

# The Pittsfield Christian



First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 59 Issue 21

October 25, 2017

## Coming Events

- 10/29 8:45 am Sunday School  
10:00 am Worship  
11:30 am Family Meal  
5:00 pm youth@first
- 10/30 4:00 pm Basketball Practices  
8:00 pm Al Anon Meeting
- 10/31 9:00 am Bible Study  
5:00 pm Basketball Practices
- 11/1 3:45 pm Kids Connection  
7:00 pm Choir Practice
- 11/2 Noon Bible Study  
2:00 pm Circle V Meeting
- 11/3 5:00 pm Basketball Practices  
6:00 pm Girl Scout Meeting
- 11/4 Crossroads Rental
- 11/5 8:00 & 10:30 am Worship  
9:15 am Sunday School  
11:45 am Congregational Meeting  
5:00 pm youth@first
- 11/6 1:00 pm Interagency Meeting  
4:00 pm Basketball Practices  
6:00 pm CMF Dinner Meeting  
8:00 pm Al Anon Meeting
- 11/7 9:00 am Bible Study  
5:00 pm Basketball Practices  
6:00 pm Girl Scout Meeting
- 11/8 8:30 am Unmet Needs Meeting  
3:45 pm Kids Connection  
5:30 pm Turkey Dinner  
7:00 pm Choir Practice
- 11/9 9:30 am Circle IV Meeting  
Noon Bible Study  
4:00 pm Basketball Practices
- 11/10 Pike County Youth League
- 11/11 Pike County Youth League  
Dining Room Rental
- 11/12 8:00 & 10:30 am Worship  
9:15 am Sunday School  
5:00 pm youth@first

**Next Sunday, October 29, will be an exciting day as we worship together in one service during Celebration Sunday! Sunday School will start at 8:45 followed by one worship service in the gym at 10:00. The morning will be filled with praise, music, special presentations and baptisms. Family Meal will be serviced immediately after worship. We hope you will be able to spend your morning with us!**

**The November Congregational Meeting will be Nov 5 after 10:30 service. Agenda includes election of 2018 officers, approval of 2018 budget and discussion regarding the Lovell Town Lot and the Balsman Farm. Handouts are on the sanctuary mantels.**

**The deadline for Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes has been extended until Sunday, Oct 29. If you would like to help financially, memo your offering "shoeboxes" and funds will be directed accordingly.**

The next **CMF Dinner Meeting** has moved to **Monday, Nov 6**, at 6:00. Sign up at the fellowship table if you plan to attend this men's ministry event.

**Wednesday, Nov 8, will be the all church Turkey Dinner at 5:30.** Sign-up at the fellowship table if you plan to attend so we know how many to prepare for. Carryout will be available. Proceeds will help maintain the Crossroads Center kitchen. Mark your calendar!

The next **Church Board Meeting** will be Tuesday, **Nov 14**, at 6:30.

### November CWF Circle Meetings:

- Nov 2, Circle V, 2:00
- Nov 9, Circle IV, 9:30
- Nov 13, Circle I, 6:30

### Looking Ahead...

- Friday, Dec 1: CWF Christmas Bazaar.
- Sunday, Dec 10: Christmas Caroling.
- Sunday, Dec 17: Christmas Cantata.
- Wednesday, Dec 20: Kids Connection Christmas Program.
- Thursday, Dec 21: Children First Christmas Program.

**Prayer Concerns:** Ken Bradbury, Mary Chamberlain, Stacey Helms, Harold Loyd, Journee Vinyard, Eddie White  
Vera Murr (Karl Benjamin's sister)  
Peg Odum (Michele Westmaas' aunt)  
Sharon Shannon (friend of Karl Benjamin)  
Steve Smith (Amy Cox's father)

*We express our sympathy to Sharron Houchins and family with the passing of her brother, Michael Quincy.*

**The women's Sunday morning study will start a new book, "Proven" by Jennie Allen on Nov 5 at 9:15 in the admin building.** The study should last approximately 8 weeks. Cost of the book is \$14. Call Michelle Hart 217.430.5255 or the office if you would like to join and need a book.

Every year we proudly honor our Military Veterans in the newsletter and we will do so in the next edition. Please contact the office if you or your family member has a change in military service since last year so our list can be as accurate as possible.

*I want to thank everybody for their prayers when my brother, Michael Quincy, was sick and when he passed. It was greatly appreciated. -Sharron Houchins.*

*A big thank you goes out to everyone who has helped Eddie and I during some recent struggles. We want you to know we appreciate your kindness more than words can say. -Bev & Eddie White.*

*Christian Women's Fellowship and Christian Men's Fellowship would like to thank everyone for their help at their Color Drive food stand. It takes a lot of people to make it happen from set up, clean up, and everything between. No matter if you worked behind the scenes or stopped by and patronized the stand - your support was appreciated!*

*Thank you everyone who helped us serve the Republican Dinner last week. Your time in the kitchen was appreciated!*

**The CWF Christmas Bazaar is just 5 weeks away!** Since the cooler weather has us indoors more often, we can start looking through our cookie and sweet recipes, craft projects and knick-knack items for the Treasure Chest room. Detailed info will be printed soon!

The Operation Christmas Child **Shoebox Run** will be Saturday, **Nov 4**, at the Pittsfield United Methodist Church. Registration for the 5K & 1 mile run/walk begins at 8:00. Race starts at 8:30. The course is bike, pet and stroller friendly. All proceeds benefit Operation Christmas Child. Forms can be found in our church overflow room and in the office.

**Property Update** Last year First Christian Church was blessed with a generous donation of a large LED sign. After much examination of the project, the best place for the sign was chosen to be the northwest corner of the Crossroads parking lot. More than any location, this gives us the best visibility to the most traffic for Crossroads and the church. There have been a lot of hoops to jump through and scheduling issues but we are pleased to announce the project is finally moving forward. A huge thank you to the Property Committee and the generous donor!

**NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:** **1** Edna Baughman; **2** Rosie Picone, Seth Boren; **3** Zack & Libby Boren; **5** Allison Korte; **6** Lori Johnson; **7** Jeannine Robertson, Amy Boltz, Rhonda Irwin, Bill Schwartz, Kacie Lipcaman; **8** Dave Herring; **9** Clinton McNulty, Kevin Masters; **10** Joelle Masiulis; **11** Raeanna Grimes, Cody Guthrie; **12** Isabelle Willard, Kenny Manson, Chad Ferguson; **13** Piper Gorton, Maylin Hittner; **14** Anna Speckhart, Dustin Wintjen; **16** Korey Womble; **17** Carole Elledge, Elizabeth Rowland, Maurine Boren, Paul Ruble; **21** Eleanor Jenkins, Brittany Dain, Tucker Kunzeman; **22** Bob Evans; **23** Kay Sealock; **24** Gary & Angie Hittner, Eli Ten Eyck, Logan Borrowman; **25** David Smith, Kathy Curfman; **27** Gaylord & Jo Rhodes; **28** Barbara Goertz; **29** Carrol Hoover, Dr. Dan Speckhart, Aubrie Westmaas, Ronnie & Paula Goewey

As you well know, we have several college students who have graduated from our YOUTH@FIRST program. While we may not see them often—and some aren't members of our church—they are very much a part of our church family.

Statistically, all but a couple of our college students should completely walk away from their faith within the end of this school year. This is a scary stat that can make families and churches feel helpless in defending their beloved children, but this is where you come in!

Studies repeatedly show that regular, loving contact from a church family helps reaffirm and bolster students' faith. For this reason, we'd like to give all of you an opportunity to partner with the parents of our college aged students and show these students that they're loved.

Below are listed the college addresses of our out-of-town students. Mid-terms have just gotten over for these students, so now is a great time encourage them as they approach the end of their first semester.

**Peyton Anderson**

Merrick Hall, Room 108  
330 North Henderson

Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

**Mattie Bishop**

PO Box 262

Pittsfield, IL 62363

**Austin Fine**

542 W Grant

Pittsfield, IL 62363

**Rod Gordley**

Box 450  
100 Campus View Drive

Lincoln, IL 62656

**Tyler Grimsley**

Unit 408  
701 South Gregory

Urbana, IL 61801

**Katie Hull**

1237 Vermont

Quincy, IL 62301

**Thomas Hull**

Box 548  
1 College Hill

Canton, MO 63435

**Caitlyn McIntyre**

604 N Memorial

Pittsfield, IL 62363

**Maddie Palmer**

Box 841  
1 College Hill

Canton, MO 63435

**Nick Reel**

Mailbox 1416  
1 Residence Drive

Edwardsville, IL 62025

**Kendra  
Sydney**

STE 550  
911 E Urbandale

Moberly, MO  
65270

**Julia Turnbaugh**

Box 300  
100 Campus View Drive

Lincoln, IL 62656

**Aubrie Westmaas**

308 W Jefferson

Pittsfield, IL 62363

**DJ Wintjen**

1119 Write Hall  
190 N Adelaide

Normal, IL 61761

### **Excerpts from October 10, 2017 Church Board Meeting**

Call to Order at 6:29pm by Moderator David Koltveit. Opening devotion and prayer were led by Jeremy Schoenherr. He spoke on the parable of the seeds from Luke 8, and encouraged the Board to focus on Christ rather than allowing the cares of the world to choke our faith. Minutes from last Board meeting were approved by general consensus.

**Treasurer's Report:** Rebecca Rhodes reported that as of September 30, 2017: Total Checking/Savings Assets = \$438,697.90. Total Unrestricted Checking = \$100,000. Total Budgeted Receipts = \$350,179.80. Total Budgeted Disbursements = \$288,916.55. Statement of Cash Flow on Nonbudgeted Receipts Total = \$63,100.62 and Nonbudgeted Disbursements = \$40,431.90 for a difference of \$22,668.72. Rebecca noted that \$4,503.08 was reassigned from the general unrestricted funds to the Church Construction/Renovation fund for the month of September. Additionally, the church received 5 new donations toward Construction/Renovation, and the balance of the account is \$58,083.90. Average attendance for 2017 through the month of September is 248. Joyce Lemons motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report; Hamer Tate seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

**Crossroads Center:** Pastor Michael Ten Eyck noted that there are several property maintenance issues that have arisen over the past few months, including: a leak in the Crossroads gym roof, Crossroads freezer issues, a roof leak in the Crossroads walk-in cooler, and an electrical issue in the sanctuary.

**Children First:** Helen Earls reported that Children First will probably need to take another \$5,000 installment of the \$25,000 allocation before the end of October. If so, the total amount Children First will have used will be \$20,000. However, even with needing these additional funds from the church, she stated that Children First is in a better position than it has ever been. The additional room is not yet open, but the staff is already in place. She also stated that the Children First Board will consider utilizing Scrip, a gift card fundraising program.

**Balsman Property:** Bobby Smith presented a comprehensive update from the Farm Committee's meeting earlier in the day. He outlined 3 recommendations and asked for the Board to take action on the following items - Lovell Town Lot, purchase of a lane to access the Balsman Property, and the future of the Balsman Property. Additionally, there will be an informational meeting on 10/18/17 for questions about Farm Committee recommendations.

David Bishop moved to approve all three recommendations of the Farm Committee.

### **Old Business**

A church member has volunteered to do some critical tuckpoint on the church.

### **New Business**

**Nominating Committee:** Chair Larry Wigington provided a list of the nominated officers for terms beginning January 1, 2018. He noted that Roger Dunham will fill out the remainder of Phil Sandidge's elder term. He also stated that so far, the Nominating Committee had only filled three of the four vacant elder positions. He said that the Committee was still waiting to hear from a few members who had been asked to consider serving as elder.

**Stewardship Committee:** David Bishop motioned to accept the Proposed Budget for 2018. Gary Mendenhall seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. Highlights: Admin-Wages/Taxes \$267,218 an increase of \$2,939 or 1.11%. Christian Ed \$48,000 an increase of \$1,500 or 3.23%. Overall budget \$485,068 an increase of \$7,839 or 1.64%. More information is on the sanctuary mantels.

Judy Ferguson made a motion to adjourn at 7:45pm. Jeremy Schoenherr seconded, and Pastor Michael Ten Eyck closed the meeting in prayer.

### **\*\*\*\*Notes from Wednesday, October 18, 2017 Property Question & Answer Meeting\*\*\*\***

There were 3 recommendations approved by the Church Board from the Farm Committee. Negotiations for the potential sale of the donated Lovell Town Lot fell through. Upon further negotiations and evaluation of the proposed purchase of property to give access to the Balsman farm, it was discovered that a water main line would need to be re-routed. At this time, this is not a fiscally viable option thus the recommendation for the purchase has been withdrawn. The recommendation for sale and purchase have been withdrawn.

As many of you may have heard, we have a new puppy. Well, actually he is now more of a dog. He is a wonderful creature, full of energy and happiness. It's nice to walk in the door and have a furry frenzy of excitement hopping up and down, as if to say, "Where have you been? I have missed you so much!"

With all the wonderfulness of a pet, there is one big job that must be constantly taken care of: cleaning up the yard. Without going into too much detail, this is a much larger issue now that we have two large dogs. Thank heavens I have a nice, long-handled tool that keeps the "cleaning up" at a less offensive distance from me. While washing my hands after taking my turn at this task last week, an interesting thought ran through my head. This analogy is a bit of a stretch, but please bear with me.

In the course of our lives and interactions with other people, we are constantly confronted with choices as to how to respond. Simply said, we have a choice to look to be offended, or a choice to look to be gracious. At my sink, I likened grace to this wonderful tool that keeps so much potential unpleasantness at a manageable distance.

*Eph 4:1-7, 4:32-5:2 I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, 2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, 3 eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4 There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. 7 But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift....*

*...Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.*

*5 Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. 2 And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. ESV*

Certainly in the journey of life, times of conflict will and do come. Those times need to be handled healthily with integrity, truth, and love. Those are not the times I am referring to. I am referring to the times in life where we seem to look to assign motives and intent that may not actually be there. Those are the times where we cast away the nice "tool of grace" and the unpleasantness has a lasting effect on us, if you catch my drift. These times lead to a much longer and intensive time at the sink to wash up. (Nice newsletter article, huh?)

Simply stated, look to be gracious, not to be offended. When, for whatever reason (from fatigue to past experience), we look to take up an offense, we are so focused on how we can be offended that we miss many wonderful blessings that are all around us.

I was sharing with a dear friend this morning that this simple change in my life (looking to be gracious rather than to take up an offense) has given me much more joy and peace and has opened me up to ministry opportunities that I otherwise may have missed.

When we look at Christ's interactions with the Pharisees, we see the Pharisees constantly looking to be offended and thus healings were not happening. On the contrary, Christ demonstrates looking to be gracious and the results were healings, teachable moments and most of all, a greater understanding of God the Father.

I am thankful for my yard tool. It really helps me deal with some things that I really don't look forward to dealing with. I hope that we all will use grace as a wonderful tool to help us when we come across difficult situations. A wonderful question to ask ourselves is simply this: do I look to be offended, or look to be gracious? I hope we choose the latter. I believe life is much better when we do.

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, 10:30am

**Sunday School:** 9:15am

<b>Stewardship (Offering Only)</b>	<b>10/15</b>	<b>10/22</b>
Operational	\$6,220.61	\$10,273.01
Property Improvement	29.00	3.00
Outreach-Missionaries	470.00	120.00
DHF	80.00	80.00
Outreach-General	100.00	4.00
Snack Pack	15.00	15.00
Operation Christmas Child	187.00	485.00
Church Constr/Reno	0	50.00
Unmet Needs	3.00	0
Children First	<u>500.00</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,604.61</b>	<b>\$11,030.01</b>

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

Received Last 7 Days \$5,198.61 \$12,179.70  
 Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$9,004

**Serving Schedule****October 29, 2017**

**Elder:** Judy Ferguson, Jim Dain

**Diaconate:** Gary Mendenhall, Noah Mendenhall, Debbie Robinson, Tom Robinson, Taylor Sweeting, Christie Mendenhall

**Communion:** Dan & Sue Speckhart, Kathy Curfman, Edith Gant

**Scripture:** Faith Saxe

**Nursery:** Shelby Bauer

**10:30 Sound System:** Matt Sealock

**Shut-ins:** Jim & Brittany Dain, John & Cindi Schoenherr

**Sunday School Superintendent:** Celebration Sunday

**Kids Connection Treats 11/1:** TBA

**November 5, 2017**

**Elder:** Helen Earls, Joyce Lemons

**Diaconate:** Bill Grimsley, Kathy Lehr, Ron Halsey, Burdette Irwin, Zack Boren, Chad Ferguson

**8:00 Communion:** Hamer & Jenny Tate

**10:30 Communion:** Jamie & Sarah Sweeting

**Scripture:** Lauren Saxe

**10:30 Nursery:** Emma Saxe

**10:30 Sound System:** Cherise Anderson

**Shut-ins:** Roger & Charlotte Dunham, Dan & Sue Speckhart

**Sunday School Superintendent:** Kathy Curfman

**Kids Connection Treats 11/8:** TBA

**Fellowship Treats:** Faith Saxe, Jenny Tate, Sonya Bishop, Kelly Masters, Carolyn Barber

The next newsletter will be printed the week of **November 6.**

**Lectionary**

10/29: Deut 34:1-12; Lev 19:1-2, 15-18; Thess 2:1-8; Matt 22:34-46  
 10/30: Ps 119:41-48; Deut 6:1-9, 20-25; James 2:8-13; Num 33:38-39  
 10/31: Ps 119:41-48; Deut 10:10-22; James 2:14-26; Exod 34:29-35  
 11/1: Rev 7:9-17; 1 John 3:1-3; Matt 5:1-12  
 11/2: Ps 43; 1 Sam 2:27-36; Rom 2:17-29; Joshua 1:1-11  
 11/3: Ps 43; Ezekiel 13:1-16; 2 Peter 2:1-3; Joshua 2:1-14  
 11/4: Ps 43; Malachi 1:6-2:9; Matt 23:13-28; Joshua 2:15-24; Matt 23:13-28  
 11/5: Joshua 3:7-17; Micah 3:5-12; 1 Thess 2:9-13; Matt 23:1-12  
 11/6: Ps 5; Jer 5:18-31; 1 Thess 2:13-20; Joshua 4:1-24  
 11/7: Ps 5; Lamentations 2:13-17; Acts 13:1-12; Joshua 6:1-20  
 11/8: Ps 5; Proverbs 16:21-33; Matt 15:1-9; Joshua 10:12-14  
 11/9: Ps 70; Amos 1:1-2:5; Rev 8:6-9:12; Joshua 5:10-12  
 11/10: Ps 70; Amos 3:1-12; Rev 9:13-21; Joshua 8:30-35  
 11/11: Ps 70; Amos 4:6-13; Matt 24:1-14; Joshua 20:1-9

**10/15 10/22****Worship Attendance**

8:00 AM	103	121
10:30 AM	<u>137</u>	<u>121</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>242</b>

**Christian Education**

Age 3-PK	4	5
K-1st	5	4
2nd-3rd	6	6
4th-5th	4	4
6th-8th	3	0
Sr High	7	3
Disciples	9	8
New Beginnings	10	7
Sermon Study	8	7
Misc Adult Grps	<u>14</u>	<u>19</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>63</b>