

May 2025

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

Holy Week at FCC

Thank you to all the wonderful helpers at our church for your dedication, kindness and support during Holy Week! Your selfless efforts truly make a difference in our community and bring light into our lives!



Community Work Day

FCC showed some joyful service helping with the community clean up day! We had folks helping at the Big Creek Pool, the YMCA and Jones Park. Thanks to all the volunteers who showed some love for our community!



Steve Mason: Pastor
Jessa Wenger: Office Coordinator
Email: contact@cantonfcc.org



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

The week after Easter this year—a week I usually spend catching up on all the put off email replies, the back burner projects and the mental turn from the sprint through Holy Week to planning worship for the coming months—I participated in our regional church’s annual clergy retreat. I have never gone to this before because...well, did you hear the to-do list?! But this year, I needed to make the commitment, not only because it’s important to honor my covenantal commitments to the regional church, but also because this year’s theme was on Sabbatical and Sabbath Renewal. I wanted to hear from others who had gone through sabbaticals and their congregations come out just as, if not more, healthy and revitalized as their pastors.

And so, I ventured to St. Joseph, Michigan, a place I’ve never been to on the sandy shores of Lake Michigan for our retreat. I met some new colleagues, rekindled relationships with others and ate way too much good food. There were definitely some handy sabbatical ideas—put up a map with pictures during sabbatical so the congregation can keep up, have an FAQ booklet to help the church navigate any potential questions, come back on a Sunday without any duties so that everyone can say hi and then be ready to catch up with office work the next day.

But in a panel discussion, one of our presenters said something that really caught my attention that I think applies not only to clergy navigating sabbaticals, but to so many of us in our culture that values work to an unhealthy level. He said, “Sabbatical is a chance to ask ourselves the question: what am I besides a pastor? Sometimes we’ve mistaken what we’ve been trained to do with who we are.” We’ve mistaken what we’ve been trained to do with who we are.

You, me, all of us, are more than what we do, what we earn, what tasks we can accomplish. That is one of the best parts of the good news in God. It’s a foundational part of what we try and embody each sabbath Sunday—you have intrinsic value as a beloved child of God, and you don’t need to “earn your keep” in God’s eyes. It takes commitment to affirm our worth. As Hebrew Bible scholar fiercely argued, we need to see “Sabbath as resistance.”

So next time you are guilted into doing something you don’t want, or you worry that you haven’t worked hard enough at something, or you think people will only value you for what you can give to them, remember...you are God’s beloved child and you don’t have to do anything for this great gift.

Pastor Steve



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

Information and spiritual formation on Facebook or in your email.

Watch, like and share!



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

We did a thing!!

In April, we set up new cameras and an extra monitor for worship in the sanctuary and narthex! I know Greg and the property team are excited about these new updates! Extra thanks to Keaton and the whole Thompson Electronic crew for getting us up and running!



Children's Church Update

- Last Whirl Children's Church on May 18th
- Playground will be available this summer

2025 YOUTH & FAMILY CAMPS

AT WALTER SCOTT CAMP & LEARNING CENTER

Get ready for summer by registering for youth camps at Walter Scott today!

YOUTH CAMPS

- | | |
|---|---|
| ✓ CYF Jun 8-14
Grades 9-12 | ✓ JYF Jun 22-28
Grades 3*-5 |
| ✓ You & Me Jun 15-18
Grades K-5 + Adult(s) | ✓ Chi-Rho Jun 29-Jul 5
Grades 6-8 |
| ✓ Beginners Jun 19-21
Grades K-3* | *3rd graders may attend either Beginners or JYF Camp. |

FAMILY CAMPS

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ✓ Memorial Day Weekend
May 22-26 | ✓ Labor Day Weekend
Aug 28-Sep 1 |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|

Visit us online for full details, registration, and information on service opportunities, additional youth events, and more!



REGISTER NOW!



www.CampWalterScott.org

Memorial Funds – Where do they go?

There are so many positive things that are visibly happening at First Christian Church, but there is one area with which you may not be familiar. Memorial funds. Monetary donations are given in memory when a congregation member or a family member passes away. The process for determining what to do with those funds is guided through the Finance Committee with input from the TCW Committee. Unless there is a special family request, all memorial funds are quietly used to enhance our worship areas with input from the families of the loved ones.

We have a beautiful pavilion on the west lawn. Memorial money for Orville Clark and a significant donation from the Kemper/Fitzjarrald families went towards that construction. The picnic tables within the pavilion also were provided through Eugene Taylor's, Carolyn Woods' and Jim Wickert's memorial funds. Recently, other items purchased with memorial funds include the Walnut/Brass cross on the communion table; the Care Notes handouts; the bench at the entry doors as well as the lovely wooden bench in the Narthex. In the near future you should see new signage around the building making it easier for guests and newcomers to find their way around the building. The Christian Ed and Finance Committees have been working with the Meade family to continue Mike's desire that all Canton 2nd graders should have at least one book. That project will continue because of donations in memory of Mike.

Memorial moneys are being put to good use in many ways to enhance the worship experience at First Christian. If the funds are designated specifically for FCC, they stay at the church. Thanks to the families and friends who continue this tradition.

67th Annual

Altruistic Club

Cookies for a Cause

We will have our homemade cookies available for pick-up or delivery
for \$12.00 per box.

Tuesday, May 13, 2025

Pick-Up or Delivery 7:30 to 10:30 am

First Christian Church

215 W Elm St, Canton

If you would like to preorder boxed cookies, text or call

Kathleen 309-369-7361.

Donations Are Appreciated

Lunch & Learn

Getting Smart, Getting Connected

Date: Thursday, May 8th
Time: 12:00pm - 1:00pm
Location: **The Donaldson
Community Center**
250 S Ave D

Free with lunch provided!
call 309-647-7665 to RSVP

HOSTED BY:
CANTON PARK DISTRICT
&
FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

**Topic - Canton's
Bicentennial &
Opera House Plaza**
Spoon River
Partnership &
Canton Chamber of
Commerce

 **BEYOND**
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
EPHESIANS 3:20-21

**REGISTRATION
IS NOW OPEN!**

Memphis, Tennessee
July 12 - 15, 2025



KNOW A GRADUATE?

*Contact the office ASAP so we can celebrate
with you on May 25th during worship!*



Bible Basics Recap

On Maundy Thursday, we finished up our 6-week Bible Basics study. Over our journey together, about 30 people explored themes of the Bible, read and discussed many texts and considered what the Living Word speaks into our lives. Each week we shared a potluck soup supper—and many recipes were shared and enjoyed—and also watched a video from the Bible Project website. If you missed out on this group and want more Bible study, swing by any Sunday at 10:30 to Room 104 to join our Digging Deeper study.

May Birthdays

Misti Crossland	May 1
Larry Warden	May 8
Trinity Baldry	May 9
Doris Svob	May 12
Kim Schrodt	May 13
Keith Munstedt	May 16
Gavin Stephenson	May 17
Nancy Cluts	May 18
Gillian Spiva	May 21
Mindy Glomb	May 23
Jarrold Zaborac	May 28
Juliana Jump	May 29
Amy Smith	May 29

May Anniversaries

Greg & Barb Pollitt	May 2
Bill & Judy Kemper	May 8
Dee & Denny Doubet	May 10
Kevin & Lori Coleman	May 26
Frank & Melinda Jones	May 28

Please Pray For:

Family & Friends of Maralee Wright upon her death; Melba Dearing; Keith Munstedt (heart murmur); Cindy Schoenheider; The birth of Grayson Thomas Riley (Laura & Mark Taylor's great grandson); Tyler Dixon's dad, Wayne (heart surgery); Ryan Hicks; Brice Heller (cornea transplant); Pheobe 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); Blaine Hardy (deployed overseas); Steve Moore; Those battling with cancer: Haleigh Schoop, Crystal Graybel, Andrea (Shane Dixon's family), Pam Beadles, John Brown, Mark Stoneking, Sharon Blair, Jason Lasseigne, Diana Black Williamson; Tracy Snowman

BECOMING
DEDICATED

Disciples

Passionate **SPIRITUALITY**

Joyful **SERVICE**

Inspiring **GENEROSITY**

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

May 4-Can I Get a Witness?		May 11-Fountain Faith	
Scripture	John 20: 19-31	Scripture	John 4: 5-15, 29-30
Greeters	Liz Clark	Greeters	Nancy Cluts
Ushers	Barb Pollitt	Ushers	Denny & Dee Doubet
CtW	Video	CtW	Tammy Weaver
Scripture Reader	Janet Krulac	Scripture Reader	TBD
Children's Moment	Rhonda Morgan	Children's Moment	Michelle Spiva
Invitation	Mike Krulac	Invitation	TBD
Prayer	Tammy Weaver	Prayer	Jen Miller
Children's Church	Jean & Bruce Edwards	Children's Church	Caitlin Mason & TBD
Deacons (prepare)	Shane & Chris /Shawn & Lyn	Deacons (prepare)	Denny & Dee /Allen & Eugenia
Counters	Tammy Weaver & Alan Coleman	Counters	Jen Miller & TBD
Coffee Fellowship	Judy Kemper & Kathy Langais	Coffee Fellowship	Amanda & Grant Stephenson
May 18-Hearts on Fire		May 25-A Committed Community	
Scripture	Luke 24: 13-19, 27-32	Scripture	Acts 5: 27-32
Greeters	Bill & Judy Kemper	Greeters	Paula Grigsby
Ushers	Mike & Susan Walters	Ushers	McLean Family
CtW	Video	CtW	Diane Schrodtt
Scripture Reader	Vinnie Cufaupe	Scripture Reader	Don Heller
Children's Moment	Grant Stephenson	Children's Moment	Jen Miller
Invitation	Maida Williams	Invitation	Kevin Coleman
Prayer	Kevin Coleman	Prayer	Brian Spiva
Children's Church	Janet Krulac & Amanda Stephenson	Children's Church	Resumes in Fall 2025
Deacons (prepare)	Zack & Janet /Jake & Carisa	Deacons (prepare)	Corey & Mark T /Judy & Susan
Counters	Don Heller & Kevin Coleman	Counters	Brian Spiva & Kevin Coleman
Coffee Fellowship	Rhonda & Kevin Morgan	Coffee Fellowship	Michelle Spiva

May 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 Worship 9:00AM Bible Study 10:30AM	5 Elder's Meeting 6:30PM	6 Finance Meeting 5:30PM	7 Choir Practice 7PM	8 Lunch & Learn @ The Donaldson Comm. Center 12-1pm	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Worship 9:00AM Bible Study 10:30AM	Worship Meeting 11:00AM	Outreach Meeting 5:00PM	Choir Practice 7PM			
18 (Last Day for Children's Church)	19 Christian Ed 6PM Board Meeting 7PM	20	21	22	23	24
Worship 9:00AM Bible Study 10:30AM			Choir Practice 7PM			
25 Worship 9:00AM (Grad. Celebration) Bible Study 10:30AM	26 Property Meeting 4:00PM	27	28	29	30	31
			Choir Practice 7PM			