

First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)
215 West Elm Street
Canton IL 61520-2496



Office hours
8:00-noon, 1:00-3:30
Monday-Friday

Church office (309) 647-1363
www.cantonfirstchristian.org
Fax: (309) 647-4870

Volume 53, Issue 04
February 17, 2009

Reverend Robert W. Rueter
will be preaching on the topic of:
"Changed"

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6
Text: Mark 9:2-9
2 Kings 2:1-12

JOIN US THIS SUNDAY

February 22, 2009

8:30 a.m. Worship

9:30 Coffee Fellowship

10:00 Sunday School

11:00 Blended Worship

The Ruler



"Words to measure life"



WORSHIP COMMITTEE CHANGES WORSHIP SCHEDULE

After much prayer, thought, and study, the Worship Committee has made the following changes to our

11:00 a.m. worship service.

The fourth Sunday of the month will become a special emphasis on Contemporary Worship. Musicians other than organ/piano will be a part of the service. There will also be drama and other people involved.

First through Third Sundays will become traditional services with more emphasis on ritual. This service will be a little more formal than our first worship service each Sunday. It has been emphasized that we want to do things in a first class manner for all services.

BALL GAME, BALL GAME, CARDS FANS

We have 24 tickets to the St. Louis Cardinals baseball game.

When: July 1, 7:00 p.m.

Where: outfield buffet and coca cola pavilion

Who: San Francisco giants

This is an all inclusive trip that includes buffet, drinks, table seating at Cardinal stadium and bus back and forth. Leaves the church at 3:00 p.m. The cost is \$92.00 each for everything.

Call the church office to sign up!



First Christian Church

Rev. Robert Rueter

John Davis, Director of Music
Carol Harmon, Organist

Beverly Rueter, Dir. of Christian Education
Mike Wooster, Custodian

Carol Harmon, Office Coordinator

Serving this week

(February 22, 2009)

	8:30	11:00
Greeters	Tracy & Scott Snowman Family	Cindy LaSalle
Ushers	Diane & Bill Schrodt	Mary & Aubrey Baker
Acolytes	Trinity Baldry Mackenzie Stockham	
Scr Reader	Dennis Crawford	
Ch. Moment	Janet Krulac	Janet Krulac
Meditation	Pastor Bob	Pastor Bob
Elders	Mike Walters Chuck Taylor	Mike Walters
Deacons	Bill Kemper Judy Kemper Darryl Schrodt Kim Schrodt	Nathan Bloyd Jean Edwards Cydni Bell
Music	God's Kids	
Counting	Mike Grace Mike Walters	Mike Grace Mike Walters
Shut-ins	Chuck Taylor Janet Krulac	
Preparation	Connie Reed	Doris Taylor
Jr. Deacon	Mallory Meade	
Coffee	Judy Kemper	
Nursery	Carl Fisher Lydia Smith	Carl Fisher Lydia Smith

Serving next week

(March 01, 2009)

	8:30	11:00
Greeters	Christy & Rick Smolczyk Family	tba
Ushers	Mike Meade And Family	Cyndi & Mark Johann
Acolytes	Mikayla Osborne Gabby Taylor	
Scr Reader	Cheryl Dare	
Ch. Moment	Tracy Snowman	Tracy Snowman
Meditation	Bruce Edwards	Bruce Edwards
Elders	Paul Wright Bill Leitze	Paul Wright
Deacons	Denise Carmack Chuck Jarvis Kevin Dearing Bud Cluts	Jean Edwards Paula Crawford Linda Woods
Music	Chancel Choir	
Counting	Bruce Edwards Paul Wright	Bruce Edwards Paul Wright
Shut-ins	Bill Leitze Doris Taylor	
Preparation	Susan Walters	Judy Leitze
Jr. Deacon	Lauren Snowman	
Coffee	Jean & Bruce Edwards	
Nursery	Lauren Snowman Katie Edwards	Lauren Snowman Katie Edwards



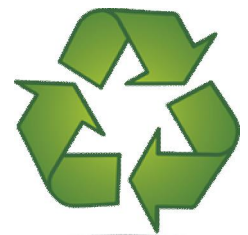
Holy Land Hall News...

Our month started with Kandy Wright helping us review The Lord's Prayer, make a foot print cross and start an individual prayer book. Cindy Walters is helping us explore the idea of God's kingdom through a metal or paper punch activity. We're exploring physical attitudes of prayer with Kara Fitzgerald and Jan and Kevin Dearing are helping us understand how fences and bridges are symbols of separation and connection to God and one another. Wow! There really is a lot to The Lord's Prayer!

February	02-08-09	Year-to-date
Budget per week	\$ 4,351.42	\$ 26,108.52
Received	\$ 2,546.20	\$ 26,808.63
February	02-15-09	Year-to-date
Budget per week	\$ 4,351.42	\$ 30,459.94
Received	\$ 3,371.58	\$ 30,180.21

RECYCLE

Does anyone know of a church or group who might like to have our used or unused Sunday School material. We would like to recycle if possible so let us know in the office. Thanks!



PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

The season of lent is upon us. It starts next Wednesday Evening with a Stone Soup Supper at 6:00 P.m. . What in heavens name is a Stone Soup Supper? It is a meal of soup where each of us bring enough of the designated soup to feed ourselves or our family. While it is heating from 6:00-6:30 we will share a program called "And you welcomed me". It is a program that will go on for the next five weeks and tell us a little about the Christian Church history, theology, general and regional units, and our local congregation. It will be presented by the different leaders of the congregation.

Following the Stone Soup supper we will have an Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00 p.m. . This is being planned as a special service to start Lent. Ash Wednesday takes its name from the ceremonial imposition of ashes on the foreheads of worshipers as a sign of human sin and mortality. This ancient tradition communicates the human condition before God by solemn word and sign.

Each Wednesday evening during Lent there will be a Stone Soup Supper. We will have different phases of the above program from 6-6:30 and eat from 6:30-7:00. Choir members can then go to choir at 7:00.

From Palm Sunday through Easter, Holy Week, we will have the following programs. Maundy Thursday the membership committee is sponsoring a Passover dinner, *seder*, which will be a celebration and also give us a better understanding of the Lord's Supper that we celebrate each Sunday. On Good Friday we will celebrate with a Tennebrae Service. On that Sunday we will have 2 Easter services.

Include with all of this New Member classes on Saturdays, at 11:a.m. and its going to be a busy Lenten season.

See you there,
Pastor Bob

DAILY BIBLE STUDY 02-18-2009 THROUGH -03-07-2009

Book	Monday	Tuesday	Wed'day	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Isaiah			30:8-16	30:19-26	32:1-8	21:11-20
Mark	79:1-29	9:30-41	9:42-50	10:1-12	10:13-16	10:17-31
Isaiah	35:1-40:11	40:18-31	41:17-20	42:1-9	42:14-20	43:1-13

LENT
THE SEASON OF RENEWAL

The Lenten season extends over a 46-day period. The six Sundays in Lent are not included as a part of Lent; so the season consists of forty days. Sundays are weekly commemorations of the Easter and are a Holy Day unto themselves. In other words if you give up something for Lent, you get Sunday off. Lent starts with Ash Wednesday and continues until Easter.

Lent originally was started in the third century C.E. as a preparation for baptism. Up until that time it had been observed the week before Easter by people who were preparing to be baptized on Easter morning. It consisted of a fast where one did not eat from sunrise to sunset. It was relaxed over the centuries. Now the common thing is to give up something such as chocolate for the 40 days of Lent. Then donate the money not spent to religious activities.

For those preparing for baptism it is a time of preparation. A time of prayer, confession, repentance and study to receive the ordinance of baptism. This then makes one clean for the rest of their life, prepares them for forgiveness of sins, and receiving the blessing of the Holy Spirit to lead them through the rest of their life. It is also a time of renewal for those who have been baptized. A time to pray, confess, repent of our sins, and study to find a better way to live with the Spirit leading you.

"The way of the old church is that Lent is generally observed as a time of penance by abstaining from festivities, by alms giving, and by devoting more than usual time to religious activities."

This is not an activity that many of us have spent much time doing. Maybe it is time we renewed ourselves.

Pastor Bob

MEMBERSHIP CLASSES

Have you been thinking about joining the congregation. Young people, young families, and all of you thinking about being baptized or transferring your membership to a congregation that is coming to life. We will have new member classes at 11:00 a.m. on March 7, 14, 28 and April 4 and 11. These are classes that will examine what we believe and why. All ages are invited. Please contact me if you are interested.
Pastor Bob





CWF

March Meeting

On Thursday, March 5, 2009, the CWF will hold its annual Salad Luncheon in Fellowship Hall.

We will meet at noon, and we ask everyone to bring a salad to share.

Our devotion will be given by Betty Conrad and the hostesses for March are Laura Murphy and Marilee Casper.

Please invite a friend, and plan on bringing a salad to share to our Salad Luncheon!

To all who make church purchases:

We have been paying quite a bit of sales tax over the past year, and **we are a tax exempt organization**. If you are making a purchase for the church, please call the office and check the policy for purchasing at the various businesses in town. We have accounts with several, and there are different cards and procedures involved.

Also, please be sure to **bring your receipt to the office** following the purchase. A lot of time is expended trying to sort out charges on statements when we don't have the receipts to go with them.



Band of Brothers Resumes

Our men's group, Band of Brothers, has started meeting again. It met on Thursday evening, February 12 in Fellowship Hall with 6 men attending. After opening with prayer and catching up with the lives of the members, some scriptures were read and discussed.

The location of the meetings will be moved around to the different members' homes, and the leading of the group will also be shared, with the leader for the meeting selecting the scripture he wants to focus on.

The group will be participating in some outings like before, such as ballgames, barbecues, etc. but none have been chosen yet.

The next meeting of the Band of Brothers will be at 7:30 on Thursday February 26 at the home of Bruce Edwards. The six who met on Feb. 12 enjoyed the time of fellowship and are looking forward to seeing many more men join in the group, both those who participated in the past and of course, they would like to see new faces as well!

"Ruler" Schedule



The next newsletter (The Ruler) will be emailed and mailed in two weeks, on Tuesday, March 03. If you have something you would like us to include in that newsletter, please be sure to have it in the office by Monday morning, March 02.

At Graham Hosp.-210 W. Walnut
Eleanor Berry Crystal Hale

In the Hospital

At Graham Ext.-210 W. Walnut
Alan McPherson

At Farmington Country Manor:
Isabella Varnold

In Nursing Facilities

At Heartland: - 2081 N. Main
Eunice McCario Linnie Murphy

At Kelly Home: 344 W. Chestnut
Barbara Bruniga Hazel Swan

At Prairie View: 175 Sycamore
Dottie Stevens Lewistown, 61542

At Red Oak Estates: 435 N. 16th
Ruth Sprecher

At Renaissance:
Ruth Wong

At Sunset: 129 S. First
Helen Grose Fairy Leezer
Delores Spiva

At Veterans: Carl Bushard
Rm 162, 1707 N. 12, Markword 1,
Quincy, Il 62301

At Westminster Village:
Marlyn Mahannah Eva Williams
2025 E. Lincoln, Bloomington, Il
61701



REQUESTS — FOR — PRAYER

Hobart Ault; Joan Bankes; Ron Bankes; Annabelle Baugh; Bret Beam; Sandi Blodgett (sister of Jeannie Arndt); Steve Bowman; Doug Brignell (cousin of Brenda Dilts); Sam Coffey; Marge Danner; Helen Doubet; Linda Duchardt; Betty Dye (sister of Barb Armstrong); Ora Jarvis; Jack Johnson; Gloria Kaler (sister of Norm Pollitt); Curtis Krock; Cindy LaSalle; Richard Main (brother of Doris Taylor); Violet Marshall; Vurla McPherson; Debbie Meacham; Teresa Morgan (sister of Kevin); Gretchen Osborne (niece of Liz Pollitt); Sandra Pasley; Liz Pollitt; John Schleich; Ron Taylor; Tim Taylor (son-in-law of Shirley Harris); Gregory Williams (great-grandson of Betty Conrad); Mike Wooster



Addison Marie, the daughter of Crystal and Jeromie Hale, was born Tuesday, February 10 at 11:05 p.m. She weighed 6 pounds and 14 ounces and measured 20 1/2 inches long. She is the granddaughter of Greg and Barb Pollitt, and the great-granddaughter of Ruth Wong and Liz and Norm Pollitt. Congratulations to all!!

HAPPY TIMERS

The next meeting of the Happy Timers will be on this Thursday, February 19 at noon in Fellowship Hall. The menu will consist of Swiss Steak, mashed potatoes, corn and cranberry salad.

The program will be presented by Steve Endsley, who will show everyone how to make and play the dulcimer.

Mark your calendars now and plan to attend! If you would like to sign up but haven't had the opportunity, call Carol in the office at 647-1363 and she will add your name to the list.



From **Clint Coleman:** *Thank you for your generous gift. I have used the scholarship money to rent books for this semester. The money helps a great deal, and I can't express how appreciative I am for it.*

From **Emily Coleman:** *Thank you so much once again for my scholarship for school. Your monetary support makes my financial burdens more manageable. Thank you for your continued prayers and support.*