

The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 58 Issue 21

September 14, 2016



Coming Events

- 9/18 8:00, 9:15, 10:30 Worship
8:00, 9:15 Sunday School
5:00 pm youth@first
- 9/19 8:00 pm AI Anon Meeting
- 9/20 6:00 pm CMF Dinner Meeting
- 9/21 6:30 pm Women's Book Study
7:00 pm Choir Practice
- 9/22 7:00 am High School Bible Study
Noon Women's Book Study
7:00 pm Sermon Study
- 9/24 Home Extension Luncheon &
Casteel Style Show
- 9/25 8:00, 9:15, 10:30 Worship
8:00, 9:15 Sunday School
5:00 pm youth@first
- 9/26 8:00 pm AI Anon Meeting
- 9/27 6:00 pm Elder Meeting
- 9/28 See You At the Pole
8:30 am Unmet Needs Meeting
6:30 pm Women's Book Study
7:00 pm Choir Practice
- 9/29 7:00 am High School Bible Study
Noon Women's Book Study
7:00 pm Sermon Study
- 10/2 8:00, 9:15, 10:30 Worship
8:00, 9:15 Sunday School
5:00 pm youth@first

Sunday School News

The 6-8th grade and High School Sunday School classes are meeting at Crossroads on Sunday mornings at 8:00. The junior high is in the upstairs rooms taught by Pastor Chaz. The high school is in the gym lobby and taught by Mike Boren and Matt Sealock. Also at 8:00, the Select to Connect class meets in the front meeting room and is currently studying the book "Traveling Light". If you have a junior high and/or high school student, the whole family can attend Sunday School then attend Oasis together!

The Elders will meet at 6pm on **Sept 27**.

It's time to nominate new officers and elected officials to start term January 2017. The nominating forms are available on the sanctuary mantels and fellowship table and are due back in the office on Monday, **Sept 19**. **For convenience, you can submit your form in the offering plate which will be received in the office the following Monday.** The Nominating Committee is Roger Brokaw, Joyce Lemons, Jill Kunzeman, Kathy Curfman, Jade Roseberry and John Hull.

CMF (Christian Men's Fellowship) will begin the Fall season with a dinner meeting on Tuesday, **Sept 20**, at 6pm. Sign up at the fellowship table if you plan to attend so Circle I knows how much food to prepare. Agenda includes discussion regarding a Color Drive food stand.

One activity of our Shepherding Ministry is to provide a few meals for families with newborns once they are home from the hospital. This ministry could use more volunteers to help provide this service. Contact the office if interested in being added to the volunteer list.

CWF (Christian Women's Fellowship) will serve pie and drinks during Color Drive **Oct 15-16**. All ladies are encouraged to sign up at the fellowship table if you would like to help with this fundraising event!

Pastor Chaz is teaching a **Thursday** 7:00 a.m. student Bible study in the fellowship hall. Contact Chaz if your student is interested.

Students and Parents: See You At The Pole will be observed Wednesday morning, **Sept 28**, before school starts. Pastor Chaz will have more info as the time gets closer.

The church is in need of a few yards of dirt to fill the gaps under the playground fence. If you are doing some work around your property and have some extra dirt to spare you can contact the church office.

Fireside Chat & Men's Coffee

Thanks to all who came to our coffee and chat time. They were both valuable times of sharing. We will be having more of both of those events soon.

Prayer Request Forms can be found on the sanctuary mantels and Oasis fellowship table. You can complete the form in its entirety on Sunday morning and submit to the serving elder that day. This greatly helps communicate the information to the church office.

The next newsletter will be printed the week of Sept 26.

A Night with Anita Renfroe – Christian Comedian
Tuesday, October 11, 2016 6:30PM

Sponsored by Prison Fellowship International
Springfield First United Methodist Church

Ladies: Are you ready for an evening of praise and worship intertwined with joy and laughter? If so, this event is one you will enjoy! Anita Renfroe shares stories of day-to-day living with all the twists and turns of doing so as a woman of faith, and leads in worship with music that touches your heart and gives you hope for tomorrow. If you are interested in going, **please let Kathy Curfman 285-5213 know by Sept 18th so tickets may be ordered. Cost is \$15 each with a group rate for 15+.** **There will also be a sign-up sheet in both buildings on the fellowship tables.** We will carpool from the Crossroads Center at 5:00 that evening, with a quick stop at Culver's afterwards for a bite to eat.

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Ron Bradburn funeral dinner last week. Your generosity to this ministry is appreciated. -CWF Bereavement Committee.

Thank you Keith Elledge for all of your time and talent in repairing the Congregational Park fence. It looks as good as new!

The following note was received regarding the offering collected during VBS week:

Dear First Christian Church,

Thank you for your most generous support! Habitat will use your gift of \$806.08 on building materials for our 2017 house! Check out our website quincyareahabitatforhumanity.org to view the homes we have built.

Your generous gift is greatly appreciated.

Fondly,

Lee Lindsay

The Children First annual meeting was held this past Sunday, Sept 11 after the 10:30 service. The two new board members that were elected for two year terms are Stan Moss and Brandi Pennock. Stan is a new member to the board and Brandi accepted another term to the board. The other board members are Faith Saxe and Deanna Rinehart. I serve as President and am an appointed member from the church administration.

The projected budget was presented and discussed. Children First is operating at a loss. Numbers in the preschool are low largely due to the increased number of kids that the school district and PACT can take for free. We had a staffing shortage this year which also presented problems in taking on more daycare children. That has been solved by the addition of a new teacher so things are looking better for the daycare.

The Children First board will be meeting this week and discussing several ways to possibly increase our revenue, our enrollment, our staffing needs, and our bottom line.

All of the daycare rooms as well as the preschool are using the Orange philosophy and curriculum. All of our teachers are loving and caring and work extremely well together. We feel we have a lot to offer parents and the community with our Christian daycare and preschool.

Submitted,
Helen Earls

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

See the display table on Sunday for supplies and information. Boxes should be returned by Sunday, Sept 25.

Start with a "WOW" item. A medium to large item that will capture the child's attention. Suggestions are: Soccer ball with pump, Stuffed animal, Toys (puppets, trucks), Dolls, Musical instrument, Clothes outfit, Shoes

OTHER SUGGESTIONS

TOYS: Toy cars, yo-yo's, jump ropes, balls, toys that light up and make noise, extra batteries, playing cards, card games.
SCHOOL SUPPLIES: pens, pencils and sharpeners, crayons, markers, notebooks, solar calculators, coloring and picture books. **NON-LIQUID HYGIENE ITEMS:** Toothbrushes, bar soap, combs, washcloths. **ACCESSORIES:** T-shirts, socks, hats, sunglasses, hair clips, jewelry, watches, flashlights. For extra batteries, if they are loose (not in original packaging) both ends must be covered with tape. **CANDY:** Hard candy, gummy bears, caramels, taffy and gum as long as expiration date is at least six months after the National Collection Week Nov 14-26, 2016 (after May 2017 or after). **TOOTHPASTE:** Expiration requirement same as above.

PRAYER,,,PRAYER,,,PRAYER,,,PRAYER,,,prayer,,,prayer

That is what my prayer life occasionally looks like, and at times like this I always find myself moving further from the Lord. Hi, I'm Phil Sandidge, and I am hoping that taking a closer look at this issue, will not only help me, but maybe some of you reading this weeks letter.

"Truthfulness" is a good place to start, not always an easy place for me to go. Seems much easier to just say everything is fine. But, if I am going to break out of a downward prayer cycle, I need a clear picture of where I'm at and how I got there.

I am reading a book that Pastor Michael gave (lent) me, by Craig Groeschel, the title is "Soul Detox". In one section he talks about Spiritual Pollution, and how it slowly pulls us away from our Loving God. The next 2 paragraphs are from that book.

You've probably heard that if you put a frog in a kettle of water and heat the water slowly to a boil, the frog will adjust to the warming water and won't even realize that it's boiling to death. How is this possible? The increase in temperature is so gradual that what feels like a warm bath at first, becomes a hot tub before kicking into double-boiler mode. By that time its too late. The frog's body adjusts to his surroundings, never noticing that what surrounds him is draining the life out of him.

In our culture, the water temperature increases daily. Without realizing it, we slowly become acclimated to a toxic environment full of poisonous influences. As the water temperature rises, we keep PRETENDING we are soaking in a hot tub having the time of our lives, never dreaming that we are scalding our souls. As we become scarred and desensitized to what is right and wrong, good and evil, life-giving and life-draining, we lose sight of our first love. We move away from God one degree at a time.

He goes on to say that he realizes we can't live our lives in a sanitized bubble, but we do have the responsibility to discern what we let into our lives and what we keep out. In Paul's letters to the churches, he always makes one thing very clear, you know the truth about Jesus. He also knew, and was frustrated by, just how easy it is for people of faith to slowly drift away from a meaningful life of prayer and service. In my case, I just get too lazy about guarding what I let into my life.

Fortunately for us, through the power of the Holy Spirit, and a word or two of encouragement from a fellow Christian, God will move us back to a point where we see His Truth. It's at that point, through PRAYER, that I am again able to clearly see where I'm at, and how I got there, (one degree at a time).

One thing I know for sure, while attending church or any other church related activity, it never fails,,,,someone will say something that I need to hear AND pray about.

God Bless!!!
Phil Sandidge
Elder

Prayer Concerns

Danielle B. (Friend of Scott Palmer family)	Mary Chamberlain
Charlie Gates	Bill Hammitt (Larry Wigington's brother)
Lura Hammitt (Larry Wigington's mother)	Michael Lipcamon
Carolyn McCann (Joan Halsey's sister)	Maria Owens
Maurice Sidwell	

We express our sympathy to the family and friends of the following who recently passed away—Clarence "Cork" Forshy, Louise Baker and Ron Bradburn.

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)	9/4	9/11
Operational	\$5,689.42	\$7,468.06
Property Improvement	13.00	28.00
Outreach-Missionaries	470.00	70.00
DHF	80.00	80.00
Outreach-General	176.00	31.00
Outreach-Unmet Needs	50.00	0.00
Operation Christmas Child	182.00	0.00
Children First	<u>20.00</u>	<u>20.00</u>
Total	\$6,680.42	\$7,697.06

Operating Receipts (Offering, Rentals, etc.)

Received Last 7 Days \$5,808.42 \$7,468.06
 Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$9,634

	9/4	9/11
Worship Attendance		
8:00 AM	80	74
9:15 AM	76	115
10:30 AM	<u>69</u>	<u>101</u>
Total	225	290
Christian Education		
Age 3-PK	3	4
K-1st	6	4
2nd-3rd	14	11
4th-5th	8	9
6th-8th	8	5
Sr High	4	5
Disciples	18	16
New Beginnings	6	0
Select to Connect	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>
Total	74	61

Serving Schedule

September 18, 2016

Elder: Spencer Boren, Phil Sandidge
Diaconate: Michael Smith, Judy Ferguson, Mary Gates, Georgia Sandidge
8:00 Communion: Carolyn Casteel, Kathy Willman
9:15 Communion: Jeff & Cathy Lacey
9:15 Greeter: Roger & Rokettia Brokaw
10:30 Communion: Donnie & Tereasa Apps
10:30 Scripture Reader: Teresa Bauer
10:30 Nursery: Emma Saxe
10:30 Sound System: Pastor Chaz
Shut-ins: Howard & Vera Staffy, Bill & Helen Earls

September 25, 2016

Elder: Joyce Lemons, N.D. Harrison
Diaconate: Jamie Sweeting, Sara Sweeting, Michele Westmaas, Chad Ferguson, Barbara Fosco, Karen Goodwin
8:00 Communion: N.D. & Joyce Harrison
9:15 Communion: Larry & Sandy Wigington
9:15 Greeter: Bev & Eddie White
10:30 Communion: Ruth Bennett, Kay Sealock
10:30 Scripture Reader: Wayne Baughman
10:30 Nursery: Clair Tate
10:30 Sound System: Lauren Saxe
Shut-ins: Hamer & Jenny Tate, Charlie & Mary Gates

Lectionary

9/18: Jer 8:18-9:1; Amos 8:4-7; 1 Tim 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-13
 9/19: Ps 106:40-48; Jer 9:12-26; Acts 4:1-12; Prov 14:12-31; Acts 4:1-12
 9/20: Ps 106:40-48; Jer 10:1-16; 1 Cor 9:19-23; Prov 17:1-5; 1 Cor 9:19-23
 9/21: Ps 106:40-48; Jer 10:17-25; Luke 20:45-21:4; Prov 21:10-16; Luke 20:45-21:4
 9/22: Ps 91:1-6, 14-16; Jer 23:9-22; 2 Cor 8:8-15; Prov 22:2-16; 2 Cor 8:8-15
 9/23: Ps 91:1-6, 14-16; Jer 23:23-32; Eph 2:1-10; Prov 28:3-10; Eph 2:1-10
 9/24: Ps 91:1-6, 14-16; Jer 24:1-10; Luke 9:43b-48; Prov 28:11-28; Luke 9:43b-48
 9/25: Jer 32:1-3a, 6-15; Amos 6:1a, 4-7; 1 Tim 6:6-19; Luke 16:19-31
 9/26: Ps 119:49-56; Jer 32:16-35; Rev 3:14-22; Amos 6:8-14; Rev 3:14-22
 9/27: Ps 119:49-56; Jer 32:36-44; James 5:1-6; Hosea 10:9-15; James 5:1-6
 9/28: Ps 119:49-56; Jer 33:1-13; Matt 19:16-22; Hosea 12:2-14; Matt 19:16-22
 9/29: Lam 3:19-26; Jer 52:1-11; Rev 2:8-11; 2 Kings 18:1-8, 28-36; Rev 2:8-11
 9/30: Lam 3:19-26; Jer 52:12-30; Rev 2:12-29; 2 Kings 19:8-20, 35-37; Rev 2:12-29
 10/1 Lam 1:1-6, Hab 1:1-4; 2:1-4; 2 Tim 1:1-14; Luke 17:5-10