

# The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 62 Issue 9

April 21, 2020



FCC/CWF will sponsor a **Red Cross Blood Drive** at Crossroads on Tuesday, **April 28, 10:30am to 3:30pm**. Due to COVID-19, donors **MUST** make an appointment on-line at: [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org). Walk-ins will be required to make an appointment and return to donate at that specific time. Everyone will have their temperature taken at the entrance and social distancing will be in place. All precautions (masks/gloves/cleaning) will be taken. After donating, if the donor feels well, they may leave immediately with snack/water. We hope many of you will want to donate at this drive. If you have questions, please check the [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) website or call Barbara Fosco at 285-2608.



American Red Cross

BLOOD  
DRIVE

Please let us know by **May 15** if you will have an **8th Grade, High School or College graduate in your family**. We will recognize them on Graduation Sunday at a date yet to be determined once we are able to worship in the sanctuary.



Hey church family, we want to bring clarification about streaming Sunday morning services.

The only live stream will be at 8:00 Sunday on Facebook and YouTube. Some were looking for

a live feed at 10:30 but it was not there. What happens is that once the video compiles, then it

is available to watch. On Facebook this happens relatively quickly; however, YouTube can take a little while to repost. That is what happened April 19. The Facebook live video was able to be viewed quickly after the 8:00 service but many were not able to find the YouTube service until much later that morning. If you want to watch live then feel free to do so at 8:00; otherwise, at your leisure on Facebook or YouTube once the videos are compiled and accessible. We made the decision to only stream 1 service to conserve our resources and follow the states social distancing requests of lessening contact time. Sorry for the inconvenience. The sermons are archived on the church website, but the full services can be viewed on YouTube. We usually keep them up for approximately 4 weeks. Thanks so much for your patience during this crazy time. As always, the radio broadcast is also available on Sunday mornings at 10:30 but it is one week late and edited for time (long winded Pastor, ha ha).



STREAMING UPDATE

The Snack Pack program has been working diligently to provide food to students and family in need. FCC continues to support the Snack Pack program. If you would like to make a donation too, let the church office know and your funds will be directed accordingly.



The **Disciple Heritage Fellowship Conference** was canceled; however, a **free webinar** will be presented Fri, **April 24**, noon-2:00. Spots are limited so register at [discipleheritage.org](http://discipleheritage.org). Watch their webpage or Facebook page for the latest info.

Men's Breakfast and Bible Study is cancelled until further notice. We will try to schedule it again, hopefully in the summer.

The final copy of the new church directory is on hold until Life-touch is able to finish production. In the meantime, feel free to call the office or send an email if you need an address. We are here to stay connected with you and with each other.

*Thank you First Christian Church Family, for the many blessings that were sent our way. The calls, cards and food have been so helpful and greatly appreciated. We sincerely thank you for the prayers for healing, as we could feel them when they were most needed. Your encouragement brings us much comfort. As I prepare for the next phase of this journey (radiation & additional surgeries), I appreciate your continued prayers. Thank you, Pastor Michael and all our church family, for your support. God bless you all! -Wanda & Buster Mendenhall.*

*First Christian Church Members,  
Thank you very much for your donation to Snack Pack. We appreciate your willingness to help the children of Pikeland Unit 10.  
-Snack Pack Board.*

## Excerpts from April 14, 2020 Church Board Meeting

**Call to Order:** 6:00 pm by Moderator Gary Mendenhall. **Elder Devotion and Opening Prayer:** Lead by Pastor Michael. **Minutes from Last Meeting:** Approved by consensus.

**Minister's Report:** Attached. March 8 was last regular attended worship services before Covid-19 social distancing rules went into effect. Original Holy Week plans were rearranged due to Covid-19. Resurrection Sunday, April 12, has had over 2,100 views between YouTube and Facebook combined. Figuring out a new model of ministry during social distancing. Had 3 DHF teleconferences for conference adjustments.

**Treasurer:** Checking/Savings = \$674,651.92. Unrestricted Operating Checking = \$100,000.00. Budgeted Receipts = \$119,998.95 (\$3,431.05 under budget). Budgeted Disbursements = \$94,001.66 (\$23,377.34 under budget). Nonbudget Receipts = \$25,588.95. Nonbudgeted Disbursements = \$5,599.08. Average Attendance YTD = 283 thru March 8. Excess Unrestricted Operating Checking moved towards Church Construction / Renovation = \$7,927.56 + \$1,722.50 designated offering = \$9,650.06 added during March. Total Excess moved YTD = \$29,355.79. Total funds available for Church Construction / Renovation = \$390,037.52. Motion to accept Treasurers' Report was made by Bob Clark, seconded by Zack Boren. Motion carried.

**Christian Education:** Orange Conference 2020 is canceled due to Covid-19, but Helen will watch the online version. Five of the 6 conference tickets will be used for 2021 conference for the same attendees. Hotel rooms are canceled.

**Crossroads:** Canceled community events due to Covid-19 include Cross Over Hoops, Chamber of Commerce dinner, Fireman's Daddy Daughter Dance, RSVP Luncheon, Senior Honors Banquet. Community events postponed include Walston benefit, MVCSC spaghetti dinner, Jane Calaway dining room rental. Still waiting on decisions about Blood Drive and CEO Trade Show. Bruce/Johnson wedding reception will be end of May with 2 other potential weekends if needed. Volleyball League is canceled. Most players have requested their \$20 fee to be considered a church donation. A few have asked for their fee to be applied to 2021 league which Matt Sealock will keep a record of.

**Children First:** DCFS required us to close due to Covid-19. Last day open was March 20. Right now, we have more questions than answers. Have used \$7,000 of the \$25,000 in the church budget. Will have a board meeting soon.

**Balsman Property:** The spring cash rent has been received \$4,320. Tenant has proposed a new payment schedule. After discussion, Bob Clark made a motion to accept the Executive Committee's recommendation which repeats the board motion in March 2020. Brad Willman seconded; motion carried. It was noted that we will need congregation approval to enter a new Real Estate Contract but due to Covid-19 social distancing guidelines, a congregational meeting cannot be scheduled.

**Building Team:** Discussions are on hold due to Covid-19 concerns.

Research and discussion on floor refinishing is on hold until Covid-19 concerns pass.

**New Business:** The church has applied for a Payroll Protection Program loan from Small Business Administration due to the Covid-19 outbreak. In summary, a loan is received equal to 2.5 times our average monthly payroll based on a 12-month lookback period. Loan proceeds can only be used for payroll, utilities, rent and mortgage interest. Within 8 weeks, the portion of the loan not spent on said expenses will be treated as a loan. The portion spent on said expenses will be treated as a grant; therefore, will be forgiven. The loan proceeds of \$42,800 will be deposited April 15, 2020.

The Executive Committee discussed contributing \$4,000 to Unmet Needs and \$3,000 to the Two Rivers Food Pantry to aid with anticipated Covid-19 response in the county. The total, \$7,000, is approximately equal to the excess in operating checking at March 31 that was transferred to Church Construction / Renovation Fund which is the fund the Executive Committee would like to use. Helen said Unmet Needs just received a grant with restricted use designated towards needs arising from Covid-19 issues. Helen recommended the church wait to see if our contribution will be needed. Bethany made a motion to contribute up to \$4,000 from Church Construction / Renovation Fund to Unmet Needs if needed and up to \$3,000 to Two Rivers Food Pantry if needed. N.D. seconded; motion carried.

Bethany made a motion to adjourn. Ruth seconded, motion carried. Meeting adjourned @ 7:00pm. Next meeting set for Tuesday, May 12, 2020. Pastor Michael closed in prayer.

## Essential One

“Essential” seems to be the buzz word these days: essential services, essential workers, essential supplies. Everyone is asking who and what we consider essential at this time? There are similar questions that should be in our spirits right now, though. Who is essential to me? Who has the essential seat of my heart?

Some of the media is distracting and telling us that fear and stress should be essential. We should fret, we should panic, and we should expect the world to spin out of control according to them. But, God gives us a different command.

We see a similar situation in Luke 24. Some of the disciples were so consumed with the current situation - the death of Jesus - that they missed the “essential” one when he appeared. They missed Jesus. He approached them. He spoke with them. He asked them questions, but they were so downcast that they didn’t even recognize him in their midst.

### **Luke 24: 13-17**

**13** That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, **14** and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. **15** While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. **16** But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. **17** And he said to them, “What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?” And they stood still, looking sad.

These disciples were so concerned with their sadness that they missed Jesus. Are we missing Jesus right now, too?

It’s understandable to be down, concerned, and cautious at the moment. The world is a very different place than it was before this virus hit. However, God is not different. His presence is still very much with us. He is still drawing near, even as we walk down the road, discussing our difficulties, just like the disciples did that day.

So, don’t miss Him! Don’t focus more on our current situation than on Him. Don’t let your downcast eyes keep you from recognizing Him. He’s here. Our “essential” is Jesus, and he’s walking right beside us.

Loving you all,

Michael

**MAY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES** **1** Angie Hittner, David James, Jeremy Schoenherr; **2** Jeff Cox, Chloe Chastain; **3** Shirley Loyd, Sharron Houchins; **4** Buster Mendenhall, Cassie Richmiller, Kirk & Jessica Speckhart; **5** Morgan Plattner, Cadience Mendenhall-Roig; **6** Beryl Richards, Angie Ruebush; **7** Isaac Hayes, Will Freesen; **8** Kathy Kindle; **9** Dora Lee Claus, Paul & Patty Ruble, Brenda Kramer; **10** Julie Lierly; **11** Vera Staffy, Katie Sidwell, Jack Palmer; **12** Corinne Pennock, John Plattner; **13** Randy & Marjie Guthrie; **15** Ashli Freesmeyer; **16** Brad Losch, Luke Saxe, Maxwell Bonnett, Wayne & Edna Baughman; **18** Abby Lipcaman, Lainey Ten Eyck; **21** Ralph Piper; **22** Zachary Boren, Benjamin Boren; **23** Mackenzie Lipcaman, Wesley Picone; **24** Jamie & Brandi Pennock, Braxton & Laura Boren, Lia Picone; **25** Brian Daniel, Jonathan & Jennifer Schoenherr; **26** Skyler Schoenherr; **27** Delbert Robertson; **28** Rick Curfman, Randy Guthrie; **29** Isabel Smith, Olivia Smith; **30** Seth Daniel; **31** Henry Speckhart.

**First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois**  
 Church Building: 225 N. Memorial Street  
 Crossroads Center: 125 W. Jefferson Street  
 Administrative Building: 201 N. Mississippi, PO Box 306  
 Phone (217) 285-4129  
 Fax (217) 285-9649  
 Crossroads (217) 285-6171  
 E-mail: info@fccpittsfield.org

**Staff:**

Michael Ten Eyck, Pastor  
 Helen Earls, Programs & Christian Ed  
 Kayla Boren, Music  
 Kacie Lipcaman, Christian Ed  
 Rebecca Rhodes, Administrative Secretary  
 Gina Bryant, Custodian  
 Bob Clark, Audio/Video

**Office Hours: M 8:00am–4:00pm; T, W, TH 8-12**  
**Worship Times:** Every Sunday 8:00am & 10:30am

| <b>Stewardship (Offering Only)</b> | <u>4/6-12</u> | <u>4/13-19</u> |
|------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Operational                        | \$8,669.52    | \$8,314.67     |
| Property Improvement               | 103.00        | 3.00           |
| Outreach-Missionaries              | 70.00         | 95.00          |
| DHF                                | 25.00         | 25.00          |
| Outreach-General                   | 113.00        | 43.00          |
| Unmet Needs                        | 0.00          | 48.17          |
| Construction/Renovate              | 579.00        | 20.00          |
| Children First                     | <u>178.00</u> | <u>25.00</u>   |
| Total                              | \$9,737.52    | \$8,573.84     |

**Operating Receipts (Offering, Rentals, etc.)**

Received Last 7 Days \$8,652.20 \$7,4996.49  
 Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$9,494

**Ways to Give**

- Mail: PO Box 306, Pittsfield, IL 62363
- Online: Website fccpittsfield.org then Resources, Online Giving
- At the Office: 201 N. Mississippi Street

**Prayer Concerns:** Dorothy Apps Tereasa Apps  
 Chip Barber Tom Barger Dora Lee Claus  
 Tonya Douglas Joyce Harrison Stacey Helms  
 Linda Irwin Wanda Mendenhall  
 Stan & Judy Bear (Chuck & Carolyn Barber family)  
 Calvin Grimes (Levi Grimes' father)  
 Michael Guillory (Carolyn Barber's nephew)  
 Greg Howard (Larry Howard's nephew)  
 Debbie Houchins Gouran & Family  
 Kay Matthews (Jean Sanderson's sister)  
 Ashley Ratliff (Jean Sanderson's granddaughter)  
 Mark Reeves (Ashli Freesmeyer's father)  
 Peter Roccaforte (Chuck Barber's nephew)  
 Julie Talley (Judy Ferguson's sister-in-law)

We will offer online streaming of services on Sundays at 8:00AM and replayed on Facebook and YouTube until further notice. Pastor Michael will do a Fireside Chat on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:30AM for devotion, prayer, update church business and answer questions.

**Ways To Watch/Listen**

**Website fccpittsfield.org** - Ministries, Live Stream or Resources, Sermons.

**YouTube** - Search First Christian Church of Pittsfield and subscribe.

**Facebook** - Search First Christian Church of Pittsfield.

**WBBA 97.5**, Sundays, 10:30 a.m., Sermon from prior week.

We can email you the audio of sermons or mail CD.  
 To help with streaming, consider a Bluetooth headphone or speaker.

We have changed office hours to M 8:00-4:00, T-Th 8-12.

Contact the following Elders or Staff should you have a need:

|                              |                                |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| N.D. Harrison 217.370.1451   | Brad Willman 217.491.0538      |
| Larry Wigington 217.494.0027 | Wayne Chamberlain 217.248.3367 |
| Roger Brokaw 217.430.4369    | Zack Boren 217.371.3924        |
| Bob Clark 217.248-5954       | Ruth Bennett 217-491-4062      |
| Kathy Hull 217-430-7645      | Michael Ten Eyck 217.491.3925  |
| Helen Earls 217.473.1027     | Rebecca Rhodes 217.653.9089    |

**Lectionary**

4/26: Acts 2:14-41; Ps 116:1-19; 1 Peter 1:17-23; Luke 24:13-35  
 4/27: Ps 134; Gen 18:1-14; 1 Peter 1:23-25  
 4/28: Ps 134; Prov 8:32-9:6; 1 Peter 2:1-3  
 4/29: Ps 134; Exodus 24:1-11; John 21:1-14  
 4/30: Ps 23; Exodus 2:15-25; 1 Peter 2:9-12  
 5/1: Ps 23; Exodus 3:16-22; 1 Peter 2:13-17  
 5/2: Ps 23; Ezekiel 34:1-16; Luke 15:1-7  
 5/3: Acts 2:42-47; Ps 23; 1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10  
 5/4: Ps 100; Ezekiel 34:17-23; 1 Peter 5:1-5  
 5/5: Ps 100; Ezekiel 34:23-31; Heb 13:20-21  
 5/6: Ps 100; Jeremiah 23:1-8; Matt 20:17-28  
 5/7: Ps 31:1-16; Gen 12:1-3; Acts 6:8-15  
 5/8: Ps 31:1-16; Exodus 3:1-12; Acts 7:1-16  
 5/9: Ps 31:1-16; Jeremiah 26:20-24; John 8:48-59

Bulletin announcements are still posted to our website each week. Go to Resources, Bulletin Announcements.