

## First Christian Church

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



Volume 53, Issue 24  
December 01, 2009

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

Church office (309) 647-1363  
[www.cantonfirstchristian.org](http://www.cantonfirstchristian.org)  
Fax: (309) 647-4870

Pastor Bob Rueter will be preaching on:  
"Prepare the Way"  
Scripture: Luke 1:68-79  
Text: Luke 3:1-6

JOIN US THIS SUNDAY  
December 06, 2009  
9:00 a.m. Worship  
10:00 Coffee Fellowship  
10:30 Sunday School

# The Ruler



*"Words to measure life"*

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

There is still time to sign up to bring your Nativity Scenes for the Nativity Walk Saturday afternoon, December 5 at 2:00. We need for you to set up your own scenes on tables in the Narthex for folks to enjoy during the walk-through.



Please plan to come during the evening hours to walk through and see the various Nativity Scenes. There will be music and refreshments. Please plan to join us!

## Bus Trip to East Peoria Festival of Lights

A few seats remain for the bus trip on Monday, December 7 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.

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.

If you are interested, please call the office at 647-1363 and ask Carol to add your name to the list.

## 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 serve refreshments afterwards in Fellowship Hall, and, as in 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!

## 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

(December 06, 2009)

*2nd Sunday in Advent*

**9:00 a.m.**

<b>Greeters</b>	Judy and Bill Leitze
<b>Ushers</b>	Peg and Irrie McWhorter
<b>Acolytes</b>	Nicholas Gregory Joel Harris
<b>Scr Reader</b>	Chantel Goforth
<b>Ch. Moment</b>	Daryle Coleman
<b>Meditation</b>	Paul Wright
<b>Elders</b>	Bill Leitze Bruce Edwards
<b>Deacons</b>	Mindi Perez Darryl Schrod Kim Schrod Jennifer Miller
<b>Music</b>	Chancel Choir
<b>Counting</b>	Paul Wright Bill Leitze
<b>Shut-ins</b>	Bruce Edwards Kandy Wright
<b>Preparation</b>	Doreen Shaw
<b>Jr. Deacon</b>	Stephen Snowman
<b>Coffee F'ship</b>	Vinnie Cufaude
<b>Nursery</b>	Lydia Smith Lauren Snowman

## **Celebrate Advent!!**

In the last issue of "The Ruler" Pastor Bob shared information about the meaning of the Advent season.

There are ways to celebrate this special part of the Christmas season that may be meaningful for you and your family. Begin by making an Advent Wreath similar to the one used in church services. To make the base use a round board, piece of Styrofoam, or bend a coat hanger or a heavy piece of wire into a round shape and then cut or drill 4 evenly spaced holes around the perimeter of the board or Styrofoam and one in the middle of the piece or use individual candle holders for the wire wreath. The easiest base would



be an artificial wreath. You can affix real or artificial greenery around the base and place your 3 purple and one pink, or use 4 red candles around the base and place a white candle in the middle as it is the Christ Candle which is lit on Christmas day.

There is no right or wrong way to make this wreath; make it your own. Use this wreath daily with family or friends by lighting the 1st candle each day of the first week of Advent and sing a song and read the scripture as listed in "The Ruler" or Secret Place or any devotional book of your choice. The next week, light the 1st and 2nd candles and continue in the same manner with the 3rd and 4th weeks. Your time of worship may be whatever you like, but be sure to include the kids. It will be a great memory for them and you!

## Serving next week

(December 13, 2009)

*3rd Sunday in Advent*

**9:00 a.m.**

<b>Greeters</b>	Amy Smith, Jake Smith And Katie Smith
<b>Ushers</b>	Rhonda and Kevin Morgan
<b>Acolytes</b>	Mikayla Osborne Gabby Taylor
<b>Scr Reader</b>	Dan Fitzjarrald
<b>Advent Lighter</b>	Jennifer and Corey Miller and Family
<b>Ch. Moment</b>	Will Smalley
<b>Meditation</b>	Daryle Coleman
<b>Elders</b>	Chuck Taylor Kevin Dearing
<b>Deacons</b>	Barb Pollitt Jean Edwards Marty Hasty Carl Fisher
<b>Music</b>	Chancel Choir
<b>Counting</b>	Chuck Taylor Alan Coleman
<b>Shut-ins</b>	Marty Hasty Kevin Dearing
<b>Preparation</b>	Judy Kemper
<b>Jr. Deacon</b>	Cyndi Bell
<b>Coffee F'ship</b>	Liz Pollitt
<b>Nursery</b>	Lauren Snowman

CWF

December Meeting



The CWF will be having its December meeting this Thursday, December 3, at 1:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

The leader will be Vinnie Cufaude, and hostesses will be Brenda Dilts and Peg Hays.

The program will be presented by Bev Rueter, as she sings Christmas Songs.

Mark your calendar and plan to join us!

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

*In the Hospital*

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

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

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

*In Nursing Facilities*

**Others with special needs:**

Jack Andrews (father of Karen Meade); Hobart Ault; Kevin Bankes; Ron Bankes; Laurie Bankroff (neice of Marge Danner); 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); 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; Rita King; Cindy LaSalle; Freida Lewis; Shirley List (aunt of Susan Walters); Cody Krulac; Vurla McPherson; 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!!*

RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:  
**TURN IN  
 YOUR ARTICLES  
 EARLY!**  
 R E M I N D E R :  
**DEADLINE FOR  
 NEWSLETTER  
 ARTICLES IS**  
 Monday morning, December 14!!

From the **family of Betty Moore:** *Thank you for preparing such a lovely meal after mother's funeral. We will always be grateful for your kindnesses.*

From **Linda Woods, Lisa Stockham, Janet Werry, Larry Marshall, Bruce Marshall:** *The family of Violet Marshall sincerely thanks the church for the lap robe and all the prayers. The robe is a wonderful reminder of our blessings. Violet is currently doing well at her new home at Clayberg Nursing Home. We appreciate your support.*

From **Mary and A.P. Baker:** *Aubrey and I want to thank our church family for the love shown to us after my "fall." The prayers have been answered and hopefully the healing will continue. The food has been delicious, the cards lifted our spirits and the phone calls were more than welcome! God bless each and every one.*

From **Greg, Sammi, and Madison Dare:** *Thank you so much for the beautiful flower and the handmade blanket. We are so happy to have a new addition to our family.*



		<b>Year-to-date</b>
November	<b>11-15-09</b>	
Budget per week	\$ 4,351.42	\$ 200,165.32
Received	\$ 3,516.51	\$ 207,427.61
November	<b>11-22-09</b>	
Budget per week	\$ 4,351.42	\$ 204,516.74
Received	\$ 4,125.00	\$ 211,552.61
November	<b>11-29-09</b>	
Budget per week	\$ 4,351.42	\$ 208,868.16
Received	\$ 4,619.10	\$ 216,171.71

# PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

## Peace, Peace, Peace.

So often this time of year, this is not what we are thinking. We are running around, just having finished the biggest American family holiday, Thanksgiving. Now we are home and decorating like crazy, thinking of all the presents we have to buy for family and friends, all the social engagements we need to fulfill, and looking forward to Christmas Day.

*Run, run, run...*

## Peace, Peace, Peace.

Joseph and Mary were thinking about all that they had to prepare and do before they left for Bethlehem. For Mary it meant going to Joseph's home town and meeting all of his relatives. For Joseph it was worrying about transporting a very pregnant wife to Bethlehem. Both were thinking of all the things that had to be done for the journey.

*Stress, stress, stress...*

## Peace, Peace, Peace.

How do we prepare for the coming of the Christ, the child? We hustle and bustle about in the familiar traditions that we have. How do we prepare for the Second coming of the Christ? We try not to think about it.

*Think, think, think...*

## Peace, Peace, Peace.

Joseph and Mary were worried about what God was doing with their lives, which was added stress on a young couple who were starting their lives together. And here they were, leaving for a trip that would keep them away from Nazareth for years. Did they know?

*Pray, pray, pray...*

## Peace, Peace, Peace.

Take a deep breath. Relax. Let's celebrate life, both now and in the future.

Pastor Bob

### DAILY BIBLE STUDY 12-02-2009 THROUGH 12-19-2009

Book	Monday	Tuesday	Wed'day	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
LK			1:46-56	1:57-80	2:1-7	2:8-21
DAN	3:3-8-4:37	7:9-18	9:1-10, 17-19	HOS 2:14-20	4:1-11	6:1-6
LK	2:22-52	3:1-14	3:15-38	4:1-4	4:5-8	4:9-13



*We extend our sincere sympathy to **Joe and Rosalee Cirilli**, at the recent death of their son, **David**.*

*We extend our sincere sympathy to **Jean Edwards and family** at the death of her father, **Richard Anthony**, of Kewanee.*