

# The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 59 Issue 23

November 15, 2017



## Coming Events

- 11/19 8:00 & 10:30 am Worship  
9:15 am Sunday School  
5:00 pm youth@first
- 11/20 4:00 pm Basketball Practices  
8:00 pm AI Anon Meeting
- 11/21 9:00 am Bible Study  
5:00 pm Basketball Practices
- 11/22 8:30 am Unmet Needs Meeting
- 11/24 2:00 pm Carrol Hoover Bday Party
- 11/26 8:00 & 10:30 am Worship  
9:15 am Sunday School
- 11/27 4:00 pm Basketball Practices  
8:00 pm AI Anon Meeting
- 11/28 9:00 am Bible Study  
6:30 pm Elder Meeting
- 11/29 3:45 pm Kids Connection  
5:30 pm KC 5th Grade Practice  
6:30 pm Choir Practice
- 11/30 Noon Bible Study
- 12/1 7:00 am CWF Christmas Bazaar  
6:00 pm Pike County Youth League  
6:00 pm Girl Scout Meeting
- 12/2 10:00 am Pike County Youth League
- 12/3 8:00 & 10:30 am Worship  
9:15 am Sunday School  
5:00 pm youth@first  
5:00 pm Dining Room Rental

## CWF Christmas Bazaar

**The time is near! The CWF Christmas Bazaar will be Friday, December 1. Doors will be open 7:00-1:30. The Tea Room will be open 7:00-10:30. Lunch consisting of soups, sandwiches and pies will be served 11:00-1:30. The Love Raffle drawing will be at 1:30.**

Items would be appreciated for the Treasure Chest. Donations can include, but not limited to, knick knacks, jewelry, handbags, household items, small appliances, furniture, puzzles, books, toys, games, etc. Sorry, no clothing or electronics. Any questions contact Ruth Anne Goodin 285.2705 or Linda Decker 285.4042. Treasure Chest items can be brought to Crossroads beginning on Monday, Nov 27. Hours for donations will be 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, and 8:00 a.m. until noon on Thursday.

The Country Store needs your help in providing baked goodies and yummy snacks for the Bazaar. Large & small plastic containers have been ordered so we can sell 2 pieces of cake or 6 cookies or 2 cupcakes and/or 15 cookies or perhaps 1/2 cake. Many people will pick up a "treat" rather than a big item which may help our sales. Please keep this in mind as you bake your special recipes. We'll see if it works! Please share any ideas you may have that will boost our efforts.

Items for the Gift Room will be accepted November 27, 28, 29 & 30 in the Crossroads gym. Gift Room items should be handmade, or very gently used, and can be holiday-themed or not. We've had ornaments, handmade baby blankets & baby clothes, jewelry and wreaths in the past. Is there something you could add to the Gift Room? Please contact Jill Kunzeman at 309-264-3785 with your Gift Room questions.

**All 5th Graders participating in the Kids Connection Christmas Program** will have an extra practice on Wed, **Nov 29**, from 5:30 - 6:15. Bring instruments.

**Children singing in the Cantata** will practice during Children's Church at 10:30 service on **Dec 3 & 10**.

Contact Kayla if you have any questions.

Recently the Crossroads Center kitchen was inspected and received a perfect score! We praise you for a job well done in taking care of your kitchen and offering the building for community events!

**The Outreach Ministry's Adopt a Family program will kick-off on Sunday, Nov 19, when tags will be available for pickup.** Gifts will need returned by Wednesday, Dec 6, so Outreach can sort gifts on Saturday, Dec 9. Donations of nonperishable food items will be accepted through Dec 6 in the Long Room. **All helping hands would be appreciated when Outreach meets at 9:00 on Saturday, Nov 18 to prepare tags for the tree.**

The Pike County Ministerial Alliance will sponsor the **Pike County Community Thanksgiving Service** on Tuesday, **Nov 21**, at Milton Christian Church at 7:00. A meal will be served prior starting at 5:30. A love offering will be received.

*The Turkey Dinner last week was a magnificent time of fellowship for our church family. We want to thank everyone who was able to join us for the evening or received a carryout meal. We also want to thank our army of cooks who started preparing several days in advance to make the delicious meal.*

**Prayer Concerns:** Maurine Boren, Mary Chamberlain, Marjie Guthrie, Stacey Helms, Leonard Wade Summer DeJaynes (Ron & Joan Halsey's granddaughter) Vera Murr (Karl Benjamin's sister) Sharon Shannon (friend of Karl Benjamin)

Carrol Hoover will turn 90 years young on Nov 29. Come celebrate his birthday with light refreshments with his family and friends at Crossroads on Friday, **Nov 24**, from 2-4:00. No gifts please, but Carrol loves cards. Happy Birthday Carrol!

The **youth@first** Turkey Dinner distribution will be Sunday, **Nov 19**.

The **Elders** will meet at 6:30 on Tuesday, **Nov 28**.

The sanctuary will be decorated with poinsettias for Christmas. If you would like to purchase one in memory/honor of loved ones then please let the office know. Cost is \$10.

The church office will be closed Nov 23 & 24 for Thanksgiving.

Your boxes of 2018 predated offering envelopes will soon be available for pickup on Sundays. Contact the office if you would like to have your own designated box.

We've had requests to open the gym for walkers, but we need volunteers to sit in the gym office Monday - Thursday, 8:00-10:00a.m., January - March. We close for walking on days school is not in session. Contact Helen if you are interested in taking a day or two.

#### Looking Ahead...

Sunday, Dec 10: Christmas Caroling 5:00.

Sunday, Dec 17: Christmas Cantata 5:00.

Wednesday, Dec 20: Family Meal 5:30, Kids Connection Christmas Program 6:30.

Thursday, Dec 21: Children First Christmas Program 6:30.

Sunday, Dec 24: One morning Worship Service at 9:00am with no Sunday School. Christmas Eve Service 9:00pm.

Elder's Corner: November 2017

David K. Bishop

Don't you just hate it when a particular sermon sticks with you when you leave the church on Sunday. Sometimes I go to early service because I have something else to do later in the day and sometimes I go to the regular service because I want to relax before I have lunch and a nice nap. The recent series on the Ten Commandments, mostly Michael's revelations from the old rules, has gotten in the way of several Sunday activities.

In particular, Commandment number six, "You shall not murder", kept me awake that afternoon and has resonated all month. I am not a felon and have always considered eating what I had killed. Similarly, I grew up in the Vietnam era with conscientious objectors using the Bible to escape service. As Michael unpacked this commandment he changed the interpretation from taking of a life to keeping someone else from enjoying life with the heavenly Father. WOW!

The month of October and recent days in November have included a few days of my daughter being sick (in Waco, Texas), several pressures at work, another birthday for my spouse and daughter, and the deaths of a long-term friend in North Carolina and a co-worker here in Illinois. In addition, as I get closer to the big 60, I spent more money (college funds or retirement) on medical bills than I have personally spent in my entire life. Now, I am not one that worries a lot as long as I can be busy doing something else. So, please let me reveal some of the ponderings that came to me through these days.

1. God is GOD: I am not.
2. The greatest opportunity in my time here on earth is to improve my relationship with God (I have already accepted his plan for salvation).
3. "Good Things" that I do will not get me into Heaven but will:
  - A. Make "Daddy" happy
  - B. Keep me closer to his will for me, and receptive to the blessings that he makes available every day
  - C. Benefit the Church, charity, or other organization that facilitates the service, and
  - D. Pave the way for others to walk towards God
4. I am my brother's keeper (big burden if 1-3 are not handled properly)
  - A. Heaven celebrates new believers: It is not too small for more
  - B. There are 10 places in the Bible telling me not to be a "Stumbling Block"
  - C. My wife and Daughter may have to live here when I'm gone
  - D. The "roses" I give to others daily are far more valuable than flowers at their passing

By the way, I was just kidding in the first paragraphs. I am proud (sinfully) to know and learn from our Pastors and friends. Share the relationship joyfully through tough times.

## Excerpts from November 5, 2017 Congregational Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 11:43 am by Moderator David Koltveit. Administrative Secretary Rebecca Rhodes confirmed that the quorum of 15 was met. Elder David Bishop led in an opening prayer.

Recording Secretary Libby Boren read the minutes from the February 5, 2017 Congregational Meeting. Moderator Koltveit approved the minutes as read by general consensus.

Jeremy Schoenherr gave the nominating committee report: Moderator David Koltveit; Vice-Moderator Gary Mendenhall; Treasurer Michelle Hart; Recording Secretary Libby Boren; Trustee Glen Cooley; Elders N.D. Harrison, Kathy Hull, Brad Willman, and Ruth Bennett; Deacons, Amy Casto, Kathy Curfman, Carole Elledge, Keith Elledge, Ann Ferguson, Charlie Hull, Jessica Hull, Tammi Koltveit, Kay Sealock, Steve Tharp, Vickie Tharp. Additionally, Roger Dunham will fulfill Phil Sandidge's position through December 31, 2018. Jeremy Schoenherr motioned to approve all nominations; Roger Brokaw seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Rebecca Rhodes presented the proposed budget for 2018 in place of Hamer Tate, Chair of the Budget and Stewardship Committee. She summarized the following points:

Increases in the areas of Administration Compensation & Taxes (\$2939), Christian Education (\$1500, due primarily to increased VBS attendance), Evangelism (\$250), and Property—Church (\$4350, due primarily to needed repairs). She noted a proposed decrease of \$1200 in the area of Administration-other, mostly due to decreased newsletter costs. Other areas of the budget remained unchanged from 2017. The total budget for 2018 equals \$485,068 and requires an average weekly receipt of \$9,328.

Bobby Smith motioned to accept the 2018 Budget; this was seconded by Keith Elledge, and the budget passed unanimously.

Bobby Smith, Chair of the Farm Committee, presented an update on two properties given to the church. First, he explained the location of the Lovell town lot, which is accessible from E. Adams St and from a 30' strip of land that extends to E. Washington St. The Farm Committee believes that the property has an approximate value of \$15,000, and he asked the congregation to grant permission for the Committee to market the land for sale. Jenny Tate made motion to give the FCC Board approval to market and sell the property. Christie Mendenhall seconded the motion and it carried.

Bobby Smith then presented a summary of the ongoing negotiations to secure access to the Balsman Farm. Multiple issues arose in the course of the negotiations, and in the end the Committee determined that the cost would be too high. Mr. Smith answered questions from the congregation regarding the possible future of the Balsman Farm, but emphasized that there are no definite answers right now. He did not make any recommendations from the Committee at this time, but he hopes to have some more answers within a year. He also noted that land that sits adjacent to the Balsman Farm will be auctioned later in November, 2017. Following discussion, David Bishop moved to accept the report of the Farm Committee, and thanked them for their ongoing work. Jenny Tate seconded this motion, and it carried without further discussion.

Moderator David Koltveit recommended that in 2018, a task force begin making recommendations for building projects moving forward.

David Bishop motioned to ratify the actions of the Board for 2017; Joyce Lemons seconded, and the motion carried.

Judy Ferguson motioned to adjourn at 12:40 pm. Rokettia Brokaw seconded, and it carried. Pastor Michael Ten Eyck closed the meeting in prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Libby Boren

**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>11/5</b>	<b>11/12</b>
Operational	\$10,316.50	\$6,598.92
Property Improvement	153.00	23.00
Outreach-Missionaries	70.00	470.00
DHF	80.00	80.00
Outreach-General	61.00	17.00
Snack Pack	200.00	15.00
Operation Christmas Child	298.00	0
Adopt a Family	50.00	0
Unmet Needs	203.00	3.00
Congregational Park	0	20.00
Children First	<u>70.00</u>	<u>20.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$11,501.50</b>	<b>\$7,246.92</b>

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

Received Last 7 Days \$10,146.68 \$7,326.56  
 Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$9,004

The next newsletter will be printed the week of **November 27**.

**Lectionary**

11/19: Judges 4:1-7; Zeph 1:7-18; 1 Thess 5:1-11; Matt 25:14-30  
 11/20: Ps 9:1-14; Zeph 1:7-17; Romans 2:1-11; Judges 4:8-24  
 11/21: Ps 9:1-14; Zeph 2:1-5; 5:1-4; 1 Thess 5:12-18; Exodus 2:1-10  
 11/22: Ps 9:1-14; Job 16:1-21; Matt 24:45-51; Esther 7:1-10  
 11/23: Ps 100; Gen 48:15-22; Rev 14:1-11; 1 Kings 22:13-23; Rev 14:1-11  
 11/24: Ps 95:1-7a; 1 Chronicles 17:1-15; Rev 22:1-9; Isaiah 40:1-11  
 11/25: Ps 95:1-7a; Isaiah 44:21-28; Matt 12:46-50; Ezekiel 34:25-31  
 11/26: Ezek 34:11-24; Eph 1:15-23; Matt 25:31-46  
 11/27: Ps 117; Jer 30:1-17; Rev 21:5-27; Jer 46:18-28  
 11/28: Ps 117; Jer 30:18-24; Rev 22:8-21; Isa 33:17-22  
 11/29: Ps 117; Jer 31:1-6; Luke 1:1-4; Isa 60:8-16  
 11/30: Ps 80:1-19; Zech 13:1-9; Rev 14:6-13  
 12/1: Ps 80:1-19; Zech 14:1-9; 1 Thess 4:1-18  
 12/2: Ps 80:1-19; Micah 2:1-13; Matt 24:15-31

**Serving Schedule****November 19, 2017**

**Elder:** Wayne Chamberlain, Larry Wigington  
**Diaconate:** Betty Hayden, Faith Saxe, Barbara Fosco, Lauren Saxe, Rokettia Brokaw, Glen Cooley  
**8:00 Communion:** Carolyn Casteel, Kathy Willman  
**10:30 Communion:** Ruth Bennett, Kay Sealock  
**Scripture:** Kay Sealock  
**10:30 Nursery:** Shelby Bauer  
**10:30 Sound System:** Chaz Waterman  
**Shut-ins:** N.D. & Joyce Harrison, Hamer & Jenny Tate  
**Sunday School Superintendent:** Cindy Chamberlain

**November 26, 2017**

**Elder:** Jim Dain, Hamer Tate  
**Diaconate:** Noah Mendenhall, Debbie Robinson, Tom Robinson, Taylor Sweeting, Christie Mendenhall, Gary Mendenhall  
**8:00 Communion:** N.D. & Joyce Harrison  
**10:30 Communion:** Mike & Julie Boren  
**Scripture:** Cameron Sweeting  
**10:30 Nursery:** Emma Saxe  
**10:30 Sound System:** Lauren Saxe  
**Shut-ins:** Dave & Sandy Herring, Larry & Sandy Wigington  
**Sunday School Superintendent:** Joyce Lemons  
**Kids Connection Treats:** Kay Sealock, Joyce Lemons

	<b>11/5</b>	<b>11/12</b>
<b>Worship Attendance</b>		
8:00 AM	117	130
10:30 AM	<u>191</u>	<u>142</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>272</b>

**Christian Education**

Age 3-PK	4	4
K-1st	3	5
2nd-3rd	7	6
4th-5th	7	10
6th-8th	6	3
Sr High	3	4
Disciples	11	10
New Beginnings	9	8
Sermon Study	9	6
Misc Adult Grps	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>76</b>