

The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 60 Issue 4

February 14, 2018



Coming Events

- 2/18 8:00 & 10:30 am Worship
9:15 am Sunday School
5:00 pm youth@first
- 2/19 8:00 pm AI Anon
- 2/20 5:30 pm VBS Meeting
- 2/21 Dining Room Rental
9:00 am Bible Study
3:45 pm Kids Connection
6:30 pm Choir Practice
7:00pm Financial Peace
- 2/22 Noon Bible Study
- 2/25 8:00 & 10:30 am Worship
9:15 am Sunday School
5:00 pm youth@first
- 2/26 1:00 pm Blood Drive
8:00 pm AI Anon Meeting
- 2/27 6:30 pm Elder Meeting
- 2/28 8:30 am Pike County Unmet Needs
9:00 am Bible Study
3:45 pm Kids Connection
6:30 pm Choir Practice
7:00 pm Financial Peace
- 3/1 Noon Bible Study
2:00 pm Circle V Meeting
- 3/2 2:00 pm World Day of Prayer
6:00 pm Girl Scout Meeting
- 3/4 8:00 & 10:30 am Worship
9:15 am Sunday School
5:00 pm youth@first

Red Cross Blood Drive - February 26

Please mark your calendars to donate blood on Monday, February 26, at Crossroads - 1pm to 6pm. You may contact the Red Cross at: www.redcrossblood.org to make an appointment or call Barbara Fosco at 285-2608. RapidPass now has an app which can be downloaded to your smart phone or tablet. If you have this new app on your phone or tablet, there is a link to RapidPass. Otherwise, donors may use their web browser to go to: www.redcrossblood.org/RapidPass to complete their reading and questions before arriving at Crossroads. Be sure to bring your RapidPass with you or have it on your mobile device. If you complete RapidPass on your smart phone, just screen shot the code so you can pull it up when you arrive at the blood drive. Staff will scan the code and it reduces time at the blood drive by 15-20 minutes. To improve your iron levels, donors are encouraged to stay away from tea, caffeine, chocolate and high fiber diets for about a week prior to donating blood. Medications such as Prilosec and Omeprazole can also affect iron levels. If you take this type of medication, it is recommended that you take iron pills to help counter their affect.

Your donation WILL help save a life. Please take time to join us and donate on February 26th. If you have any questions about the blood drive or would like to volunteer to help that afternoon, please contact Barbara.

We will host a card shower and reception for Pastor Chaz and Kate after both services on Sunday, Feb 25. We hope you can join us in showing our appreciation for their time of ministry with FCC.

Orders have been coming in for the Children First gift card fundraiser through Scrip. If you do not need a gift card for someone, then you can purchase a card and use it for yourself. Call the office for more info or to place an order.

Circle V will help with the February birthday party at the Manor on Wed, **Feb 28**, at 2:00. **Circle V** will meet at 2:00 on Thurs, **Mar 1**.

On Wed, **Feb 21**, we will serve the **Rotary Ag Day luncheon** at Crossroads. All volunteer kitchen help would be appreciated. If you can, be here by 11:00. Contact Judy Ferguson, Karen Goodwin or Joyce Lemons.

There will be a **VBS meeting** on Tues, **Feb 20**, at 5:30.

The **Elders** will meet at 6:30 on Tues, **Feb 27**.

The Monday night **Volleyball League** will begin **March 5**. First match begins at 6:00. Players must be at least high school age. Cost is \$20. Contact Matt Sealock for more info or to sign up.

The church **Garage Sale** will be Friday and Saturday, **April 6 & 7**.

You are invited to **World Day of Prayer** service to be held Fri, **March 2**, 2:00 in our sanctuary. World Day of Prayer is supported by offerings given by individuals through these annual services. Each of the 170 countries celebrating World Day of Prayer has an ecumenical committee of women representing many cultures, races and faith traditions. Each country's committee is responsible for determining the use of the offering as it relates to the theme for each year. Offering grants are made to women and children's groups in each country.

The Disciples Class has finished the book of Mark, and is now studying the Psalms. All are welcome to join us in the Crossroads at 9:15 a.m. every Lord's Day.

Brad and Judy Losch are the proud grandparents of Greyson Erik Fencik born last week to Kirstie and Adam Fencik. Congratulations to all!

Prayer Concerns:

Mary Gates, Joyce Harrison, Mary Harshman, Stacey Helms, Emma Kaleta (John Calaway's sister), Scarlet Kirgan (Ada Hanback's great-granddaughter), Vera Murr (Karl Benjamin's sister), Sharon Shannon (Friend of Karl Benjamin)

We express our sympathy to the family and friends of the following who recently passed away:

Robert Dwinells - Angie Hittner's step-father;

Bryar Christianer - Nathan & Kyndle Christianer's son;

Brady Edwards - Jeffery & Rachel Edwards

Thank you everyone who gave of your time and helped with the snow and ice removal last Saturday evening and Sunday!

Church Family—Thank you all so much for your kind words, thoughts and prayers as we welcomed sweet Nora into the world. We are forever grateful to have such a caring church family beside us. Also, thank you to the shepherding committee for providing meals for our family the first week home. You have no idea how thankful we were and how helpful it was to not have to worry about dinner for the first week home. A special thanks to Michelle, Faith, Jade, Becky, and Jenny for the amazing meals. They were very yummy! We hope to see everyone soon. Thank you again. Love - Jeff, Heather, Grady, & Norah Evans.

Thank you to everyone who gave me a Christmas gift this year. My Save a Lot gift card has helped me out. Special thanks to the ladies in Circle I for their gift. I appreciate all of it. Many thanks, Karl Benjamin

Thank you Outreach Ministry for the fruit basket delivery. I appreciate you thinking of me. -Hilda Dunham.

Kendra Sydney is a freshman attending Central Christian College of the Bible in Moberly, MO to earn her bachelor's degree in cross-cultural ministry. She has completed an interview and been accepted to be part of an 8-member team going to a church in Lluidas Vale, Jamaica from March 20-30, 2018 assisting with VBS and leading Bible studies. Kendra is asking for prayers for the team and her as they go through various challenges preparing for the trip. Each team member also needs to raise \$1,200 for the trip. If you would like to financially support Kendra and make a tax-deductible donation, make your check payable to Central Christian College of the Bible and on the memo, write "Outreach Week Fund". If her name is anywhere on the check it cannot be tax deductible. Support can be mailed to Kendra Sydney, 911 E. Urbandale Drive, Ste 550, Moberly, MO 65270.

The Intentional Church Conference will be Saturday, **April 21**, at First Christian Church in Decatur. Featured speakers are Dave Summit of 242 Community Church and Roger Storms of Compass Christian Church. The cost is \$20 for advanced registration or \$25 at the door after Friday, April 13. Lunch and snacks are included. Visit intentionalchurchconference.com for more info or to register.

Congregational Meeting Minutes, February 4, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 11:55 am by Moderator David Koltveit. Administrative Secretary Rebecca Rhodes confirmed that the quorum of 16 was met. Elder Larry Wigington led in an opening prayer.

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

Bethany Dunham reviewed the 2017 financial report and attendance statistics. 2017 receipts totaled \$478,739, which was above what was budgeted, and expenditures totaled \$393,095, which was lower than budgeted. She reviewed the 2018 budget, which was approved at the November 5, 2017 Congregational Meeting: Budgeted expenditures total \$485,068, with a weekly need of \$9,328 to meet the budget. She also noted that in 2017, a new fund was established for church construction and renovation. As of December 31, 2107, this fund had a balance of \$78,198. Additionally, the Trustees took out a CD in the amount of \$85,000 which is designation for church renovation/construction.

Average Sunday attendance for 2017 was 253 individuals. Pastor Michael Ten Eyck commented on the 2017 attendance statistics, and noted that though the average attendance did drop by 6 individuals per week, the trend has been upward since July of 2017.

Hamer Tate motioned to accept the 2017 Financial and Statistics review; this was seconded by Bobby Smith, and it carried unanimously.

Pastor Michael Ten Eyck summarized the church goals for 2018. He expressed thanks to Pastor Chaz Waterman and Kate for their commitment and service to First Christian Church in the past three years. He also thanked those who have stepped up to fill gaps during this staffing transition. In 2018, he hopes to facilitate a smooth staffing transition. Other goals include continuing to refine the new worship format, expansion of Kids Connection and recruitment of new volunteers, increase in attendance and baptisms, missions growth, continued research on building repairs, renovation, and new construction. Additionally, children Frist will be evaluated in 2018, as it was given 18 months to become financially self-sufficient, and the 18 months will expire in 2018.

Pastor Michael Ten Eyck then presented a short video encouraging everyone to find a place to serve in the one or more of the many ministry areas of the church. ND Harrison gave a report on the work he and Wayne Chamberlain have done with the jail ministry over the past 7 years, and he cited the tremendous blessing he has experience by serving in this way. He encouraged the congregation to consider when they have been given and to use those gifts in service to others.

This was followed by other updates from various ministries of the church: Larry Wigington thanked the Elder for their service to the church, and also recognized Rebecca Rhodes for the work she does throughout the week. Delores Martin gave an update on CWF and exhorted the younger women in the church to get involved with a CWF circle or service event. Wayne Chamberlain noted the current need for a representative to serve on the Board for Mississippi Valley Christian Service Camp. Hamer Tate noted some of the recent work the Property Committee has done throughout the church grounds and buildings and ask for others to get involved in helping. Joyce Lemons thanked Helen Earls for her work with Christian Education, Children First, and Crossroads Center. A comprehensive list of ministry areas was projected on the overhead screen for the congregation to consider where they may become involved.

Moderator David Koltveit noted that Task Force members began meeting in January, 2018 to begin to work of determining the next right step in moving toward a church renovation or new construction project. He thanked the Task Force members for their work so far and moving forward.

ND Harrison motioned to ratify the actions and decisions of the Board of Officers since the last Congregational Meeting; David Bishop seconded, and the motion carried.

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Libby Boren

Thank you to all who helped make the Valentine dinner another huge success! It was a wonderful evening with great food and even greater fellowship! It is a wonderful opportunity for the youth to serve the congregation and to work with each other in the set up and the serving. There were 21 youth who participated. They all looked so sharp and we are very proud of them.

A special thank you goes to Betty Hayden who headed up this project in the kitchen with Judy Ferguson and Karen Goodwin's assistance. Betty has done this for the youth for many years. She truly loves the kids and they love her! She does an amazing job!! We are also extremely grateful for Judy and Karen's participation. They truly have a servant's heart! Thank you, ladies!!

We want to thank the parents who came one or both days or stayed to clean up for their support of the kids and this ministry. Proverbs 22: 6 says "*Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it.*" Thank you, parents, for seeing the importance of Christian Education in your children's lives and providing transportation to get them here every week! We value the trust you place in us.

Also, a big thank you to Michael Ten Eyck for cutting the steaks, Joyce Lemons for washing table cloths, the Dad's that stood out in the cold for hours cooking the meat – Michael Ten Eyck, Gary Mendenhall, and Scott Palmer, the Mom's that helped in the kitchen and with the serving, Katie Hull for heading up the decorating, our college students who came back and helped out, and Chaz and Kate Waterman, Matt Sealock, Matt and Faith Saxe, Libby and Zack Boren, and Kayla Boren for their leadership with the kids and for helping serve. We have great youth leaders and we are grateful for all of them!! We could not have done it without all of you!

I would also like to thank the congregation for always supporting the youth in all they do. You are the best! We are grateful to have such a loving and supporting church family. God Bless you all!!

Helen and the youth@first

This past Sunday we heard an amazing testimony from Joyce Harrison. If you were not there, I would like to direct you to our website where it has been posted to the video archive.

Joyce shared her roller coaster journey of receiving the diagnosis of stage four bone cancer and then after several long weeks, learning that it was not cancer. A biopsy revealed something different for which there are treatment options. Certainly the news that it was not cancer was a huge answer to prayers, but Joyce's testimony did not center on just that good news. She shared of the impact of the event on her faith journey.

I appreciated the Holy Spirit moving on Joyce to share on the same day I was ministering on the topic of dealing with continued trials and faith. There were two points that our dear sister shared that really impacted me. The first was how understanding the sovereignty of God can make a huge difference when trials come.

In Daniel's life we observed two constants. The first was that trials continually come, and the second was that Daniel's faithfulness to God kept him in the position to see God's faithfulness. At any moment Daniel could have thrown in the towel, but he did not. Because of this he got to witness God's power in some truly miraculous ways.

Sometimes the best vantage point to witness God's faithfulness is actually in the fiery furnace or in the lion's den.

The second point that Joyce made that inspired me was that through this process she resolved to share God's greatness. We now have a catchphrase for the year. It is one that each one of us can take hold of and put into practice. It will help strengthen and grow the church, as well as help us fulfill the great commission.

"Two Thousand One Eight, tell someone God is great!"

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

Stewardship (Offering Only)	<u>2/4</u>	<u>2/11</u>
Operational	\$6,404.80	\$6,731.40
Property Improvement	58.00	3.00
Church Construction/Renova	25.00	0.00
Outreach-Missionaries	120.00	70.00
DHF	25.00	25.00
Outreach-General	63.00	3.00
Snack Pack	15.00	100.00
Unmet Needs	3.00	100.00
youth@first	25.00	20.00
Children First	<u>275.00</u>	<u>135.00</u>
Total	\$7,013.80	\$7,187.40

Operating Receipts (Offering, Rentals, etc.)

Received Last 7 Days \$7,609.76 \$5,900.15
 Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$9,328

Lectionary

2/18: Gen 9:8-17; Ps 25:1-10; 1 Pet 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15
 2/19: Ps 77; Job 4:1-21; Eph 2:1-10
 2/20: Ps 77; Job 5:8-27; 1 Pet 3:8-18a
 2/21: Ps 77; Prov 30:1-9; Matt 4:1-11
 2/22: Ps 22:23-31; Gen 15:1-18; Rom 3:21-31
 2/23: Ps 22:23-31; Gen 16:1-6; Rom 4:1-12
 2/24: Ps 22:23-31; Gen 16:7-15; Mark 8:27-30
 2/25: Gen 17:1-16; Ps 22:23-31; Rom 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38
 2/26: Ps 105:1-45; Gen 21:1-7; Heb 1:8-12
 2/27: Ps 105:1-45; Gen 22:1-19; Heb 11:1-19
 2/28: Ps 105:1-45; Jer 30:12-22; John 12:36-43
 3/1: Ps 19; Ex 19:1-9a; 1 Pet 2:4-10
 3/2: Ps 19; Ex 19:9b-15; Acts 7:30-40
 3/3: Ps 19; Ex 19:16-25; Mark 9:2-8

Serving Schedule

February 18, 2018

Elder: Judy Ferguson, Ruth Bennett
Diaconate: Taylor Sweeting, Sonya Bishop, Zack Boren, Michelle Hart, Kevin Hittner, Ciera Anderson
8:00 Communion: N.D. & Joyce Harrison
10:30 Communion: Mike & Julie Boren
Scripture: Michelle Gates
10:30 Nursery: Emma Saxe
10:30 Sound System: Kate Waterman
Shut-ins: Greg & Kim Bonnett, Dave & Sandy Herring
Sunday School Superintendent: Kathy Curfman
Kids Connection Treats Feb 21: Brenda Ator, Ann Ferguson

February 25, 2018

Elder: Matt Saxe, N.D. Harrison
Diaconate: Kay Sealock, Debbie Robinson, Tom Robinson, Eli Ten Eyck, Tammi Koltveit, Taylor Sweeting
8:00 Communion: Richard & Rebecca Rhodes
10:30 Communion: Zack & Libby Boren
Scripture: N.D. Harrison
10:30 Nursery: Ellie Ten Eyck
10:30 Sound System: Cherise Anderson
Shut-ins: Mike & Julie Boren, Joyce Lemons
Sunday School Superintendent: Kay Sealock
Kids Connection Treats Feb 28: Wanda Mendenhall, Brenda Ator

	<u>2/4</u>	<u>2/11</u>
Worship Attendance		
8:00 AM	123	108
10:30 AM	<u>167</u>	<u>122</u>
Total	290	230
Christian Education		
Age 3-PK	4	5
K-1st	3	3
2nd-3rd	8	5
4th-5th	5	6
6th-8th	2	5
Sr High	4	2
Disciples	14	8
New Beginnings	8	7
Sermon Study	5	7
Misc Adult Grps	<u>27</u>	<u>24</u>
Total	80	72