Nancy Hendrix (sister of Janet Krulac); Karen Howell (cousin of Judy Wickert); Karen Latimer (niece of Karen Wheeler); Larry Latimer (nephew of Karen Wheeler); Ava Leitze (granddaughter of Bill & Judy Leitze); David Maier (friend of Marsha Moore); Linda Reneau (sister-in-law of Mark & Marla Reneau); Crystal Robinson; Randy Weaver; Brian Wheeler (son of Karen Wheeler); Cain Wilson (grandson of Martha Harr); Those not named who are carrying great burdens. Our world, that where there is strife & brokenness, God's light will bring healing & wholeness.

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Janet Krulac	2-Jul
Jack Fitzjarrald	3-Jul
Paula Grigsby	3-Jul
Mallory Meade	3-Jul
Rickey Noe	3-Jul
Andie Stephenson	5-Jul
Greg Pollitt	6-Jul
Brian Spiva	9-Jul
Lauren Ray	10-Jul
Doreen Shaw	10-Jul
Tom Snowman	10-Jul
Eugenia Warden	11-Jul
Grant Stephenson	12-Jul
Sheila Dye	18-Jul
Luke Miller	18-Jul
Becky Wilcoxon	19-Jul
Marlee Miller	20-Jul
Emily Baldry	22-Jul
Marla Reneau	23-Jul
Shawn Snowman	23-Jul
Bill Svob	23-Jul
Ryan Crossland	25-Jul
Emily McLean	25-Jul
Virginia Taylor	26-Jul
Peggy Cook	27-Jul
Aaron McLean	27-Jul
Denise Jarvis	28-Jul
Gretchen Fuller	29-Jul
Diane Schrodtt	29-Jul
Greg Stephenson	30-Jul

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

Jan & Kevin Dearing	21-Jul
Tom & Norma Snowman	31-Jul

Care Facilities:

At Courtyard Estates-**Mildred Weber; Margaret Wright**

At Red Oak Estates-**Betty Kost; Tom Neill**

At Renaissance Care Center-**Curtis & Leta Krock; Angie Slater**

At Sunset-**Lori Bieber; Ed Ford; Shirley Harris; Raymond Lindsey; Shawn Nikula**

Scriptures, Sermons, & Serving Schedules

7/4/2021		7/11/2021- Bill Leitze	
Scripture	Mark 6:7-13	Scripture	Titus 2:7, Matthew 5:14, 16, John 13:35
Sermon	You Are the Equipment	Sermon	The Grass SHOULD Be Greener
Greeters	None	Greeters	Sheila Dye
Ushers	None	Ushers	Judy White
CtW Reader	None	CtW Reader	Lori Coleman
Scripture Reader	Bill Leitze	Scripture Reader	Liz Pollitt
Children's Moment	Steve Mason	Children's Moment	Judy Kemper
Summer Children's Church	Ryan & Misti Crossland	Summer Children's Church	Becky Wilcoxon & Bea Meeker
Invitation	Jan Dearing	Invitation	Kevin Dearing
Elder	Jen Miller	Elder	Chuck Taylor
7/18/2021		7/25/2021	
Scripture	2 Samuel 7:1-14a	Scripture	Philippians 4:8-14
Sermon	Glamping	Sermon	I Think I Can, I Think I Can
Greeters	Doris Svob	Greeters	Mike & Janet Krulac
Ushers	Dee & Denny Doubet	Ushers	Barb Pollitt
CtW Reader	None	CtW Reader	Kara Fitzjarald
Scripture Reader	Norm Pollitt	Scripture Reader	Kate Fitzjarald
Children's Moment	Randy Weaver	Children's Moment	Jean Edwards
Summer Children's Church	Amy & Tad Allard	Summer Children's Church	Marsha Moore & Eugenia Warden
Invitation	Bruce Edwards	Invitation	Mike Krulac
Elder	Mike Walters	Elder	Tammy Weaver

JULY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27-Jun 9:00 a.m. Worship	28 6:00 p.m. Property Committee Meeting	29 2:00 p.m. Card Group	30 10:30 a.m. G.E.M.S. Big Creek Park Pavilion	1 RSVP for Tom Snowman's Party	2 11:00 a.m. Graveside Service for Howard Taylor at Greenwood Cemetery	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Steve-Vacation						
9:00 a.m. Outside Worship	7:00 p.m. Elders Meeting		10:30 a.m. G.E.M.S. Big Creek Park Pavilion		1-4:00 p.m. Tom Snowman's 90th Birthday Party	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Steve-Vacation						
9:00 a.m. Worship	6:00 p.m. Worship Committee Meeting	10:00 a.m. DCFS Mandated Report Training	6:00 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting	10:30 a.m. G.E.M.S. Big Creek Park Pavilion		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:00 a.m. Worship	6:00 p.m. CE Committee Meeting 7:00 p.m. Board Meeting		10:30 a.m. G.E.M.S. Big Creek Park Pavilion 8:00 p.m. VBS Set pick- up from Maples Mill	9:00 a.m. VBS Set-up		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Rocky Railway VBS 5:40 p.m.-8:00 p.m.						
9:00 a.m. Worship	6:00 p.m. Property Committee Meeting	1:00 p.m. Newsletter Deadline	10:30 a.m. G.E.M.S. Big Creek Park Pavilion			
		2:00 p.m. Card Group		8:00 p.m. VBS Tear- down		