

# The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 58 Issue 14

June 22, 2016



## Coming Events

- 6/26 8:00, 9:15, 10:30 Worship  
8:00, 9:15 Sunday School  
5:00 pm youth@first
- 6/27 8:00 pm Al Anon Meeting
- 6/28 6:00 pm Elder Meeting
- 7/1 6:00 pm Girl Scout Meeting
- 7/3 8:00, 9:15, 10:30 Worship  
8:00, 9:15 Sunday School  
2:00 pm Bev White Bday Party  
5:00 pm youth@first
- 7/4 8:00 pm Al Anon Meeting
- 7/5 6:00 pm Girl Scout Meeting
- 7/10 8:00, 9:15, 10:30 Worship  
8:00, 9:15 Sunday School  
5:00 pm youth@first

CMF will pay half the fee for youth in our church family attending Mississippi Valley. Forms can be found in the sanctuary or church office. Sign up at the fellowship table if you can help clean after each camp. Work can begin at 3:00 at the conclusion of each camp.

## Prayer Concerns

Mary Chamberlain	James Davis
Judy Dunham	Helen Earls
Bryn Fine	Merle Howard
Maria Owens	Phil Richardson

*We express our sympathy to the family and friends of Justine Harp who passed away June 15 in Macomb.*

The next newsletter will be printed the week of June 29.

The Elders will meet at 6pm on Tuesday, **June 28**.

**VBS will be July 18-22 and we are gathering gear.** Items needed are—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, A LOT OF MILK JUGS (do not need the lids), No flame candles. Any and all donations are appreciated! Thank you! - Kacie Lipcaman & Michelle Hart.

*Congratulations John and Ashlyn Havens on the birth of their daughter. Ainsley Ann Havens was born June 13 weighing 8lbs, 12 oz and 20.5 inches. The proud grandparents are Brian and Angie Ruebush.*

Parents - Your copy of the June Parent Cue is on the sanctuary mantels and Oasis fellowship table. Be sure to pick up your copy this Sunday.

We will be serving meals to Whitetail Properties during meetings on **July 26-28**. Contact Joyce Lemons or Karen Goodwin if you are available to help any or all days.

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO BEV WHITE'S 60TH BIRTHDAY PARTY/OPEN HOUSE AT CROSSROADS CENTER ON SUNDAY, **JULY 3**, FROM 2-4P.M. HAPPY BIRTHDAY BEV!

Brenda Kramer will move to town on Sat, **July 9**. Her current address is just off the Pittsfield/Martinsburg road at 18703 372nd Lane and she'll move to 326 S. Illinois Street. Contact Brenda at 217.602.1126 if you can help that day starting at 8:00 a.m. with a strong back, truck or trailer.

**Church League Softball continues at Pittsfield Lake. Our schedule is July 11 9:00, July 18 6:00, July 25, 9:00. Come cheer on team FCC!**

Children First preschool is accepting registration for the 2016-2017 term. Call 285.4129 to reach Jennifer for more info.

## Wishes and Wants

Wanted: Limestone flat rock to decorate flower beds. Edna Baughman 285.2948.

Needed: Part-time help for a business 3 days per week. See Carolyn at Casteel Color Wheel.

Needed: Someone to help clean rural home. Jenny Tate 217.248.1238.

Needed: A home for a gold covered, queen size hide-a-bed free. Marge Lamb 285.2949.

*To My Church Family,*

*Thank you very much for the Bible as a high school graduation gift. I appreciate you thinking of me at this time. -Austin Fine.*

*Dear Church Family,*

*I am so proud to belong to a church that cares so much about it's members and the community. Thank you very much for choosing to support me during my internship. It is greatly appreciated. Please be praying that God will use me this summer and for the community at Northpointe. In Him, Jessica Dain.*

Several of our serving schedules will expire August 31. This is a great way to volunteer your time and get to know your church family. Start observing others performing a task you might be interested in. Contact the church office by **Aug 12** for more info or sign up at the fellowship table if you would like to be added. **Everyone currently on these schedules will remain on them unless the office is contacted.**

## JULY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

**1** Paul & Missy Borrowman; **2** Michelle Gates, Bev White; **4** J.D. Gorton, Jimmy Dain; **5** John & Ashlyn Havens; **6** Sue Speckhart, Charlie Hull, Myrtle Tharp, Mike & Michele Leonard; **8** Cherise Anderson, Michelle Hart; **9** Mike Boren, N.D. Harrison II, Carmen Long, Kaylee Harrison, Kayla Boren; **10** Keith & Carole Elledge; **11** Gretchen Goewey, Levi Grimes; **12** Marjorie Lamb, Shelby Bauer; **14** Corey Tharp; **15** Julie Boren; **16** Marie Awbrey; **17** Chris Crowder, John Pennock, Lauren Saxe, Sydney Bauer, Larry & Tammy Lind; **18** Bill & Helen Earls, Bodine Marable; **19** Dawson Goewey; **20** Austin Fine, Charles & Maria Owens; **21** David & Sonya Bishop; **22** Nolan Daniel; **23** Teresa Bauer, Dan Chamberlain, Evelyn Hoover, Hamer & Jenny Tate, Jordyn Apps, Terry & Jennifer Miller, Laura Grimsley, Stan Moss; **24** Charles Owens, Jim Dain; **26** Greg & Kim Bonnett; **27** Michele Leonard, Chris Phipps; **28** Kathy Hull, Kayla & Spencer Boren, Carol Schwartz, Dana & Judy Ferguson; **29** Carolyn Capps; **30** Carlee Collins, Levi & Ashley Grimes, Evan Lipcaman; **31** DJ & Michele Westmaas, Richard & Rebecca Rhodes, Jeremy & Jade Schoenherr, Rorie Dunham.

## Church Camp

This past week, we took our high school campers through a journey we called His Is, So We Are. In the Fall of last year the deans got together and asked this question: what is something that our young people are dealing with more than anything else? Overwhelmingly, the answer was identity. The question of who we are has always been a front-burner question, but in the last few years as the MTV generation has begun to overtake the adult population it has become strikingly more divisive. From questions of religious affiliation, sexual orientation, or gender identity—a decade ago no one would dream of a five year old being given choice of whether or not they will be addressed as a boy or a girl—we have become a nation obsessed with answering the question of who we are.

Unfortunately, the landings we come to cannot be further from the truth.

We began our conversation diving into a Biblical concept that is arguably the most important component to understanding the gospel: the Imago Dei, or “image of God.” Genesis 1:26-28 tells us that we were created in God’s image and that He gave dominion over His creation to us. However, theologians like to argue after this point. Man fell away, and the hot question is what happened to that image that we bore? Some view it as a coin. We bore the print of God’s face, but when we sinned we scratched the face off, completely removing God’s image from our being. Others view it as a mirror. The subject—God—casts His reflection upon us, and when we transgressed the mirror was broken. But the reflection is still there, albeit less beautiful and perfect than before. This is because God didn’t walk away. He didn’t stamp His creation with His seal and leave never to return; He is present with us, allowing His reflection to remain a part of who we are.

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### Church Camp Continued....

Necessarily, this means that there are certain characteristics of God that are present in all of us as His image bearers. There is a series of “He is, so we are” statements that can be applied to this, and the first is He is Creator, so we are creative. Now, when most people hear something like that their first thought is, “But Chaz, not everyone is artistic.” That’s true. But being artistic and being creative are not the same thing. Creativity is alive and well within all of us, whether or not we can easily or effectively express it. At the heart of our creativity is something that God brought to bear when He formed the very fabric of our universe—vision. This is the basic building block of creativity. It’s the ability to look at something and see what it *could be*. Have you ever been to the state fair and watched the dudes with chainsaws carve awesome images out of tree trunks? Ask any one of them what their secret is and they’ll tell you: they can see the shape in the tree, and they use their tools to bring it out. That’s vision.

Another statement worth looking into is “He is Love, so we are loving.” I love to read John’s writings because his view of God is so steeped in this idea of love that you can’t come away without a gospel that centers around it. In one of his later letters he goes so far as to equate God and love—1 John 4:8 doesn’t say that God is loving, it says that He *is* love itself. We as His image bearers, then, have been given a capacity to love well beyond the animal instincts of survival. To love, very simply, is to be the Church. Over and over Jesus tells His disciples that loving God and loving people are the full purpose of their existence. In his first letter to the Corinthian church, Paul goes so far as to say that without love things like prophecy, faith, and ministry are *nothing*.

The last two ideas go hand-in-hand. The first is “God is eternal, so we have an eternity.” We discussed how God, being the Creator of the universe, sits outside of it. This includes time. It doesn’t mean that God is distant, but that the effects of time and space have no hold on Him. This manifests itself in His eternal nature. We, by extension, have an eternity—regardless of which path we choose. Scripture is clear that we exist as spiritual beings without end, and when our bodies fail we can expect one of two outcomes: eternal life in Jesus or eternal separation from God.

This is where our final statement comes in: “He is Savior, so we are saved.” Of all of these statements, this is the only conditional one. In the ultimate expression of love God sent His Son to earth to die a painful, human death in our place. This gift of salvation is free to those who would receive, but reception matters. In His love for us God will not force us to love Him back. He offers a choice: accept His gift or reject it. And that acceptance goes far beyond simply saying yes, taking the gift, and going on our way. It’s a commitment to honoring and glorifying the One who gave it for all eternity—and that eternity begins today.

We’re created in God’s image. We’re not a collection of broken, miserable insects that for some reason God allows to continue scurrying. We are children of God, bearing His image into the world and carrying His Kingdom with us. As images of the Creator we are creative, realizing the vision of His Kingdom. As images of Love we are loving, bearing one another in kindness and showing those outside of the Church the love of God in a tangible way. As images of One who is eternal we have an eternity, which has already begun and we’re already living out. And as images of the Savior we are saved, those of us who have answered His call and accepted His gift.

Go then and be the Church. When the question of identity comes up at your dinner table, at your workplace, or at your kid’s ball game, remind people that we’re all—first and foremost—created in His image. We belong to Him. Once we understand this, the question of who we are becomes much easier to answer.

But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. **For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.**

**Ephesians 2:4-10**

Blessings as you continue to be the light to those who desperately need it. Remember: God created you on purpose for a purpose.

**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>	<b>6/12</b>	<b>6/19</b>
Operational	\$8,580.00	\$6,392.00
Property Improvement	53.00	28.00
Outreach-Missionaries	70.00	110.00
DHF	80.00	80.00
Outreach-General	130.00	31.00
Outreach-Unmet Needs		50.00
Children First	<u>200.00</u>	<u>50.00</u>
Total	\$9,113.00	\$6,741.00

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

Received Last 7 Days \$8,557.34 \$6,623.60  
 Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$9,634

	<b>6/12</b>	<b>6/19</b>
<b>Worship Attendance</b>		
8:00 AM	84	58
9:15 AM	85	70
10:30 AM	<u>90</u>	<u>99</u>
Total	259	227
<b>Christian Education</b>		
Age 3-K	6	2
1st-2 <sup>nd</sup>	6	4
3rd-5 <sup>th</sup>	6	4
6th-8 <sup>th</sup>	4	8
Sr High	10	2
Disciples	14	13
New Beginnings	7	0
Select to Connect	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>
Total	60	40

**Lectionary**

6/26: 2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14; Ps 77:1-2, 11-20; 1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21; Ps 16; Gal 5:1, 13-25; Luke 9:51-62  
 6/27: Ps 75; 2 Kings 2:15-22; 1 John 2:7-11; Gen 24:34-41, 50-67; 1 John 2:7-11  
 6/28: Ps 75; 2 Kings 3:4-20; Eph 5:6-20; Jer 3:15-18; Eph 5:6-20  
 6/29: Ps 75; 2 Kings 4:1-7; Matt 10:16-25; Jer 23:16-22; Matt 10:16-25  
 6/30: Ps 30; 2 Kings 4:8-17; Rom 7:14-25; 2 Kings 21:1-15; Rom 7:14-25  
 7/1: Ps 30; 2 Kings 4:18-31; 2 Cor 8:1-7; Jer 51:47-58; 2 Cor 8:1-7  
 7/2: Ps 30; 2 Kings 4:32-37; Luke 9:1-6; Zech 14:10-21; Luke 9:1-6  
 7/3: 2 Kings 5:1-14; Ps 30; Isa 66:10-14; Ps 66:1-9; Gal 6:7-16; Luke 10:1-11, 16-20  
 7/4: Ps 6; 2 Kings 5:15-19a; Acts 19:21-27; Jer 6:10-19; Acts 19:21-27  
 7/5: Ps 6; 2 Kings 5:19b-27; Acts 19:28-41; Jer 8:4-13; Acts 19:28-41  
 7/6: Ps 6; 2 Kings 6:1-7; Luke 10:13-16; Joshua 23:1-16; Luke 10:13-16  
 7/7: Ps 82; Amos 1:1-2:3; James 2:14-26; Gen 41:14-36; James 2:14-26  
 7/8: Ps 82; Amos 2:4-11; Acts 7:9-16; Gen 41:37-49; Acts 7:9-16  
 7/9: Ps 82; Amos 2:12-3:8; John 3:16-21; Lev 19:1-4, 32-37; John 3:16-21

**Serving Schedule**

**June 26, 2016**

Elder: Roger Brokaw, N.D. Harrison  
Diaconate: Betty Hayden, Kathy Curfman, Carole Elledge, Keith Elledge, Rokettia Brokaw, Glen Cooley  
8:00 Communion: Richard & Rebecca Rhodes  
9:15 Communion: Larry & Sandy Wigington  
9:15 Greeter: Larry & Sandy Wigington  
10:30 Communion: Donnie & Tereasa Apps  
10:30 Scripture Reader: Allie Plattner  
10:30 Sound System: Lainey Ten Eyck  
10:30 Nursery: Ellie Ten Eyck  
10:30 Candle Lighter: Kadin Hittner, Nolan Daniel  
Shut-ins: Charlie & Mary Gates, Hamer & Jenny Tate

**July 3, 2016**

Elder: Jim Dain, Spencer Boren  
Diaconate: Georgia Sandidge, Michael Smith, Judy Ferguson, Mary Gates  
8:00 Communion: Dan & Sue Speckhart  
9:15 Communion: Judy Ferguson  
9:15 Greeter: Larry & Sandy Wigington  
10:30 Communion: Ruth Bennett, Kay Sealock  
10:30 Scripture Reader: Kay Sealock  
10:30 Sound System: Michelle Gates  
10:30 Nursery: Lainey Ten Eyck  
10:30 Candle Lighter: Cameron Sweeting, Eli Mendenhall  
Shut-ins: N.D. & Joyce Harrison, Larry & Sandy Wigington  
Fellowship Treats: Evelyn Ransom, Ashley Ferguson, Dorothy Apps, Tereasa Apps