

The Karusograph

A ministry of

Volume 53

December 28, 2011

Issue 52

FCC

www.clintonfcc.com

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
OF Clinton

One Service

January 1st - 9:30 a.m.

Programming for all ages through fifth grade.

0-23 months: nursery

2-3 year olds: assembly room across from beginner area

4-years - Kindergarten: Beginner Room

1st - 5th grade: Family Life Center

Area Men's Fellowship

Tuesday, January 3 - 7:00 p.m.

Clinton - First Christian Church

Speaker: Dick Koritz - "The Church and Politics"

**Menu: Baked steak, mashed potatoes & gravy,
corn casserole, dessert and more.**

I want to start this week by saying thank you to everyone who made our many December special events so very special:

Thanks to Melanie Cheatham for working so hard with our CLASS Act Kids and for writing our Bible School Christmas program. We'll NEVER forget the Silent Monks (and we're showing a video of it this Sunday, January 1).

Thanks to Ruth Davidson for her hard work with both the adult choir and the chimes choir. The cantata on the 11th was just outstanding and the chimes were a blessing as well.

Thanks to Jim Coonce for his hard work with our Christmas Eve musical "A Christmas Tale." The entire cast did a great job "telling" the story of Jesus.

Thanks to Barb Pastore for her work with the Signs and Songs Choir – this special featured many Jr. Church kids as well.

Don't forget – this Sunday, New Year's Day – we are having just one morning service at 9:30 am – no programming at 8:15 or 11:00 – and I'll be sharing another "Ask the Pastor" morning, featuring among other questions:

- Hell – fact or fiction?
- Homosexuality – what's our stance?
- Once saved, always saved?
- Why are we a part of CAMA?
- Does prayer still work?
- Is missions still needed?
- What's the Restoration Movement?
- Why do you use the NIV Bible?
- What's the deal with all these new services the last couple of years (Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Thanksgiving Eve, etc.)?

The Gospel According to Greg (cont'd)

On Christmas Sunday morning, I spoke briefly about the hymn “O Holy Night” – the uniqueness of it. Here below is a more detailed explanation and understanding of this great Christmas hymn/ carol:

“O Holy Night” (“Cantique de Noël”) remains one of the world’s most beloved Christmas carols. But in 1847 it started with a French poem written by Placide Cappeau, a wine merchant, mayor of the town, and an occasional poet, who had been asked by a parish priest to write a poem for Christmas mass. In a dusty coach traveling down a bumpy road to France’s capital city, Cappeau considered the priest’s request. Using the gospel of Luke as his guide, Cappeau imagined witnessing the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem. Thoughts of being present on the blessed night inspired him. By the time he arrived in Paris, “Cantique de Noel” had been completed.

Cappeau decided that his “Cantique de Noel” was not just a poem, but a song in need of a master musician’s hand. Not musically inclined, the poet turned to one of his friends, Adolphe Charles Adams, for help, when he arrived in Paris. Adolphe Adams composed the music for the poem.

Unitarian minister John Sullivan Dwight, editor of *Dwight’s Journal of Music*, created a singing edition based on Cappeau’s French text in 1855. In both the French original and in the two familiar English versions of the carol, the text reflects on the birth of Jesus and of mankind’s redemption.

On 24 December 1906, Reginald Fessenden, a Canadian inventor, broadcast the first AM radio program in Pittsburgh, PA, which included him playing “O Holy Night” on the violin and singing the final verse. The carol therefore was one of the first pieces of music to be broadcast on radio.

Blessings to you – see you Sunday at 9:30 am!

GT

December 25, 2011 ~ Facts & Figures

Our Witness Through Giving

General Fund Giving this Week	\$35,444.00
2011 M.A.P. Weekly Need	<u>\$19,150.67</u>
Surplus	\$16,293.33

Our Witness Through Attendance

Christmas Eve (603 & 275)	878
Christmas Morning	<u>505</u>
Christmas Weekend Total	1383 (11 ave. 665)

Decisions for Christ & His Church

<u>This Week</u>	<u>Yearly Totals</u>
Baptisms: 1	34
Transfers: 0	14
Rededications: 0	9
Christian Service: 0	<u>0</u>
Total	57

Information About the Church

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Office Hours

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Monday - Thursday

Sunday, January 1, 2011

9:30 a.m.

Distributing Bulletins

**Ty Osterbur
Carolyn Clark
Debbie Followell**

**Norma Short
Ruth Harvey
Fern White**

Greeters

**Danny Bundy
J. D. & Norma Harrold
Becky Hickman**

Information Center Attendants

**Edna May Sprague
Ginny Carter
Candi Heap**

Door Assistants

**Danny Bundy
Bryan Martin
Joe Alexander**

Serving Outside Communion

Shut-Ins: **Danny Bundy**
Hospital: **Bryan Hickman**
Manor Court: **Jim Defebaugh**



Young at Heart is a group of Senior Christians that meet at the First Christian Church for fellowship and worship. We've been meeting for over 25 years on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month at 10:30 am. We have a program every meeting and after the program we have a devotion and a meal that enriches us. We try to have a fine trip each month to places of interest, and in the fall we go to Branson for a few days. We welcome all faiths to our group and spread love to each other. Come and join us soon, you'll be happy you did. "Friendship is a sheltering tree." Samuel Taylor Coleridge

There will not be any meetings in January this year! Last year we had to cancel because of weather. February will have meetings as planned. Our first meeting we'll have Alexis Geary coming to assist us in "Uncovering the Mystery of Our Government Benefits and Entitlements." Then on February 15, we'll have a person of knowledge explain the entitlements of our Christian living. "Do good to thy friend to keep him, to thy enemy to gain him." Benjamin Franklin

We will be going to the Goodfield Barn for a fun time on the 9th of February, for a good stage show and meal presented by a great cast. The show will be "Come Blow Your Horn" by Neil Simon. Call Norma at 935-5817 and make plans to go with us. Then on March 14th we'll travel to Starved Rock for a "Shamrock and Shenanigans" show with all the Irish trimmings. Many more trips are planned! "No man is useless while he has a friend." Robert L. Stevenson

Love is sincere. It's not just a lot of talk or theory, but it's seen in action. Love meets needs. Love is genuine. It really wants to help others. Love forgets the past and deals with each issue in a fresh way. "Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good." Romans 12:9 KJV

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.” Philipians 4:6

Hospital Prayer List

Springfield Memorial

Larry Montgomery

Bromenn

Jim Weikel (Dec. 30)

Out-of-Area

Bernice Zastrow (Downers Grove)

Winston Zastrow (Downers Grove)

Laury Hubrich (Chicago)

Our Christian Sympathy to the Family and Loved Ones of...

...**David Chapman**, Moweaqua, IL - father of *Meagan Chapman* and *Michael Chapman*, brother of *Larry (Nancy) Chapman*, *Bill (Sandy) Chapman* and *Mike (Kay) Chapman*

...**Cathelena Daily**, Clinton, IL - mother of *Sue May* and *Barbara (Jim) Boyd*

...**Gary Angel**, Andover, IL - uncle of *Rick (Bev) Angel*

...**Helen Azbill**, Clinton, IL - mother of *Teresa Devore*, *Steve Azbill* & *Jeff Azbill*, sister of *Wes (Bettie) Anderson* and *Louise Moore*

...**Donald Yedtman**, Clinton/Atwood, IL - husband of *Dorothy Yedtman*, father of *Susan (Scott) McCoy*

...**Beth Sullivan**, Hastings, MN (former member of FCC) - Wife of *Jim Sullivan*

Special Prayer Requests

* New Names

Becky Alexander

Bettie Anderson

Shirley Bain

Debbie Bateson

Allan Bell*

Sadie Bell

Linda Berry

Virgil Brady

Garry Bryan

Pat Butler

Ron Butts

Brad Campbell

Josephine Cannon

Edna Carter

Kay Chapman

Landon Clark

Merle Cox

Brett Creager

Dorothy Daniels

Lois DeJaynes

Patty Douglas

Carolyn Drummond

Carol Duncan

Vickie Dunham

Candi Evans

Lori Evans

Delbert Fields

Betty Fortune

DeEtta Gehres

Michelle Gibbons

Tim Greenwood

Tricia Haley

Cheryl Haynes

Judy Hedrick

Dan Holland

Jackie Hunt

Dixie Keller

Joann Kirchgessner

Carol Krause

Jerry Kronk

Rachel Litherland

Ed Martin

Jimmy Moore

Tammy Moore

Robert Peters

William Plotke

Jesse Reising

Arwilda Roberts

Randy Roy

Mary Shofner

Whitney Siltman

Bob Simmons

Gary Simmons

James L. Smith

Shirley Smith

Rick Sollars

Sharon Stephenson

Kadence Taylor

Rebecca Tellefsen

Iris Thorp

Emily Titus

Pat Thompson

Jessica Torres

Bob Trummel*

Sherry Volk

Dave Ward*

Sharon Webb

Linda Welch*

Brien White

Nancy Whitecotton*

Vernadine Witt

This 'N That

Just a reminder that the church office will be closed on Friday, December 30 and Monday, January 2.



The IRS rules state that year end offerings to the church must be received by December 31. The church office will be closed on the 30th & 31st. If you mail your contribution, it must be postmarked by December 31, 2011. Contributions received, or postmarked, after the 31st will be recorded for 2012 even though the check may be dated in December 2011.



A Passage Through Grief

A new grief class entitled "A Passage Through Grief" will begin on January 8, 2012. The class will be led by Joyce Trummel and will meet on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. during the Bible School hour in the classroom east of the Lord Led Ladies class.

2012 offering envelopes are now available in the church foyer. If you don't have offering envelopes, but would like to have a box assigned to you, please call the church office or e-mail Peggy at peggy@clintonfcc.com.

Christian College scholarship applications are available at the information booth or in the church office. Please complete and return to the church office by **Sunday, January 22, 2012.**



Thank you notes have been received from the Clinton YMCA Swim Team, the family of Leta Jean Baker, and the Ron Thoms Family.

Coat Switch

There was a coat switch from the Christmas Eve first service. The coat missing is a short black down parka with purple lining. Please check and see if you might have picked up the wrong coat by mistake. Please call the church office.



"Lest We Forget Those We Love"

Memorials were given in memory of:

David Chapman
Paul & Flossie Deeters
William (Bill) Deeters, Sr.
June & Herschel Newman

Excerpts from Ernie

Ernie Harvey Jr.
ernie@clintonfcc.com

**There are NO
Youth Groups on January 1.**



**We will begin again on January 8, with a
WELCOME BACK fun night.**

Breakfast Club

**will begin on Friday, January 6th at 7:15.
See you there!**

Adventures with Adam

Adam Brucker

adam@clintonfcc.com



There will be no youth activities
on January 1st.

**Put It On Your
Summer Calendar**



* **CIY** is
June 25-30

* **Mission Trip** is
July 22-28

Worship 101

Christmas 2011

Jim Coonce
jim@clintonfcc.com

Well...we have made it through another Christmas and as much as I love the season with its “manger, baby, shepherds and wisemen,” I am thankful for the month of December to be almost completed! It was packed full of children’s programs, choir cantata, band concert, Christmas Eve musical and that’s just what was going on at the church! I’m sure that you can add to the list of events that contributed to the busyness of the season!

However, I hope that you were able to find time to slow down and remember why we celebrate Christmas during this hectic holiday season! There are many moments throughout the past month that stuck out to me as significant points which we should embrace. One that immediately sticks out is the point in the Sunday School Christmas program in which Bradley Pitts (aka, Greg Taylor) realizes that he does not have to be ashamed of the Gospel which completely changes his outlook on the “holiday” program of Pittsfield Academy.

Another significant moment upon which we can reflect actually takes place in the silly video we watched on Sunday (Christmas morning), when the “Live Nativity Actor” is faced with the reality that he could never have given up his “only son!” I know it made me think a little more about the love that God has for us as He gave His one and only son...!”

One final moment was from the end of the Christmas Eve musical, “A Christmas Tale.” It was the “Grand Finale: the part of the story to which all other parts leads up to...” This “Grand Finale” ended up being a “choose your own ending.” And I close this article with these words: “Where will you have the story end? Where will the Jesus of Christmas end up for you? Safe and sound, Just a baby in a manger? Or a personal God...who still does wonders. How will you end the story?”

These are not mere words from a play, but real questions to which you have real answers. Wishing you the best for this Christmas and the happiest of New Years!

This Sunday at FCC – January 1, 2012

New Year's Day: One service at 9:30 a.m. – no programming at 8:15 am or 11:00 am

NO evening youth groups

NO Reveal

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