

The Pittsfield Christian



First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois
Volume 58 Issue 6
March 9, 2016

Coming Events

- 3/10 9:30 am Circle IV Meeting
6:15 pm CWF Exec Comm Meeting
7:00 pm Connection Group
- 3/13 8:00, 9:15, 10:30 Worship
8:00, 9:15 Sunday School
5:00 pm Youth Group Meeting
- 3/14 6:00 pm Volleyball League
6:30 pm Circle I Meeting
8:00pm Fellowship Hall Rental
- 3/15 7:00 am Dining Room Rental
6:00 pm CMF Dinner Meeting
- 3/16 6:30 pm Connection Group
7:00 pm Choir Practice
- 3/17 6:00 pm Dining Room Rental
7:00 pm Connection Group
- 3/20 8:00, 9:15, 10:30 Worship
8:00, 9:15 Sunday School
- 3/21 6:00 pm Volleyball League
8:00 pm Fellowship Hall Rental
- 3/22 6:00 pm Elder Meeting
- 3/23 6:30 pm Connection Group
7:00 pm Choir Practice
- 3/24 6:00 pm Progressive Prayer
7:30 pm Communion Service
- 3/25 7:00 pm Praise and Testimony
- 3/27 6:30 am Sunrise Service
7:45 am Breakfast
8:45 am Sunday School
10:00 am Worship

Holy Week Schedule

*On Thursday, **March 24**, we will have Progressive Prayer starting at 6pm with parking near the PHS auditorium and walking on the sidewalk to PCS. At 6:30pm prayer will move to the courthouse lawn. At 7pm you are free to go in the community and pray where God is calling you. Sign up at the fellowship table if you want to participate in Progressive Prayer. The prayer walk will conclude with a communion service in the sanctuary at 7:30. Following the service, we will have time for corporate prayer.

*On Friday, **March 25**, we will have time for praise and testimony in the sanctuary at 7pm.

*Easter Sunday morning, **March 27**, we will have a 6:30 sunrise service involving youth, 7:45 breakfast, 8:45 Sunday School, and 10:00 worship service.

Do You Need To Be Baptized? As we approach Easter, it is good to follow in obedience to scripture and consider baptism. Contact Pastor Michael or Pastor Chaz.

On Monday evening, February 29, Brian and Angie Ruebush were baptized and have placed their membership with FCC. They are very familiar faces at 9:15 service and we are happy to have them worship with us!

The church switched to the new website last week which has several new features. We ask for your patience while we finalize some details and the staff works thorough the learning curve of it's use.

Don't forget to spring forward your clocks 1 hour on Saturday night, March 12.

The **March 15 CMF Dinner Meeting** will be in the FELLOWSHIP HALL. Circle 4 will oversee the meal. Sign up at the fellowship table if you plan to attend.

We are looking forward to preparing and serving the Boys Basketball Banquet on Thursday, **March 17**, in the Crossroads dining room. This will be a busy time so please sign up at the fellowship table or call Joyce (285-4862) if you can help morning, noon or night. Thank you!!!

The **Church Garage Sale** will be **April 1 & 2**. We will accept almost anything but no large appliances. Any questions contact Ruth Anne Godin or Linda Decker. Due to events at Crossroads, items cannot be brought to the building until the week of March 28.

The Diaconate recently held a training session that was well-attended and well-received. We reviewed the Biblical history and importance of being a serving deacon. We also practiced the procedure for collecting the offering and serving communion. More training will be scheduled, but if you have any questions please contact Donnie Apps, Burdette Irwin, or Yvonne Stauffer.

Attention Parents of children in grades 1-5: We are looking for children who are interested in singing with the Vesper Choir during the 10:30 service on Palm Sunday, **March 20**. We will practice in the sanctuary from 6:30-7 on Wednesday March 9 & 16. Please let Helen know right away if your child will be participating and she will get you a cd to listen to at home. Also, **all children age 4 - 5th grade** are welcome to play the Krystal Bells on Easter, **March 27**, at the 10 a.m. service. These are color coded and do not require an additional rehearsal.

Brenda Kramer, one of our trained volunteers, will be in the church office area on **March 13** providing free blood pressure screening.

CWF **Circle I** will meet at Crossroads at 6:30 on **March 14**.

The next newsletter will be printed the week of **March 21**.

The **Elders** will meet at 6pm on **March 22**.

Due to busy schedules, we will not have the April 6 Family Meal.

The **Children First** graduation and fundraiser will be Thursday, **May 12**. NOTE THE DATE CHANGE.

Lincoln Christian University will host the 9th annual Intentional Church Conference on **April 23** from 9am-3:30pm at First Christian Church in Decatur. For more info go to intentionalchurchconference.com.

Lincoln Christian University will host "Soul Support", a Christian Women's Conference on April 27. Registration is \$35 before **April 20**. Lunch is included. For more info go to lincolncr.edu/cwc.

Prayer Concerns

Emmett Boren
Jean Carr (*Ray Carr's mother*)
Mary Chamberlain
Rosemary Clark
Tim Collver (*Carol O'Malley's cousin*)
Wayne Dunham
Ann Ferguson
Austin Gerard
Joyce Groom
Margie Guthrie
Merle Howard (*Larry Howard's brother*)
David Jones
Wally Lamb
Linda Lueders
Maria Owens
Volunteers in Haiti with Sonlight Ministries.

VBS Cave Quest-Following Jesus, The Light of the World

We are GATHERING GEAR for our Cave Quest Adventure! Items needed are as listed

- *Hard Hats
- *Large Boxes (can be broken down, but still in tact)
- *Pool Noodles
- *Spray foam
- *Brown Packaging (Kraft paper, paper bags)
- *Tarps (black & blue)
- *Lanterns
- *LED lights
- *Milk Jugs (do not need the lids)
- *No flame candles

Any and all donations are appreciated! Thank you!
Kacie Lipcaman klipcaman6@gmail.com; (217-242-7271)

Michelle Hart lukemichelle1@frontier.com (217-430-5255)

The 2016 Mississippi Valley Christian Service Camp:
High School June 12-17.

Jr High June 19-24.

1st-2nd July 1-2.

5th-6th June 26-30.

K-2nd Day Camp July 8.

3rd-4th July 5-7.

All Saints Sept 9.

Thank you my church family and Outreach Ministry for the fruit and candy bag. It was very nice and I thoroughly enjoyed it. In Christian love, Hilda Dunham.

Pastor's Message

A few weeks ago, one of our little ones in the church family came to me and asked about the ringing of the church bell. I had a precious talk with her and shared how the ringing of the bell was to call people to worship. She grinned and indicated that she would very much like to have a chance to take part in that. I informed her that I would give her name to the gentleman who currently rings the bell and we could find a time to show her how to do that. After church I shared the information and we agreed to set a time.

Sunday morning I noticed that I had a message on my phone. It was the same eager little girl (via her mom's phone) reminding me of our conversation and expressing her willingness to be a part of that activity that morning.

I love that! I was both amused and inspired at her diligence to follow through with her commitment and desire to take part in that church function.

I remember, as a little kid, we would pull the church bell rope and then hold on as the rope lifted us off the ground towards the ceiling. We would do this until an adult would rebuke us for having way too much fun in church.

Ringling a bell is certainly fun, but what I saw in this little girl's eyes when we talked was something a bit more than just having a good time. She wanted to take this task very seriously (and have fun).

I wish more of us were like this when it comes to service for our Lord - joyful, passionate, and undeterred. It reminded me of the instructions Jesus gives about children and their example to us all.

Mark 10:13-16

13 Now people were bringing little children to him for him to touch, but the disciples scolded those who brought them. 14 But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me and do not try to stop them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. 15 I tell you the truth, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child will never enter it." 16 After he took the children in his arms, he placed his hands on them and blessed them. NET Bible

In this season leading up to the celebration of Christ's resurrection, I pray that we all will find our "bell to ring" and that we can be passionate about our service to the Lord and His people. Take joy in that service. It may be difficult and taxing, but there is joy in it when we do it for the Lord.

Someone may give you a scowl if you let the bell rope fly you to the ceiling, but if you are doing it for the Lord, let her ring!

Loving you all,

Michael

P.S. One such important event that I hope we all get excited about is our Thursday evening progressive prayer event. Prayer can be an exciting and enriching activity. After all, it is talking to Daddy... sign up!

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
 Chaz Waterman, Associate/Youth Pastor
 Helen Earls, Music & Christian Ed
 Rebecca Rhodes, Administrative Secretary
 Gina Bryant, Custodian

Office Hours: 9:00am–4:00pm M-TH, 9:00am–12:00pm F

Worship Times: Every Sunday 8:00am, 9:15am, 10:30am

Sunday School: 8:00am, 9:15am

Stewardship (Offering Only)

	<u>2/28</u>	<u>3/6</u>
Operational	\$9,509.17	\$8,484.00
Property Improvement	12.00	3.00
Outreach-Missionaries	70.00	870.00
DHF	80.00	80.00
Outreach-Unmet Needs	0	55.00
Outreach-General	7.00	94.00
Children First	<u>100.00</u>	<u>250.00</u>
Total	\$9,778.17	\$9,836.00

Operating Receipts (Offering, Rentals, etc)

	<u>2/28</u>	<u>3/6</u>
Received Last 7 Days	\$9,156.14	\$7,911.28
Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget	\$9,634	

Worship Attendance

	<u>2/28</u>	<u>3/6</u>
8:00 AM	64	61
9:15 AM	111	106
10:30 AM	<u>102</u>	<u>109</u>
Total	277	276

Christian Education

	<u>2/28</u>	<u>3/6</u>
Age 3-K	2	7
1st-2 nd	10	9
3rd-5 th	13	9
6th-8 th	8	10
Sr High	6	5
Disciples	12	13
New Beginnings	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>
Total	57	61

Lectionary

3/9: Psalm 53; 2 Kings 4:1-7; Luke 9:10-17
 3/10: Psalm 126; Isa 43:1-7; Phil 2:19-24
 3/11: Psalm 126; Isa 43:8-15; Phil 2:25-3:1
 3/12: Psalm 126; Exodus 12:21-27; John 11:45-57
 3/13 Isa 43:16-21; Psalm 126; Phil 3:4b-14; John 12:1-8
 3/14: Psalm 20; Exodus 40:1-15; Heb 10:19-25
 3/15: Psalm 20; Judges 9:7-15; 1 John 2:18-28
 3/16: Psalm 20; Hab 3:2-15; Luke 18:31-34
 3/17: Psalm 31:9-16; Isa 53:10-12; Heb 2:1-9
 3/18: Psalm 31:9-16; Isa 54:9-10; Heb 2:10-18
 3/19: Psalm 31:9-16; Lev 23:1-8; Luke 22:1-13
 3/20: Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29; Luke 19:28-40, Isa 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Phil 2:5-11;
 Luke 22:14-23: 56; Luke 23:1-49
 3/21: Isa 42:1-9; Psalm 36:5-11; Heb 9:11-15; John 12:1-11
 3/22: Isa 49:1-7; Psalm 71:1-14; 1 Cor 1:18-31; John 12:20-36
 3/23: Isa 50:4-9a; Psalm 70; Heb 12:1-3; John 13:21-32

Serving Schedule

March 13, 2016

Elder: David Bishop, Roger Dunham
Diaconate: TBA, Michael Smith, Yvonne Stauffer, Jamie Sweeting, Sarah Sweeting, Michele Westmaas
8:00 Communion: N.D. & Joyce Harrison
9:15 Communion: Phil & Georgia Sandidge
9:15 Greeter: Jack & Kathy Hull
10:30 Communion: Richard & Yvonne Stauffer
10:30 Scripture Reader: Sydney Bauer
10:30 Sound System: Michelle Gates
10:30 Nursery: Shelby Bauer
10:30 Candle Lighter: Eli Mendenhall, Nolan Daniel
Shut-Ins: Dan & Sue Speckhart, Roger & Charlotte Dunham

March 20, 2016

Elder: Phil Sandidge, Ann Ferguson
Diaconate: Julie Boren, Mike Boren, Chad Ferguson, Barbara Fosco, Karen Goodwin, Donnie Apps
8:00 Communion: Richard & Rebecca Rhodes
9:15 Communion: Tom & Debbie Robinson
9:15 Greeter: Roger & Rokettia Brokaw
10:30 Communion: Jamie & Sarah Sweeting
10:30 Scripture Reader: Becky Daniel
10:30 Sound System: Lauren Saxe
10:30 Nursery: Sydney Bauer
10:30 Candle Lighter: Nolan Daniel, Shelby Bauer
Shut-ins: Howard & Vera Staffy, Julie Myers