

# The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 59 Issue 2

February 1, 2017



## Coming Events

- 2/5 8:45 am Winter FX  
8:45 am Adult Sunday School  
10:00 am Worship Service  
11:30 am Congregational Meeting  
5:00 pm youth@first
- 2/6 9:00 am Crossroads Rental  
1:00 pm Interagency Meeting  
7:15 pm Open Gym  
8:00 pm AI Anon Meeting
- 2/7 6:00 pm Girl Scout Meeting
- 2/8 8:30 am Unmet Needs Meeting  
6:30 pm Women's Book Study  
7:00 pm Choir Practice
- 2/9 9:30 am Circle IV Meeting  
Noon Women's Book Study  
7:00 pm Sermon Study
- 2/10 11:00 am Curless Auction
- 2/12 8:00, 9:15, 10:30 am Worship  
8:00, 9:15 am Sunday School  
5:00 pm youth@first
- 2/13 6:30 pm Circle I Meeting  
7:15 pm Open Gym  
8:00 pm AI Anon Meeting
- 2/14 6:30 pm Church Board Meeting
- 2/15 6:30 pm Women's Book Study  
7:00 pm Choir Practice
- 2/16 Noon Women's Book Study  
5:30 pm Children First Board Meeting  
7:00 pm Sermon Study
- 2/18 7:00 am Dyno Meetings

Christian Women's Fellowship (CWF) will host an American Red Cross **Blood Drive** on Monday, **Feb 20**, at Crossroads from 1-6pm. More info to follow.

**Open Gym** for adults is every **Monday** at 7:15pm. The Monday night Volleyball League will start **March 6** with a cost of \$20 per person. Contact Matt Sealock to register you or your team.

Crossroads is open to the public for **walking** Monday and Wednesday from 8-10am.

**Celebration Sunday will be this coming weekend, February 5.** Winter FX, for youth Sunday School students and parents, will begin at 8:45 at Crossroads in place of regular youth classes. We will have one worship service in the SANCTUARY at 10:00.

After the service we will break for a few minutes for everyone to enjoy Cookie Sunday before we continue with the **February Congregational Meeting** in the sanctuary. Agenda includes reviewing 2016, goals for 2017, and building renovations.

**The Youth Group Valentine Dinner fundraiser will be Sunday, Feb 12 at 5 p.m.** Doors will open at 4:30. A large chicken breast dinner will be \$14 and a very nice ribeye steak dinner will be \$18. Both plates include baked potato, green beans, lettuce salad, dinner roll, dessert, and drink. This is a lot of food and containers will be available for you to take home part of your food if you can't eat it all. This has been the main fundraiser for the youth for a long time and we think this is a great way for the kids to serve, make money and build relationship with those in the congregation. **Reservations have been slow and the deadline is Monday, Feb 6! Parents of youth need to give us meal choice as well. This is a fantastic meal so invite your family, friends and neighbors! Several of our youth and alumni will provide musical entertainment.**

Carryout orders will also be taken and can be picked up at the south ally (water tower) door at 4:30. Please note your dessert choice when you call in your order. Choices are cheesecake, turtle cheesecake, cherry pie, and angel food cake.

Are you doing your spring house cleaning? Please remember items would be appreciated for our **Church Yard Sale** to be held **March 31 & April 1**. Items can include, but not limited to, knick knacks, jewelry, handbags, household items, small appliances, furniture, electronics in working order, puzzles, books, toys, games, etc. Clothing will be accepted. Any questions contact Ruth Anne Goodin 285-2705 or Linda Decker 285-4042. Watch for future info as to when you can bring your items.

## **Wednesday Wellness/Workout Group**

Join Brianne Gerecke and Kathy Curfman on Wednesday's from 5:30 - 6:30 for a time of fellowship and wellness awareness! The first meeting, **Feb 8th**, will be used as a time to discuss the purpose of the group and items of interest. Our meetings may include dance, stand/sit exercise and stretching, recipes, health awareness information along with guest speakers/instructors. Just dress comfortably because we may start with some fun dance moves to get our hearts pumping! If you have questions, please contact Kathy at [217-248-5214](tel:217-248-5214).

<p>Like to knit? Charlotte Dunham is wanting to start a Prayer Shawl Group. Individuals can knit a shawl at home then meet as a group once per month to continue knitting while enjoying conversation. Shawls will be given to a church member, nursing home resident, etc. Contact Charlotte if interested.</p>	<p><b><u>Prayer Concerns</u></b>          Karl Benjamin          Mary Chamberlain          John Cloninger          Matt Gates (Charlie Gates' brother)          Bill Hammitt          Dale Howland (Janelle Curfman's father)          Rosa Phillips          Jody Rennecker          Don Shilly          Richard Stauffer          Andrew Westmaas</p> <p>We express our sympathy to the family and friends of the following who recently passed away: Connie Bradburn (Barbara Bradburn's daughter), Beverly Harvey (Doug Harvey's wife), Sarah Jo Plattner (John David Plattner's mother), Elsie Royston (Susan Jones &amp; Charla Adams' mother).          If you would like to send a card to Doug Harvey, his address is 710 E. Sunrise, New Hampton, IA 50659.</p>	
<p><b>Women's Book Studies</b>          The <b>Wednesday</b> study will resume <b>Feb 1</b> from 6:30-7:30 in the upstairs education wing. Bring your Bible to study the book of Ruth for 4 weeks. Child-care will be provided. For more info contact Michelle Hart, Bethany Dunham or Kate Waterman.          The <b>Thursday</b> study continues in the church Long Room at noon. The current book is "Ten Women of the Bible." Contact the office if you want to join and need the book.</p>		
<p>The Sunday 8:00 am Select to Connect connection group has started a new study "The End of Me" by Kyle Idleman at Crossroads. We have books available or you can download your own. Everyone is welcome.</p>		
<p>Charlie Gates was recently selected as CMF Layman of the Year for 2016. Charlie is a long-time active member of the Christian Men's Fellowship, church bus driver, member of the Disciples Sunday School class, and a faithful member of First Christian Church who has served as both deacon and elder. Congratulations Charlie!</p>		
<p>The <b>Church Board</b> will meet at <b>6:30</b> on <b>Feb 14</b>.          Packets will be ready on Feb 12. The <b>Children First Board</b> will meet at 5:30 on <b>Feb 16</b>.</p>	<p>The next newsletter will be printed the week of <b>Feb 13</b>.</p>	
<p>Thank you everyone who purchased beef from the Children First fundraiser! Your efforts helped raise \$1,795 for the program. A special thank you to David and Tammi Koltveit for spearheading the event.</p>		<p>Circle IV will meet Feb 9 at 9:30.          Circle I will meet Feb 13 at 6:30.</p>
<p>Mississippi Valley Christian Service Camp 2017 Schedule: High School - June 4-9          7-8th Grade - June 11-17          5-6th Grade - June 18-22          3-4th Grade - June 25-27          1-2nd Grade - June 28-29          K-2nd Grade - July 1          Wilderness Camp 8th-Adult - TBA          Ladies Camp - Aug 4-6          All Saints Camp - Sept 8-10</p>	<p>What: <b>Fellowship of Christian Athletes Fundraising Banquet</b>          When: Mon, <b>April 3</b>          Who: Featuring Lance Berkman, former St. Louis Cardinal          Where: Oakley Lindsay Center - Quincy          The banquet will begin at 5:45 and conclude around 7:30. The evening will include thoughts from local coaches and athletes plus a presentation by Lance Berkman. There is no cost to attend but they are asking for donations to support the FCA ministry. Reservations can be made through the FCA office or by being a table host for a group of 8. For info or to register, contact Todd Sweatman, FCA Western IL Rep, at 217.370.2008 or <a href="mailto:tsweatman@fca.org">tsweatman@fca.org</a> or <a href="mailto:sbyrd@fca.org">sbyrd@fca.org</a>.</p> <p>What: <b>Gathering to Connect &amp; Intentional Church Conference</b>          When: Fri &amp; Sat, <b>April 21 &amp; 22</b>          Who: Gene Appel, Caleb Kaltenbach, Michael Ten Eyck, Rick Grace, Wayne Kent, Kevi Ray and pianist Julie McClarey.          Where: First Christian Church in Decatur          For more info or to register go to <a href="http://intentionalchurchconference.com">intentionalchurchconference.com</a>. Let us know if you plan to attend so we can take the bus, van or carpool.</p>	
<p>On <b>March 3 and 4</b>, YOUTH@FIRST Middle School will be attending <b>CIY: Believe</b> in Springfield, IL! This is an awesome time filled with worship, messages, and fun designed specifically for middle school students at the Prairie Capital Convention Center! This is a Friday-Saturday overnight event, and we will be staying in the Days Inn on Toronto Road just like last year. The price of the event is \$45 per student, or \$65 per family! This is an excellent time of discipleship and worship, and we can't wait!</p>	<p>What: <b>Christian Women's Conference</b>          When: Wed, <b>April 26</b>          Who: Liz Curtis Higgs and Susie Larson          Where: Lincoln Christian University          For detailed info and to register, go to <a href="http://www.lincolnchristian.edu/cwc">www.lincolnchristian.edu/cwc</a>. Let us know if you plan to attend so we can take the bus, van or carpool.</p>	

A few years ago we spent some time repairing the bell in our church. As we examined the aged structure I remember trying to imagine all the many uses of our church bell over the years. In the old days the bell was primarily used to call Christians to assemble for Sunday morning worship. Church bells were also used to signify special events such as weddings or funerals. Some churches use the ringing of the bell at 6:00 am, noon, and 6:00 pm as a call to prayer.

Jewish tradition tells of the Children of Israel using a ram's horn, called a Shofar, for a similar task. Upon hearing its unique sound, the congregation was immediately called to assemble.

While we do not use a horn blast, I am putting forth a call for us all to assemble this Sunday for Celebration Sunday. While I understand that changes to our schedule can be burdensome, it is an important way in which we can unite as a church family.

One drawback to our multiple service format is that often times we do not adequately strengthen the bonds of relationship that are so critical within a congregation. I often laugh when I am in discussion with a member of our church and they mention another person without knowing that they actually attend our church as well, albeit at another worship time.

I believe that Celebration Sunday is an important time for our church family to come together. There is such a sense of unity and community during our Christmas and Easter worship times. I often hear the comments, "Why can't we do this every week?" Good question.

While convenience and personal preference of worship style may have their merit in reaching out, this Sunday is a time of building up.

Please make the extra effort to unite with your church family and join us at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary.

We will have our February meeting after morning worship. This will be a good time to talk about the past year as well as the future of First Christian Church of Pittsfield.

We are not complete without YOU!

Psalm 133

*Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity! 2 It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes! 3 It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion! For there the Lord has commanded the blessing, life forevermore. ESV*

Loving you all,

Michael

**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, Programs & Christian Ed  
 Kayla Boren, Music  
 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>1/22</b>	<b>1/29</b>
Operational	\$10,190.00	\$10,766.00
Property Improvement	28.00	20.00
Outreach-Missionaries	270.00	70.00
DHF	80.00	80.00
Outreach-General	46.00	78.00
Snack Pack Program	50.00	0.00
Unmet Needs	50.00	5.00
Children First	<u>420.00</u>	<u>370.00</u>
Total	\$11,134.00	\$11,389.00

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

Received Last 7 Days \$10,475.28 \$11,820.29

Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$9,004

**Lectionary**

2/5: Isa 58:1-9a; Ps 112:1-9; 1 Cor 2:1-12; Matt 5:13-20  
 2/6: Ps 119:105-112; 2 Kings 22:3-20; Romans 11:2-10  
 2/7: Ps 119:105-112; 2 Kings 23:1-8, 21-25; 2 Cor 4:1-12  
 2/8: Ps 119:105-112; Proverbs 6:6-23; John 8:12-30  
 2/9: Ps 119:1-8; Gen 26:1-5; James 1:12-16  
 2/10: Ps 119:1-8; Leviticus 26:34-46; 1 John 2:7-17  
 2/11: Ps 119:1-8; Deut 30:1-9a; Matt 15:1-9  
 2/12: Deut 30:15-20; Ps 119:1-8; 1 Cor 3:1-9; Matt 5:21-37  
 2/13: Ps 119:9-16; Exodus 20:1-21; James 1:2-8  
 2/14: Ps 119:9-16; Deut 23:21-24:4, 10-15; James 2:1-13  
 2/15: Ps 119:9-16; Proverbs 2:1-15; Matt 19:1-12  
 2/16: Ps 119:33-40; Exodus 22:21-27; 1 Cor 10:23-11:1  
 2/17: Ps 119:33-40; Leviticus 6:1-7; Galatians 5:2-6  
 2/18: Ps 119:33-40; Lev 24:10-23; Matt 7:1-12

**Serving Schedule****February 5, 2017**

**Elder:** Jim Dain, Hamer Tate

**Diaconate:** Michelle Hart, Kevin Hittner, Kate Waterman, Ciera Anderson, Taylor Sweeting, Donnie Apps

**Communion:** N.D. & Joyce Harrison, Kathy Curfman, Edith Gant

**Nursery:** Emma Saxe

**Scripture:** Faith Saxe

**Sound System:** Chaz Waterman

**Shut-ins:** Phil & Georgia Sandidge, Spencer & Kayla Boren

**Fellowship Treats:** Rebecca Rhodes, Vickie Tharp, Kathy Hull, Cindy Chamberlain, Amy Casto

**February 12, 2017**

**Elder:** Wayne Chamberlain, Helen Earls

**Diaconate:** Michelle Hart, Kevin Hittner, Kate Waterman, Ciera Anderson, Julie Boren, Mike Boren

**8:00 Communion:** Carolyn Casteel, Kathy Willman

**9:15 Communion:** Jeff & Cathy Lacey

**9:15 Greeter:** Any Volunteer

**9:15 Nursery:** Katie Cox

**10:30 Communion:** Keith & Carole Elledge

**10:30 Scripture:** Noah Mendenhall

**10:30 Nursery:** Claire Tate

**10:30 Sound System:** Lauren Saxe

**Shut-ins:** Matt & Faith Saxe, Roger & Rokettia Brokaw

	<b>1/22</b>	<b>1/29</b>
<b>Worship Attendance</b>		
8:00 AM	72	86
9:15 AM	93	94
10:30 AM	<u>96</u>	<u>91</u>
Total	261	271
<b>Christian Education</b>		
Age 3-PK	4	4
K-1st	2	4
2nd-3rd	11	8
4th-5th	3	0
6th-8th	0	0
Sr High	4	0
Disciples	17	12
New Beginnings	5	7
Select to Connect	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>
Total	53	42