



The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 58 Issue 1

January 13, 2016

Coming Events

Date	Event
1/13	7:00pm Gym Rental
	7:00pm Choir Practice
1/14	7:00pm Connection Group
	9:30am Circle IV Meeting
	4:00pm Gym Rental
1/15	6:00pm Gym Rental
1/16	10:00am Gym Rental
1/17	8:00, 9:15, 10:30 Worship
	8:00, 9:15 Sunday School
	12:00pm Gym Rental
	5:00pm Youth Group Meeting
1/18	8:00pm Fellowship Hall Rental
	4:00pm Gym Rental
1/19	4:00pm Gym Rental
	6:00pm CMF Dinner Meeting
1/20	7:00pm Choir Practice
	7:00pm Gym Rental
	6:30pm Connection Group
1/21	7:00pm Connection Group
	4:00pm Gym Rental
	5:30pm Children First Board Meeting
1/22	6:00pm Gym Rental
1/23	10:00pm Gym Rental
	7:00am Dining Room Rental
1/24	8:00, 9:15 Sunday School

Date	Event
	8:00, 9:15, 10:30 Worship
	12:00pm Gym Rental
	5:00pm Youth Group Party
1/25	8:00pm Fellowship Hall Rental
	3:00pm Dining Room Rental
	4:00pm Gym Rental
1/26	6:00pm Elder Meeting
1/27	7:00pm Choir Practice
	6:30pm Connection Group
1/28	7:00pm Connection Group
1/29	6:00pm Gym Rental
1/30	10:00am Gym Rental
1/31	8:00, 9:15 Sunday School
	8:00, 9:15, 10:30 Worship
	12:00pm Gym Rental

Lectionary Scriptures

January 13 **John 19:17-24**
 January 14 **John 19:25-30**
 January 15 **John 19:31-37**
 January 16 **John 19:38-42**
 January 17 **John 20:1-10**
 January 18 **John 20:11-18**
 January 19 **2 Corinthians 8:16-24**
 January 20 **2 Corinthians 9:1-15**
 January 21 **2 Corinthians 10:1-6**
 January 22 **2 Corinthians 10:7-18**
 January 23 **2 Corinthians 11:1-11**
 January 24 **2 Corinthians 11:12-15**
 January 25 **2 Corinthians 11:16-29**
 January 26 **John 20:19-23**

Baptism News

On Sunday, January 3, we baptized C.J. & Danielle Hayes, Jon & Ashley Hayes, and T.J. Reel. What a glorious day to witness these individuals declare their faith in Jesus Christ!

Congregational Meeting, Etc.

On Sunday, Feb 7, we will have Celebration Sunday, February Congregational Meeting, Family Meal, and Volunteer Job Fair. More details will be announced later.

CMF Dinner Meeting

CMF members (all men of the church) - don't forget to sign up at the fellowship table for the dinner meeting at 6pm in Crossroads on Tuesday, Jan 19. We will be voting for the man of the year for 2015 - be thinking about your choice. Mike Boren will have lists of those who have already received the honor.

Year End Report

We would like to distribute the 2015 year end report BEFORE the Feb 7 Congregational Meeting. Please try to submit your report ASAP so the office has time to compile the info.

Youth Group Fundraiser

The annual Youth Group Valentine Dinner fundraiser will be Sunday, Feb 14. We hope to have everyone seated by 6:00. Chicken breast will be \$14 and

steak will be \$18. Both plates include baked potato, green beans, lettuce salad and dessert. Carryout will also be available for pick up at 5:30. Call the church office with your reservations. PLEASE NOTE THIS IS A TIME CHANGE FROM PRIOR YEARS.

Youth Parents: Due to a rental in the dining room on Feb 13, most of the set up and decorating will be done on Sunday. More details will be given in the next newsletter and through youth group.

With Sympathy

We express our sympathy to the family and friends of Kathleen Kindle and Marcia Campbell who passed away.

Connection Groups

Our Thursday evening Connection Group resumed their meetings **Jan 7** at 7pm. They are reading the book "Aha". Contact Phil Sandidge if you would like to join them.

The Wednesday Women's Connection Group will resume on **Jan 20**, 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall education wing.

They will study "Unplugged". Childcare will be provided. Contact Michelle Hart for more info.

Children First Board Meeting

The Children First Board will meet **Jan 21**, 5:30, at the admin building.

Nursery Procedures

In the nursery we have a sign in / sign out sheet for parents to use on Sunday. Please help us utilize this form not only for the childrens safety but also for communication with staff and

parents.

Youth Update

Battlefield

Youth Group Series Jan. 10-24

Think about the last big fight you had. Maybe it was with a friend or a coworker who talked badly about you. Or maybe it was when a coach pulled you out of the game for no reason. Maybe for you, the biggest battles happen at home with someone in your family who seems completely unreasonable.

No matter where your battlefield is or who you're battling with, there's a good chance it stresses you out. No one likes conflict. Even those of us who enjoy the fight don't really like the feelings of regret that come afterward. But what else can we do? If avoiding doesn't work and exploding doesn't help, do we have any other options? And, is there a way to win the fight without losing a friend? The truth is conflict has been around since... well since humans have been around. It affects everyone.

Thankfully, the Bible has something helpful to say to all of us when it comes to conflict in our relationships. And while there's no guarantee that we'll never face another battle, we can discover how to make our way through it and have stronger faith and relationships on the other side.

Youth@first has fallen back into the normal weekly rhythm! They will meet for youth group every Sunday (barring special events) from 5-8 @ Crossroads. Sr high and Jr high students welcome!

Sunday, January 31, youth@first will attend a showing of *The Finest Hours* in place of regularly scheduled youth group. Information on time and location will be available when theaters announce showtimes.

Elder Meeting

The Elder Meeting will be **Jan 26** at 6pm.

CWF Bereavement Committee

A special thank you to everyone who helped with the Kathleen Kindle funeral luncheon. - Bereavement Comm.

Thank You

Dear Church Family, You are a dear and loving family all the year through, but when deep sadness hits, you are even more present with love, words of comfort and encouragement. I appreciate so much the lovely cards, thoughts and prayers when my sister Jane passed away. In Christian love, Joyce Lemons.

Rededicates Sanctuary

The First Christian Church of Pittsfield rededicated its sanctuary building at all three services Sunday morning, January 3, 2016. The building was completed in 1890 and was dedicated January 4, 1891.

Pastor Michael Ten Eyck spoke at the 8:00 and 10:30 services in the sanctuary and at the 9:15 Oasis service in the Crossroads building across Memorial Street.

His sermon topic was "Dedicated to Christ." The Vesper choir sang "What We Believe" at the 10:30 service, featuring soloist Christie Mendenhall. Michael Boren

spoke briefly about the history of the building and led some acapella singing at all three services. Included, was the singing of "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name," which was the very first hymn sung by the congregation in the new building in 1891.

The church has worshiped in several locations and three church buildings since 1836. The former American Legion hall and supermarket across the street was remodeled and rededicated in 2004 and has been used for many church and community activities. Regular worship services have been held in the Crossroads gymnasium since 2006.

A major part of the history of the building is that it was nearly destroyed on July 23, 1907, when a tornado tore off most of the roof. Undismayed, the congregation rebuilt the structure and had another rededication on February 2, 1908. Pastor Ten Eyck spoke of that and reminded the congregation that there have been good times and difficult times in the past, and there will be good times and difficult times for the congregation in the future, and that we worship God, not a building.

In Boren's remarks he noted that only one current family, the Barbers, can claim descent from the fourteen charter members that officially founded the church in 1841. Charles (Chuck) Barber III is fifth generation in the congregation, his daughter, Bryn Fine is sixth generation, and her son, Austin Fine, represents the seventh generation of the Barber family in First Christian Church, and

they were all in the choir on Sunday morning - a remarkable record of faithfulness and service.

Newsletter Schedule

A newsletter will be printed the following weeks: Jan 25, Feb 8.

Contribution Statements

The 2015 contribution statements will be mailed by **Jan 31**. If you have not received a statement before but need one, please let the office know.

Cookies!

Due to Celebration Sunday, we have moved Cookie Sunday to **Jan 31**.

Fellowship of Christian Athletes

The Western IL Fellowship of Christian Athletes Banquet will be **Feb 2** at the Oakley Lindsay Center. Speaker will be Mike Matheny, Manager of the St. Louis Cardinals. Registration begins at 5:30, event at 6:15. For more info on FCA, go to their website or contact the local representative Todd Sweatman at 217.370.2008. This is a free event.

IF: Gathering

IF:Gathering is a global movement to gather, equip, and unleash women to live out God's calling in their lives. The story began in 2007 with one woman wishing to disciple to a generation and has now become an organized movement. A local gathering will be at Crossroads Center **Feb 5** from 2-10pm and **Feb 6** from 9-5pm. For more detailed info go to ifgathering.com or contact

Rokettia Brokaw
(nanakettia@hotmail.com) or
Heather Sandifer
(hsandifer@hotmail.com). You
can register at
ifgathering.com/gather/local/attend/.

Beth Moore

Beth Moore will be in Springfield, MO the weekend of June 9 & 10 for her Living Proof Ministries conference. For more info go to her website and register before Feb 17 for discounted pricing of \$59. Brenda Kramer is planning to attend and coordinate a car pool.

Blood Drive

Save the date. CWF (Christian Women's Fellowship) will host an American Red Cross blood drive at Crossroads **Feb 22**.

Lost and Found

We have several dishes and containers on the Crossroads kitchen table left from various events. Please see if one is yours; otherwise, we will add them to the church garage sale.

Church Garage Sale

Does the winter weather have you homebound looking for something to do? Then start your spring cleaning early in search of treasures for the church garage sale set for **April 1 & 2**. We will start collecting items at Crossroads the week of March 28.

Women's Conference

Lincoln Christian University will host "Soul Support", a Christian Women's Conference on **April 27**. Guest speakers will be Michele Cushatt and Dr. Dinelle Frankland. Registration

is \$35 before April 20. Lunch is included. For more info or to register go to lincolnchristian.edu/cwc. If you think you might go, let the church office know and we can help arrange a carpool.

Church Camp Dates

The 2016 Mississippi Valley Christian Service Camp dates are: High School June 12-17 *Jr High June 19-24 *5th-6th June 26-30 *3rd-4th July 5-7 *1st-2nd July 1-2 *K-2nd Day Camp July 8 *All Saints Sept 9.

CWF Service

CWF encourages everyone to cut off and save the fronts of all your greeting cards and place them in the box outside the church building office. They are bundled and mailed to a boy's ranch in Nevada where they make and sell lovely new cards from our recycled cards. Also, in the same location, we have a collection box for used reading glasses that the Lion's Club distributes to those in need.

Pastor's Message: The Missed Kick

Football fans had their heads spinning after the roller coaster finishes of last weekend's games. Several of the games ended in the most peculiar ways.

From athletes losing composure, to failing to convert routine plays that they had done nearly all of their athletic careers, the twists and turns kept fans on the edge of their seat.

Sadly, many of the outcomes were not due as much to an individual's success as much as

to mistakes. To this, there were many reactions that grieved my heart, but also inspired me. It was sad to watch several players lose their composure and go on rants after the games. Certainly, their disappointment was fresh, yet their failure to recognize any of their flaws and mistakes became a parade of poor sportsmanship. I must admit that I grow tired of such demonstrations of selfish narcissism.

Despite my frustration at the immaturity demonstrated by several of the athletes, I did, however, find one story that stuck out to me. It was the response of a kicker who had the chance to likely win the game for his team. To give his team the lead with just a few seconds left in the game, all he had to do was kick a very short field goal. It was something he had done literally hundreds of times in his life. He missed the kick very badly... very badly. It was cold outside, and the laces on the ball were the wrong direction, yet in the press conference he faced the media and simply said, "This was all on me..."

I could not believe my ears. There was no passing the buck, no excuses, just a contrite, humble, broken man. There were many on social media who had a field day at the young man's expense, but for me, it was refreshing to witness something that seems far too rare -- humility and brokenness. That missed kick may, in fact, cost him his spot on the team, but his humble response gained my respect and hope for a

wonderful career.

We all fail. Failure is one way in which we grow, and God certainly uses our failures when we yield them to him in humility. David was certainly familiar with failure, and he had several varying responses to his failures. These responses ranged from attempting to conceal his failures, to manipulation, to anger, and finally to being broken and humble before God.

If you have failed, there is grace and hope in Christ. Check your responses, however. Are you losing your composure, looking around for excuses and validation? Do we fall into the trap as David did, attempting to manipulate the situation so as to not deal with the consequences of our failure, blaming the weather, or the refs, or our teammates? Or do we, in brokenness, come before God's throne of grace humbly? Certainly there are few examples out there to follow, but that does not mean that we cannot be examples ourselves.

Humbleness and humility, though not often valued in this age of extravagance, are powerful attributes that God uses for His glory!

Loving you all,

Michael

Prayer Concerns

Dorothy Apps
Emmett Boren
Mary Chamberlain
Rosemary Clark
Chad Ferguson
Bill Hammitt (*Larry Wigington's brother*)
Merle Howard (*Larry Howard's brother*)
Kayla Mountain (*Edna Baughman's daughter*)
Vera Staffy

Serving Schedule for January 17, 2016

Elders:Roger Dunham, Joyce Lemons
Diaconate:Keith Elledge, Carole Elledge, Jim Kallal, Judy Kallal, Christie Mendenhall, Gary Mendenhall
Preparation of Communion-8:00AM:Carolyn Casteel, Kathy Willman
Preparation of Communion-9:15AM:Judy Ferguson
9:15AM Greeter:Roger & Rokettia Brokaw
Preparation of Communion-10:30AM:Zack & Libby Boren
Coffee Host: NA
Sound System: Lainey Ten Eyck
Candle Lighters:Shelby Bauer, Wesley Gengler
Scripture Reader:Wayne Baughman
Nursery Helper-10:30AM:Sydney Bauer
Communion to Shut-ins:Betty Hoover, TBA
Fellowship Treats:NA
Family Meal Date:Feb 3, 2016
Family Meal Crew:Judy Ferguson, Ann Ferguson & Crew
Driver: Call the church--285-4129

Serving Schedule for January 24, 2016

Elders:Ann Ferguson, Jim Dain
Diaconate:Rokettia Brokaw, Glen Cooley, Betty Hayden, Kathy Curfman, Cheryl Birch, John Birch
Preparation of Communion-8:00AM:N.D. & Joyce Harrison
Preparation of Communion-9:15AM:Dave & Sandy Herring
9:15AM Greeter:Bev White
Preparation of Communion-10:30AM:Glen & Carol Cooley
Coffee Host: NA
Sound System: Michelle Gates
Candle Lighters:Nolan Daniel, Cameron Sweeting
Scripture Reader:Lauren Saxe
Nursery Helper-10:30AM:Abigail Cox
Communion to Shut-ins:Joyce Lemons, Greg & Kim Bonnett
Fellowship Treats:
Family Meal Date:Feb 3, 2016
Family Meal Crew:Judy Ferguson, Ann Ferguson

& Crew

Driver: Call the church--285-4129

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
PITTSFIELD, ILLINOIS

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Staff: Michael Ten Eyck, Pastor
Chaz Waterman, Associate/Youth Pastor
Helen Earls, Music & Christian Education
Rebecca Rhodes, Administrative Secretary
Gina Bryant, Custodian

Worship Attendance

	01/03	01/10
8AM Worship	80	75
9:15AM Oasis	91	77
10:30AM Worship	114	99
Total	285	251

Operating Fund Receipts

	01/03	01/10
Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. M-Th		
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. F		
Worship times every Sunday:		
8:00 a.m., 9:15 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.		
Church School: 8:00 a.m. and 9:15 a.m.		
Received Last 7 Days	\$12,264.45	\$8,066.48
Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget	\$9,634.00	\$9,634.00

Wishes and Wants

Free: A baby walker. Clean with musical toys embedded on tray. Adjustable height levels. Carole Elledge 285-4929.

Stewardship

	01/03	01/10
Operational	\$12,372.30	\$7,377.80
Property Improvement	\$3.00	\$3.00
Outreach--Missionaries	\$270.00	\$300.00
DHF	\$80.00	\$80.00
Outreach - Unmet Needs	\$0.00	\$70.00
Children First	\$170.00	\$0.00
Sanctuary Renovation	\$50,000.00	\$0.00
Adopt A Family	\$500.00	\$0.00
Outreach-General	\$103.00	\$33.00
Total	\$63,498.30	\$7,863.80

Christian Education Attendance

	01/03	01/10
Three - K	6	9
First-Third	11	5
Fourth-Fifth	11	7
Sixth-Eighth	11	5
High School	5	6
Disciples	15	10
New Beginnings	5	6
Young Adult	0	0
Select to Connect	7	7
Total	71	55