

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

Summer Daze

Whew! What a month June was! Summer began, we sent kids to church camp (check out the article on page 4), Canton celebrated its bicentennial, while at First Christian, we looked back and gave thanks to God's steadfast love and guidance that has taken us "From Generation to Generation" over the past 135 years! The pictures on page 1 are just a snippet from our vaults!

It was great to see how connected this congregation and its people are to the heart of our community. Mike Walters chaired the event and had been planning and leading the week after years of work. All throughout the week, he could be spotted nearby—leading discussions, opening time capsules and making sure everything went smoothly. Bill Leitze began the Opening Ceremony on June 20th with a prayerful invocation—one that spoke to the broad and inclusive language of God that is a part of Disciples' identity, which Bill later received compliments on such an inviting kind of faith. He also drove bus tours for a look at the town's historical sites. First Christian also got to host a Dust Bowl Edu-Concert, led by our own John Davis, including many from our music ministries, as they celebrated the tunes of the 1920s and 30s. Many FCC folks were involved in the acting and band for the "Chautauqua" event. Chuck Taylor played trumpet, Zach and Mike Krulac, Steve Mason and Bruce Edwards could all be seen helping! And one of the final events was the town's ice cream social that we helped lead.

While many of us were involved for the city, it was also a time, as a church to look back and give God thanks. Each week in worship, we focused on a season in our ministry, sang songs from the times, heard "Voices from the Past" from those who lived it and pondered together about what lies in store for our church. We remembered the sisters who founded our congregation with the motto, All Seats are Free, Everybody Welcome, as the beginning of our inclusive faith. We heard from Rev. Leslie Hueston as he modeled the call to compassion, as he stepped up as an Army chaplain during WW2. We continue to reach out into the neighborhood, to find new ways to connect with all people but especially valuing our call as a leader in the community and following Jesus' command to prioritize children and youth in our ministry—which really took root in the 1970s. It's true, much has changed in our church over the last 135 years—from tent revivals to Walnut Street and now 215 West Elm St. We've seen pastors and lay leaders come and go, and we've weathered seasons of decline as well as growth, but through it all...Christ has been our cornerstone.

Thank you for your prayerful participation, your celebration and your inspiration so that we can continue being faithful to our calling as a congregation for generations to come!

Pastor Steve



Find your **Minute at First** every Monday morning.

Information and spiritual formation on Facebook or in your email.

Watch, like and share!



IMPACT.

MENTORING

Mentors Needed

This fall we are beginning a pilot ministry to help Lincoln Elementary students in a mentoring relationship. Those students who have been identified as in need of safe, consistent and caring adults in their lives are paired up with mentor volunteers to meet one hour a week, at school, during the school day.

By committing one hour a week, volunteer mentors can not only grow a relationship with their student, but while they're doing something as simple as reading together, going over homework, playing a game or simply talking together, they're actually sharing the healing power of Christ that reminds us all that we are beloved and capable children of God. Lincoln Elementary Principal McFerren will serve as the coordinator to support and guide mentors, as well as student placement.

To be qualified, be willing to pass a background check and be consistent in showing up for your weekly time slot that you will schedule with the school. All it takes is that one hour a week of a positive presence in the life of an elementary student, to make a world of change.

Please respond to Pastor Steve by July 30th.

PEORIA CHIEFS



Purchase tickets & sign up for rides in the office today.

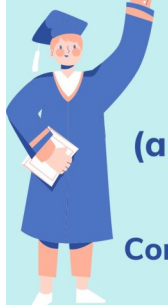
Bus leaves the church @ 5:30pm. Only 26 bus seats available.

Scholarships for fall 2025

Applications due August 1st

(application forms available online at fcc.org)

Contact the office w/ any questions
309-647-1363



BACK TO SCHOOL BASH

July 27th 5pm-7pm
@ Big Creek Pool

Free backpacks w/ school supplies & swimming for Canton K-8th families!

HERE ARE WAYS TO HELP

- Donate \$ for bulk school supplies
- Donate, shop, or volunteer at Helping Hands (July 8-12)
- Help pack backpacks (July 24th @ The Salvation Army, 10-12PM)
- Distribute backpacks, or handout FCC info @ event

Questions: Contact Rhonda Morgan
309-224-1226 or morgan.rhonda342@gmail.com

Camp Walter Scott

Church camping season is in full swing and this is the second year that both the Mason and Stephenson families participated in the You and Me (K-5th grade with adults) camp. Finn Mason also participated in Beginners Camp (1-3rd grade) and Isaac Mason enjoyed JYF Camp (3-5th grade). We hope to continue and expand this partnership by bringing more families to camp next year! But for those who participated, it was a blast, as well as an important part of faith formation of our FCC kids and families!



KIDS DAY Camp

14-18 JULY

A FREE WEEK OF CAMP FOR KIDS FROM CANTON
WITH TRANSPORTATION AND LEADERSHIP FROM
FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

**FAITH
FORMATION**

**OUTDOOR
ACTIVITIES**

**ARTS &
CRAFTS**

For more info: www.campem.com
14999 Reservoir Road Browning, IL



2025 LIVING LEGACY PARTNERS PROGRAM

From Generation to Generation

Steve's sermon series in June, "From Generation to Generation", has been a wonderful look at our church's history. I am sure we have all learned several things about our church's ups and downs over the last 135 years. It has been great to celebrate what our past generations have done for our current congregation. We stand on the shoulders of those before us and the legacy they have provided us.

Now is our time to create a legacy for the generations to come after us. You can do that by being part of our Living Legacy Partners program. Last year we had a Charter Partner effort and ended the year with a total of 38 names recognized. The year 2024 begun with only 5 names of past givers to the Legacy Fund. 33 names were added through commitments and contributions in 2024.

In the first quarter of this year, we had a celebration dinner with almost all of our living Charter Partners in attendance. It was a wonderful evening of celebration. In the second quarter we have mainly been trying to get our Living Legacy recognition plaque created. It is finally completed and will be unveiled at the Sunday June 29th service.

Just as a reminder you can become a Living Legacy Partner by making a commitment to our church in any one of numerous ways. The most used by our current Living Legacy Partners is through a planned gift. Usually, it is through their will or through the future proceeds of a life insurance policy. You can check out various ways you can become a Living Legacy Partner that are listed in our Living Legacy brochure. Then after you decide to make a commitment, a signature on the form is all that is needed. No dollar amount or details need to be shared. So please consider becoming one of us in this our generation, that can be a legacy to the generations that come after us.

Don Heller, on behalf of the Finance committee

Lunch & Learn

Getting Smart, Getting Connected

Date: Thursday, July 10th
Time: 12:00pm -1:00pm
Location: **Baker Rec. Center**
940 N Main St.
Free with lunch provided!
call 309-647-7665 to RSVP

Topic - Art
Journaling

with Paige
Edwards

HOSTED BY:
CANTON PARK DISTRICT
&
FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Summer 2025 Song Leaders

July 6th - Aja Lawson
July 13th - Sherry Coffey
July 20th - Aja Lawson
July 27th - Kevin Dearing

Aug. 3rd - Allen Smith
Aug. 10th - Tammy Weaver
Aug. 17th - Sherry Coffey
Aug. 24th - Kevin Dearing
Aug. 31st - John Davis

July Birthdays

Amanda Valentin	July 1
Kamryn Wilcoxon	July 1
Janet Krulac	July 2
Donita Jo Taylor	July 2
Gabrielle Taylor	July 2
Jack Fitzjarrald	July 3
Paula Grigsby	July 3
Mallory Meade	July 3
Rickey Noe	July 3
Andie Stephenson	July 5
Greg Pollitt	July 6
Doreen Atchley	July 10
Lauren Ray	July 10
Eugenia Warden	July 11
Grant Stephenson	July 12
Kayden Wilcoxon	July 16
Harrison Glomb	July 16
Sheila Dye	July 18
Luke Miller	July 18
Mandy Reneau	July 19
Amanda Sipe	July 19
Becky Wilcoxon	July 19
Marlee Miller	July 20
Steve Mason	July 21
Emily Baldry	July 22
Marla Reneau	July 23
Shawn Snowman	July 23
Bill Svob	July 23
Ryan Crossland	July 25
Emily McLean	July 25
Peggy Cook	July 27
Aaron McLean	July 27

Tom Axline	July 28
Denise Jarvis	July 28
Diane Schrodt	July 29
Greg Stephenson	July 30

July Anniversaries

Carissa & Andrew Moser	July 10
Amanda & Grant Stephenson	July 14
Kevin & Jan Dearing	July 21

Please Pray For:

Dee Doubet's niece, Michelle Clyde (in hospice); Gary Barnhart; Noelle Conrad; Brenda Riathel; Donna Phillips; Melba Dearing; Cindy Schoenheider; Tyler Dixon's dad, Wayne (heart surgery); Ryan Hicks; Keith Munstedt; Brice Heller (eye surgery); Phoebe Raker (recovering from eye surgery); Cathy Schoonover-Orwig (MS); Mandy Sipe; Brenda Dilts (Lyn Snowman's mom); David Lueck (Janet White's nephew); Brad O'Brien (Sherry Hardy's friend); Tayvin Henderson (Friend of Jack Fitzjarrald); Carol Harmon; Kevin Allard (Tad Allard's brother); Steve Moore; Those battling with cancer: Lana Formal, Jodi Smith, Haleigh Schoop, Crystal Graybel, Andrea (Shane Dixon's family), Pam Beadles, John Brown, Mark Stoneking, Sharon Blair, Jason Las-seigne; Tracy Snowman

Care Facilities:

At Courtyard Estates: David & Bea Meeker

At Sunset: Lori Bieber; Ed Ford; Keith Munstedt

At Renaissance Care Center: Angie, Bill & Sue

Scriptures, Sermons, & Serving Schedules

July 6		July 13	
Scripture	Matthew 5: 1-12	Scripture	Matthew 15: 21-28
Greeters	Karen Meade	Greeters	Vinnie Cufaude
Ushers	Allen Smith	Ushers	Doris Taylor
CtW	Video	CtW	Michelle Spiva
Scripture Reader	Amanda Stephenson	Scripture Reader	Denny Doubet
Children's Moment	Steve Mason	Children's Moment	Jen Miller
Invitation	Brian Spiva	Invitation	Shawna Axline
Prayer	Kevin Coleman	Prayer	Kevin Dearing
Song Leader	Aja Lawson	Song Leader	Sherry Coffey
Deacons (prepare)	Judy & Susan /Corey & Mark T	Deacons (prepare)	Tom A & Don P /Jean & Michelle
Counters	Brian Spiva & Kevin Coleman	Counters	Shawna Axline & Vinnie Cufaude
Coffee Fellowship	Daryle Coleman	Coffee Fellowship	Don & Maida
July 20		July 27	
Scripture	Matthew 5: 13-20	Scripture	Matthew 5: 21-26, 38-42
Greeters	Doris Svob	Greeters	Mike & Janet Krulac
Ushers	Don & Connie Heller	Ushers	Jan & Chuck Taylor
CtW	Video	CtW	Jean Edwards
Scripture Reader	Dee Doubet	Scripture Reader	Lori Coleman
Children's Moment	Rhonda Morgan	Children's Moment	Janet Krulac
Invitation	Grant Stephenson	Invitation	Mike Krulac
Prayer	Caitlin Mason	Prayer	Tammy Weaver
Song Leader	Aja Lawson	Song Leader	Kevin Dearing
Deacons (prepare)	Dave & Sheila /Carissa M & Amanda	Deacons (prepare)	Shane & Chris /Shawn & Lyn
Counters	Grant Stephenson & Daryle Coleman	Counters	Tammy Weaver & Alan Coleman
Coffee Fellowship	Kevin Dearing	Coffee Fellowship	Paula Grigsby

July 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
			Women's In-Depth Bible Study in FH 10-12PM			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Worship 9:00AM Bible Study 10:30AM	Elder's Meeting 6:30PM	Finance Meeting 5:30PM	Women's In-Depth Bible Study in FH 10-12PM	Lunch & Learn 12-1PM @ Baker Rec. Center		Peoria Chiefs game @ 7:05pm
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Worship 9:00AM Bible Study 10:30AM	Kids Day Camp Browning, IL Worship Meeting 11:00AM	Kids Day Camp Browning, IL	Kids Day Camp Browning, IL	Kids Day Camp Browning, IL	Kids Day Camp Browning, IL	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Worship 9:00AM Bible Study 10:30AM	Christian Ed 6PM Board Meeting 7PM					
27	28	29	30	31		
Worship 9:00AM Bible Study 10:30AM Back to School Bash 5-7PM @ Big Creek	Property Meeting 4:00PM					