



Chalice Tidings

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
120 North McArthur Street, Macomb, IL 6155-2101

VOLUME XXVI, ISSUE 38

February 1, 2018

Kelly Ingersoll,
Minister

Debra Abernathy,
Administrative Assistant

Bill Froom,
Chancel Choir Director

Hannah Goodman,
Nursery Supervisor

Carol Harmon,
Organist

Paul Huff,
Custodian

Allie Hulen,
Children's Choir Director

Natasha Shallenberger,
Nursery Assistant



JOIN US DURING LENT FOR—FAITH ON THE MOVE

February

Ash Wednesday 14	Matthew 6:2, 5, 7, 9, 16	Whenever Faith
18	Genesis 9:17	Promised Faith
25	Mark 9:2-4	Faith Transfigured

March

4	John 2:13-16	Driven by Faith
11	John 3:16-21	Love. Light. Faith.
18	John 12:20-26	Serving Faith
25	Palm Sunday Mark 11:7-11	Faith on Parade

April

1	Easter Mark 16:1-8	Faith Rises
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Kelly's Korner

When you get a hankering to talk or complain about what you gave up for Lent, replace that hankering by speaking the word of God. For all the times you would have done the activity that you gave up for Lent, replace it by reading the word of God. Christians should always be drawing closer to God.

—Monica Johnson

Lent is a time to renew wherever we are in that process that I call the divine therapy. It's a time to look what our instinctual needs are, look at what the dynamics of our unconscious are.

—Thomas Keating

I imagine Lent for you and for me as a great departure from the greedy, anxious antineighborliness of our economy, a great departure from our exclusionary politics that fears the other, a great departure from self-indulgent consumerism that devours creation. And then an arrival in a new neighborhood, because it is a gift to be simple, it is a gift to be free; it is a gift to come down where we ought to be.

—Walter Brueggemann, *A Way Other Than Our Own: Devotions for Lent*

It's early...early I tell you. I can't remember a time when Lent, subsequently followed by Easter, arrived so early. Are you ready? We have prepared for Jesus' birth. Then, celebrated it. We had Epiphany and studied many of Jesus' early acts of faithful ministry. And now, Lent. This is the season where some will intentionally deny themselves as they believed Jesus denied himself. This is the season where some will take on intentional acts of faith as they believed Jesus took on faith. What path will you take to the cross—and eventually the empty tomb? What Lenten journey awaits you? (The important word is intentional!)

Our Lenten theme is Faith on the Move. Whether you deny or whether you take on, the intent is to have your faith move—a little or a lot is up to you and God. In this season of intentional growth, may we draw close to God. May we be renewed. May we discover that Lent is a wonderful gift. May we have a faith on the move.

Peace,



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION—Norma Kentner

Thanks to our cheerful workers, we deep-cleaned the Nursery on our Martin Luther King work day. Thanks so much to Anne Ingersoll, Roselynn Chown, Cheryl Andrews, and Nita Burg. The nursery really sparkles now! In addition to cleaning, our workers put together 7 First Aid kits, which will be placed in various parts of the church with 3 Clean-up kits near restrooms that will come in handy in case of accidents.

We have been working on the Children’s Church Schedule and will have a brief training session for teachers and helpers on **Sunday, January 28th, following church**, in the Youth Room, with pizza, salad and cookies for lunch. **All who are working with Children’s Church and/or Sunday School are invited.**

EXCITING NEWSFLASH: We are changing our Sunday School classes...we originally have had one large group with two levels of children. We have enough children AND teachers/helpers so that we will have two separate classes, our Kindergarten Group, and a class of 3rd-5th graders. **THESE “NEW” CLASSES WILL BEGIN ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH, 2018 at 9am.** The Kindergarten Class will meet in its usual room on the second floor of the Children’s Educational Wing. The 3rd-5th grade class will meet in the JYF classroom on the second floor. Thank you so much to the talented members of our congregation who have stepped up to make this new Sunday School class a very positive time for our youth.

FCC Book Club

We are all looking forward to our guest speaker, Susan Van Kirk, a retired English teacher from Monmouth, Illinois. Susan has been able to fulfill a dream in her retirement—writing mystery novels where the scene of the stories take place in a small town setting similar to Monmouth, or even Macomb! Susan will be at our FCC Book Club on Thursday, February 1 at noon in the Fellowship Hall. We will discuss her mystery, *Three May Keep a Secret*, on Thursday, March 1st. We always welcome readers or anyone just wanting to hear our guest speakers. Let Norma Kentner know if you would like to purchase a book. Hopefully, the weather will cooperate for Susan’s travel to Macomb in February!

Evangelism Class Wrap-Up

The Elders decided this evening to follow-up Norma’s class: Please come to a special viewing of John Hallwas’s documentary on Mary Stipanowich, Sunday, Feb. 4th at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Refreshments will be provided.

STEPHEN MINISTRY—Jean Vaughn



The Stephen Ministers met Monday January 8, 2018, at 1:00 PM We had 4 members present. We reported on the visits with our Care Receivers. We figured the lesson schedule in the Chapter on “Adminstrating to The Dying, Their Friends and Family.” We are studying to be good listeners to help our Care Receivers in difficult times.

Remember we have a series of books on “The Journey Through Grief” and also a book about Cancer. These can help you handle the feelings you have in these situations. If you know of someone who would like to have a good listener, call Jean Vaughn 309.255.6525.

Our next meeting will be Monday February 12, 2018 at 1:00 PM

Thank-you

What a blessing to be a part of this church family! Having served as your Board Chair last year helped me to realize just how very special all of you really are. I would like to thank you for your service to this church in so many different ways. God has blessed all of us with unique and special gifts, and when we use those gifts, we work together like a well oiled machine to get the job done.

I was truly humbled, last Sunday, when Char called me to the front of the church, and gave me a gift from this congregation as a thank you for my past service. Her beautiful and kind words really got to me, and I realized once again just how special all of you in this church are to me.

It was an honor to serve you as your Board Chair last year. I didn't have to worry about a thing with the leadership team that was in place. So many capable people stepped forward to serve in leadership positions, it made my job nearly effortless. I pray that you will support Char, our new Board Chair, with the same love and support you showed to me in the recent past. Your willingness to serve God as you do is testament to your faith and your love for our awesome God.

Again, I say thank you for the gift of the Communion set. Taking a blob of clay and shaping it into something so beautiful is truly a gift from God. Thank you, Dean, for using one of your many gifts to beautify the world and to serve others. I will cherish the Communion set always, and remember all of you every time I look at it. If we all continue to use our God given talents to serve God, his light will continue to shine brightly in our church, community, and beyond!

Let us continue to serve our awesome God and help each other along the path of our individual journeys,

Jack McKinnon

PROPERTY—Larry Loop

Due to a moisture problem in the youth space, we have obtained a bid from Young Masonry for tuckpointing and sealing areas on the main building. We will further investigate and decide on the best course of action for this problem.

In the wake of the Sutherland Springs church shooting, we have been in conversation with local police organizations about safety and security measures we can take for our facility. While they have many suggestions, we felt that immediate actions we should take are 1) to lock the education building doors after Sunday School to help protect those individuals in the nursery and 2) to leave the street level entrance on the southeast corner of the main building locked at all times. Other entrances will remain unlocked at this time. A bid for cat6 cable from J & S Electronic Business Systems was approved at a cost of \$960. This will provide wifi service to the sanctuary and other areas of the church.

We are getting prices for blinds to replace the curtains in the Stephens Minister room.

SOUPER BOWL OFFERINGS TO SUPPORT EMERGENCY CUPBOARD

On Sunday, February 4 you will have the opportunity to provide supplies for our Emergency Cupboard. During worship children will come through the sanctuary to receive your offerings and take them to the front of the sanctuary for a blessing. Food products that will not freeze and hygiene items are acceptable. We collect these items on this day in partnership with many other churches throughout the country. The Super Bowl will be played, but all are not super. Many millions of dollars will be spent but not in support of those in need. The Souper Bowl of Caring organization encourages churches to take offerings and report to them an estimate of what was collected. Last year, Souper Bowl of Caring raised over \$10.1 million. Let us do our part again this year!

FOR YOUR VALENTINE "Very Fine" HOMEMADE CANDY

Available
February 11 in Parlor
Before & After Church

A VALENTINE DINNER CELEBRATION FOR EVERYONE

Wed. February 12, 5:30 PM
Fellowship Hall
\$10.00 per person
Contact Bob Chatterton for reservations

February 2018

FEBRUARY MEETINGS

- 1 12:00 PM FCC Book Club
6:30 PM Chancel Choir
- 3 8:00 AM Disciple Men (Old Dairy)
- 4 Souper Bowl Sunday
- 6 7:00 PM Disciple Women
Executive Board Meeting
- 7 7:00 PM Spirit Sisters at Rocky's
- 8 6:30 Chancel Choir
- 12 1:00 PM Stephen Ministers
5:00 PM Property
6:00 PM Outreach and Action
- 13 1:00 PM Prayer Shawl
- 14 5:30 PM Valentine's Day Dinner
7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service
- 15 6:30 PM Chancel Choir
7:30 PM Third Thursday Men's
Group at Chubby's
- 19 5:30 PM Trustees
7:00 PM Church Board
- 20 5:00 PM Pastoral Support
- 21 5:30 PM Light Supper
6:00 PM Lenten Study
- 22 6:30 PM Chancel Choir
- 26 5:00 PM Evangelism
7:00 PM Elders
- 27 9:30 AM Disciples Clergy
11:30 AM Itoko Maeda
1:30 PM Martha Shemwell
- 28 5:30 PM Light Supper
6:00 PM Lenten Study

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Teresa Meunier
- 3 Marcia Hamilton
- 7 Rachel Blivens
- 10 Donna Newell Augustyn
- 12 Halie Runner
- 13 Linda Dace
- 14 Paul Huff
Mary Stipanowich
- 15 Janet Shank
- 20 Jean Vaughn
- 25 Abbygail Elizabeth Bailey
- 27 Kathryn Rutledge



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**PERIODICALS
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FEBRUARY ACTIVITIES FOR COLLEGE AGE, YOUTH (grades 6-12), AND JYF (grades 3-5)

COLLEGE AGE

- 4 1:30 PM Spaghetti Dinner service project in the Fellowship Hall
- 18 8:00 PM Meal and Would You Rather in the Youth Room

YOUTH

- 4 5:00-9:00 PM Super Bowl Party
(Please also consider helping with the service project at 1:30 PM)
- 11 5:00-6:30 PM Valentine's Mission
- 18 5:00-6:30 PM Surprise!
- 25 5:00-6:30 PM Drama

JYF

- 4 11:45 AM-1:30 PM Lunch and Fun
- 18 5:00-6:30 PM Love Is . . .