

The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 58 Issue 10

May 4, 2016



Coming Events

- 5/5 Noon National Day of Prayer
2:00 pm Circle V Meeting
7:00 pm Connection Group
- 5/6 6:00 pm Girl Scout Meeting
- 5/8 8:00, 9:15, 10:30 Worship
8:00, 9:15 Sunday School
5:00 pm Youth Group Meeting
- 5/9 6:00 pm Volleyball League
6:30 pm Circle I Meeting
8:00 pm Al Anon Meeting
- 5/10 6:00 pm Church Board Meeting
- 5/11 8:30 am Unmet Needs Meeting
6:30 pm Connection Group
7:00 pm Choir Practice
- 5/12 9:30 am Circle IV Meeting
5:00 pm Children First Event
7:00 pm Connection Group
- 5/13 6:00 pm PHS Honors Banquet
- 5/14 10:00 am Eat Pray Paint
6:00 pm Fire Dept. Event
- 5/15 8:00, 9:15, 10:30 Worship
8:00, 9:15 Sunday School
5:00 pm Youth Group Meeting
- 5/16 6:00 pm Volleyball League
8:00 pm Al Anon Meeting
- 5/17 5:30 pm CWF Supper & Meeting
6:00 pm CMF Dinner Meeting
- 5/18 6:30 pm Connection Group
- 5/19 7:00 pm Connection Group

Church League Softball will begin Monday evening, **May 30**, at the Pittsfield Lake. Contact Matt Sealock or Kevin Hittner if you plan to play on team FCC. You must be at least a high school student to participate.

Children First will have an enjoyable evening at Crossroads on Thursday, **May 12**. From 5:00-7:00 doors will be open for a spaghetti dinner – adults \$6, children \$3. During this time everyone can view the wide variety of items donated for the silent auction and place bids. The winners will be announced between 7:00-7:30. Graduation will follow at 7:30 in the gym. Contact Jennifer with Children First if you would like to donate an item to the silent auction. A few of the items we have include themed baskets, St. Louis Cardinal tickets, Six Flags tickets, gift cards to local restaurants and businesses, yard ornaments and art projects by the children.

The Ladies Small Group would like to invite you to attend a Saturday morning brunch and guided paint experience led by Caitlin Munguia on May 14th from 10a-12p. This will be a special time of fellowship and artistic expression for all ages and skill levels! The event is open to ladies at FCC, and registration is \$25. Attendees are encouraged to bring a friend! This would be a great opportunity to introduce another lady to FCC! Proceeds from the event will go to helping send youth@first to CIY:Move this summer. **Those interested in registering should contact the church office no later than May 7.**

CMF will have their last dinner meeting until fall on Tuesday, **May 17**, 6:00, at Crossroads. Sign up at the fellowship table if you plan to attend. The men will prepare the meal.

Church camp forms are on the sanctuary mantels and Oasis fellowship table. CMF will pay half the fee for youth in our church family.

Our church has been asked to clean the game room, lake area and campfire area at the conclusion of each camp at Mississippi Valley this summer. Work can begin at 3:00 on the following dates: Fri June 17, Fri June 24, Thurs June 30, Sat July 2, Thurs July 7, Fri July 16, Sun Aug 7, Sun Aug 11. Sign up at the fellowship table for the day(s) you can help.

Delanie Casto has been awarded the 2016 Carol V. Claus Baughman Memorial Scholarship. Delanie attends Blackburn College majoring in Elementary Special Education. Congratulations Delanie!

The **Church Board** will meet at 6pm on **May 10**. Pick up your packet in the Long Room this Sunday so you are prepared and ready for discussion.

The **Elders** will meet at 6:00 on Tuesday, **May 24**.

Thank you everyone for giving Pastor Elvin Dillard such a warm reception last weekend and making him feel so welcomed.

Bev and Eddie White will have a **bake sale** to support MDA on Saturday, **May 7**, starting at 7:30 am at the Subway/US Cellular parking lot. Donations of baked goods or monetary donations towards MDA would be appreciated. For more info call Bev at 285-2420.

May CWF Schedule

5/9 6:30 Circle I 5/12 9:30 Circle IV
5/17 5:30 Salad Supper & Installation of Officers in the **Fellowship Hall**. Bring your favorite dish to share.

The last **choir practice** until fall will be **May 11**.

Prayer Concerns

Emmett Boren
Mary Chamberlain
Joyce Groom
Bill Hammitt (*Larry Wigington's brother*)
Christine Henthorn
Merle Howard (*Larry Howard's brother*)
Pat Knight (*Friend of Jennifer Miller*)
Spencer Miller
Maria Owens
Doug Reel (*Nancy Collard's son*)
Phil Richardson (*Charlotte Dunham's brother*)
Millie Wendorff
Parker Zumwalt

Nancy Collard is staying in Arizona with her son Doug Reel while he is battling cancer. If you would like to send them a note, her address is Nancy Collard, 22701 N. Black Canyon HWY Lot b34, Phoenix, AZ 85027.

The PHS Honors Banquet will be Friday, **May 13**, at Crossroads. Sign up at the fellowship table or contact Joyce Lemons if you can help serve that evening.

Wishes and Wants

Needed: Childcare before and after school. Please contact Ashley Grimes 491-5782.

Thank you everyone for the many prayers for individuals in Ron and Joann Halsey's family. You truly have made a difference. We appreciate each and every one of you. -Ron & Joann.

Miles Benjamin Myers was born April 21 to Ben and Allison Myers of Scottsdale, AZ. The proud grandparents are David and Julie Myers and proud great grandmother is Marjorie Gamble. Congratulations to all!

Have you noticed? Donnie Houchins and crew cleared bushes, arranged parking blocks and cleaned the lot north of Crossroads Center. Thank you Donnie & crew for your time and providing your tractor and equipment. It looks great!

A wonderful evening was had by all at Spring Fling. Thank you ladies for attending and CMF for the delicious meal. Also thank you to the musicians and singers who treated us with their talents.

We are gathering gear for VBS. 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 & Michelle Hart.

Austin Long continues his military career and has a new address if you would like to send him a card thanking him for his service:

Long Austin R
CMR Box 319
1532 Porter Street
Fort Detrick, MD 21702

This coming Sunday, May 8, one of our trained volunteers will be in the church building office area providing free blood pressure screening.

The next newsletter will be printed the week of May 16.

First Christian Church of Pittsfield,

Thank you for your participation in Operation Christmas Child shoebox ministry! Locally we received 2,026 shoeboxes at the Pittsfield center. Each box is an opportunity to reach 7-9 people for Jesus. Thanks again, Bob & Karla DeVries.

(NOTE: Our Outreach Ministry is looking to participate earlier in the year to avoid the busy Thanksgiving/Christmas schedules. Watch your newsletters and bulletins for more info soon.)

For the past several weeks I have begun to notice some issues with my car, the Urban Dart (aptly named). It has 200,000 miles on it and has served me well, but as happens with all machines that have worked long and hard, some things begin to wear out.

I noticed that when I tried to start the car it would take multiple attempts for the engine to fire up. I also became aware that the car would sometimes stutter a bit when accelerating. These things were not overly bothersome, but out of the norm for an otherwise smooth running vehicle.

After a very frustrating changing of the fuel filter (from which a dear friend had to rescue me with a special filter removal tool - thanks GM), the issues persisted. Grudgingly, I made the call to get it checked out by a real mechanic. (I, myself, have no delusions of grandeur that would prompt me to try anything beyond simple maintenance.)

As I feared, the fuel pump was starting to wear out. Since I am about to take the family on multiple long trips this summer, I figured I better address the issue before it would completely go out and strand us on some remote road in the middle of Kansas.

I took the car to the shop, but they contacted me later in the day that they had tried five different fuel pumps, and none fit my car. In fact, the manufacturer stated that they had ceased making that particular fuel pump. After a lengthy search, one was found in St. Louis, installed, and two days after taking it in, the car now runs smoothly again.

I had to wonder what would have happened if the problem hadn't been found and the car had failed on my way to an important event out of town. I could only imagine the frustration of missing an opportunity while sitting for a couple of days waiting on an old part. I am glad I did not hesitate to deal with the issue when I noticed it.

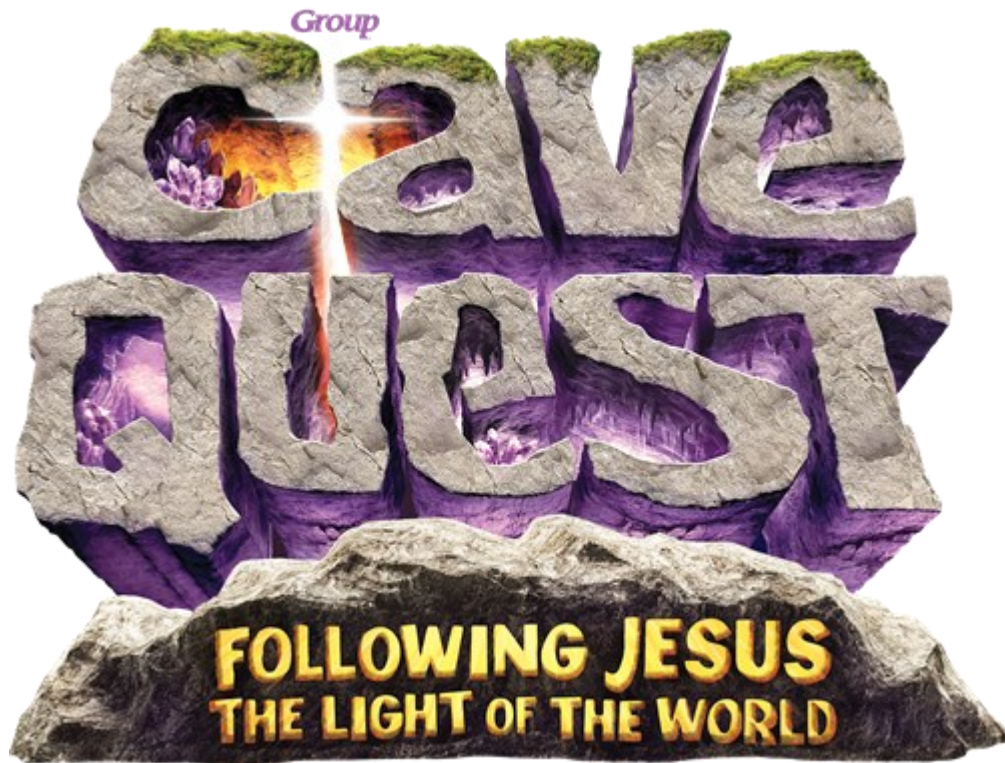
I wonder how many times we become spiritually "out of commission" because we lack attentiveness to address the small issues of life. These symptoms, when ignored, can cause us to miss opportunities while sidelined, dealing with a breakdown. What are such symptoms? Self-centeredness, spiritual fatigue, lack of joy, quick temperedness, negativity, and lack of sharing your faith are all signs that we are not firing on all cylinders. It is easy to blame lethargy in our walk with Christ to busy schedules, but the real issue may be a bit deeper.

In the Lord's Prayer, we find a model, which if rightly followed, will press us to consider our spiritual health. Like a master mechanic, the Holy Spirit offers insight, but the choice to accept and submit is always ours.

As Pastor Dillard shared this past Sunday, "Time is of the essence..." I pray that we fulfill the calling to know God and to make Him known. I hope we will be diligent in taking notice of our sputters and stumbles and ask ourselves if there is some needed maintenance in our walk with Christ. Maybe we are overdue for a tune up or in need of some fresh oil.

The good news is that our Creator is with us all the way. As a provider, God not only sustains us, but prepares us for every good work to which He has called. So give an attentive ear to those small things before they become big ones.

Loving you all,
Michael



Vacation Bible School

July 18-22

Excerpts from April 12, 2016 Board Meeting

Opening devotion and prayer was led by Joyce Lemons. Scripture emphasizing the importance of meaningful, not mindless prayers. The March minutes were approved by general consensus.

Amendment/Correction added later in the meeting: The Balsman Property acreage rented by Bill Harter needed to be changed from 46 tillable acres to 48 tillable acres in the March Minutes.

Pastor Michael stated *Rev. Elvin Dillard will be our guest May 1st. *Evangelism Committee asked to exam the possibility of moving the "Christmas Shoebox" collection project to the month of July. This would prevent having two major projects (Adopting Families for Food/Toy Drive + Shoebox) for the committee to handle in the fall/winter months. *Saturday, April 23rd Intentional Church Conference in Decatur

Pastor Chaz stated *The "Believe" conference was a success. *The Pikeland Snack Pack distribution program will begin during the 2016-2017 school year. *Google mail is working well.

Treasurer's Report: *General Checking Operating \$68,597.57. *Nonbudgeted Receipts \$20,448.36 and Non-budgeted Disbursements \$23,981.31 with a difference of \$3,532.95. Worship Attendance average year to date 285.

Trustee's Report: *The Withus distribution received was \$5,121.29. *Baughman Scholarship will be awarded.

Christian Ed: *May 22nd graduates will be honored. *Amy Casto has assumed Yvonne Stauffer's classroom duties.

Property: *Cintas will provide rugs at all 3 buildings. *20 foot Storage Pod was purchased and will be moved to the east side of Crossroads after being painted. *N. D. Harrison made the motion to accept the Crossroads Center painting bid of \$4,482.80 from Steve Smith. Seconded by Joyce Lemons. Approved by general consensus.

Children First: *No School-Age Summer Program this year. *Continuing to interview teacher candidates for the Infant Daycare Room.

Balsman Property Update: *Will receive cash rent payment on October 15, 2016. The acreage has been planted in corn. *Working for a cost estimate on rock roadway to access the property.

CWF has a collection box on top of the coat rack outside the church building office area for greeting card fronts. They send them to a school in Nevada where they are recycled for other uses. Also, the Lions Club has a collection box for reading glasses that redistributes them to those in need.

We will not have a Celebration Sunday during May due to scheduling conflicts. We plan to have one during July which will also serve as Youth Sunday.

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)	4/24	5/1
Operational	\$10,665.50	\$8,069.00
Property Improvement	168.00	63.00
Outreach-Missionaries	70.00	270.00
DHF	80.00	25.00
Outreach-General	190.00	33.00
Church Camp	70.00	
Children First	<u>80.00</u>	<u>320.00</u>
Total	\$11,323.50	\$8,780.00

Operating Receipts (Offering, Rentals, etc.)

Received Last 7 Days \$11,198.23 \$8,632.55
 Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$9,634

	4/24	5/1
Worship Attendance		
8:00 AM	92	74
9:15 AM	91	91
10:30 AM	<u>125</u>	<u>94</u>
Total	308	259

Christian Education

Age 3-K	9	6
1st-2 nd	9	8
3rd-5 th	9	10
6th-8 th	7	6
Sr High	6	5
Disciples	13	12
New Beginnings	6	6
Select to Connect	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>
Total	66	60

Serving Schedule

May 8, 2016

Elder: Roger Brokaw, Ann Ferguson
Diaconate: Kathy Lehr, Faith Saxe, John Birch, Cheryl Birch
8:00 Communion: Richard & Rebecca Rhodes
9:15 Communion: Bev White
9:15 Greeter: Phil & Georgia Sandidge
10:30 Communion: Don & Mary Lou Chamberlain
10:30 Scripture Reader: Betty Hoover
10:30 Sound System: Michelle Gates
10:30 Nursery: Cherise Anderson
10:30 Candle Lighter: Emma Saxe, Shelby Bauer
Shut-Ins: Spencer & Kayla Boren, Bill & Helen Earls

May 15, 2016

Elder: Jim Dain, Hamer Tate
Diaconate: Christie Mendenhall, Gary Mendenhall, Bill Grimsley, Glen Cooley, Betty Hayden, Kathy Curfman
8:00 Communion: Dan & Sue Speckhart
9:15 Communion: Larry & Sandy Wigington
9:15 Greeter: Jack & Kathy Hull
10:30 Communion: Kathy Curfman, Edith Gant
10:30 Scripture Reader: Eli Ten Eyck
10:30 Sound System: Lauren Saxe
10:30 Nursery: Shelby Bauer
10:30 Candle Lighter: Emma Saxe, Ellie Ten Eyck
Shut-ins: Roger & Rokettia Brokaw, Phil & Georgia Sandidge

Lectionary

5/8: Acts 16:16-34; Psalm 97; Rev 22:12-21; John 17:20-26
 5/9: Psalm 29; Exodus 40:16-38; Acts 16:35-40
 5/10: Psalm 29; 2 Chronicles 5:2-14; Acts 26:19-29
 5/11: Psalm 29; Ezekiel 3:12-21; Luke 9:18-27
 5/12: Psalm 104:24-35; Isaiah 32:11-17; Galatians 5:16-25
 5/13: Psalm 104:24-35; Isaiah 44:1-4; Galatians 6:7-10
 5/14: Psalm 104:24-35; 2 Kings 2:1-15a; Luke 1:5-17
 5/15: Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-35; Romans 8:14-17; John 14:8-17
 5/16: Psalm 48; Joel 2:18-29; 1 Corinthians 2:1-11
 5/17: Psalm 48; Ezekiel 11:14-25; 1 Corinthians 2:12-16
 5/18: Psalm 48; Numbers 24:1-14; Luke 1:26-38
 5/19: Psalm 8; Proverbs 3:13-18; Ephesians 1:17-19
 5/20: Psalm 8; Proverbs 3:19-26; Ephesians 4:1-6
 5/21: Psalm 8; Proverbs 4:1-9; Luke 2:41-52