

The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 58 Issue 23

October 12, 2016



Coming Events

- 10/16 8:00, 9:15, 10:30 Worship
8:00, 9:15 Sunday School
5:00 pm youth@first
- 10/17 4:00 pm Basketball Practice
8:00 pm AI Anon Meeting
- 10/18 4:00 pm Basketball Practice
- 10/19 7:00 am Crossroads Rental
6:30 pm Women's Book Study
7:00 pm Choir Practice
- 10/20 7:00 am High School Bible Study
Noon Women's Book Study
4:00 pm Basketball Practice
7:00 pm Sermon Study
- 10/23 8:00, 9:15, 10:30 Worship
8:00, 9:15 Sunday School
5:00 pm youth@first
- 10/24 4:00 pm Basketball Practice
8:00 pm AI Anon Meeting
- 10/25 4:00 pm Basketball Practice
6:00 pm Elder Meeting
- 10/26 8:30 am Unmet Needs Meeting
6:30 pm Women's Book Study
7:00 pm Choir Practice
- 10/27 7:00 am High School Bible Study
9:30 am Circle IV Meeting
Noon Women's Book Study
2:00 pm Crossroads Rental
4:00 pm Basketball Practice
7:00 pm Sermon Study
- 10/28 Crossroads Rental
- 10/30 9:15 am Family Experience
10:00 am Worship
Family Meal
5:00 pm youth@first
- 10/31 4:00 pm Basketball Practice
8:00 pm AI Anon Meeting
- 11/1 Crossroads Rental
4:00 pm Basketball Practice
6:00 pm Girl Scout Meeting

The Elders will meet at 6pm on **Oct 25**.

The next newsletter will be printed the week of Oct 24.

Be sure to stop in and enjoy a delicious sloppy jo sandwich and pie at the CMF/CWF Color Drive stand this coming weekend, **Oct 15-16**. They will be located on the west side of the Courthouse lawn.

Christmas Cantata news!

Rehearsals for this year's Christmas cantata will begin next week, **Oct 19**, at 7 p.m. Childcare is provided. This year's cantata will be called "Christmas Through the Years" and will be Dec 18 at 5 p.m. **Please let Helen know no later than Oct 26 if you want to participate.**

We will be organizing a children's choir for grades 2-6 to sing two numbers with the choir. If you have a child or children in these grades that would like to participate, please see Helen or call the church office. We will establish a practice time once we know everyone's schedule.

Pastor Michael's next sermon series, "Look Who's Coming to Dinner," will be in the book of Luke. You can begin your study early in preparation for Sunday.

The CWF Exec Committee will meet on Thursday, **Oct 27**. The time will be determined.

Invite your friends and family to Celebration Sunday and Family Meal on Oct 30! Service will begin at 10:00 in the gym followed by a meal in the dining room. After the meal we will have open gym with games in the gym for all ages. Come join us dressed casual for a morning of fellowship.

Families with Grade School students: Please join us that morning at 9:15 for a Family Experience! This will replace Sunday school for the morning, and is designed to interact with the WHOLE family! For more info, please visit fccpittsfield.org/ministries/kidsfirst

The November Congregational Meeting will be Nov 6 immediately after 10:30 service. Purpose will be to elect 2017 officers, approve the 2017 budget, and discuss Children First.

Children First is in need of someone to write grants for the program. If you have experience and have the time to help, please contact Jennifer at 285.4129.

During the week when we do not print a newsletter or when the need arises, we send a mass email called FCC Steeple Points to everyone in our email list. If you have not been receiving these then please give us a call or write a note on the attendance sheet on Sunday and we'll add you to the list so we can keep you informed.

Due to bookings at Crossroads Center, we have moved the church Turkey Dinner from Nov 2 to **Nov 9**. The meal will be served at 5:30. The CWF Christmas Bazaar will be **Dec 2**.



WHAT IS AN FX?

FX stands for Family Experience. An FX is a fun, shared experience for families to come together for a purpose. Combining dancing, music, drama, and engaging media, these events create a dynamic experience for kids and their parents and communicate a truth that God uses to change us, and to impact the world around us.

WHAT ISN'T AN FX?

An FX is not a show to be watched. Calling it a show would imply that it is a passive experience. Rather, it is an interactive experience that actively involves children and their parents.

An FX is not just for kids. Much like a good Disney or Pixar film, there is something for the whole family in an FX. The jokes, music, and truths are meant to be enjoyed and taken in by the whole family unit, not just the kids. And, when we eliminate the parents from the room, we severely limit the impact that these types of events can have on families.

WHO IS IT DESIGNED FOR?

With that said, an FX is designed for grade school kids and their parents. I—Chaz—personally would go so far to say that a kids who come to this event without their parents or guardians would get significantly less. The beauty of attending these *with* your kids is that the conversation can continue at home.

WHY ARE WE DOING IT?

There are really two reasons for doing an event like this. The first is simple: logistics. Nearly all of the children of **kids@first** attend Sunday morning small groups while their parents attend an adult service. This means on Sundays where we do combined Celebration Sunday events, those parents tend to simply bring their children into service with them rather than dropping them off in their small groups. Putting on an event that includes the whole family is the natural answer to the question, “How do we get the kids structured spiritual formation designed for them during Celebration Sunday?”

The second reason is also simple, but is more systemic for **kids@first** as a whole: partnering with parents. We understand that the very best source of spiritual formation in the life of a child is what they can get from their parents, and events like this offer an environment where kids and parents learn together in unforgettable ways in hopes of igniting spiritual conversations.

So there you have it! That’s an FX in a nutshell. We’re working very hard on this being a really awesome time of worship for you and your kids, so we urge you to consider including it into your family calendars on October 30 at 9:15a, right before the Celebration Sunday service, in the Crossroads Center!

I recently read an article by Tejado Hanchell, Senior Pastor of Mount Calvary Holy Church of Winston-Salem, NC, and a church strategist. The article was describing 10 ways in which church members can kill the church.

Statistics show that between 3,500-4,500 churches cease to function each year. Dr. Hanchell interestingly enough drew the comparison of the reasons for churches closing today with 80 years ago. Shockingly, the list was eerily similar.

Here is Dr. Hanchell's paraphrased list:

1. Don't come. -Dr. Hanchell admonishes that *"If we don't go to church, we just might be playing a part in killing the church."*
2. If you do come, make sure it's late. -He goes on to explain *"A lack of punctuality when it comes to worship is a microcosm of our overall view of God. It says that whatever else we are doing is more important, and God can just wait until we get there. This type of attitude is a major church killer."*
3. Only show up when the weather is good. -He points out that *"We have produced a culture of "fair-weather" Christians, who only attend church when everything is going right in their lives. The moment a storm hits their life, they get mad at God, the pastor and the church."*
4. Find fault with everything (and/or everyone). Enough said...
5. Never accept a leadership role or responsibility. -In his article he writes : *"Many people have a "renters" mentality when it comes to church; they take no ownership... .When you rent an apartment, if something breaks, you call the landlord to fix it. Since you don't own it, you have no obligation to fix it. There are too many people renting pews (and some pulpits)."*
6. Get mad if you're not appointed to a leadership position. -Dr. Hanchell surmises: *"This is a manifestation of deep-seated pride, and pride is one of the most dangerous killers of all."*
7. Never give your opinion in a meeting ... wait until AFTER the meeting. (Again, enough said...)
8. Do nothing more than absolutely necessary.
9. Hold back on your giving to the Lord.
10. Don't reach out to the unchurched.

In his article, Dr. Hanchell expounded on these 10 issues that are all too common in the church. It is interesting to note that they have been in the church for ages, but as Solomon states, there is nothing new under the Sun.

I pray that we will embrace our calling as part of the Body of Christ. I hope we will strive to grow and share Christ's message of grace to all those around us, and see His Kingdom and Will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven.

Loving you all,
Michael

Missionary Report

The following is an excerpt from Clare Raney, missionary with Pioneer Bible Translators. She will be providing us with periodic reports on her work with PBT.

Hello First Christian Church of Pittsfield! My name is Clare Raney. (Some of you may remember me from the summer of 2016 when I was working at Mississippi Valley Christian Service Camp.) I am a support missionary working as a homeschool teacher for the children of Bible Translators. The Hill family, who I am currently teaching for, has 4 boys aged 6-13. We live in Mtwara, Tanzania. It's in the southeast region on the Indian Ocean. Stephen Hill is translating the New Testament into Kima-konde, the language of the Makonde tribe. He's projected to finish the New testament and start work on the Old Testament in late 2018.

Prayer Concerns

Maurine Boren
Cheryl Bryant (Chris Rule's mother)
John Calaway
Mary Chamberlain
Mary Gates
Bill Hammitt (Larry Wigington's brother)
Carolyn McCann (Joan Halsey's sister)
Maria Owens
Wally Renoud
Maren Jensen Ruble (Kevin Tharp's granddaughter)
Andrew Westmaas

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

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 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)	<u>10/2</u>	<u>10/9</u>
Operational	\$9,729.75	\$7,360.00
Property Improvement	20.00	53.00
Outreach-Missionaries	300.00	270.00
DHF	80.00	80.00
Outreach-General	9.00	105.00
Outreach-Unmet Needs	180.00	50.00
Operation Christmas Child	369.00	235.00
CWF	0.00	15.00
Children First	<u>150.00</u>	<u>100.00</u>
Total	\$10,837.75	\$8,268.00

Operating Receipts (Offering, Rentals, etc.)

Received Last 7 Days \$10,429.75 \$6,586.00
 Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$9,634

	<u>10/2</u>	<u>10/9</u>
Worship Attendance		
8:00 AM	77	72
9:15 AM	94	71
10:30 AM	<u>88</u>	<u>88</u>
Total	259	231
Christian Education		
Age 3-PK	3	4
K-1st	4	2
2nd-3rd	10	8
4th-5th	9	8
6th-8th	3	2
Sr High	0	4
Disciples	12	13
New Beginnings	5	0
Select to Connect	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>
Total	53	48

Lectionary

10/16: Jer 31:27-34; Gen 32:22-31; 2 Tim 3:14-4:5; Luke 18:1-8
 10/17: Ps 129; Jer 38:14-28; 1 Cor 6:1-11; 1 Sam 25:2-22; 1 Cor 6:1-11
 10/18: Ps 129; Jer 39:1-18; James 5:7-12; 1 Sam 25:23-35; James 5:7-12
 10/19: Ps 129; Jer 50:1-7, 17-20; Luke 22:39-46; 1 Sam 25:36-42; Luke 22:39-46
 10/20: Ps 65; Joel 1:1-20; 2 Tim 3:1-9; Jer 9:1-16; 2 Tim 3:1-9
 10/21: Ps 65; Joel 2:1-11; 2 Tim 3:10-15; Jer 9:17-26; 2 Tim 3:10-15
 10/22: Ps 65; Joel 2:12-22; Luke 1:46-55; Jer 14:1-6; Luke 1:46-55
 10/23: Joel 2:23-32; Jer 14:7-10, 19-22; 2 Tim 4:6-8, 16-18; Luke 18:9-14
 10/24: Ps 87; Joel 3:1-8; 1 Peter 4:12-19; 1 Sam 2:1-10; 1 Peter 4:12-19
 10/25: Ps 87; Joel 3:9-16; 1 Peter 5:1-11; Daniel 5:1-12; 1 Peter 5:1-11
 10/26: Ps 87; Joel 3:17-20; Matt 21:28-32; Daniel 5:13-31; Matt 21:28-32
 10/27: Ps 119:137-144; Jer 33:14-26; 2 Cor 1:1-11; Proverbs 15:8-11, 24-33, 2 Cor 1:1-11
 10/28: Ps 119:137-144; Hab 1:5-17; 2 Peter 1:1-11; Job 22:21-23:17; 2 Peter 1:1-11
 10/29: Ps 119:137-144; Hab 2:5-11; John 8:39-47; Isa 1:1-9; John 8:39-47

Serving Schedule

October 16, 2016

Elder: Wayne Chamberlain, Joyce Lemons
Diaconate: Ron Halsey, Kathy Curfman
8:00 Communion: Hamer & Jenny Tate
9:15 Communion: Tom & Debbie Robinson
9:15 Greeter: Bill & Laura Grimsley
9:15 Nursery: Ellie Ten Eyck
10:30 Communion: Glen & Carol Cooley
10:30 Scripture Reader: Lauren Saxe
10:30 Nursery: Kadence Haskins
10:30 Sound System: Cherise Anderson
Shut-ins: Betty Hoover

October 23, 2016

Elder: Hamer Tate, Roger Brokaw
Diaconate: Glen Cooley, Kathy Curfman, Betty Hayden, Michael Smith
8:00 Communion: Steve & Vickie Tharp
9:15 Communion: Phil & Georgia Sandidge
9:15 Greeter: Jamie & Brandi Pennock
9:15 Nursery: Lainey Ten Eyck
10:30 Communion: Wayne & Cindy Chamberlain
10:30 Scripture Reader: Julie Boren
10:30 Nursery: Emma Saxe
10:30 Sound System: Chaz Waterman
Shut-ins: Greg & Kim Bonnett, Joyce Lemons