



First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

120 North McArthur Street  
Macomb, IL 61455-2101

PERIODICAL  
CHALICE  
TIDINGS

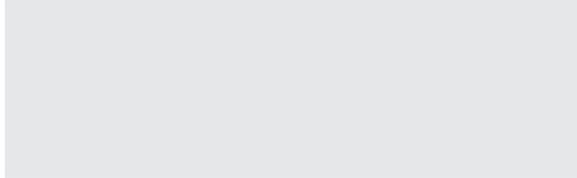


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120 North McArthur Street, Macomb, IL 61455-2101

Volume XXV, Issue 8

February 20, 2014



**SERVING THIS WEEK OF February 23**

- Worship Leader:** Jeanna Montgomery  
**Elders:** Patti Jones (bread); Jan Rockwell (cup)  
**Diaconate:** Josh Butcher, Roselyn Chown, Ron Vaughn, Jonelle Schauble, Sue Cangro, Elise Cangro  
**Balcony:** Collin Reed, Shannon Reed, Rich Cangro  
**Preparatory:** Monill McClure, Barbara Markley, Cindy Moon  
**Greeters:** **Front** LouAnn Herriman  
**Central East** Karen Chatterton  
**Balcony South** Jeanna Montgomery  
**Elevator** Les Herriman  
**Sanctuary Superintendent(s):** Gail & Joyce Randall  
**Children's Moment:** Patti Jones  
**Children's Church:** Alex Adams  
**Soundboard Tech:** Eric Reed  
**Coffee Fellowship Time:** Jill Jones  
**Hospital Caller(s):** Jack McKinnon  
**Financial Escort:** Barbara Houck  
**Sunday Morning Office Staff:** Dorothy Loop

Kelly Ingersoll,  
Minister

Bill Froom,  
Chancel Choir Director

Carol Harmon,  
Organist

Mariah Chapdelaine,  
Youth/Children's Choir Director

Annetta Holt,  
Administrative Assistant

Paul Huff,  
Custodian,

Brandi Collins,  
Nursery Supervisor

Brittany Nelson,  
Nursery Attendant



**Ash  
Wednesday  
Worship**

In Western Christianity, Ash Wednesday marks the first day of Lent, which begins 40 days prior to Easter (Sundays are not included in the count.) This year Ash Wednesday is March 5.

Lent is a time when Christians prepare for Easter by observing a period of fasting, repentance, moderation and spiritual discipline.

Ash Wednesday derives its name from the practice of placing ashes on the foreheads of worshipers as a celebration and reminder of human mortality, and as a sign of mourning and repentance to God.

FCC will hold Ash Wednesday services on March 5, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Please mark this date on your calendar and plan to attend.

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# Kelly's Korner

*Blessed, You Are Reconciled to Perfect Love*

This week we close out our sermon series on Matthew 5. Jesus is once again saying "You have heard...But I say". He is alluding to the fact that there are new ways to interpret ancient teachings. He will tell us difficult things. Love your enemy. Pray for those who persecute you. Really, Jesus? Surely he was having a momentary lapse of judgment. Surely the earlier teachings about hate were better. They were far easier to follow.

I have a friend named Philip Gulley. He has written tons of books. Some are stories. A few are hard-hitting theological treatises. His latest book is titled "The Evolution of Faith". In this book, Phil seeks to lay a foundation for fundamental changes in word and deed—the way the church thinks and acts in the world. Phil writes, "Therefore, to speak of an evolving Christianity isn't to undertake a radical and unilateral overhaul of the faith, but to suggest a possible way forward that not only honors the ethos of Jesus but is conversant with our time and culture."

In my mind, Christians have got to begin to re-interpret some beliefs, beginning with how we view humanity. Too often we believe traditional theology's attempt to tell us how awful and wicked and evil we are. I disagree. We are part of a creation that God called good. On the day humans were created, the creation was called very good. Humans were claimed to be created in the image of the divine. Wouldn't that be a good thing? Too often we slight the creation story for that of Adam and Eve and the snake and the apple.

Jesus will close our sermon series with this statement. "Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect". He did not mean for us to be perfect in every action. We are human. We will make mistakes. Such mistakes do not make us awful beings. All Jesus asks is that we love in the same manner as God—who is perfect love. Blessed, to this love let us be reconciled.

Peace,



## **Sunday, February 23**

Eric Reed opens/closes church

Eric Reed drives the van

8:30 AM Prayer Group

9:00 AM Sunday School

10:00 AM Coffee Fellowship

10:30 AM Worship

5:00 PM Youth Group

## **Monday, February 24**

5:30 PM Evangelism Comm

6:00 PM Property Comm

6:00 PM Worship Comm

7:00 PM Elders

## **Tuesday, February 25**

1:30 PM Martha Shemwell

6:00 PM Itoko Maeda @ Chick's

## **Friday, February 28-Sunday, March 2**

Youth Group at Horn Field Campus

## **Saturday, March 1**

8:00 AM DM @ FCC

Fellowship Hall

Youth Retreat continues at Horn Lodge

## **Sunday, March 2**

Rod Burg opens/closes church

Rod/Nita Burg drive(s) the van

8:30 AM Prayer Group

9:00 AM Sunday School

10:00 AM Coffee Fellowship

10:30 AM Worship

1:30 PM Shut-in Communion

Elders: John Carden

Char Carden

Deacons: Rachel Bliven

Bev Drake

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

21 Betty & Bob Sherwood (a)

25 Abbygail Elizabeth Bailey

27 Rebecca Craig-Bailey  
Kathryn Rutledge  
Joyce & Gail Randall (a)

## **Sunday, February 23 Seventh Sunday after Epiphany**

**Sermon: To Perfect Love  
Scripture: Matthew 5:38-48**

Lectionary Readings:

Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18

Psalm 119:33-40

I Corinthians 3:10-11, 26-23

## **Sunday, March 2 Transfiguration Sunday**

Lectionary Readings:

Exodus 24:12-18

Psalm 2

Psalm 99

II Peter 1:16-21

Matthew 17:1-9

## WEEK OF COMPASSION OFFERING

FEBRUARY 2014

For 70 years, Week of Compassion has made a difference in the lives of people and communities around the world by pooling resources, leveraging funds and serving together.

From North America to Africa, from Asia to Europe, in towering mansions, and gritty slums, in cardboard boxes and suburban homes, we are all children of God.

We are One. And our gifts, given through this special offering, empower people in poverty to learn a trade, raise their own food, and grow in faith. United in Christ, we help to remember our unity and offer our gifts to benefit people all around the world, and indeed, in our own communities.

This past fall, we added to our yearly Week of Compassion offering by collecting money for the victims of hurricanes in the Philippines and a tornado in Washington, IL.

Week of Compassion gives us a marvelous opportunity to remember our unity and to offer our gifts to benefit people all around us. If one brother or sister is hungry, thirsty, or recovering from a disaster, then we all are. So as FCC collects our annual Week of Compassion offering, **give** what you can, **give** because you feel called, **give** remembering that people around the world would also give to you. **Give** because in Christ Jesus, we are one family.

FCC will continue to accept this offering on February 23 .



The Disciples Men will meet in the church Fellowship Hall on March 1, at 8:00 a.m.

Joyce Randall and her crew will cook a delicious homemade breakfast for all the men and boys of FCC!

There will be a short program following the breakfast and fellowship time.

Ask your friends, come and fellowship together - eat all you want!



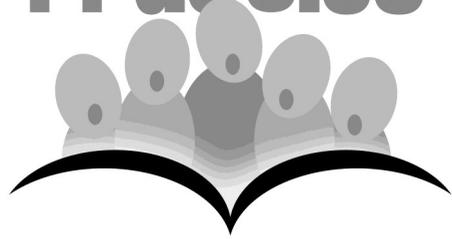
Our Junior Youth Fellowship for children, grades 3-5, is off to a great start!

Based on the success of our first gathering, we will continue to meet once a month following worship (12:00 noon-1:30 p.m.) for a light meal, fellowship, stewardship and fun.

So mark your calendars! On March 2, we will play "Games and God" and on April 6, we'll "Spring into Spring". We are working on a group outing for May.

This is a great opportunity to invite a friend and to share God's love with others.

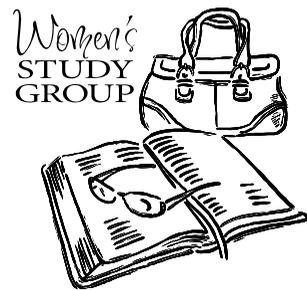
# CHOIR practice



If you are a member of the choir, you should note that Choir Practice will be start at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 5 (Ash Wednesday).

The choir will sing at the Ash Wednesday service immediately following practice.

Also, during Lent (March 19, 26, April 2, 9), choir rehearsal will begin at 7:00 p.m. each Wednesday night.



During Lent, we will be starting a women's group that meets during the Sunday School hour beginning Sunday, March 9. This would be for any women not already involved in a Women's Circle.

The group will be studying *One Thousand Gifts* by Ann Voskamp. The cost of the book will be \$15. Please contact Anne Ingersoll at 421 0540 or [anneingersoll@gmail.com](mailto:anneingersoll@gmail.com) if you would like to participate in the study so materials can be ordered.



## *Eyes Upon the Cross*

**Eyes Upon the Cross** will be the recurring theme of our Lenten Studies.

We will have a study on Wednesdays during Lent - March 19, 26, April 2, and 9. These studies will begin at 5:30 p.m. with a snack supper. There will be a study offered for all ages.

The study will begin at 6:00 p.m. and will conclude at 6:45 p.m.

A donation basket will be available to help pay for the cost of the meal each week.

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**



### Maundy Thursday

We will again join with First Baptist to participate in a Maundy Thursday service, April 16, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

The service will be held at First Christian and Rev. Wally Holt will bring the evening message. We will share wonderful music, friendship and communion. This is a great opportunity to gather around the table and remember our unity in Christ.



### Tenebrae Service

On Good Friday evening, April 17, at 7:30 p.m., we will hold a Tenebrae service.

The word "tenebrae" is Latin for shadows. The purpose of a Tenebrae service is to recreate the emotional aspects of the passion story.

Our purpose will be to recreate the betrayal, abandonment and agony of the events of Good Friday. We will leave the sanctuary in near darkness with the Easter story unfinished.