

# The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 63 Issue 27

December 28, 2021



**Installation of new 2022 officers and recognition of our officers concluding their term of service will be during 10:30 service on Sunday, Jan 2.**

2022 Officers:

Moderator - Bobby Smith

Vice Moderator - Brad Losch

Recording Secretary - Leecia Carnes

Treasurer - Michelle Hart

Trustee - Roger Dunham

Elders - Spencer Boren, N.D. Harrison, Kathy Hull, Brad Willman

Deacons - Rokettia Brokaw, Eric Kunzeman, Jill Kunzeman, Charlie Hull,

Jessica Hull, Gary Mendenhall, Noah Mendenhall, Rosi Picone, Michael Smith,

Jessi Speckhard-Smith, Steve Tharp, Vickie Tharp

Officers with terms concluding Dec 31, 2021:

Recording Secretary - Kathy Curfman

Treasurer - Bethany Dunham

Trustee - Tim Belford

Elders - Zack Boren, Roger Brokaw, Bob Clark

Deacons - Scott Bacon, Bethany Dunham, Billy & Becky Fitzmaurice,

Kacie Lipcaman, Brian & Angie Ruebush, Faith Saxe, Kevin Tharp

**January 2 is Cookie Sunday!** Cookies and sweets will be available after both services!

## Coffee Talk

**Tues, Jan 4, 10 a.m. @ Annex**

Stop by for coffee and conversation with Pastor Michael!

## Church Board Meeting

**Tues, Jan 11, 6:00**

Packets will be in the Long Room on Jan 9.

## Circle 4

**Thurs, Jan 13, 9:30**

@ Cardinal Inn

## Crossroads Center Walking Hours

Mon thru Thurs, 8-10 a.m., **Starting Jan 3.**

## Music News

- **Choir Practice** will resume Wed, **Jan 19, 6:30.**
- The next **Throwback Sunday** will be **Jan 30** where traditional hymns will be played at both services.
- The next **Hymn Sing** will be Sunday evening, **Feb 6.**

2022 predated offering envelopes will soon be here. Let the office know if you would like to have your own set.

## Mississippi Valley Christian Service Camp

### 2022 Camp Schedule

**Based on grade going into fall 2022**

4/9: Camp Clean Up

4/17: Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

5/14: Camp Clean Up

5/15: Family Fun Day

6/4: K-2nd Grades

6/5-10: 9-12th Grades

6/12-17: 7-8th Grades

6/19-23: 5-6th Grades

6/24-26: 13yr and up Outdoor Sportsman's Camp

6/26-28: 3-4th Grades

6/29-30: 1-2nd Grades

7/9-16: 16yr and up Mission Trip Arizona

7/19-21: 13yr and up Mission Trip Illinois

July: Taco Salad Fundraiser

TBD: 13yr and up Float Trip

TBD: 2021 Grads and up

9/9-11: Family Camp

*Thank you to everyone who donated gifts or funds to the Adopt a Family ministry! Your generosity to share your resources has touched the lives of Pike County residents this Christmas!*

*Richard and I are so very appreciative for all the prayers, words of encouragement and acts of kindness during his recent illness. You have helped us make it through this journey as he continues to recover! Thank you so very much! -Richard & Rebecca Rhodes*

**January Birthdays & Anniversaries** 1 Kirk Speckhart; 2 Shanna Ewers, Landon Poor, Lucas Poor, Roger & Charlotte Dunham; 5 Ruth Poyner, Kurtis Johnson, Sami Johnson; 6 Don & Barbara Fosco; 7 Mary Wombles; 8 Jack & Kathy Hull, John Birch; 9 Hamer Tate; 11 Shari Clark, Addilyn Ruebush, Missy Borrowman; 12 Matt Sealock, Laura Chamberlain; 13 Thomas Hull; 14 Maycee Douglas; 15 Cameron Herring; 16 Mary Lou Chamberlain; 17 Evert & Ruth Poyner, Christopher Wagoner; 19 Charles Gates; 20 Harold Loyd; 21 Bryn Fine; 23 Tyler Grimsley; 24 Bobby & Chris Smith, Kaden Ferguson; 26 Jeanne Howard, David & Julie Myers; 27 Katie McDevitt; 28 Keith Elledge, D.J. Wintjen; 30 Deana Jones; 31 Dave & Sandy Herring.

## Excerpts from December 14 Church Board Meeting

Helen Earls opened the meeting with a devotion and prayer. Minutes from the November 9, 2021 meeting were approved by general consensus.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Michael highlighted a few items from his submitted report: the new restrooms by the Long Room are now operational; planning for Advent and Christmas Eve; 2022 sermon planning completed through August; December 26th service will be held at 9:00 AM. There will be no Sunday School/Children's Worship that day.

**Treasurer:** Bethany Dunham - as of November 30, 2021. Unrestricted Operating Checking \$95,518.90. YTD Budgeted Receipts \$437,825.59 (\$2,575 under budget). Total funds available for construction/renovation (education bldg) \$1,202,440.06. Roger Brokaw moved to approve the Treasurer's Report and Zack Boren seconded. Passed unanimously.

**Trustees:** Brad Losch spoke for Dan Speckhart. The first sale from the donated soybeans totaled \$4,915.81 on 406 bushels with 1,221 bushels remaining on the contract with Bunge. The Trustees had approved purchasing approximately \$4,000 of lighting improvements for Crossroads Center stage, which has been partially installed. The church has received an additional \$100 toward the logs taken illegally on the Balsman farmland. Total received since June 2020 is \$1,029.43.

**Christian Education:** Kayla Boren reported that Youth Group the previous week had been canceled due to the 7th Grade Girl's Basketball State Finals game that evening. The 3rd-5th grade group had a movie night December 12.

**Music:** Kayla brought up several areas of concern with the uptick of Covid19 and the seasonal influenza. She presented a few options for the Cantata, including a recorded broadcast only; live performance with no audience while streaming; and the traditional format. After some discussion it was decided by general consensus to hold the Cantata service as usual while encouraging families and friends to watch the live stream from their homes. The Cantata dinner has been canceled. A decision was also made to cancel the church caroling on Thursday night. Small family groups are asked to call the office for specific shut-in caroling if they wish to reach out in that manner.

### **Old Business:**

Pastor Michael reported that the Annex landscaping will be completed next spring; the parking lot replacement project has been completed for now; the new restrooms in the church building are finished; the Crossroads tuckpointing will be evaluated after the year-end report. A Playground Agreement with Illini Community Hospital was presented. Two time omissions were noted. Zack Boren recommended annotating our copy adding the missing times when we sign the contract. Zack Boren moved to accept the agreement and Bob Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The motion to adjourn was made by Helen Earls and seconded by Larry Wigington. With all in favor, the meeting adjourned at 6:57 PM and Pastor Michael closed with prayer.

The end of the year is always a complicated time for me. When we are decorating and preparing for Christmas there is an incredible sense of expectation. During Christmas services and events there is a palpable sense of spiritual connection that is a blessing to share with one another. What follows is complicated. It begins sometime after Christmas, after the family has gone home and we are all expected to get back to business as usual. I feel it as I pull down the Christmas lights, put away the decorations, move the furniture back into the long-established marks in the carpet, and carry the boxes into their places of storage.

It is as if I can almost hear the tiny Nativity set pleading with me to not forget... Don't let this be a mere event. Don't settle for a religious service, a warm feeling, a festive activity, or a family gathering where we simply enjoy the time and then return home to our normal lives.

As we think about the birth of Christ and its impact on those who beheld its glory, life most certainly did not get back to normal, in fact, it was forever changed. The same is true for all who will by faith receive the message of "God with us."

We have been given an incredible invitation to embark on an eternal journey with the Loving Eternal Father through Christ. As the Apostle John wrote...

John 1:11-14

*He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. 12 But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, 13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. 14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. ESV*

As we prepare to move on, let us be sure not to move away from Christmas, but rather seize the invitation to move with Emmanuel.

I pray God's blessings for you, my church family, as we follow Christ into the new year. Thank you for your prayers and patience throughout 2021. They are greatly appreciated. We also are appreciative of keeping us informed and updated on needs within the congregation. The Pandemic has certainly been a challenge in the area of communication. As people have connected less, our ability to keep aware of needs has been difficult. We are always grateful for calls, texts, and emails making us aware of any health issues within the church family.

Loving you all,  
Michael

**First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois**

Church Building: 225 N. Memorial Street  
 Crossroads Center: 125 W. Jefferson Street  
 Offices: 115 W. Jefferson Street  
 Phone (217) 285-4129  
 E-mail: info@fccpittsfield.org

**Staff:**

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

**Office Hours: M-TH 8:00am-3:30pm; F 8:00am-Noon****Worship Times: Every Sunday 8:00am & 10:30am**

<b>Stewardship (Offering Only)</b>	<u>12/13-19</u>	<u>12/20-26</u>
Operational	\$6,115.46	\$9,697.09
Property Improvement	90.00	10.00
Outreach-Missionaries	40.00	40.00
DHF	130.00	80.00
Construction/Renovation	25.00	1,150.00
Youth	0.00	60.00
Adopt a Family	0.00	500.00
Outreach-General	<u>5.00</u>	<u>5.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,405.46</b>	<b>\$11,542.09</b>

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

Received Last 7 Days \$6,115.46 \$10,727.09  
 Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$9,175

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

**Lectionary**

**1/2:** Jer 31:7-14; Ps 147:12-20; Eph 1:3-14; John 1:1-18  
**1/3:** Psalm 72; Job 42:10-17; Luke 8:16-21  
**1/4:** Psalm 72; Isaiah 6:1-5; Acts 7:44-53  
**1/5:** Psalm 72; Jeremiah 31:7-14; John 1:10-18  
**1/6:** Isa 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-14; Eph 3:1-12; Matt 2:1-12  
**1/7:** Psalm 72; Daniel 2:1-19; Ephesians 4:17-5:1  
**1/8:** Psalm 72; Daniel 2:24-49; Ephesians 5:15-20  
**1/9:** Isa 43:1-7; Ps 29; Acts 8:14-17; Luke 3:15-22  
**1/10:** Psalm 106:1-12; Judges 4:1-16; Ephesians 6:10-17  
**1/11:** Psalm 106:1-12; Judges 5:12-21; 1 John 5:13-21  
**1/12:** Psalm 106:1-12; Numbers 27:1-11; Luke 11:33-36  
**1/13:** Psalm 36:5-10; Jeremiah 3:1-5; Acts 8:18-24  
**1/14:** Psalm 36:5-10; Jeremiah 3:19-25; 1 Corinthians 7:1-7  
**1/15:** Psalm 36:5-10; Jeremiah 4:1-4; Luke 11:14-23

**Prayer Concerns:** Wayne Baughman, Jaunae Bacon, Brian Douglas, Sue Dyer, Gary Hittner, Wanda Mendenhall, Sandra Reel, Richard Rhodes, Carol Schwartz, Vera Staffy, Larry Wigington, Debby Wilder, Additional Ministry Staff Search  
 Karen Birch (John Birch's sister)  
 Jerry Brooks (Deloras Martin's family)  
 Betty Carnes (Leecia Carnes' grandmother)  
 Ezra Collver (Craig & Caree Collver's grandson)  
 Linda Gratton (Friend of Karl Benjamin)  
 Tammi Harshman (Friend of Karl Benjamin)  
 Eileen Kirchner (Friend of Vivian Cloninger)  
 Lilee Knake (Daughter of Skylar & Cara Knake)  
 Kay Matthews (Jean Sanderson's sister)  
 Jeffrey Moore (Deloras Martin's family)  
 Julie Talley (Judy Ferguson's sister-in-law)  
 Jeff Walters (Keith & Carole Elledge's son-in-law)  
*We express our sympathy to the family and friends of Wanda Zimmerman Hutter 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: 115 W. Jefferson Street
- Black metal offering boxes are secured on the sanctuary mantels, gym and fellowship hall for your convenience.

**Wishes & Wants:** Need shelled pecan halves for baking? Contact Rex Lothridge 217.491.1533

	<u>12/19</u>	<u>12/26</u>
<b>Worship Service</b>		
8:00	45	93
10:30	<u>107</u>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>Christian Education</b>		
Age 3-PK	4	
K-2nd	15	
3rd-5th	10	
6th-8th	10	
Jr/Sr High	0	
Disciples	12	
Sermon Study	10	
Select to Connect	0	
C.O.F.F.E.E.	<u>6</u>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>67</b>	