

The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 62 Issue 18

August 25, 2020



August 30th will be Throwback Sunday! Charlotte and Becky will play hymns on the organ and piano at both services. The sanctuary is open with pews marked to encourage social distancing. Streaming is available on Facebook and YouTube and you can view the stream at Crossroads. You can park on the east side of the church and listen on 90.9 FM radio. Bring your own communion supplies if possible as we will have only a limited supply available. The nursery will be staffed starting at 9:00 through the end of the 10:30 service. Sunday School classes will meet at 9:15. Youth classes will meet in the education wing. Roger Brokaw's class will move to the Long Room and can Zoom so let him know if you need to connect. The C.O.F.F.E.E. Sunday School Class will meet in the gym. The Disciples Class will meet in the dining room.



Youth Group will meet Sunday, **August 30**, at Crossroads. Middle School will meet 5-6:30. High School will meet 6-7:30.

Church Board will meet Tues, **Sept 8**, 6pm.

Nominating forms are on the sanctuary mantels, at the admin building and in your newsletter for officers and other elected officials who's terms begin January 2021. Forms can be given to an Elder on Sunday or returned to the office **by Monday morning, Sept 14**.



Circle IV will meet at Cardinal Inn on Thursday morning, **Sept 10**, 9:30.

The **Children First Annual Meeting** will be Sunday, **Sept 20**, immediately after 10:30 service in the sanctuary.



Pastor Michael hosts **Coffee Talk** on **Tuesdays** at 10:30 on Facebook and YouTube. You can also park on the east side of the church and listen on 90.9 FM radio. Once finished around 11:00, he will come outside to your vehicle for anyone who needs prayers or to talk.

September Birthdays & Anniversaries: 1 Bill Irwin, Barb Bradburn, Darin & Shelley Wintjen; 2 Joan Halsey, Amanda Haskins, John & Lisa Pennock; 3 Dave & Ashli Freesmeyer; 5 Steve & Vickie Tharp; 7 Ruth Anne Goodin; 8 Michael Smith, Rhodora Pursley; 9 Liam Bonnett; 10 Chuck & Carolyn Barber, John & Julie Plattner, Vivian Cloninger; 11 Jamie Pennock, Billy Fitzmaurice; 12 Courtney Pennock, Levi Boren; 13 Judy Losch; 14 Chris & Amber Apps, Brian & Angie Ruebush, Bob Clark; 15 Terry Fine, Frank Smith, Connor Sweeting; 16 Dorothy Yaeger, Elijah Mendenhall, Kay McKinney; 17 Gary Mendenhall, Hendrix Lipcaman, Brooklyn Grigsby; 18 John & Jennifer Griffith; 19 Karen Goodwin, Ryder Lipcaman; 20 Alex Tharp; 21 Rex Lothridge, Rilee Boatright; 22 Bethany Dunham, June Speckhart-Quirarte; 23 Allison Plattner, Ben Freesen, Tate Kunzeman, Nathan Lothridge; 24 Loyd & Amy Casto, Amy Cox; 25 Steve Tharp; 26 Shelley Wintjen, Victoria Dain; 27 Leecia Carnes; 28 Bill & Rhonda Irwin, Mary Davis; 29 Darin Wintjen, Bill & Laura Grimsley, Darrell & Chris Sydney; 30 Ronald Halsey, Jonathan Schoenherr, Ellie Ten Eyck, Jathan Grimes

Excerpts from August 11, 2020 Church Board Meeting

Call to Order at 6:00 pm by Moderator Gary Mendenhall. Pastor Michael Ten Eyck led opening prayer. Minutes from July 14, 2020 were approved by general consensus.

Minister's Report: Attached. Continuing to monitor local Covid-19 cases and adjust services as recommended by local health officials. Revived Fireside Chats. Working on overflow room ceiling "stained glass" windows. One new replacement AC was installed, and another unit repaired.

Treasurer: Unrestricted Operating Checking = \$146,766.28. Total General and Trustee Checking/Savings = \$1,159,813.39. Budgeted Receipts = \$262,160.19 (\$22,667.81 under budget). Budgeted Disbursements = \$218,935.56 (\$64,350.44 under budget). Net Nonbudget Receipts / Disbursements = \$131,406.77 (increased due to sale of farm). Average Attendance YTD = 283 thru March 8. Total funds available for Construction / Renovation = \$925,778.36 (including Balsman Fund). United Community Bank is a few weeks away from being ready to process PPP loan forgiveness applications. Motion to accept Treasurers' Report was made by Bobby, seconded by Kathy. Motion carried.

Trustees: No Baughman Scholarship applicants. Received Withus fund distribution \$3,016.14 for property improvement. Paid B-K Electric \$8,900 for new AC from Withus funds and waiting on bill for another AC repair. Brad is shopping for best investment with 3 CDs coming due this month.

Christian Education: VBS planning has started for 2021. Youth Sunday School classes will reorganize based on attendance and restart soon. Orange curriculum for 2020-2021 has been ordered. Thank you, Linda Belford, for coming to the office to print the curriculum each month!

Crossroads: Several 2020 community events have postponed to 2021. We hope to still have the all church Turkey Dinner.

Children First: The daycare is open with 3 teachers plus the director.

Balsman Property: The closing date for the sale of the farm was July 30.

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

Old Business:

Logs – Received \$75. Total received \$429.43. We will get approximately \$2,000.

Bob made a motion to continue to suspend Safety Policy for nursery until September Board Meeting.

New Business:

Grinnell Insurance Company has provided a Waiver of Risk and Liability for rental activities at Crossroads Center due to Covid-19.

Helen has submitted her letter of resignation effective at the end of 2020. We greatly appreciate everything she has done for her church family!

Jordan Lamb is resigning as Nursery Attendance with last day being September 20, 2020. We are actively searching for a new one.

Rodney Gordley has expressed interest in expanding duties with Youth Group as Activity Director. Executive Committee is considering.

We cannot provide cookie trays for the Pikeland teachers on opening day like we have for many years due to Covid-19 requirements and concerns.

We need to remember technology upgrades such as cameras during 2021 budget discussions.

Bethany made a motion to adjourn. Brad seconded; motion carried. Meeting adjourned @ 6:47pm. Next meeting set for Tuesday, September 8, 2020. Pastor Michael closed in prayer.

For two of the last three years, we have spent our anniversary taking one of our children to their freshman year of college. While I am sure that this has been frugal, as neither of us has any appetite to go out to eat afterward, it is not something that any marriage expert would recommend.

I will admit that taking my daughter was a much harder experience than taking my son. This was magnified with the uncertainties of a pandemic looming overhead. Unfortunately, our daughter's optimism about what college life would look like with COVID-19 restrictions proved inaccurate. Once she realized the level of restrictions on campus, as well as having all of her classes moved to an online format, the allure of campus life did not seem worth the cost. Although I am proud of her decision, I realized that this was yet another "coming of age" event that has now been taken away from her or, at the very least, delayed for a time. Now the tough part...getting in the right mindset to take on college classes in a vastly different environment than imagined.

In life, there are times when we get thrown curveballs. There are life events in which we invest a lot of hope and emotional energy only to realize that they are not what we imagined them to be. Often the reality we experience does not measure up to the expectations we had envisioned. What do we do in such times? The Psalmist gives us some wonderful advice for these seasons in life...

Psalm 121 I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? 2 My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. 3 He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. 4 Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. 5 The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade on your right hand. 6 The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. 7 The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. 8 The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore. -ESV

A few thoughts from this Psalm in our times of distress:

1. Realize that you are not alone. God is near and accessible in the times when we need help. We simply need to lift up our eyes to the One who has promised to never leave or forsake us. He is not too busy, tired, or preoccupied for His children.
2. Prayerfully evaluate all the options that God has given you. Know that God will be your keeper even when you need to make difficult choices.
3. Don't stop worshipping through your disappointment. Many times we find that as we fix our eyes on the Lord, our disappointments fade in the promise of God's divine ability to get us to His purpose for our lives, even when the path seems to have some detours. Those detours can actually turn out to be blessings in disguise. They prepare and protect us in ways that we cannot see until a bit further along in our journey.

For many of our students and educators, this year is certainly not turning out as they imagined. Let's lift up our eyes and find the help that the Lord will provide.

Loving you all,
Michael

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

Prayer Concerns: Tereasa Apps, Chip Barber, Tom Barger, Barb Bradburn, Dora Lee Claus, Joyce Harrison, Stacey Helms, Marge Lamb, Wanda Mendenhall, Michael Guillory (Carolyn Barber's nephew) Peggy Quincy (Sharron Houchins' sister-in-law) Mark Reeves (Ashli Freesmeyer's father) Peter Roccaforte (Chuck Barber's nephew) Renee Sevier (Karl Benjamin's niece) Marge Syrcle (Friend of Karl Benjamin) Julie Talley (Judy Ferguson's sister-in-law)
We express our sympathy to Bill and Mary Van Hoose with the passing of their son, Kevin Kattelman.

Ways To Watch/Listen

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 only.

Stewardship (Offering Only)	8/10-16	8/17-23
Operational	\$9,746.43	\$4,251.97
Property Improvement	3.00	23.00
Outreach-Missionaries	70.00	70.00
DHF	25.00	25.00
Children First	40.00	20.00
Unmet Needs	6.00	0.00
Construction/Renovation	2,450.00	0.00
Outreach-General	<u>43.00</u>	<u>3.00</u>
Total	\$12,303.43	\$4,392.97

Operating Receipts (Offering, Rentals, etc.)

Received Last 7 Days \$10,171.43 \$4,251.97
 Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$9,494

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

Lectionary

8/30: Exodus 3:1-15; Jer 15:15-21; Rom 12:9-21; Matt 16:21-28
 8/31: Ps 83:1-18; Exodus 4:10-31; Rev 3:1-6
 9/1: Ps 83:1-18; Exodus 5:1-6:13; Rev 3:7-13
 9/2: Ps 83:1-18; Exodus 7:14-25; Matt 12:22-32
 9/3: Ps 149; Exodus 9:1-7; 2 Cor 12:11-21
 9/4: Ps 149; Exodus 10:21-29; Rom 10:15-21
 9/5: Ps 149; Exodus 11:1-10; Matt 23:29-36
 9/6: Exodus 12:1-14; Ezekiel 33:7-11; Rom 13:8-14; Matt 18:15-20
 9/7: Ps 121; Exodus 12:14-28; 1 Pet 2:11-17
 9/8: Ps 121; Exodus 12:29-42; Rom 13:1-7
 9/9: Ps 121; Exodus 13:1-10; Matt 21:18-22
 9/10: Ps 114; Exodus 13:17-22; 1 John 3:11-16
 9/11: Ps 114; Exodus 14:1-18; Acts 7:9-16
 9/12: Ps 114; Exodus 15:19-21; Matt 6:7-15

Ways to Give

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

We still have expenses even with adjusted operations. Thank you for your continued prayers and support during this unprecedented time. New black metal offering boxes are secured on the sanctuary mantels, gym and fellowship hall for your convenience.

Wishes & Wants

For Sale: Heavy duty full view storm door. Excellent condition. Brown. All you need is about 16 wood screws. Will deliver. \$50. Wayne Baughman 285.2948.

