

The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 58 Issue 16

July 13, 2016



Coming Events

- 7/17 8:00, 9:15, 10:30 Worship
8:00, 9:15 Sunday School
5:00 pm youth@first
- 7/18 8:00 pm AI Anon Meeting
6:00 pm Church League Softball
- 7/21 5:30 pm Children First Meeting
- 7/22 Dr. Tom Bunting Funeral & Dinner
Pike County Little League Cookout
- 7/24 8:00, 9:15, 10:30 Worship
8:00, 9:15 Sunday School
5:00 pm youth@first
- 7/25 8:00 pm AI Anon Meeting
9:00 pm Softball Game
- 7/26 6:00 pm Elder Meeting
- 7/27 8:30 am Unmet Needs Meeting

Congratulations Cassie and J.P. Richmiller on the birth of their son, Brooks Charles Richmiller. He was born July 4th at 9:53 a.m. weighing 8lb, 12oz, and 20". The VERY PROUD grandparents are Dana and Judy Ferguson.

The Elders will meet at 6pm on **July 26**.

Children First preschool is accepting registration for the 2016-2017 term which will begin Tuesday, **September 6**. Call 285.4129 to reach Jennifer for more info.

The next newsletter will be printed the week of July 25. It will contain the CWF 2016-2017 calendar.

Church League Softball: July 18 6:00, July 25, 9:00.

The lot across from Crossroads where we tore down the house last year has been mowed but there are some pieces of asphalt and concrete that need picked and stacked in a pile on the concrete slab on the north end of that lot. If you have a few minutes and a pair of gloves, feel free to stop by and help us clear the lot. Thanks!

Wally and Marge Lamb will move to Tennessee next week to be closer to family. We will SURPRISE them immediately after 10:30 service this coming Sunday, **July 17**, with a reception in the overflow room to thank them for their years of service to FCC. We hope you can join us in wishing them well with the next chapter in their life. Remember, it's a SUR-

Vacation Bible School will be July 18-22 from 6-8:15pm for children 4 years old through those entering 6th grade this fall. Parents should bring children to the gym for the opening and pick them up in the gym. Pre-Register your child and/or volunteer to help on our website or see Kacie Lipcaman or Michelle Hart this Sunday.

Family Meal will be served each night. Teachers and children will be served starting at 5:00. Everyone else in our church family is encouraged to join us at **5:30** for a delicious family friendly meal. Please allow VBS staff and children to go through the line first so they can enjoy their meal before needing to leave. You should be able to recognize them by their VBS shirts. The main entrée each night will be Monday—pulled chicken sandwiches, Tuesday-pancakes & sausage, Wednesday-sloppy joes & hot dogs, Thursday-tacos, Friday-pork patties & hot dogs.

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.

July 31st will be YOUTH SUNDAY/CELEBRATION SUNDAY! Sunday School will begin at 8:45 followed by one worship service in the gym starting at 10:00 led by the youth in our church family. We WILL NOT have a meal after the service. Note the change in our usual Sunday schedule and come support the youth.

The Outreach Ministry wants everyone to know that we will be doing the Operation Christmas Child program a little early this year. We will be making our shoeboxes in **September**. So start saving your supplies now, and get ready for this wonderful ministry in the Fall!

Richard and Yvonne Stauffer are moving into their new apartment this week. Their address is: 6493 N. Northwest Highway Unit 311, Chicago, IL 60631.

I want to thank everyone for helping me celebrate my birthday recently at Crossroads Center. The cards and kind words were very appreciated and I'm happy I was able to share the day with you! -Bev White

Thank you to everyone who made salads, desserts, helped set up, serve and clean up for the Marjorie Zimmerman funeral luncheon. Bless you all! -The Bereavement Committee.

Thank you so much for all the cards, texts, calls, food, flowers and visits over the last couple of weeks. Words could not begin to say how much all of your kindness and prayers have meant to me. My church family means so much to me and I hope you all know that. It has been very humbling to be on the receiving end of care but I am so grateful to be a part of such a loving church family. I am getting better every day and look forward to seeing you all soon! Love, Helen.

Thank you Roger Reel for mowing the lot across from Crossroads. We greatly appreciate your time on the warm, steamy day!

Prayer Concerns

Karl Benjamin
Ron & Barbara Bradburn
Mary Chamberlain
Judy Dunham
Heidi Galloway (Georgia Sandidge's niece)
Bill Hammitt (Larry Wigington's brother)
Duska Shaw
Maria Owens

*We express our sympathy to:
Gina Bryant and family with the passing of her cousin, Christopher Watts;
Charlotte Dunham and family with the passing of her brother, Phil Richardson.*

Wishes and Wants

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

Contact the church or sign up at the fellowship table if you would like to be added to our serving schedules. **Everyone currently on these schedules will remain on them unless the office is contacted.** The schedules that will renew are 8:00 communion prep, 9:15 communion prep, 9:15 greeters, 10:30 communion prep, 10:30 scripture reader, 10:30 nursery helper, 10:30 candle lighter, 10:30 sound system. **Communion preparation for 8:00 and 9:15 in particular could use more volunteers in the rotation.**

Excerpts from June 14, 2016 Church Board Meeting

Opening devotion and prayer was led by Roger Dunham. The May minutes were approved by general consensus.

Pastor Michael's report was attached. He stated painting at Crossroads had started.

Pastor Chaz's report stated church camp attendance was lower. Research continues on options for "Check-in Software".

Treasurer's Report: Rebecca reported that as of May 31, 2016:

General Checking Property Improvement = \$10,278.35 for NEW Building Construction. Total Checking/Savings Assets = \$398,826.47. Statement of Cash Flow Year-to-Date on Budgeted Receipts Total = \$201,348.30 and Budgeted Disbursements = \$146,979.25. Capital Asset Purchase for New Storage Pod = \$2,725. Worship Attendance average through May = 293 individuals. 41.67% through the fiscal year. Budgeted receipts are at 40.19% and budgeted disbursements are at 33.01%. The Treasurer's report was approved by general consensus.

Trustees: Approved the \$50 Annual Membership Fee to the Pike County Chamber of Commerce. Motion – Ann Ferguson, Seconded – N.D. Harrison, and all approved. Approved reallocation of \$300 from Fire Dept. and Sherriff's office to Brick Memorial in honor of "George Balsman" at the new Pittsfield Fire Department building. Approved the purchase of a First Christian Church \$100 brick at the new PFD building.

Property: Received final approval at the Pittsfield City Council Mtg to place the new pod east of the Crossroads Center. Painting/insulation to begin. Crossroads freezer stopped working – repaired. Recharged the air conditioner in the FCC Sanctuary.

Children First: Pastor Michael summarized the June 14, 2016 Board Report and discussion ensued. David Bishop made the motion to continue to support Children First and its ministry, but asked for additional information and clarification on long-term plans and goals before making any further recommendations. Motion seconded by Hamer Tate and all approved.

Roger Dunham moved to adjourn at 7:06 PM. David Bishop seconded the motion and Pastor Michael closed in prayer.

Elder Corner

Kayla and I recently biked from Pere Marquette to Grafton and back for her birthday. It was a gorgeous day, and a perfect afternoon for a bike ride. However, although the path was beautiful, it was also filled with many hills. We would go down one hill and then see the next one in the distance. So as we descended one hill, we would pedal as fast as we could to try and build up enough momentum to carry us up the next hill. Sometimes this strategy worked, but other times it was not enough, and we had to walk up the hills.

This made me think about our relationship with God through our road of life. God desires a relationship with us, and He wants to be there for us in every situation. His love and grace are more than enough to sustain us through all of the highs and lows of life, the mountains and the valleys, and all of the points in between. And yet, we often don't seek Him in all of these areas.

To truly know God, we must be in a relationship with Him. And a relationship takes communication, dedication, and time. James 4:8 says, "Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you". But some situations might be easier to draw near to God than other situations. For some people, it might be that they turn to God most in times of crisis, when their world around them seems to be crashing down, and they know that they can not get through it by their own strength. For others, it might be easiest to praise God in the high points of life, such as in a graduation, a wedding day, or the birth of a child, to acknowledge the amazing gifts that God grants us.

The Bible tells us to rely on God during life's most difficult times. David writes in Psalm 55:22, "Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you: he will never let the righteous fall". But still we are also called to praise Him during those mountaintop moments of life. Ephesians 5:19-20 says, "Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

The way that we can be closest to God is to continually seek him through prayer and through reading His word, and to put Him first in all that we do, in the good times, the bad, and all the moments in between. But in our fast-paced culture today, we have become so good at filling our time, and not making room for God. I am as guilty of this as anyone. But true relationship with God is a long-term process, and needs to be a daily process. As it says in Proverbs, if we trust in the Lord and lean not on our own understanding, God will make our paths straight. God has a plan for us all, and that plan was never about trying to do as much as we can through our own abilities, and then trying to squeeze God into whatever time remains. God's plan is about continually drawing near to Him and allowing Him to fill us, teach us, and sustain through every mile of life's journey.

Spencer Boren
Elder

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

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 Crossroads Center: 125 W. Jefferson Street
 Administrative Building: 201 N. Mississippi, PO Box 306
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 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)	7/3	7/10
Operational	\$9,181.00	\$6,806.98
Vacation Bible School	30.00	
Property Improvement	28.00	33.00
Outreach-Missionaries	270.00	270.00
DHF	80.00	25.00
Outreach-General	378.00	40.00
Outreach-Unmet Needs	55.00	0.00
Children First	70.00	300.00
Total	\$10,092.00	\$7,474.98

Operating Receipts (Offering, Rentals, etc.)

Received Last 7 Days \$9,181.00 \$4,976.29
 Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$9,634

Serving Schedule

July 17, 2016

Elder: Spencer Boren, Ann Ferguson
Diaconate: Karen Goodwin, Barbara Fosco, Donnie Apps, Eric Kunzeman, Jill Kunzeman, Kathy Lehr
8:00 Communion: Steve & Vickie Tharp
9:15 Communion: Tom & Debbie Robinson
9:15 Greeter: Jack & Kathy Hull
10:30 Communion: Zack & Libby Boren
10:30 Scripture Reader: TBA
10:30 Sound System: TBA
10:30 Nursery: Shelby Bauer
10:30 Candle Lighter: Ellie Ten Eyck, Cameron Sweeting
Shut-ins: Betty Hoover, TBA

July 24, 2016

Elder: Wayne Chamberlain, Roger Brokaw
Diaconate: Faith Saxe, Bill Grimsley, Ron Halsey, Betty Hayden
8:00 Communion: Carol O'Malley
9:15 Communion: Phil & Georgia Sandidge
9:15 Greeter: Roger & Rokettia Brokaw
10:30 Communion: Glen & Carol Cooley
10:30 Scripture Reader: Lauren Saxe
10:30 Sound System: Matt Saxe
10:30 Nursery: Sydney Bauer
10:30 Candle Lighter: Emma Saxe, Shelby Bauer
Shut-ins: Joyce Lemons, Greg & Kim Bonnett

	7/3	7/10
Worship Attendance		
8:00 AM	70	58
9:15 AM	67	89
10:30 AM	94	97
Total	231	244
Christian Education		
Age 3-K	4	3
1st-2 nd	6	4
3rd-5 th	9	5
6th-8 th	5	6
Sr High	5	2
Disciples	18	7
New Beginnings	4	8
Select to Connect	7	7
Total	58	42

Lectionary

7/17: Amos 8:1-12; Ps 52; Gen 18:1-10a; Ps 15; Col 1:15-28; Luke 10:38-42
 7/18: Ps 119:17-32; Amos 7:1-6; Col 1:27-2:7; Exodus 18:1-12; Col 1:27-2:7
 7/19: Ps 119:17-32; Amos 8:13-9:4; 1 John 2:1-6; Proverbs 9:1-18; 1 John 2:1-6
 7/20: Ps 119:17-32; Amos 9:5-15; John 6:41-51; Duet 12:1-12; John 6:41-51
 7/21: Ps 85; Hosea 4:1-19; Acts 1:15-20; Esther 2:19-3:6; Acts 1:15-20
 7/22: Ps 85; Hosea 5:1-15; Acts 2:22-36; Esther 3:7-15; Acts 2:22-36
 7/23: Ps 85; Hosea 1:11-2:15; Luke 8:22-25; Esther 4:1-17; Luke 8:22-25
 7/24: Hosea 1:2-10; Ps 85; Gen 18:20-32; Ps 138; Col 2:6-15; Luke 11:1-13
 7/25: Ps 44; Hosea 2:14-3:5; Col 2:16-3:1; Esther 5:1-14; Col 2:16-3:1
 7/26: Ps 44; Hosea 6:1-10; Rom 9:30-10:4; Esther 6:1-7:6; Rom 9:30-10:4
 7/27: Ps 44; Hosea 6:11-7:16; Matt 5:43-48; Esther 7:7-8:17; Matt 5:43-48
 7/28: Ps 107:1-9, 43; Hosea 8:1-14; Rom 11:33-36; Prov 23:1-11; Rom 11:33-36
 7/29: Ps 107:1-9, 43; Hosea 9:1-17; Prov 24:1-12; Eph 4:17-24
 7/30: Ps 107:1-9, 43; Hos 10:1-15; Mark 10:17-22; Eccl 1:1-11; Mark 10:17-22