

March 2022



First Christian Church

www.cantonfcc.org

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

215 West Elm Street
Canton, IL 61520

office (309) 647-1363

Community Meals Serving Up Joy!

February 13th the volunteers were in full force, orchestrated by Judy, Kevin and with a little help from chef Lee. Together, we served over 220 meals to our neighbors. Thanks to everyone who helped!

Make sure to save the date for the next FCC Community Meal, Sunday April 10th, which will be a Palm Sunday ham dinner.

Keep posted with chances to RSVP for meals or to sign up to help be a part of this joyful ministry of service!

Thank you to Kevin, Judy, & chef Lee who led our community dinner! Thanks to everyone at FCC who helped prepare, serve, deliver, and clean up! Together, we shared over 220 meals with this Valentine's Community meal.

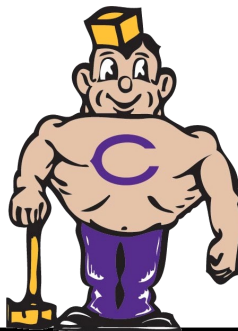


It was a big night for FCC on Feb 15th's High School Varsity basketball game!

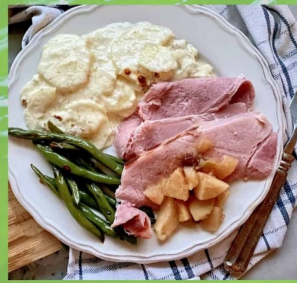
Kevin Dearing and Judy Kemper (pictured below) accepted the Business Booster of the Year award on behalf of First Christian in all the volunteer work we do as a part of our community.

And our very own Amy Smith was honored as the Booster of the Year!

Way to bring the spirit of love and joyful service into the community, everyone!



SAVE THE DATE: APRIL 10



Palm Sunday Community Meal at FCC

QR Codes bring a new way to support FCC!

Hopefully you have noticed this new symbol in your bulletin. This is a QR code for our church's online giving. If you wish to continue empowering our ministries with your financial gifts through cash, check or direct deposits, great!

But if you prefer to give online, simply point and click this code with your QR Reader on your smartphone and this will take you directly to our online giving.

We hope this is an easy way for those who wish to give online to share their inspiring generosity!



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



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

Thank you for everyone who shared in our "Together for Joy" worship series and stewardship season. It truly was a joy to spend three weeks in a row in such a beautiful Psalm as the 98th. It reminded me of a Holy Spirit moment I had recently at the Bethany Fellows Leadership Retreat the first week of February. The whole week we were spending time meeting, in silence, in prayer and it just seemed that scripture was overflowing with wisdom and excitement. It reminded me what a joy we have to be able to explore and unpack scripture together as a church!

And it has been a joy to savor Psalm 98 and what it can mean for our community too! It was great hearing from Don Heller and Kevin Dearing about their stewardship and what our theme and scripture meant in their faith journeys. And thank you to everyone who participated in our Celebration Sunday on February 27th! If you did participate and didn't get your thank you gift from the church, or if you didn't get a chance to celebrate in person but would like to turn in your information and receive an FCC tumbler, please contact the office and we will get you all set up.

It truly has been a joy to see how First Christian Church lives out our belief that God really has made us ***Together for Joy*** in our stewardship and all our ministries together as church! Thank you and may this month be a season of abundant blessings for you!

—Pastor Steve



TOGETHER
FOR JOY

From the Re-Entry Committee:

With lowered transmission rates and lowered hospitalization rates recently for COVID-19 in our county, and with a continued high rate of vaccination among the FCC membership, the Re-entry Committee is implementing the following changes to go into effect immediately:

Face Masks: we will continue the practice of making masking optional for small groups. For worship, masks are not required, but are encouraged, especially during any singing.

Food: we will be allowing meals to be served at FCC. Please use care and consideration for safety and sanitary guidelines when preparing, serving and eating: minimizing time where people will be touching food and utensils of others, avoiding waiting in line without masks near food and encouraging distanced seating while eating.

Spacing in the sanctuary: at this point, there is no need to add seating capacity to the sanctuary, so we will continue our seating set up as is.

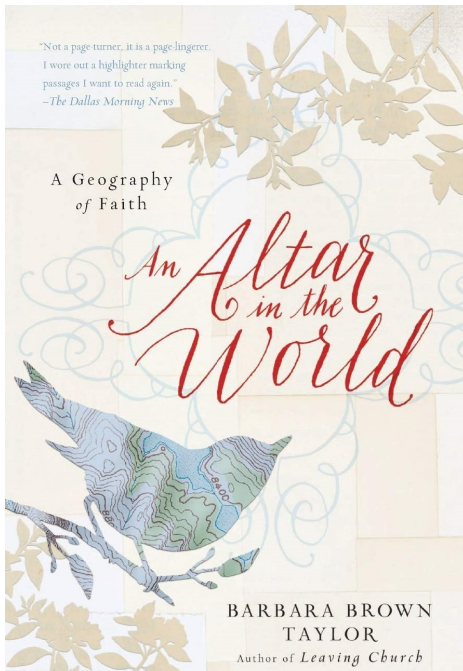
Lent at FCC: *A Practical Faith*

Each year around this time we observe Lent, a 40-day preparation for Easter. You may be familiar with Lent, but in most of our minds, Lent is a dour (maybe even boring?) season of fasting and enduring another Midwest winter; waiting for spring, Easter joy and Peeps.

But not this year. We'll still have joy (and Peeps!) but this year, we are *practicing* Lent, remembering that Jesus invites us to live more fully each day and that to really discover the depths of Easter joy, we need daily practices that help unveil that truth far beyond this season.

That's why we're calling this Lent, *A Practical Faith*. Each week, with wisdom from Barbara Brown Taylor's "Altar in the World" we'll explore a simple practice to help discover the wisdom and joy of life that Jesus wants for each one of us. You'll have support for each practice with a weekly video called *Let's Practice!* (it will replace the "Minute at First" for Lent) and Wednesdays you can drop by for dinner, to practice together and we'll even talk a bit about our experiences.

This Lent, let's not just observe faith, let's *practice it*—in the ways we see, walk, live, love, work, rest, pray and bless—so that we might grow in the Spirit and continue becoming dedicated Disciples through our passionate spirituality!



Lent Dates to Remember

March 2—Ash Wednesday (5:30 supper, 7 worship)
March 9, 16, 23, 30, April 6—Discussion and Supper Group
April 10—Palm Sunday (9am worship, 11-noon Community Meal)
April 14—Maundy Thursday (5:30 supper and group, 7 worship)
April 15—Good Friday Tenebrae Worship (7pm)
April 17—Easter (9am worship)

This Lent, we'll be using **Barbara Brown Taylor's book, "Altar in the World"** in worship and we'll be offering a weekly group discussion and soup supper.

These dinners and discussion will happen weekly on Wednesdays in Lent from 5:30-7pm. We'll gather with a meal, discuss the reading, talk about how our personal practice is going and even try a spiritual practice together, as a group.

Books are available (\$8 suggested donation) in the office and you can sign up to bring soup on the sign-up sheet by the front door.



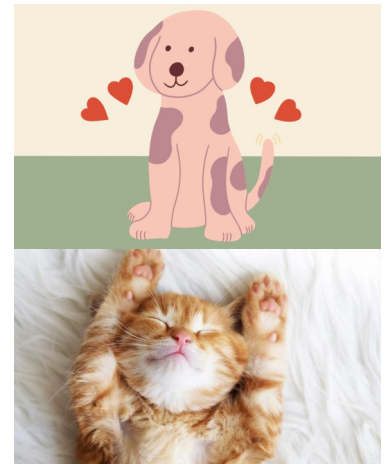
News from Outreach

A big "Thank You" to our congregation for helping and supporting the Community Meal Program. On Sunday, February 13 we prepared 225 meals. We delivered 15 meals to Emerald Estates, 34 meals to Maple Manor, 12 meals to Longview Apts., 10 meals to East Elm Apartments and 20 meals to First Responders. Jan Dearing is our phone lady who does a remarkable job. She not only takes reservations but she listens to people. She recently talked to a lady who has been homeless and is now living in an apartment. Two other ladies asked about attending our church. She told them about our Bus Ministry. Our meals are free and offered unconditionally to all. To quote Jan "it is a joy to share Jesus with those who aren't in a church as well as sharing with those who are in church" Thank you to the First Baptist Food Pantry, Chris Franzoni, Jeff (Canton Family Restaurant) and Lee Puleo (our guest chef) who donated supplies and food. It is work but so rewarding.

Congratulations to Amy Smith on her award as Canton Little Giant Booster of the Year and to First Christian Church as the Booster Business of the Year. It is a joy to volunteer. Inspiring Generosity and Joyful Service shown in many different ways in our community.

Lent is a season of 40 days which begins on Ash Wednesday (March 2) and ends on Easter weekend. Lent is a period which Christians remember the events leading up to and including the death of Jesus Christ whose life and teachings are the foundations of Christianity. During this time we set aside time to praise and worship the Lord, to read the Bible more and pray.

For this year's donation ***we will have a donation box for the Fulton County Humane Society.*** They are in need of many items for cats and dogs including; food, scoopable litter, brushes, bleach, dog leashes, permanent markers, metal food bowls and paper towels. . The Humane Society is an independent charitable organization. They receive no tax dollars and are not affiliated with any national animal welfare organization. They are an all volunteer staff and their funding comes only through donations. They accept all companion animals needing shelter, regardless of age, physical condition, or adopt-ability. We will also have a box for the donation of travel size shampoo and conditioner to donate to the Salvation Army.



Our next Community meal will be on Sunday April 10 (Palm Sunday). It will be a ham dinner.
— Judy Kemper

Welcome Ed Ford!

What a joy it was to welcome Ed Ford as our newest member on February 13! Hopefully most of you already know Ed, who has been coming to the church for over two years—thanks and no small part to Bill Leitze and the bus ministry.

Ed has resided at Sunset Manor for almost a decade, where he is known and beloved by his neighbors. Before Canton, Ed lived in Little America, where his mother and brother still reside on their farm. Ed has a sister in Canton and an ex-wife in Havana, who he is still friends with.

Ed will add his love of prayer, his great laugh and cheerful spirit to our church. He is a prayer warrior and a fervent Cubs fan. And as excited as Ed is to be a part of FCC we are that much more blessed with his presence, his prayers and his gifts! Welcome Ed!



BECOMING
DEDICATED

Disciples

Passionate **SPIRITUALITY**

Joyful **SERVICE**

Inspiring **GENEROSITY**

Get ready for summer!!

Save the dates and make a plan to be a part of an epic summer of camping ministries and VBS!

Start letting the kids and youth in your life know and get it all on your calendar today!



CAMP WALTER SCOTT

Save the date for our 2022 Summer Program!

MAY 27-30	Memorial Day Family Camp
JUN 5-11	Camp Acts (Service Week Camp)
JUN 12-18	CYF (9th to 12th Grade)
JUN 24-26	Beginners (K to 3rd Grade*)
JUN 26-29	Grandparents & Me (K to 5th Grade)
JUL 10-16	Chi Rho (6th to 8th Grade)
JUL 17-23	JYF (3rd to 5th Grade*)
SEP 2-5	Labor Day Family Camp

*3rd graders can register to attend either Beginners or JYF Camp

3:16 Youth Ministry Update

A great group of youth gathered Feb 27th for the "Lenten Burn" at Trinity ELCA where we discussed the purpose of Lent, we talked about prayer practices we're going to commit to during this season and we even burned ashes that will be used at our congregations' Ash Wednesday services on March 2nd.

The next 3:16 gathering will be focused on more fun and fellowship, but we will be communicating this info primarily through the "Band" app, a messaging and communication tool used for families, schools and small groups. So if you have youth in your life and haven't downloaded this app and found "3:16 Youth Fellowship." Make sure to do that soon so you don't miss out on all the fun and fellowship of our Junior and Senior High groups!

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

FAMILY GAME NIGHT

Bring a game or just play... but you ALWAYS have time for fun!

New Night: Sunday, March 6th
Fellowship Hall @ 6

RSVP on Facebook





Prayer List: March 2022

Please Continue to Pray For:

Jim Wickert & his family; Rick Coulter & Sandy; Crystal Grabel (Denny D's niece); Journee Vineyard (Doreen Shaw's friend); Suzanne Freeman (Diane Freeman's mom); Eric Dilts (Lyn Snowman's brother); Allard Family; Gary Brown (great nephew of Bill & Judy Kemper); Sarah Eskridge (friend of Alan Coleman); Melody with breast cancer (friend of Daryle Coleman); Bruce Edwards & his family; Brenda Lybarger (Melissa Dean's mom); Gretchen Beaty (friend of Sherry Hardy); Blaine Hardy; Lita Harris (daughter-in-law of Jim Wickert); David Maier (friend of Marsha Moore) and Brian Wheeler (son of Karen Wheeler).

Those not named who are carrying great burdens. Our world, that where there is strife & brokenness. We pray that God's light will bring healing & wholeness.

**Looking for a way to share some love?
Send a St. Patrick's Day greeting
to those members in care facilities.
Brighten their day!**



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Jan Lynn Dearing	3/1
Ben Webb	3/2
Dennis D Doubet	3/11
Mark Allen Taylor	3/12
Mark Allen Reneau	3/12
Eric Lee Jarvis	3/12
Elizabeth Ann Clark	3/13
Maralee Jane (O'Bryant) Wright	3/14
Ron Edward Rupe	3/14
Derek Spiva	3/15
Cydni Paige Bell	3/19
Bonnie Jean Ellis Harn	3/21
Don Heller	3/24
Jake Allen Smith	3/24
Maci Dosier	3/24
John Davis	3/26
Scott Snowman	3/26
Wanda D Carmack	3/27

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Mark & Amy Sawyer	March 17

Care Facilities:

At Courtyard Estates
Mildred Weber; Margaret Wright
At Graham Hospital Extended Care
Leta Krock
At Red Oak Estates
Betty Kost; Tom Neill

At Renaissance Care Center
Curtis Krock; Angie Slater
At Sunset
Lori Bieber; Ed Ford; Raymond Lindsey;
Shawn Nikula

Scriptures, Sermons, & Serving Schedules

March 6, 2022		March 13, 2022	
Scripture	Genesis 28:10-22	Scripture	Exodus 1:8-11a & 2:23-3:8a
Sermon	Practice Seeing	Sermon	Practice Walking
Greeters	Alan & Daryle Coleman	Greeters	Mike & Susan Walters
Ushers	Krulac Family	Ushers	Marilee Casper
CtW Reader	Trygve Meade	CtW Video	Video
Scripture Reader	Lyn Snowman	Scripture Reader	Mark Taylor
Children's Moment	Janet Krulac	Children's Moment	Steve Mason
Children's Church	Amy & Tad Allard	Children's Church	Darryl & Kim Schrodt
Invitation	Chuck Taylor	Invitation	Mike Walters
Prayer	Alan Coleman	Prayer	Bruce Edwards
Counters	Daryle Coleman & Vinnie Cufaude	Counters	Don Heller & Jen Miller
March 20, 2022		March 27, 2022	
Scripture	John 1:1-5 & 14	Scripture	Matthew 4:1-11
Sermon	Practice Being Human	Sermon	Practice Getting Lost
Greeters	McLean Family	Greeters	Jim Wickert
Ushers	Liz Pollitt	Ushers	Bruce & Jean Edwards
CtW Reader	Kate Fitzjarrald	CtW Video	Video
Scripture Reader	Tammy Weaver	Scripture Reader	Eugenia Warden
Children's Moment	Michelle Spiva or Jen Miller	Children's Moment	Grant Stephenson
Children's Church	Alan & Daryle Coleman	Children's Church	Becky Wilcoxon & Marsha Moore
Invitation	Tammy Weaver	Invitation	Alan Coleman
Prayer	Mike Krulac	Prayer	Bill Leitze
Counters	Chuck Taylor & Trygve Meade	Counters	Bruce Edwards & Jen Miller

March 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>6 Worship 9:00 A.M. Bible Study 10 A.M. Room 104 & Zoom Family Ministry Game Night in FH 6:00 P.M.</p>	 <p>7 Elders Meeting 7:00 P.M.</p>	1	<p>2 Ash Wednesday Supper 5:30 P.M. & Worship 7:00 P.M.</p>	<p>3 G.E.M.S. Room 104 10:00 A.M.</p>	4	5
<p>13 Worship 9:00 A.M. Bible Study 10 A.M. Room 104 & Zoom</p>	<p>14 Worship Meeting 6:00 P.M.</p>	15	<p>9 Finance Committee Meeting 6:00 P.M. Chancel Choir 7:00 P.M.</p>	<p>10 G.E.M.S. Room 104 10:00 A.M.</p>	11	12
<p>20 Worship 9:00 A.M. Bible Study 10 A.M. Room 104 & Zoom</p>	<p>21 CE Committee Meeting 6:00 P.M. Board Meeting 7:00 P.M.</p>	22	<p>16 Minutes Packet Deadline 10:00 A.M. Chancel Choir 7:00 P.M.</p>	<p>17 G.E.M.S. Room 104 10:00 A.M. Newsletter Deadline 11:00 A.M.</p>	18	19
<p>27 Worship 9:00 A.M. Bible Study 10 A.M. Room 104 & Zoom</p>	<p>28 Property Committee Meeting 6:00 P.M.</p>	29 Card Club 2:00 P.M.	<p>23 Chancel Choir 7:00 P.M.</p>	<p>24 G.E.M.S. Room 104 10:00 A.M.</p>	25	26
			<p>30 Outreach Meeting 4:00 P.M. Chancel Choir 7:00 P.M.</p>	<p>31 G.E.M.S. Room 104 10:00 A.M.</p>		