

The Pittsfield Christian



First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 62 Issue 12

June 2, 2020

Dear First Christian Church Family,

We have begun the phased reopening of the First Christian Church of Pittsfield according to the Eldership's recommendations. I was delighted to hear of our Governor's decision to lift restrictions on Illinois churches after a challenge from the U.S. Supreme Court. The Illinois Department of Public Health has issued a lengthy series of guidelines for churches reopening. The guidelines were roughly in line with the planned phased reopening that the Eldership recommended on May 26.

The phased reopening recommendations from our Eldership were as follows:

- Encourage families to worship from home in groups of 10 or less for the next several Sundays.
- Those who are unable to stream from home are welcome to view the 8 a.m. service stream in small groups of 10 or less at the Crossroads Center and Church fellowship hall during the 8 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. service time. (Call the office to reserve a space.)

While streaming in groups of 10 or less is the safest method to begin the reopening process (thus recommended by the elders), we also realize that there are those within our church family who feel strongly about worshipping together in our sanctuary. While we want to honor and celebrate our 1st Amendment right to Assemble in Worship, we want to do so in a responsible way. *We ask that you share the Love of Christ by being considerate of those who are at risk by adhering to the following guidelines if attending service in the sanctuary:*

- If you have a fever, are feeling ill, have traveled to an infected area, or have been in contact with someone who has been diagnosed with Covid-19, we ask that you be responsible and self-quarantine for 14 days.**
- Wash your hands thoroughly for 20 seconds. (Sing the chorus of your favorite hymn while you wash your hands!) Use Hand Sanitizer of at least 60% alcohol, wet thoroughly, and allow to air dry.**
- **Practice social distancing by maintaining a 6-foot distance from others, and 10 feet while singing. (This is no reflection on your singing!)**
- Please wear a mask, especially when less than 6 feet from others. (While this may be the most uncomfortable guideline to follow, wearing a mask will provide the greatest protection. It is not for you...it is for others. Consider the elderly and at-risk around you.)**
- Please be Gracious...remember that this is a work in progress. You may feel that these guidelines are excessive, but adhering to them will allow more people to gather for worship safely.**
- We are asking those choosing to worship in our Sanctuary at 8 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. to bring their own facemasks, communion supplies, and coffee as we continue to work out the process of worshipping together while respecting the new guidelines.**

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We certainly hope to be able to loosen these guidelines as we continue to recover from this pandemic. While Covid-19 has not hit Pike County in a substantial way as of yet, were it to come, it most likely would spread throughout churches. We want to be sure that this does not happen. In light of the recent mass gatherings for Memorial Day at the Lake of the Ozarks, as well as gatherings for protests of the callus killing of George Floyd, we feel that a gradual return to worshiping together is prudent. Should there be spikes in Covid-19 cases in our area we may amend these guidelines. We ask everyone to be responsible and consider the safety and health of themselves and others. While we cannot guarantee everyone's health and safety, we can all strive to do our best to protect one another, thus showing the Love of Jesus Christ.

To assist us in our transition to meeting together, we are planning an outdoor service at 10:30 on June 14. Meeting outdoors affords us far more freedom and flexibility. More details will follow.

With our beginning the process of methodically and cautiously returning to worshiping together, we will only be live-streaming our 8 a.m. service (which will then be uploaded to watch on the church's Facebook page or YouTube channel at your convenience). I will also only be doing Fireside Chats on Tuesday mornings for the next few weeks, not Thursdays.

This is a very fluid situation, but if we are all responsible, respectful, gracious, and loving, we will grow together in Christ through this time. We ask for your patience with us as we strive to provide a safe and authentic worship atmosphere.

Loving you all,
Michael

*Church Family,
Thank you so much for the graduation gift last Sunday. I truly appreciate receiving Mere Christianity by C.S. Lewis and look forward to reading it. A little over two years ago, God put it on my heart to pursue my school counseling and preventive mental health degree, after I thought I had other plans! I am not sure what the future holds in this area but I know He is in charge. I thank you for all your inquiries, comments and support over these last two years working on my Master's degree.
Thanks again,
Michelle Gates.*

*Dear FCC,
Thank you for putting on the graduation parade and giving me my Inductive Study Bible. Thank you for being a supportive church family where I know I can be myself.
Sincerely,
Tucker Kunzeman.*

The Our Daily Bread devotional booklet for June, July, August is expected to ship in mid June. We will let you know when we have them available in the sanctuary and church office once they arrive.

We want to thank everyone who helped get the Church and Crossroads Center ready for May 31 worship services. We also want to thank those who helped move furniture at Crossroads Center in preparation for tile floor refinishing. We are so blessed to have volunteers who can assist in our time of need!

Church Board will meet Tuesday, **June 9**, 6:00. Packets will be emailed and available at the admin building.

We are planning for youth Sunday School classes to begin June 14. Details will follow via Steeple Point, website, etc.

While we continue to phase in the reopening of FCC, the tasks for our Sunday morning serving schedule volunteers will be phased in later as we work through the process. Deacons, Communion Preparation, Scripture Readers and Cookie Sunday volunteers will be notified when they are able to start and what modifications we've had to make. Thank you so much for your continued patience!

Mark your calendar with our plans on Sunday, June 14. The 8:00 service will be in the sanctuary just like we did on May 31 with viewing also available at Crossroads and streamed online. The 10:30 service will be outside on the lawn south of the church building. Bring your lawn chair. We ask that you leave the parking places around the lawn available for those who would rather stay in their vehicle and watch/listen. The forecast may change our plans so be sure to watch your email, our website and Facebook for updates.

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

Stewardship (Offering Only)	<u>5/18-24</u>	<u>5/25-31</u>
Operational	\$4,953.88	\$10,747.24
Property Improvement	3.00	3.00
Outreach-Missionaries	70.00	270.00
DHF	25.00	25.00
Children First	0.00	124.00
Construction/Renovate	0.00	181.90
Outreach-General	<u>3.00</u>	<u>43.00</u>
Total	\$5,054.88	\$11,393.24

Operating Receipts (Offering, Rentals, etc.)
 Received Last 7 Days \$4,953.88 \$10,747.24
 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
- At the Office: 201 N. Mississippi Street

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

Lectionary

6/7: Gen 1:1-2:4; 2 Cor 13:11-13; Matt 28:16-20
 6/8: Ps 29; Job 38:39-39:12; 1 Cor 12:1-3
 6/9: Ps 29; Job 39:13-25; 1 Cor 12:4-13
 6/10: Ps 29; Job 39:26-40:5; John 14:25-26
 6/11: Ps 116:1-19; Gen 21:1-7; Heb 3:1-6
 6/12: Ps 116:1-19; Gen 24:1-9; Acts 7:35-43
 6/13: Ps 116:1-19; Gen 24:10-52; Mark 7:1-13
 6/14: Gen 18:1-15; Exodus 19:2-8; Rom 5:1-8; Matt 9:35-10:8
 6/15: Ps 126; Gen 23:1-19; 1 Thessalonians 3:1-5
 6/16: Ps 126; Gen 25:7-11; 2 Thessalonians 2:13-3:5
 6/17: Ps 126; Nehemiah 9:1-8; Luke 6:12-19
 6/18: Ps 86:1-10; Exodus 12:43-49; Hebrews 2:5-9
 6/19: Ps 86:1-10; Gen 35:1-4; Acts 5:17-26
 6/20: Ps 86:1-10; Ezekiel 29:3-7; Luke 11:53-12:3

Prayer Concerns: Dorothy Apps, Tereasa Apps, Chip Barber, Tom Barger, Dora Lee Claus, Jeff Cox, Tonya Douglas, Joyce Harrison, Stacey Helms, Linda Irwin, David James, Wanda Mendenhall, Becky Lamb Terry
 Betty Bauer (Charlene Gleckler's aunt)
 Michael Guillory (Carolyn Barber's nephew)
 Greg Howard (Larry Howard's nephew)
 Kay Matthews (Jean Sanderson's sister)
 Ashley Ratliff (Jean Sanderson's granddaughter)
 Mark Reeves (Ashli Freesmeyer's father)
 Peter Roccaforte (Chuck Barber's nephew)
 Linda Sipes (Larry Howard's sister)
 Sue Weil Smith (Dan Chamberlain's cousin)
 Julie Talley (Judy Ferguson's sister-in-law)

We offer online streaming of services on Sundays at 8:00AM and re-played on Facebook and YouTube. Pastor Michael will do a Fireside Chat on Tuesdays 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.

Current 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

Wishes & Wants

Wanted: Standard manual wheelchair. Gary & Carolyn Sherwin cksherwin1@gmail.com
For Sale: Furniture from Bob & Lura Hammitt estate. Text Larry Wigington at 217.494.0027 and identify who you are.
Help Needed? Our church family greatly appreciates our wonderful youth! I would like to publicize the fact that Noah Mendenhall helped me with a lawnmower pick up at Farm & Home and he is available to do such jobs! The city clean up will surely be scheduled before long which would be another great time to book him for help. Pass the word! -Kay Sealock.