

# The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 58 Issue 7

March 23, 2016



## Coming Events

- 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
- 3/28 6:00 pm Volleyball League  
8:00pm Fellowship Hall Rental
- 3/29 10:00 am Fellowship Hall Rental
- 3/30 6:30 pm Connection Group  
7:00 pm Choir Practice
- 3/31 7:00 pm Connection Group
- 4/1 7:00 am Garage Sale  
6:00 pm Fellowship Hall Rental
- 4/2 8:00 am Garage Sale
- 4/3 8:00, 9:15, 10:30 Worship  
8:00, 9:15 Sunday School  
5:00 pm Youth Group Meeting
- 4/4 1:00 pm Fellowship Hall Rental  
6:00 pm Volleyball League  
8:00 pm Fellowship Hall Rental
- 4/5 6:00 pm Fellowship Hall Rental
- 4/6 6:30 pm Connection Group  
7:00 pm Choir Practice
- 4/7 2:00 pm Circle V Meeting  
7:00 pm Connection Group
- 4/10 8:00, 9:15, 10:30 Worship  
8:00, 9:15 Sunday School  
5:00 pm Youth Group Meeting
- 4/11 6:00 pm Volleyball League  
6:30 pm Circle I Meeting  
8:00 pm Fellowship Hall Meeting
- 4/12 10:00 am Dining Room Rental  
6:00 pm Church Board Meeting

## 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. 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. The bus will be parked on the south side of the church at 5:45 if you would like to ride it to the prayer walk locations. It will return to the church for the 7:30 service. A staffed nursery will be available for the 7:30 service.

\*On Friday, **March 25**, we will have time for praise and testimony in the sanctuary at 7pm. A staffed nursery will be available.

\*On Easter Sunday morning, **March 27**, we will have a 6:30 sunrise service in the gym, 7:45 breakfast, 8:45 Sunday School, and 10:00 worship service in the sanctuary. A staffed nursery will be available at Crossroads during sunrise service then at the church during Sunday School and 10:00 service. **Pre-K Children Church kids will start the service with their family then be dismissed part way through service.**

Tom Wombles was baptized on March 17 then Tom and Debbie both joined the church during 8:00 service on March 20. We are happy to have them worship with us and join our church family!

The **Church Garage Sale** will be Friday and Saturday, **April 1 & 2**. Hours will be from 7am-3pm on Friday and 8am-noon on Saturday. The ladies will be at Crossroads to accept donations from 8am until 3pm Monday through Wednesday. Please try to have your items here by noon on Thursday so they have time to price them. Any questions contact Ruth Anne Goodin or Linda Decker. **Strong backs will be needed at 8am on Tuesday, March 29, to help setup tables in the gym and at noon on Saturday, April 2, to remove remaining items and move tables.**

Congratulations Zaack and Libby Boren on the birth of Ezra Michael Boren on March 12. He weighed 7lbs, 9oz and was 20in. Ezra has been welcomed home by big brother Benjamin.

The next newsletter will be printed the week of 4/4.

*Brenda Kramer has been working to get our historian books up-to-date. The 2014 and 2015 books are now finished and in the Long room for viewing. Thank you Brenda for your diligent work on this project!*

**All children age 4 - 5th grade** are welcome to play the Krystal Bells on Easter, **March 27**, at the 10:00 service. These are color coded and do not require rehearsal.

*Thank you to all the ladies who helped serve and clean up after the Wayne Dunham funeral luncheon. -CWF Bereavement Committee.*

Virginia Tice has moved to a new location for assisted living. If you would like to send her a card, her address is: Virginia Tice, 1622 S. Hart Street, Apt 115, Vincennes, IN 47591.

If you didn't have your picture taken for the directory but would like a directory, the cost is \$5. If you haven't picked up your copy then check the table in the overflow room or call the church office.

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

The **woman's connection group** will begin the book "The End of Me" by Kyle Idleman on Wednesday, **March 30**. If you are looking to connect and study how the word of God relates to each and every person, please contact Michelle Hart at 217-430-5255 or Bethany Dunham at 217-779-0431 to get your book. They will meet for an hour in the Long room of the church on Wednesdays at 6:30. Child care is provided.



**youth@first** will be sending our jr high students to Springfield on April 1 and 2 for a time of energetic worship designed to spiritually ignite students on their own level. The event costs \$55, and we'll be staying at the Days Inn off of Toronto Road in Springfield. For more information, see [fccpittsfield.org/event/2016-04-01-believe-2016/](http://fccpittsfield.org/event/2016-04-01-believe-2016/) and/or contact Chaz.

Roger and Rokettia Brokaw offer a connection group at their home on Thursday evenings that discusses Pastor Michael's sermon topics. Contact them for more information.

### Prayer Concerns

Emmett Boren  
Jean Carr (*Ray Carr's mother*)  
Mary Chamberlain  
Rosemary Clark  
Dora Lee Claus  
Tim Collver (*Carol O'Malley's cousin*)  
Austin Gerard  
Joyce Groom  
Merle Howard (*Larry Howard's brother*)  
Wayne Johnson (*Debbie Wombles' father*)  
Wally Lamb  
Maria Owens  
Doug Reel  
Holly Wade (*Bob & Sue Evans' daughter*)

### 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](mailto:klipcaman6@gmail.com); (217-242-7271)

Michelle Hart [lukemichelle1@frontier.com](mailto:lukemichelle1@frontier.com) (217-430-5255)

The church phone system is setup so you can call the office at 285-4129 and follow the prompts to Pastor Michael's office extension. If it is after hours the call will ring to his cell phone. Leave a message if need be and he will call back as soon as possible.

Dear Church Family,

*I praise God for being a part of FCC. Your prayers, cards, visits and food have been very appreciated. I also praise our Lord for the skilled hands that did the surgery and following me through the hospital stay. A special thanks to Michael, Helen and Judy Sweeting for being with my family during the surgery time. "Brownies were great" was the comment Judy.*

*Loving you all,  
Ann Ferguson*

At the March 15 Christian Men's Fellowship meeting, N.D. Harrison was chosen as Layman of the Year for 2015. He is a current Elder and has also served as Board Moderator, Treasurer, and co-founder of the jail ministry. Congratulations N.D.!

Graduation Sunday will be **May 22** when we honor the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, high school and college graduates in our church family. If you have a graduate in your family, please notify the office ASAP with their name and school. In order to display the graduation board, we need all high school and college graduate pictures by Monday, May 2.

We always hope you are able to worship with us every weekend but we understand that sometimes your schedule prevents you from attending a Sunday service. To stay connected, you can log on to our website to watch the streaming of 9:15 and 10:30 services. Go to Ministries then Live Stream. You can also log on to the WBBA website and watch. WBBA also airs our prior Sunday sermon from 10:30-11:00 am every Sunday morning. We also offer online giving on our website at Resources then Online Giving.



There will be no youth group on Sunday, March 27. Students are encouraged to spend Easter with their families and celebrate the Risen King together. Youth group on April 3 will be a game night at the Watermans' house following the final showing of The Little Mermaid. Students, be sure to support your friends in the show! Flowers and giant hugs are always appreciated. :) Regular youth group activities will resume on April 10.



Hey parents! For the last several months, **kids@first** has been placing a document alongside the bulletin called the Parent Cue. This mini newsletter is designed to help you engage with your children using the same curriculum and conversations that they're getting in Sunday school. Now, we also send out smaller weekly versions with kids as they leave class, but the larger version that's available as you enter worship is designed to give you the parent an idea of what we're teaching all month long. It's a great resource, and we encourage you to take the time to pick it up and flip through it!

### April Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1 Nic Daniel
- 2 Linda Lovell
- 3 Julie Plattner  
Henry & Amy Speckhart
- 4 Buster & Wanda Mendenhall
- 5 Charlene Anderson  
Kadin Hittner
- 7 Chris Collins
- 8 Howard & Vera Staffy  
David Freesmeyer  
Doug Buskirk  
Sammy Jo Smith  
Juliana Lacey
- 9 Joyce Lemons  
Austin Long  
Jeff & Cathy Lacey
- 10 Gaylord Rhodes
- 11 Evan Hart  
Molly Dain  
Rick & Mary Wombles
- 13 Josie Pennock
- 14 Jack Schoenherr  
Don & Mary Lou Chamberlain
- 16 Grady Schoenherr
- 18 Jane Currie
- 20 Sandy Herring  
N.D. & Joyce Harrison
- 22 Phil Sandidge
- 23 Pat Apps  
Charlotte Dunham
- 24 Wanda Mendenhall
- 26 Donnie Apps  
Marjorie Gamble  
Jo Rhodes  
Eli Painter  
Kevin Tharp
- 27 Ashley Painter
- 29 David Marable
- 30 Mary Harshman

## **Excerpts from the March 8, 2016 Church Board Meeting**

**Call to Order** at 6:03 P.M. by the Moderator Bobby Smith

**Elder Devotions & Opening Prayer:** Opening devotion and prayer was led by Hamer Tate.

**Minister's Report:** Pastor Michael stated:

- Preparing for Holy Week activities with Elder Phil Sandidge – focusing on relational issues, informal sharing, testimony, and communion.
- Pastor Michael's personal goal of 300 attendees on average weekly attendance. David B. suggested a "Highlights/Focus Area" information sheet be attached to the attendance booklets to remind attendees about "What's Happening" at FCC.

**Youth/Associate Minister:** Pastor Chaz stated:

- Written updates on the Haiti Trip, Pike County Snack Pack Program, the website, and VBS.

**Treasurer's Report:** We are 16.67% through the year. Operating receipts are slightly below budget at 15.94% and operating disbursements are below budget at 13.17%. A \$7,000+ gain in the end of month Checking Balance.

**Trustees:** Investigating an insurance rider pertaining to Electronic/Broadcasting liability.

**Christian Education:**

- Noticeable spiritual momentum in the Sunday School classes.
- More volunteers are needed for VBS.
- Cindy Chamberlain and Kay Sealock will be Co-Sunday School Supts.
- The Valentine's Dinner was a huge success.

**Crossroads Center:** David B. made the motion for the Property Committee to get bids/prices on door-mats/rugs for the entire FCC campus. Roger D. seconded. Approved by general consensus.

**Children First:** Need to fill two vacancies.

**Old Business:**

**Balsman Property Update:** The Property Sub-Committee is composed of Moderator Bobby Smith, Charlie Gates, Elder Hamer Tate, Tom Robinson, Trustee Dan Speckhart, and Vice-Moderator David Koltveit to oversee the Balsman Farm. The 46 tillable acres will be rented to Bill Harter for \$180/acre. Clean-up is continuing with no easement updates as of this time.

**New Business:**

Pastor Michael presented a model made by Dale Black for possible FCC Sanctuary building renovations following the guidelines set by the Long-Range Planning Survey. It is a possibility that may address future FCC plans and goals.

David B. moved to adjourn at 6:50 PM. Roger D. seconded the motion and Pastor Michael closed us in prayer.

**Next Church Board meeting:** April 12th (second Tues.) at 6:00 PM.

## Little Things

I consider social media something of a necessary evil. The ability it gives us to receive and disseminate information, as well as to stay connected with distant friends and family, only slightly outweighs the promotion of narcissism and passive aggressive behavior that is all too prevalent, in my opinion. I have always felt that its responsible use can be a blessing, but its irresponsible use is a source of much trouble.

That being said, it is fascinating how social media has made the world smaller. I found that out this week. I received an odd message from a name I did not recognize. Most of the time I ignore such requests, as they are usually an attempt to gain personal information for a scam or some sort of mass marketing, but this particular request seemed to have a bit more merit, as the sender knew quite a lot about me.

Reluctantly, I answered the message. It turned out to be from a person whose family had housed me on a mission trip over 25 years ago. This person was a child at the time and recalled some of the testimony and music I had shared. She went on to share the impact that that brief encounter had on her life. I was very humbled and also somewhat embarrassed that I had such a difficult time recalling that mission trip.

I thanked her for reaching out and connecting. After the message exchange I could not help but to consider how often we forget to value the seemingly small opportunities that are afforded to us. The small things we do for others can make a huge impact on their life.

If we were to really understand that truth, I believe we would be more likely to seize those times, rather than let them slip by unrealized. Consider these two examples found in Matthew 9:1-2 and Mark 2:1-12.

Matt 9:1-2 And getting into a boat he crossed over and came to his own city. And behold, some people brought to him a paralytic, lying on a bed. And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Take heart, my son; your sins are forgiven."

Mark 2:1-12 And when he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. And many were gathered together, so that there was no more room, not even at the door. And he was preaching the word to them. And they came, bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men. And when they could not get near him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him, and when they had made an opening, they let down the bed on which the paralytic lay. And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "My son, your sins are forgiven." Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, "Why does this man speak like that? He is blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" And immediately Jesus, perceiving in his spirit that they thus questioned within themselves, said to them, "Why do you question these things in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, take up your bed and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he said to the paralytic—"I say to you, rise, pick up your bed, and go home." And he rose and immediately picked up his bed and went out before them all, so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!" ESV

In both examples we find people who were not named. They did no spectacular deeds themselves except that they were willing to facilitate others having an encounter with Christ. These unnamed believers probably did not think they were doing anything great, but their willingness to do a simple act of kindness changed the lives of two men.

Little things matter. Consider these unnamed servants whom Christ used, and if you are like me, you will be content to be one of those.

Are there people around you that need Christ this year? I encourage you to be like these servants of God who facilitated encounters with Christ. Do the little things... they matter!

Loving you all,

**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

<b>Stewardship (Offering Only)</b>	<u>3/13</u>	<u>3/20</u>
Operational	\$8,191.00	\$8,530.00
Property Improvement	128.00	13.00
Outreach-Missionaries	132.50	70.00
DHF	80.00	80.00
Outreach-General	65.50	71.00
Children First	<u>220.00</u>	<u>170.00</u>
Total	\$8,817.00	\$8,934.00

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

Received Last 7 Days \$8,685.34 \$10,709.52  
 Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$9,634

**Serving Schedule**

**March 27, 2016**

Elder: Wayne Chamberlain, Spencer Boren  
10:00 Diaconate: Ron Halsey, Eric Kunzeman, Jill Kunzeman, Kathy Lehr, Faith Saxe, Bill Grimsley  
6:30 Communion: Dan & Sue Speckhart  
10:00 Communion: Donnie & Tereasa Apps  
10:00 Scripture Reader: Barbara Fosco  
10:00 Sound System: Matt Sealock  
10:00 Nursery: Abigail Cox  
10:00 Candle Lighter: Kadin Hittner, Cameron Sweeting  
Shut-Ins: Hamer & Jenny Tate, Charlie & Mary Gates

**April 3, 2016**

Elder: N.D. Harrison, Roger Dunham  
Diaconate: Cheryl Birch, TBA, TBA, Christie Mendenhall, Gary Mendenhall, John Birch  
8:00 Communion: Hamer & Jenny Tate  
9:15 Communion: Larry & Sandy Wigington  
9:15 Greeter: Steve & Kathy Lehr  
10:30 Communion: Ruth Bennett, Kay Sealock  
10:30 Scripture Reader: Nic Daniel  
10:30 Sound System: Cherise Anderson  
10:30 Nursery: Emma Saxe  
10:30 Candle Lighter: Wesley Gengler, Shelby Bauer  
Shut-ins: Larry & Sandy Wigington, N.D. & Joyce Harrison  
Fellowship Treats: Donna James, Chris Smith, Bev White, Michele Westmaas, Dorothy Yaeger

**Lectionary**

3/24: Exodus 12:1-14; Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; 1 Cor 11:23-26; John 13:1-17, 31b-35  
 3/25: Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Psalm 22; Hebrews 10:16-25; John 18:1-19:42  
 3/26: Job 14:1-14; Psalm 31:1-4, 15-16; 1 Peter 4:1-8; Matt 27:57-66  
 3/27: Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Cor 15:19-26; John 20:1-18  
 3/28: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Joshua 10:16-27; 1 cor 5:6b-8  
 3/29: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Judges 4:17-23; 5:24-31a; Rev 12:1-12  
 3/30: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 2 Sam 6:1-15; Luke 24:1-12  
 3/31: Psalm 150; 1 Sam 17:1-23; Acts 5:12-16  
 4/1: Psalm 150; 1 Sam 17:19-32; Acts 5:17-26  
 4/2: Psalm 150; 1 Sam 17: 32-51; Luke 24:36-40  
 4/3: Acts 5:27-32; Psalm 118:14-29, Rev 1:4-8; John 20:19-31  
 4/4: Psalm 122; Esther 7:1-10; Rev 1:9-20  
 4/5: Psalm 122; Esther 8:1-17; Rev 2:8-11  
 4/6: Psalm 122; Esther 9:1-5, 18-23; Luke 12:4-12  
 4/7: Psalm 30; Isaiah 5:11-17; Rev 3:14-22

**Worship Attendance**

	<u>3/13</u>	<u>3/20</u>
8:00 AM	65	75
9:15 AM	92	118
10:30 AM	<u>121</u>	<u>127</u>
Total	278	320

**Christian Education**

Age 3-K	4	4
1st-2 <sup>nd</sup>	5	9
3rd-5 <sup>th</sup>	9	12
6th-8 <sup>th</sup>	7	10
Sr High	1	5
Disciples	16	13
New Beginnings	5	6
Select to Connect	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>
Total	54	66