

First Christian Church

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



Volume 53, Issue 23
November 18, 2009

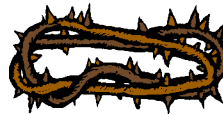
Office hours
8:00-noon, 1:00-3:30
Monday-Friday

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

Pastor Bob Rueter will be preaching on:
"He is King!"
Scripture: Rev. 1:4b-8
Text: John 18:33-37

JOIN US THIS SUNDAY
November 22, 2009
9:00 a.m. Worship
10:00 Coffee Fellowship
10:30 Sunday School

The Ruler



"Words to measure life"

Operation Christmas Child Deadline is Here!

Our pyramid of filled shoeboxes in the Narthex is growing each day!

If you still have yours at home, please be sure to return it to the church **no later than this Sunday, November 22**. The boxes will be delivered to the next gathering point on Monday, November 23.



"Nativity Walk" Saturday, December 5 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Our Evangelism Committee is asking church members to bring their Nativity Scenes for the Nativity Walk Saturday afternoon, December 5. We need for you to set up your own scenes on tables throughout the church for folks to enjoy during the walk-through.

There will be music and refreshments. Please plan to join us!

Please add your name to the sign up sheet on Sunday, or call the office and ask Carol to do so for you.



Let's Dress for Christmas!

As we start getting out Christmas decorations to "dress" our homes, we need to "dress" the church for Christmas also. Please come be part of the group that helps put up Christmas decorations Monday, November 23 and/or Tuesday, November 24 at 6:30 p.m. We want our church to look its best for this Advent and Christmas season.

See you there!

Worship Committee



Robert W. Rueter, Pastor

John Davis, Dir. of Music
Carol Harmon, Office Coordinator and Organist

Bev Rueter, Dir. Christian Education
Rickie Coulter, Church Custodian

Serving this week

(November 22, 2009)

Thanksgiving Sunday

9:00 a.m.

Greeters	Marilee Casper Laura Murphy
Ushers	Peg and Bill Hays
Acolytes	Avery Dean Mackenzie Stockham
Scr Reader	Ron Rupe
Ch. Moment	Kevin Coleman
Meditation	Rhonda Morgan
Elders	Jan Dearing Kevin Dearing
Deacons	Mike Krulac Denise Carmack Chuck Jarvis Don Taylor
Music	tba
Counting	Rhonda Morgan Jan Dearing
Shut-ins	Kevin Dearing Mike Meade
Preparation	Judy Kemper
Jr. Deacon	Mallory Meade
Coffee F'ship	Connie Heller
Nursery	Carl Fisher Cydni Bell

Serving next week

(November 29, 2009)

1st Sunday in Advent

9:00 a.m.

Greeters	Jan and Kevin Dearing
Ushers	Liz and Orville Clark
Acolytes	Trinity Baldry Hannah Malmgren
Scr Reader	John Harmon
Advent Lighter	Chantel and Trent Goforth
Ch. Moment	Jennifer Miller
Meditation	Pastor Bob
Elders	Mike Walters Bill Leitze
Deacons	Lauren Snowman Eric Jarvis Mallory Meade Lydia Smith
Music	tba
Counting	Mike Walters tba
Shut-ins	Bill Leitze Nathan Bloyd
Preparation	Pat Stanko
Jr. Deacon	Derek Schrodtt
Coffee F'ship	Membership Brunch
Nursery	Cydni Bell Lydia Smith

Bus Trip to East Peoria Festival of Lights

By popular demand....

There have been numerous requests from our parishioners to continue having Sunday School on the 5th Sundays, instead of cancelling it. Therefore, the 5th Sunday schedule will be as follows:

9:00-10:00	Worship
10:00-10:45	Brunch
10:45-11:30	Sunday School

We will begin to follow this schedule on Sunday, November 29.

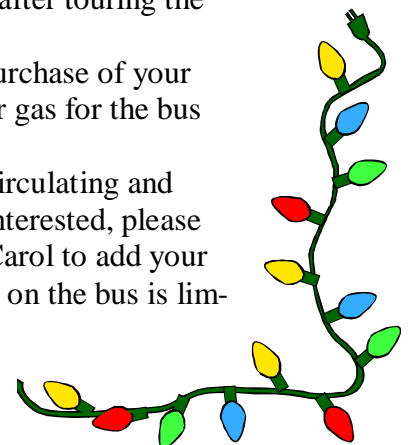
There will be a bus trip on Monday, December 7 to take people to the East Peoria Festival of Lights.

The bus will leave the church at 4:30 and we will stop to eat supper on the way.

We will return to the church after touring the lights.

The only cost to you is the purchase of your supper and a \$5.00 donation to cover gas for the bus and admission to the village.

The sign-up sheet has been circulating and names are being added. If you are interested, please call the office at 647-1363 and ask Carol to add your name to the list. Remember, seating on the bus is limited to 20!



Senior Sunday Club

Sunday, December 6
From 11:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.
At Graham Hospital's Cornerstone Café

Menu

Fried or Baked Chicken or Roast Beef
Mashed Potatoes and Gravy
or Hashbrown Casserole
Glazed Carrots or Buttered Corn
1 Trip to the Salad Bar
Dessert, Roll and a Beverage

All for only \$6.75

The Gift Shop will be open
From 11:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

—The following will
not be meeting in De-
cember:

Elders
Evangelism
Cabinet/Board



*We extend our sincere sympathy to **Phil Gregory and family** at the death of his father, **Albert**. We also extend our sincere sympathy to **Sheila Dye and family** at the loss of her mother, **Betty Moore**. Services were conducted by Pastor Bob on Tuesday.*

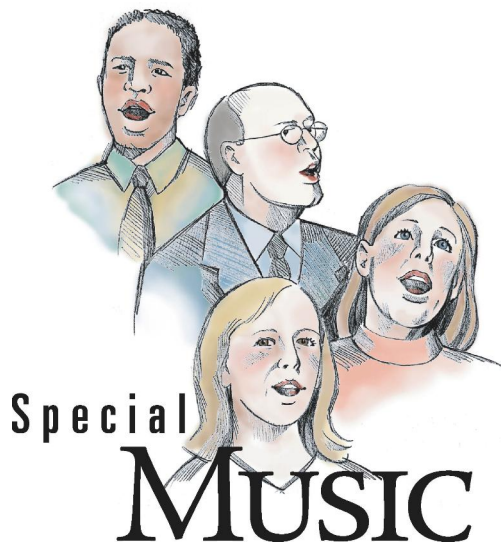
RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:

**TURN IN
YOUR ARTICLES
EARLY!**

R E M I N D E R :

**DEADLINE FOR
NEWSLETTER
ARTICLES IS**

Monday morning, November 30!!



years past, we are all asked to bring our favorite Christmas cookies and/or treats. Simply drop them off in Fellowship Hall before the program, and then join together following the Vespers to fellowship and welcome the people from the Trinity Lutheran Church!

Vespers

Sunday, December 20, 2009
3:00 p.m.

On Sunday, December 20, our Chancel Choir, in conjunction with the adult choir from Trinity Lutheran Church here in Canton, will present a 3:00 p.m. Vespers program.

The two choirs have been working hard on the music for this event for some time now, and it will be a wonderful, inspirational program for our Advent/Christmas season.

The Membership Committee will sponsor refreshments afterwards in Fellowship Hall, and, as in

At Graham Hosp.-210 W. Walnut *In the Hospital*
Pat Danner

At Graham Ext.-210 W. Walnut
Alan McPherson Dorothy Reneau

At Care Center of Abingdon
Dottie Stevens 801 W. Martin
Abingdon, 61410

At Clayberg Nursing Center
Violet Marshall 625 E. Monroe
Cuba, 61427

At Farmington Country Manor: *In Nursing Facilities*
Betty Hopper 701 S. Main
Farmington, 61531

At Heartland: - 2081 N. Main
Eunice McCario Jim Paul

At Red Oak Estates: 435 N. 16
Eleanor Berry Norma Pinder

At Renaissance: 1675 E. Ash
Linnie Murphy

At Sunset: 129 S. First
Dorothy Eskridge Helen Grose
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

Others with special needs:

Jack Andrews (father of Karen Meade); Hobart Ault; Kevin Bankes; Ron Bankes; Laurie Bankroff (neice of Marge Danner); Lucille Bowton; Bret Beam; Sandi Blodgett (sister of Jeannie Arndt); Lori Bremer; Doug Brignell (cousin of Brenda Dilts); Bobby Burkhead (brother of Johnnie); Benjamin Church (nephew of SueEllen Stephenson); Sam Coffey; Dan (friend of Paul Crawford); Dave Cope; Millicent Cox; Marge Danner; Pat Danner, Betty Dye (sister of Barb Armstrong); Howard Dye; Laura Fisher (sister-in-law of Bruce); Ken Fuller (friend of Ron & Brenda Dilts); Betty Garstka (friend of Margaret Wright); Ruby Haberlin (friend of Greg & Barb Pollitt); Ora Jarvis; Jack Johnson; Gloria Kaler (sister of Norm Pollitt); Rita King; Cindy LaSalle; Freida Lewis; Shirley List (aunt of Susan Walters); Cody Krulac; Vurla McPherson; Irrie McWhorter; Debbie Meacham; David Mobley (father of SueEllen Stephenson); Teresa Morgan (sister of Kevin); Cody Osborne (nephew of Liz Pollitt); Elaine Ostiguy (daughter of Elgin Cook); Ron Parrish; Dennis Robinson; Irene Robinson; John Schleich; Russell Schrodt; Martha Sepich; Eleanor Stenger; Ron Taylor; Linda Vandermeer; Gregory Williams (great-grandson of Betty Conrad); Marvin White (father of Cindy LaSalle); Margaret Wright



**REQUESTS
FOR
PRAYER**

Please note: *In an effort to keep our prayer list current, names will remain on the list for 4 weeks. At that time, they will be removed unless you have called the office to ask that a name remain on the list. Thanks for your help!!*

From **John Jarvis:** *Thank you all so much for the scholarship and the box of treats! I have been doing well in my schooling down here in Carbondale! Hope all is well in the church community!*

From **Cheryl and Henry Dare:** *Thank you so much for the beautiful pink rose you gave us honoring the birth of our granddaughter, Madison. We really appreciate your thoughtfulness!!*



October	10-25-09	Year-to-date
Budget per week	\$ 4,351.42	\$ 187,111.06
Received	\$ 6,462.80	\$ 193,722.52
November	11-01-09	Year-to-date
Budget per week	\$ 4,351.42	\$ 191,462.48
Received	\$ 6,430.83	\$ 200,153.35
November	11-08-09	Year-to-date
Budget per week	\$ 4,351.42	\$ 195,813.90
Received	\$ 3,757.75	\$ 203,911.10

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

WHAT IS THIS THING CALLED ADVENT?

Advent is the season where we prepare for the coming of Christ, both historically, his birth and in the future, the second coming. This is a time when we are called to penance to prepare ourselves for the coming of the Christ, the Son of God. We do so in many ways: hearing the prophecies of his birth and second coming, the stories of the birth, and the honors that were and are given to the Son of God. This season challenges us to create an environment of prayer and song, of Scripture, fellowship, and sacramental actions that counters the crass commercial use of Christmas carols from Thanksgiving on to sell anything and everything.

Advent season starts from the closest Sunday to November 30. This means it starts either the last Sunday in November or the first Sunday in December by our calendars. There are always four Sundays in Advent. It ends on Christmas Eve when the Christmas season begins.

We may want to think of it as a cycle, but please don't. Think about this: "the fact is that we are not the same persons who celebrated Advent last year; and we are not the same persons who will celebrate Advent next year. Yearly we bring another 365 days of grace to our celebration, and so our insight into the mystery is deeper and our observance conditioned by the previous year's 'dangers, toils and fears'". Each year we begin Advent and the church year with a whole new experience base. But it is always to prepare for the coming of the Christ.

Pastor Bob



WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE?

The church By-Laws state "the purpose of the Christian Education Committee is to develop an effective program of religious education for the entire constituency of the church... It shall be responsible for planning and administering the total educational program of the church, including church school, youth activities, mid-week educational projects, leadership education, distribution of Christian literature and fostering Christian home life."

Some of the current projects include a new Sunday school class for the young adults, changing the children's Sunday school classes, reinstating Youth Sunday, having a "Happy Birthday, Jesus" party again this Christmas, encouraging the ongoing Bible Studies, providing Biblical lessons at the Wednesday after school program, ordering and distributing S.S. material and "The Secret Place", and providing the placemats on Lent at the Seder Dinner.

If you have other ideas of ways we can provide additional Christian Education, please share them with any committee member or drop a suggestion in the drop box outside the office. We will take them under advisement. If it has to do with the Youth program, please drop them in the box. Will is just starting and a written note will be easier to reference.

Can you help?

Meals on Wheels is in need of drivers in order for their program to continue.

The commitment is for one hour, once a month.

If you can help out in this worthwhile program, please call Karen Krieger at 647-3774.

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

WHAT IS THE CHURCH YEAR?

The church year is different from the fiscal year we observe in finances, January 1 to December 31. It is different than church board year that is July 1 through June 30. The church year is from the Sunday closest to November 30 through Christ The King Sunday, which is the last Sunday. The church year is composed of six seasons, Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, and Pentecost or Proper.

Advent is the start of the liturgical year. It starts on the Sunday closest to November 30, so it can be either the last Sunday of November or the first Sunday of December. There are always four Sundays during Advent. This is the season when we prepare for the coming of the Christ by either celebrating his birth or his predicted second coming. The liturgical color is purple for penance and preparation.

Christmas season starts with Christmas Eve. It then runs for twelve days through the 6th of January. It is the time we celebrate the Nativity. The liturgical color is white for celebration, purity and joy.

The next season is Epiphany. It starts on the first day following January sixth, the twelfth day of Christmas and continues until Ash Wednesday which is the start of the Lenten season. This season can vary greatly in length depending on the timing of Easter. The sign of Epiphany is the Cross and the Crown. The Crown represents the wise men who came to Jesus and the fact that Christ is King. The liturgical color is green.

Lent follows. It is composed of the 46 days prior to Easter. It starts with Ash Wednesday. Forty of these days are considered fast days but since every Sunday is a mini-Easter, these are days of celebration of Christ's resurrection, not fasting and penance. Lent is the time we prepare for the death and resurrection of Jesus the Christ. The color of this season is purple

Easter time is the period from Easter day until Pentecost. This fifty day period commemorates the time from Jesus resurrection until the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. The color for this season is white for celebration of conquering death, "He Is Risen".

Pentecost is the day of celebration of the coming of the Holy Spirit to the disciples in the upper room and is considered the birthday of the church. For on this day the Spirit of God led the church from the upper room to become a viable entity in the world. The color for this day is red.

Proper or Kingdomtide is the season from Pentecost Sunday to Christ the King Sunday. Christ the King Sunday is the last Sunday before the start of Advent. This season takes up almost half of the year. It is the time when Jesus and the Holy Spirit appear in the lessons and we celebrate the ability to teach fully the message of the church. The color for this season is green.

Pastor Bob

DAILY BIBLE STUDY 11-11-2009 THROUGH 12-05-2009

Book	Monday	Tuesday	Wed'day	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Cor			10:7-18	11:1-11	11:12-15	11:16-29
John	20:19-29	20:30-31	21:1-14	21:15-19	21:20-23	21:34-35
2 Cor	11:30-33; 12:1-10	12:11-18	12:19-21	13:1-4	13:5-10	13:11-14
LK	1:1-38	1:39-45	1:46-56	1:57-80	2:1-7	2:8-21