

# The Pittsfield Christian



First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 63 Issue 2

January 26, 2021



**Traditional Service**  
Sunday, Jan 31  
Hymns at both services

**The February Congregational Meeting** will be Sunday, Feb 7, immediately after 10:30 service, around 11:30, to review year 2020.



**Worship Team News:** During our preparation for Holy Week, we would like to invite any of our worship team members that would wish to lead worship at the sanctuary during any weekday for any period of time between 12 and 1pm. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a time slot, please contact Kayla: 217-370-2166.

**Choir News:** We will be putting together a few virtual choir numbers including all ages. If you are interested in participating, we will meet in person (masked and social distanced) at the sanctuary AND on Zoom from 7-7:30 on Wednesdays. For a link to Zoom, music or more information, contact Kayla - 217-370-2166.

**6th Grade through High School** will take the bus to Jacksonville on Thursday, Feb 4, to watch the movie "Heaven Is For Real". Contact Kacie or any youth group leader if you have questions. Plans are to leave from Crossroads at 5:45.



The **Select to Connect** adult Sunday morning Connection Group will resume meeting on Feb 7 at 9:15 in the Crossroads front meeting room. They will study "The Bible for Grown Ups" by Andy Stanley on RightNow Media. Everyone is welcome! Contact Jack Hull for more info.

**The Crossroads Center is open to the public for walking Monday through Thursday, 8:00-10:00 a.m.** There is no fee for this service but a donation box is available if you would like to contribute to building costs. Events may alter the schedule and will be posted.

**IF:Gathering** exists to equip women with gospel-centered resources, events, and community so they may learn more about who God is and Disciple other women right where they are. For more info, contact Rokettia Brokaw. IF:Gathering 2021 will be **March 5-6** through RightNow Media.

*Dear FCC Family,  
I would like to thank everyone for their prayers, kind thoughts, and cards throughout Shirley's health struggles and her passing. Thank you for your support during this difficult time. It is heart warming to know that you all are in my corner during this time of loss. I am truly thankful to be a part of such a wonderful church family.*

*With Sincere Thanks,  
Harold Loyd and Family*

The **Thursday Noon Bible Study** has resumed at the Church Long Room. Contact the office if you want to join and need a copy of the book "Glory Days: Living Your Promised Land Life Now" by Max Lucado.



We are planning 40 Days of Prayer prior to Easter beginning in mid February. The sanctuary will be open during noon hour offering prayer, praise and worship. Details will be announced soon.

We have resumed 8:00 and 10:30 service with 9:15 Sunday School while continuing to monitor IDPH guidelines and hospital resources available in our area. Adjustments will be made to the Sunday schedule as the situation warrants and will be posted on our website, Facebook and emails. We encourage social distancing and wearing of masks if possible.

**February Birthdays & Anniversaries:** 1 John Hull, Lisa Wombles, Keaton Hittner; 2 Madison Palmer, Clara Fitzmaurice; 3 Jessica Dain; 4 Kaitlyn Apps, Sydnee Cox, Carlos Quirarte; 6 Megan Hittner, Roger Brokaw; 8 Kathy Lehr; 10 Patty Ruble; 11 Tom & Debbie Robinson; 12 Alice Ghrist, Jeff Lacey, Jamie Sweeting, Emma Wombles; 17 Richard Rhodes, Jill Kunzeman, Miriam Fitzmaurice; 20 Amy Casto, Jill Moss, Sally Lipcaman; 21 Stella Bonnett; 22 Chelsea Hayden, Chad Sealock, Jessica Hull, Rick Wombles, Ron Phipps; 23 Karly Losch, Tim Collver, Luke & Michelle Hart; 24 Vickie Tharp, Justin Pennock; 25 Jake McNulty, Loyd Casto; 26 Peyton Apps, Glen Cooley; 27 Kelly Masters, Erik Tharp; 28 Ron & Teresa Bauer, Howard Staffy, Ruth Bennett, Dale Black, Wally Lamb.

### **Excerpts from Congregational Meeting on January 10, 2021**

Call to order at 11:32 AM by Moderator Bobby Smith. A quorum was met with 53 members present. Elder Roger Brokaw opened the meeting with prayer.

The November 1, 2020 Congregational Meeting minutes were read by Recording Secretary Kathy Curfman. A motion to accept the minutes as read was made by Zack Boren and seconded by Larry Wigington. The motion carried unanimously.

Proposal to Purchase Property: Pastor Michael Ten Eyck led the discussion concerning the proposal to purchase the building just east of Crossroads Center at 115 W. Jefferson. An Air Sample Summery chart was presented to address the air quality and mold concerns. Remodeling estimated cost is between \$40,000 - \$60,000. The price offered to purchase the building stands at \$95,500. Several members encouraged support, including Jack Hull, as well as Chuck and Carolyn Barber, and Bryn Fine via the Zoom meeting. Concern over the future building project of an education wing was voiced with Moderator Bobby Smith stating that this purchase would not jeopardize that goal. Bobby discussed his conflict of interest as per our Conflict-of-Interest Policy. With no further questions or concerns, Moderator Bobby Smith asked for a motion to purchase the building for \$95,500, which was made by Jack Hull and seconded by Ann Ferguson. A two-thirds majority was necessary, and the motion passed unanimously.

Proposal to Fund Property Remodeling: Pastor Michael presented a slide of steps to remodel. Major items include insulation/carpet removal, mold removal, ceiling update, new insulation, window/door installation, lighting, security, and painting. Keith Elledge moved that \$60,000 be designated from the sale of the Administration Building to fund the remodel. Kathy Hull seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

With no further business to discuss, Moderator Bobby Smith asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Judy Ferguson and was seconded by Rokettia Brokaw. Motion was approved and the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 PM. Pastor Michael offered the closing prayer and encouraged discretion as we move forward.

Respectfully submitted, Kathy Curfman, Recording Secretary

### **Excerpts from Church Board Meeting on January 12, 2021**

Call to order at 6:00 PM by Moderator Bobby Smith. Pastor Michael opened the meeting with prayer. Minutes from December 8, 2020 meeting were approved by general consensus.

Minister's Report: Pastor Michael thanked Kayla Boren, the Vesper Choir, and recording crew for the amazing Cantata presentation which was recorded in small groups and presented via social media due to the pandemic. The Christmas Eve outdoor petting zoo and singing had good attendance even though it was a very cold evening. Pastor Michael thanked Bob Clark, Rod Gordley and Lainey Ten Eyck for their roles in making the night a success. Concerning the 115 W. Jefferson building, he had spent time researching and preparing the materials for the Congregational Meeting. He mentioned that the move out of the old Administration building was finalized and had a great turnout of assistance in vacating the building. He has concluded his duty on the board of DHF. Has continued the weekly Fireside Chat.

Treasurer: Budgeted Receipts \$439,853.31 (\$53,842 under budget year end). Funds received towards Construction/Renovation during December \$3,240. Trustees will handle cashing the TD Ameritrade Mutual Funds gifted to the church. Treasurer's Report was approved by general consensus.

Trustees: Brad Losch reported that it is the desire of the Trustees to continue under the Grinnell Mutual American Insurance Group for the commercial package and workman's compensation. Zack Boren questioned whether the church would maintain liability coverage on Children First. Helen Earls will be asked to research that possibility and report to the Trustees.

Christian Education: Pastor Michael reported for Kacie Lipcaman. There is some discussion of switching around some classrooms. The Thursday Night Youth Group had 15 in attendance lately, with a possibility of 30. Keep all our youth in prayer as there is concern of their mental health being negatively affected with the COVID-19 lock down.

Building Team: Bobby Smith stated that he hoped the Building Committee would meet by the end of the following week. He also stated that they would like to now finalize plans to renovate the Long Room area into rest rooms. The committee will prepare a presentation for the next Church Board meeting.

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The Administrative Building closing was December 29. Sale is finalized and funds in the Trustee account.

Bobby Smith asked if there were questions concerning the Policy review. Hearing none, the Board Members each signed to show approval.

The representative to Mississippi Valley Christian Service Camp is Brad Willman, who is willing to stay on until a replacement can be found by the end of April.

Unmet Needs will still have Helen Earls as our church representative. A motion to assign Helen was made by Roger Brokaw and seconded by Zack Boren. Passed unanimously.

Zack Boren asked if the church still needed to appoint someone to Children First even though it is inactive, then moved to appoint Elder Helen Earls as representative. Bob Clark seconded, and it was approved unanimously.

Judy Ferguson made the motion to adjourn, followed by a second from Kayla Boren. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 6:46 PM. Pastor Michael closed with prayer. Respectfully submitted, Kathy Curfman, Recording Secretary

Dear Church Family,

I want to share a portion of scripture with you;

Joel 2:12-17

*Yet even now," declares the Lord, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; 13 and rend your hearts and not your garments." Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster. 14 Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the Lord your God? 15 Blow the trumpet in Zion; consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly; 16 gather the people. Consecrate the congregation; assemble the elders; gather the children, even nursing infants. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her chamber. 17 Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep and say, "Spare your people, O Lord, and make not your heritage a reproach, a byword among the nations. Why should they say among the peoples, "Where is their God?" -ESV*

Considering the spiritual and cultural crossroads that we find ourselves at as a nation, state, and community, we feel the urging of God's Spirit to call for a time of consecration and prayer.

Traditionally, the Catholic Church and some Protestant Denominations take the 46 days (40, not including Sundays) prior to Easter as a time of self-denial, moderation, reflection, and prayer. The beginning of the time called "Lent" is known as "Ash Wednesday." During Ash Wednesday services worshippers would have ashes applied to their foreheads in the shape of a cross. The ashes were from the burning of the Palm Fronds that were used in the previous year's Palm Sunday services in celebration of Jesus's triumphant entry into Jerusalem. The ashes were an outward sign of one's observance of Lent.

Ironically, just prior to Lent, there developed a season of celebration and merriment culminating in "Mardi Gras," which is French for "Fat Tuesday." This became a time of excess, feasting, and partying prior to a time of moderation and consecration. Sadly, the celebrations often devolved into debauchery, gluttony, and bingeing in sin prior to a time of turning to God. Doesn't that sound odd? I struggle to believe God would advise me to cast off self-control to overindulge in gluttony and drunkenness in order to enter a period of consecration.

Nowhere in scripture are these practices instituted for the church, although times of prayer and consecration are certainly to be a central part of the church.

I say this to encourage us all in our preparation for our announced time of prayer and consecration. We are not taking this time as a religious ceremonial practice. This should not be approached as a "time out" from our normal life, to seek God and then to go back to how we were, but rather an intentional time of humility, repentance, and prayer to usher in change, healing, growth, and a better, new normal.

We need God. Our Nation needs God. Our families need God. Our culture needs God. He is our hope. With this in mind, let us consider how we should fervently seek Him.

Loving you all,  
Michael

**First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois**

Church Building: 225 N. Memorial Street  
 Crossroads Center: 125 W. Jefferson Street (Offices)  
 Phone (217) 285-4129  
 Fax (217) 285-9649  
 Crossroads (217) 285-6171  
 E-mail: info@fccpittsfield.org

**Staff:**

Michael Ten Eyck, Pastor  
 Kayla Boren, Event/Music Coordinator  
 Kacie Lipcaman, Christian Education  
 Rebecca Rhodes, Administrative Secretary  
 Gina Bryant, Custodian  
 Bob Clark, Audio/Video/Maintenance  
 Rodney Gordley, Assistant Event/Student Ministry Coord

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

**Prayer Concerns:** Jaunae Bacon, Chip Barber, Dora Lee Claus, Tim Collver, Brian Douglas, Marjorie Gamble, Joyce Harrison, Gary Hittner, Brad Losch, Wanda Mendenhall, Cindi Schoenherr, Kathy Wainman  
 Dee Bentley (Jane Calaway's sister-in-law)  
 Michael Guillory (Carolyn Barber's nephew)  
 Jim Lerch (Wanda Mendenhall's brother)  
 Peter Roccaforte (Chuck Barber's nephew)  
 Sally Wilhite (Kathy Wainman's family)  
 Steve Young (Friend of Bev White)

*We express our sympathy to Kathy Kindle and family with the passing of her father, Robert O. Daniels. We also express our sympathy to the family and friends of Mike V. Collins who passed away.*

**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.  
**90.9 FM** while parked next to the church building.

**Ways to Give**

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

Black metal offering boxes are secured on the sanctuary mantels, gym and fellowship hall for your convenience.

We appreciate your continued giving while we navigate through the pandemic. Our offering goes down a bit during the weeks we go to more virtual services. Keep the church in your prayers during these unprecedented times.

**Pastor Michael is leading Coffee Talk on Tuesdays**

at 10:30 on Facebook and YouTube.  
 Tune in for worship, song and announcements.

**Wishes & Wants**

**Needed:** 2-3 bedroom apartment/trailer/house to rent. Tips can be sent to cchamberlain07@gmail.com or text Cindy at 217.473.1733.

We are needing someone to represent FCC on the Mississippi Valley Christian Service Camp Board. Contact Brad Willman for more information.

<b>Stewardship (Offering Only)</b>	<u>1/11-17</u>	<u>1/18-24</u>
Operational	\$5,421.01	\$12,601.81
Property Improvement	30.00	10.00
Outreach-Missionaries	40.00	40.00
DHF	30.00	30.00
Unmet Needs	3.00	3.00
Construction/Renovation	20.00	20.00
Central Christian College	0.00	350.00
Outreach-General	<u>8.00</u>	<u>145.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,552.01</b>	<b>\$13,199.81</b>

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

Received Last 7 Days \$5,421.01 \$12,601.81  
 Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$9,175

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

**Lectionary**

1/31: Deut 18:15-20; Ps 111; 1 Cor 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28  
 2/1: Ps 35:1-10; Num 22:1-21; Acts 21:17-26  
 2/2: Ps 35:1-10; Num 22:22-28; 1 Cor 7:32-40  
 2/3: Ps 35:1-10; Jer 29:1-14; Mark 5:1-20  
 2/4: Ps 147:1-11; Prov 12:10-21; Gal 5:2-15  
 2/5: Ps 147:1-11; Job 36:1-23; 1 Cor 9:1-16  
 2/6: Ps 147:1-11; Isa 46:1-13; Matt 12:9-14  
 2/7: Isa 40:21-31; Ps 147:1-11; 1 Cor 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39  
 2/8: Ps 102:12-28; 2 Kings 4:8-17, 32-37; Acts 14:1-7  
 2/9: Ps 102:12-28; 2 Kings 8:1-6; Acts 15:36-41  
 2/10: Ps 102:12-28; Job 6:1-13; Mark 3:7-12  
 2/11: Ps 50:1-6; 1 Kings 11:26-40; 2 Cor 2:12-17  
 2/12: Ps 50:1-6; 1 Kings 14:1-18; 1 Tim 1:12-20  
 2/13: Ps 50:1-6; 1 Kings 16:1-7; Luke 19:41-44

Thursday, **March 11**

1-6pm

CWF will host an American  
 Red Cross  
**Blood Drive**

Our youth group will not be able to hold their annual Valentine Dinner fundraiser in February.

	<u>1/17</u>	<u>1/24</u>
<b>Christian Education</b>		
Age 3-PK	5	5
K-2nd	5	7
3rd-4th	8	7
5th-6th	13	15
Jr/Sr High	5	5
Disciples	17	16
Sermon Study	11	11
C.O.F.F.E.E.	11	10
Select to Connect	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>82</b>