

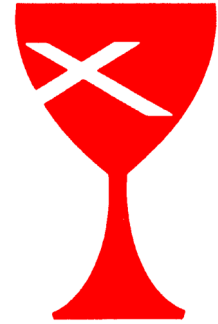
June 2021
Volume 67, Issue 6

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

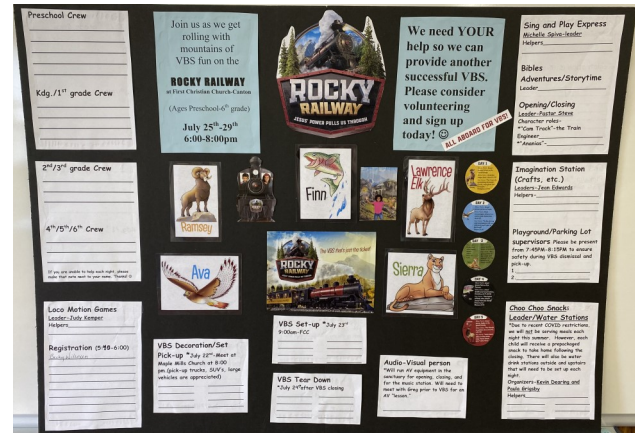


Rocky Railway Vacation Bible School

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!



We still need **Station Leaders** for this year's VBS. Below is a brief description of what would be required of you. There is a Volunteer Board listing all other volunteer opportunities for VBS in the Narthex. If you have volunteered in the past we would love to have you again. If you haven't helped with VBS previously or it has been a long time this is a wonderful program to volunteer your time for! Please contact Misti, contact@cantonfcc.org, if you'd like to volunteer or would like more information!

Ananias: This is a character role that will participate only in Day 1. They will be in a skit during Bible Adventures (4 times) & in a skit in the closing with the VBS Leader.

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.

Audio Visual: You will run the AV equipment in the sanctuary. This involves playing the Bible Buddy videos during the opening each day, playing the music videos for the Sing & Play station, and providing microphones for the VBS Leader, Cam track, and anyone else in an opening/closing skit. If you do not already know how to use the equipment you must be willing to come in & learn beforehand.

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

Why Canton??!

This is almost always the response I get when telling Canton residents I run into that our family has willingly chosen to move here. The frequency of this response is surprising and the “Why Canton?” sounds as if I’ve chosen something that is both shocking and slightly revolting—like if I said that I have a suit made out of roadkill skunks or I just ordered a tractor tire as my dinner entrée.

I know that this city we’re quickly beginning to call home has experienced a series of setbacks over the years—between mining industry slowing down, the loss of IH job and the gas explosion a few years ago. Yes, Fulton County does experience higher rates of poverty and a lower median household income than other nearby places. And, yes, Canton will probably never make some list for the hot, new “it” place to move to.

But I’ve heard this “Why Canton?” so much lately that it’s reminded me of a story from the Bible. In the first chapter of the gospel of John, Jesus is assembling his crew, the disciples. And at one point one of his new followers, Phillip, spreads the word about Jesus to a friend of his, Nathanael. But when Phillip tells Nathanael about Jesus, he says, he’s the son of Joseph from Nazareth. And Nathanael replies skeptically, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Nathanael’s not so sure about this Jesus now that he knows where he’s from.

It was his version of “Why Canton?”

Well, as Jesus goes to show, yes, some VERY good things can come from Nazareth or anyplace—including Canton! And, as we just celebrated Pentecost, we remember that the Holy Spirit swept through folks from all different places. So, for all those folks who have asked us why we would move here, let me tell you what I’ve observed in a short month or so of living here.

I’ve had more neighbors introduce themselves to me in this time than I did in 9 years of living in our last town. We’ve had more interaction with Isaac’s teachers, principal and classmate’s families than anywhere else we’ve lived. We’ve consistently struck up friendly conversations with folks that we bump into on the streets and in stores. Y’all are friendly!

Canton also has a culture that gives space to breathe. People don’t seem as rushed, which is a nice change of pace. Whether it’s the literal pace of finding people driving 30-ish down our 40 m.p.h. limit road or the embrace of the wonderful parks and lakes in the surrounding area, it’s much different than what I’ve known.

And I have to share one more story. Last week I officiated my first funeral in town and as the cars processed from the funeral home to the cemetery, almost every single car that we met, pulled over and waited out of respect for the family’s grief and to honor the life that was being celebrated. I have probably officiated over 100 funerals, but I have never once been in a community where people were willing to take a few minutes of their day and pause to recognize someone else’s life and loss.

That’s “why Canton.” These reasons are not little things to us—they make such a difference in our lives.

And I could write a whole other article on “why FCC”—and trust me, there’s already more than enough material for that!—but I hope as you begin your summer, you remember what a gift God has given us in this community and that we individually and communally continue to give people plenty of reasons for “why Canton.”

Peace, Steve

Safe Kid's Training for Adult Volunteers working with Youth:

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.

We have scheduled Safe Kid's Training to take place on Thursday June 10th at 6p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Remember it is no longer hours long, only 1 hour! If you'd prefer to attend online we will also have it on Facebook Live. You will need to comment at the start of the Video & complete the paperwork separately.

We have not offered a training in over 3 years, therefore everyone needs to go through training again. Please try to attend this meeting either in person or virtually!

Something that you can do now before the training on 6/10! Training that can be completed independently is the DCFS Mandated Reporter Training. Please try to complete this step and 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.

Update on Working Hours:

Steve Mason, Pastor	Misti Crossland, Office Coordinator	Rick Coulter, Building Supervisor
Sunday	Monday & Wednesday	Sunday
Worship	8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	6:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Monday - Thursday	Tuesday & Thursday	Monday
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
Friday - Saturday	Friday - Sunday	Tuesday-Thursday
Off	Off	7:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
For Steve & Misti-Lunch Breaks will be taken during the work day. Walk-ins are welcome or you can make an appointment. We will try to mark any scheduled time off on the Newsletter calendar.		Friday - Saturday
		Off

From the Re-Entry Committee:

The Re-Entry Committee met on Monday, May 24 to discuss how the "Bridge" phase of Illinois' Covid-19 plan affects our church's re-entry process. According to the state web site, coronavirus.illinois.gov, it is possible that Illinois may be moving into Phase 5 as early as June 11, but here is what it will be based upon:



Once 70% of residents 65 and older have been vaccinated and barring any reversals in our COVID-19 hospitalizations and deaths for a 28-day monitoring period, the Bridge to Phase 5 will begin with increased capacity limits in both indoor and outdoor settings. Once 50% of residents 16 and older have been vaccinated and stable or declining COVID-19 metrics are recorded during a 28-day monitoring period, Phase 5 will be implemented, removing capacity limits altogether. All regions of the state will move through these next phases together based on statewide metrics.

The Re-Entry Committee continues to be cautious in fully opening to pre-Covid activities. Even though many, maybe most of our members have been vaccinated, we have children attending who have not yet been vaccinated. Therefore, we will continue to require masking indoors, social distance seating, sanitizing, etc. While we will not be holding official Coffee Fellowship, please feel free to bring your own drinks and snacks while you converse either in Fellowship Hall, or in the parking lot after worship.

Our precautions will remain as they have been, except that some additional spaced seating will be added in the sanctuary, mostly to accommodate families. The Facebook Live broadcasts will continue in the months to come and an outdoor service is planned for June 6. Help love our neighbors and get us closer to Phase 5 by making sure YOU have your vaccination and encourage your neighbors to do so, as well!

The committee is appreciative of the patience of church membership in following the protocol we have established. The increased attendance in recent weeks was also noted – and it was agreed that Steve has played a major role! Blessing to all as we continue this journey together.

Scriptures, Sermons, & Serving Schedules

6/6/2021		6/13/2021	
Scripture	Mark 6:31-44	Scripture	Mark 4:30-34
Sermon	Seeing Abundance	Sermon	God's Garden
Children's Church	Kim & Daryl Schrodt	Children's Church	Lyn & Shawn Snowman
Invitation	Mike Walters	Invitation	Tammy Weaver
Elder	Bruce Edwards	Elder	Mike Krulac
6/20/2021-Father's Day		6/27/2021	
Scripture	Mark 4:35-41	Scripture	Mark 5:25-43
Sermon	Storm Sighting	Sermon	Begin Again
Children's Church	Amy & Tad Allard	Children's Church	Jean & Bruce Edwards
Invitation	Alan Coleman	Invitation	Daryle Coleman
Elder	Bill Leitze	Elder	Trygve Meade

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.



News From Outreach, June 2021

Our Community Dinner will be Sunday, June 6 11am-12:30pm. Please prayerfully consider how you can help. We need people to:

- ◆ **Package desserts**
- ◆ **Package the main dinner**
- ◆ **Deliver meals**
- ◆ **Distribute meals at the take out station**

Sign up sheets are on the bulletin board.

We would like to cook over 150 meals. If you know someone who would enjoy a free ham dinner please sign them up.

The donation box for personal items and cleaning items will be in the hallway until Monday, June 14.

Thank you for all our volunteers. Your gift of time and talent is very much appreciated. Have a joyful day.

Judy Kemper-Chairperson, Kevin Dearing, Amy Smith, Paula Grigsby, Ron Rupe



First Christian Church

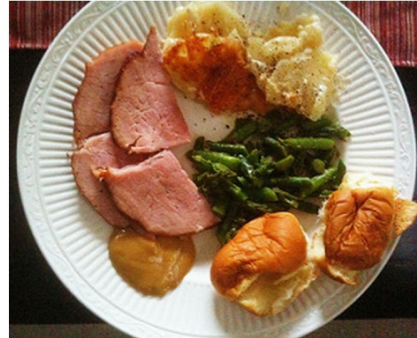
215 West Elm Street, Canton, IL



Is hosting a **FREE**

Community Meal on Sunday, June 6th
11 a.m.-12:30p.m.

Open to all Canton residents!



The menu is a
Ham Dinner
with cake.

**Carry-out or
Delivery only.**

Reservation are required.

Call Jan at 309-226-3296 between
1p.m.-6p.m. by Wednesday, June 2nd.



FCC 2021 Graduates!

Addy Allard-Graduated from Canton High School, Valedictorian, May 14, 2021. She will be attending University of Illinois this fall, pursuing a degree in Animal Sciences, with the ultimate goal of achieving a degree in Veterinary Sciences.



Gillian Spiva– Graduated from the University of Missouri on May 14th, 2021 with a Bachelors degree in Communications with a minor in Art. Gillian will be setting off on a grand adventure as she moves to South Dakota at the beginning of June. Gillian will be doing freelance graphic design and photography as she searches for a full time position in social media marketing. Thank you to our FCC church family for supporting Gillian in all of her academic endeavors.

Jarrod Zaborac, grandson of Margaret Zaborac-Wright- Graduated from the University of Texas with his PHD in Structural Engineering. He attended FCC before his family moved to Liberty, MO.

ST. JUDE RUNS



Well it's getting to be that time of year again, the St. Jude run is just around the corner, **July 17th**. We are all very excited that we are going to do an actual run this year, unlike last years virtual run. I am again in search of donations. Any amount large or small will be taken and sent to St. Jude's. I know there are many of you who have donated year after year and it is greatly appreciated. Remember that cancer in children is not going away. Look at the great things St. Jude in Memphis did for Ava Leitze and her family. We've got a miracle example right in our own church. I usually run most of the Canton to Peoria route, 33 miles. I am dedicating this year's run to Ava Leitze. If you want to donate I'll be more than happy to take your check or cash at church, or you can mail it to me at Kevin Dearing-1585 East Sycamore Canton. Checks made out to St. Jude.

Thanks in advance, Kevin.

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.

To the left are the steps to donate from your online giving portal for St. Jude.

New Gift

New Gift



Summer Combined Children's Church begins in June. It will be held in the Youth Room (Room 103). Each Sunday will be a VeggieTales video lesson.



FCC Family,
Thank you for the warm welcome you have shared with our family! And now that y'all have gifted us with a YMCA membership, we're really feeling like we are a part of Canton! Thanks and we look forward to many years of ministry together!—
Pastor Steve and the Mason family

Outdoor Worship-On June 6th (& 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!!!!



CHI RHO

We had an amazing group of 14 kids for Chi Rho at First Christian on Sunday, May 16th. Kevin and I split the kids up into two scavenger hunt teams: 5th and 6th graders vs. 8th and 9th graders. Each team started out with one clue to solve. The answer to the first clue would lead them to the location of the second clue and so on. After solving ten riddles and finding all the clues they had to figure out one final puzzle that would lead them to the grand prize. The kids had a great time running through the church racing to be the winning team. The older kids found their prize first, but all of the kids were rewarded with a box of candy. We tried to go outside after the scavenger hunt, but the rain started coming down a bit too hard. I had planned to play a card game once we got back inside, but the kids begged to play hide and seek. Once again, they had a grand old-time racing through the church to find their friends. I really enjoy listening to them all laugh and carry on throughout the church.

Chi Rho Youth Group
Sunday, June 6th
6pm to 7pm
First Christian Church



All 5th thru 8th graders are invited to join us for a fun evening of water games. Snacks will be provided. Bring a towel and be prepared to get soaked!

PIC-COLLAGE

Chi Rho will meet again on Sunday, June 6th from 6pm to 7pm. Hopefully, the weather will cooperate so we can stay outside and enjoy water games together. Please be sure your middle schooler comes dressed in clothes that can get wet. I recommend bringing a towel as well. The games that I have planned include water balloons and water relays that are sure to leave the kids completely soaked! If anyone has questions about Chi Rho, feel free to email me at michellespiva@live.com.



-Thanks,
Michelle



Family Ministry nights are back!

We held our first event of the season on Sun May 23 at Big Creek Park. We had a great group who took a nature hike around the park. We all



looked for the perfect walking stick and collected some natural treasures. We headed back to the picnic tables and created journey sticks. Each stick was unique, some were painted, some wrapped with colored twine, one was even created to look like a fishing pole! Treasures attached were acorns, cool rocks, small twigs, even a piece of a golf ball! It was great to be together



again, sharing stories of what we've been doing during the pandemic, and enjoying each other's company. Our next event will be June 13th, join for an outdoor family game night! Be sure to share with your friends, you don't have to attend FCC to join us, all ages welcome!



June Family Ministry: Outdoor Game Night Sunday June 13th 6-8p.m.

All welcome! Grab the family and join us for outdoor games like bags, giant bowling, Jenga, frisbee golf, giant parachute and a scavenger hunt too! Feel free to bring a game to share! Snacks and water will be provided .



JUNE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30-May 9:00 a.m. Worship	31 Office & Building Closed for Memorial Day	1-Jun	2 6:00 p.m. Reservation Deadline for Community Meal	3	4	5
6 9:00 a.m. Worship 11-12:30 p.m. Carry- out Community Meal	7 7:00 p.m. Elders Meeting	8	9 12:00 p.m. Outreach Committee Meeting 6:00 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting	10 6:00 p.m. Safe Kid's Training & Fellowship Hall & Facebook Live)	11	12
13 9:00 a.m. Worship 6-8:00 p.m. FMN: Outdoor Games	14 6:00 p.m. Worship Committee Meeting	15	16 1:00 p.m. Minutes Packet Deadline	17	18	19
20 9:00 a.m. Worship Father's Day	21 6:00 p.m. CE Committee Meeting 7:00 p.m. Cabinet Meeting	22	23 1:00 p.m. Newsletter Deadline	24	25	26
27 9:00 a.m. Worship	28 6:00 p.m. Property Committee Meeting	29	30	1-Jul	2	3



Prayer List – June 2021

Our prayers and sympathies go out to the family and friends of **Jordan Eskrine**. He passed away on 4/27/21. He was the great-great nephew of Doris Taylor. He has been in our prayers since before his birth. He was born with only a partially formed heart and underwent many surgeries and procedures over the past 9 months.

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); Terry Reed (friend of Diane Sickle); Linda Reneau (sister-in-law of Mark & Marla Reneau); Crystal Robinson; 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.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Colleen Riley	1
Chris Hardy	3
Pat Stanko	3
Cole Schrodtt	4
Amy Allard	5
Kathy Burton	7
Jerry Heller	8
Marshall Ray	19
Kandy Wright	19
Diane Bell	22
Gage Baldry	29

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

Kara & Dan Fitzjarrald	2
Mark & Laura Taylor	7
Michael & Susan Walters	10
Amy & Tad Allard	12
Corey & Jennifer Miller	14
Norm & Liz Pollitt	14
Brian & Michelle Spiva	14
Alan & Daryle Coleman	15
Mark & Emily Baldry	17
Greg & SueEllen Stephenson	27

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

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