

The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 60 Issue 21

September 26, 2018



Coming Events

9/30	8:00 & 10:30 am Worship 9:15 am Sunday School 9:15 am Baptism Class 5&6:00 pm Youth Group
10/1	1:00 pm Interagency Meeting 8:00 pm AI Anon Meeting
10/2	8:30 am Bible Study Noon N. A. Meeting 6:00 pm Girl Scout Meeting
10/3	3:45 pm Kids Connection 6:30 pm Choir Practice
10/4	Noon Bible Study 2:00 pm Circle V Meeting
10/5	6:00 pm Girl Scout Meeting
10/7	8:00 & 10:30 am Worship 9:15 am Sunday School 5&6:00 pm Youth Group
10/8	6:30 pm Circle I Meeting 8:00 pm AI Anon
10/9	8:30 am Bible Study Noon N.A. Meeting 6:30 pm Church Board Meeting
10/10	8:30 am Unmet Needs Meeting 3:45 pm Kids Connection 6:30 pm Choir Practice
10/11	9:30 am Circle IV Meeting Noon Bible Study
10/14	8:00 & 10:30 am Worship 9:15 am Sunday School 5&6:00 pm Youth Group

The **Church Board** will meet Tues, **Oct 9**, 6:30. Packets will be ready Oct 7.

New Additions!

Congratulations to Libby and Zack Boren on the birth of their son, Levi Mark Boren. Also, congratulations to Anna Speckhart and Carlos Quirarte on the birth of their daughter, June Sue Speckhart-Quirarte.

Pastor Michael will lead an **Adult Baptism Class** this coming Sunday, **Sept 30**, 9:15 in the sanctuary. There will be discussion and time to answer any questions you may have.

Exciting Youth News!

At Orange Conference, we discussed what it meant to build a 'safe place' in the church for our kiddos to feel! Can you believe that something as little as a rug or a couch can make a difference?

Kids sit at a desk all week at school with their feet on the floor and hands on their lap. We want them to be able to 'unload' and relax on Sunday morning and get comfortable so that we can grow in our relationships with each other & with God! Sunday School and Kids Connection both put a heavy focus on connecting with each other and real-life scenarios that sometimes require real life, and sometimes difficult, conversations! We are working on purchasing comfortable rugs, pillows, and futon couches for the older Sunday School classroom & Kids Connection classrooms!

We have chosen what we think will be a great fit! If you are wanting to contribute to the children's ministry, but not sure where it is needed, we would be grateful for your support. You can memo your check in the offering, or you can bring your donation to the admin building. This is very important for the growth of our kids & the 'Orange' aspect! We are excited! Thank you for your love!

Kids Connection for grades K-5th will begin next Wed, Oct 3. This ministry will begin immediately after school until 5:15 at Crossroads on Wednesdays from October through March and include lesson, games and light snack. We will pick up kids at South School and PCS with the church bus and van and bring them to Crossroads. Contact the church office if you have any questions. **Permission forms need returned ASAP.**

Christmas Cantata Practice will start next Wed, **Oct 3**, 6:30. The Cantata will be Sunday, Dec 16. Contact Choir Director Kayla Boren if you have any questions.

On Thursday, **Oct 18**, we will **prepare and serve** the Republican Dinner at Crossroads. Contact Kay Sealock if you are available to help.

Children First is needing **1 gallon plastic milk/water jugs** for a project. You can bring your empty, rinsed jugs to the admin building. The lids are not necessary.

FINANCIAL PEACE CLASSES: Do you want to start the New Year with Financial Peace? We are pleased to announce that Tammi Koltveit and Jill Moss will be offering Financial Peace University (FPU). This is a 9-class program, each class lasting 45 minutes. The first class will begin Wednesday, **October 10th**. Classes will be held in the long room starting at 6:30. Child care will be provided. With the FPU class, you CAN take control of your money and start planning for your future. For more info, contact Tammi if you have questions, would like additional information and to sign up. She can be reached at tjkolt@gmail.com or 217-370-6194.

Prayer Concerns: Dora Lee Claus, Stacey Helms, Betty Hoover, Shirley Loyd, Don Martin, Mary Wintjen, Norm & Nanci Bryant (Dave Bryant's parents), Dick Laingor (Ann Ferguson's cousin),

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

*Yvonne Claus Griffeth Ballard - Sandy Reel's mother,
Richard Kindle - Kathy Kindle's husband,
Jane Lightle - Mike Lightle's sister,
Grace Long - Kathy Willman's mother,
Wilma Timbrook Hayes - Yvonne Stauffer's mother,
Mike Waid - Friend of Karl Benjamin*

*Dear First Christian Church Members,
Thank you so much for the delicious cookies. It was so nice to have a sweet treat to start off the school year. South Elementary teachers and staff appreciated your thoughtfulness.*

*Sincerely,
Angie Ruebush, South Elem. Principal*

Gaylord and Jo Rhodes have moved to Curtis Creek Retirement Home in Quincy. Their new address is Gaylord & Jo Rhodes, 823 S. 36th Street, Apt 246, Quincy, IL 62301.

Volunteer Brunch
Eastside Health & Rehab Center
Friday, **Sept 28**, 10:00
RSVP 285-4491

Shoebox Run

5K & 1 mile run/walk; Sat, **Oct 13**.

8:00 a.m. registration, 8:30 a.m. race begins.

Race begins & ends at Pittsfield Church of the Nazarene.

Bike, pet, and stroller friendly course.

All proceeds benefit Operation Christmas Child.

Registration forms are in our church office and on sanctuary mantels. Contact Sue Grigsby suegrigsby44@gmail.com.

Trivia Night

Sat, **Oct 27**, 6:00 p.m., Farm Bureau Hall.

Proceeds benefit Mississippi Valley Christian Service Camp.

Teams will be \$100 for 6 members.

Sandwiches, chips and drinks will be available for purchase.

Please do not bring outside food or drinks.

Please pre-register and make check to MVCSC.

Contact Becky Winner 285-5116

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

As in past years, we will be supporting the Operation Christmas Child again this year. Watch for more information in the coming weeks. The National Collection Week is November 12–19, 2018. **The Outreach Committee would like all shoeboxes to be turned in by October 28th.** We do have the shoeboxes available. The church will be covering the cost of the shipping. It is our plan to support different or additional International outreach opportunities for the coming years. With this goal in mind, if your heart leads you to give towards an international outreach, could you please just mark your giving as such rather than specifically to "Operation Christmas Child". We will continue to provide information as to the opportunities throughout the community for those interested in supporting the Operation Christmas Child, but as a church, we may not be collecting the shoeboxes in the coming years.

We will not have Celebration Sunday on Sunday, **Sept 30**. We will have our regular schedule.

October Birthdays & Anniversaries: **1** Jane Calaway, C.J. Hayes; **2** Don Martin, Cindi Schoenherr, Alyssa & Brandi Cothren, Tracey Reel; **3** Ann Ferguson, Caleb & Hayley Wombles; **4** Larry Howard, Linda Decker, Wayne & Cindy Chamberlain; **5** Mattie Bishop; **6** Jenny Tate, Preston & Bethany Dunham; **7** Michael & Julie Boren, Cindy Chamberlain, Ed & Rosi Picone; **8** Bill Grimsley; **9** Korey & Lisa Wombles; **10** Gary & Deana Jones; **11** Robert Crowder, Don Houchins; **12** Chuck Barber, Cathy Lacey, Steve & Betty Hayden; **13** Terra Schoenherr; **14** Deloras Martin, Ashley Ferguson, Hudson Moss; **15** Helen Earls; **16** Karl Benjamin, Buddy & Chris Crowder, Cade Tomhave; **17** Gary & Christie Mendenhall; **18** Michele Westmaas; **19** Andrew Westmaas; **20** Larry & Sandy Wigington, Steve & Kathy Lehr, Jaunae Bacon; **22** Mary Gates; **24** Dave & Gena Londrie; **26** Elaine Hoaglin, McKenzie Tomhave, Brian & Hannah Roig; **27** Joyce Groom, Betty Hoover, Adam Ruble, Scott Palmer; **28** Tammi Koltveit; **29** Linda Belford, Judy Sweeting, Bill & Eleanor Jenkins; **30** Becky Irwin, Roger & Dorothy Yaeger, Austin Wintjen, Sarah Tharp, Craig Gengler.

Kids Connection

Wednesday, October 3

Immediately after school until 5:15

**Forms need returned to the church office
as soon as possible.**



Board Meeting Excerpts From Sept 11, 2018

Opening prayer and devotion was led by Elder Brad Willman. Brad spoke about faith and wisdom from the book of James. We need to let the Holy Spirit lead us. The August minutes were approved by general consensus.

Minister's Report: Pastor Michael and Hamer recently recoated the fellowship hall roof. Leaks seem to have stopped.

In conjunction with the Trustees, an account has been established for the church to accept transferal of gifts in the form of stocks and mutual funds as a direct donation.

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources officer states 1,081 board feet of lumber was stolen from the Balsman Farm having a \$1.90 per board feet value. The logs are currently at a sawmill near Martinsburg. We should soon receive payment for the sale of those logs to the sawmill at the previously stated price. We still need to settle with the individual who stole the logs.

The Taskforce met September 5 and will meet September 12 with the Aspen Group to get another opinion on the financial aspect of building a new sanctuary and/or education wing.

The church now has presence on Facebook via parents at first, youth@first and First Christian Church. These sites will be used for timely informational purposes.

Michael will speak in Flora, IN on Sunday, September 16, to do a Disciple Heritage Fellowship Q&A.

In two weeks, we will have an individual knowledgeable in sound systems give training for our current volunteers and anyone interested.

Michael has been speaking with the family and friends of Kevin Hittner who passed September 7.

Treasurer's Report: Michelle Hart reported that as of August 31, 2018: Total Checking/Savings Assets = \$559,632.86. Total Unrestricted Checking = \$100,000.00. Total Budgeted Receipts = \$322,254.33 (\$5,090.33 over budget). Total Budgeted Disbursements = \$241,491.52 (\$78,994.48 below budget). Statement of Cash Flow on Nonbudgeted Receipts Total = \$48,584.86 and Nonbudgeted Disbursements = \$25,388.43 for a difference of \$23,196.43.

Michelle noted that 4 new deposits designated for the church construction/renovation totaling \$600 were made in the month of August. Also, \$13,266.86 was reclassified from the general unrestricted checking account. The Church construction/renovation fund now totals \$169,903.72.

Year-to-date worship attendance averaged 281 per week through August 31.

Hamer made the motion for the Trustees to find the best liquid investment that has a high yield for short term for the \$169,903.72 church construction/renovation designated funds. David seconded, and motion carried.

Charlie moved to approve the Treasurer's report; Roger Dunham seconded, and the motion carried.

Trustees: Charlie reported the Trustees met September 5 to discuss the \$85,000 investment coming due that is designated towards church construction/renovation. The Trustees decided to renew the funds where they are for 1 year at Integrity Investments & Financial Services in Pittsfield.

Children First: Annual meeting will be Sunday, September 16.

Balsman Property: The fall cash rent installment will be received in October.

Lovell Town Lot: We will place an ad in the newsletter asking for buyers or assistance in selling the lot.

New Business

David Koltveit announced the appointment of the Nominating Committee: Elders – N.D. Harrison (chair) and Judy Ferguson, Deacons – Burdette Irwin and Michelle Hart, Two voting members – Judy Sweeting and Linda Belford. Charlie approved, Gary seconded, motion carried.

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Board Meeting Excerpts From Sept 11, 2018 Continued...

Pastor Michael reported Kacie Lipcaman has been assisting with Children's Church, Kids Connection, youth Sunday School and VBS. The Executive Committee is recommending the hiring of Kacie as part-time Director of Christian Education at \$13 per hour at 10 hours per week and possibly up to 20. Michael made the motion, Larry seconded, and the motion carried.

The Task Force is proposing to inform the congregation on Sunday, September 23, there are plans to build a sanctuary and/or education wing. Information will be given via pulpit, fireside chats, etc. David Bishop made the Task Force motion, Hamer seconded, and motion carried.

Charlie reported he took the bus to Perry for testing then the bus would not start there. Hopefully a new starter will fix it. Judy moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:08pm; David Bishop seconded, and Pastor Michael closed the meeting in prayer.

Lettered Olives

My family loves the ocean. The vastness of the sea calls to my father in particular, and so yearly pilgrimages to the shoreline were standard for much of my childhood. We visited Florida, California, Alabama, and the Bahamas each in an attempt to view and appreciate the watery scenes. Of these trips, the most memorable was our trip to Captiva, Florida. What makes Captiva special, besides having a small island vibe and good restaurants (I enjoyed a slice of cake the size of my head), is that the topography of the ocean floor surrounding the island allowed for a massive influx of seashells. Walking along the beach could even be painful near the water due to the excessive amount of shells that would wash up on shore.

During our stay in Captiva, we would visit the beach perhaps twice a day, each time scouring the sand for pretty shells. It wasn't just the quantity of shells that allowed for such a great shelling culture, but rather the diversity. There were an incredible number of different shells that could be found along the beaches, each stunning in its own way. There was one shell, however, that stood out among the rest for both its unique beauty as well as its rarity. This shell was the "Lettered Olive." On the journey to our rented condo, my father had explained to my sisters and I the importance of the shells, emphasizing the grandeur of the famed "Lettered Olive." Looking back, I'm certain that were I to inquire an expert as to their market value, the seashells I held in such awe would amount to no more than a few dozen cents; however, my young mind wrapped itself around finding these seashells with fervor comparable to a pirate seeking out buried treasure.

On our last trip to the beach, we waded out into the surf with the same intentions of swimming and looking for shells that we had all week. While I had found several nice conches and olives throughout our stay, I wanted sorely to cap off the vacation with a spectacular day of seashell hunting. I quickly realized that my good luck in finding the elusive olives had dissipated. I spent what felt like ages rummaging around on the bottom of the shallows without a single find. At the time, my relationship with God was somewhat primitive as all children's are. This being the case, I decided that praying for luck was my best option, and a perfectly reasonable and relevant request to bring before the master of the universe. I began to pray selfishly. No later had I begun my folly than I realized that I wasn't the only one frustrated with the day's poor yield. I saw my father several yards away intently scooping up sand and sifting through it--to no avail. I remembered the importance of the ocean and seashells to him, and my young heart filled with something less akin to selfishness. While I was still missing the point of prayer, I did get a little closer to it that day. Instead of praying for my own success, I prayed for my father's. Not long after I concluded Dad pulled up multiple beautiful shells. I was equally excited that he had found them and surprised that my prayer had worked--sort of.

We concluded our stay in Captiva by going to a local church on Sunday. The service was nice, though unmemorable. But, as we walked out, there was a basket of trinkets for the children to take from as they left. When it came my turn to reach in, I found myself in possession of one last lettered olive. While I'm uncertain that it was a direct answer to my prayer, it certainly became a reference to the orchestrations of the almighty in my youngest years.

There are several lessons that I have taken away from this experience as I have pondered it over time. The first is that, in any prayer, an essential quality is selflessness. While prayer is often mistaken for a wish list, it must become a time of losing ourselves and coming closer to God and others if it is to truly have an impact on our worldview. I can't focus on myself AND God--he's too big for that. Another interesting way of looking at my experience is that, sometimes coming closer to God means giving up things of value. God's love is the ultimate treasure. All else pales in comparison: money, cars, power, and especially seashells. Similarly, the last thing I learned was that giving up thing that hold dear can open up doors for God to bless us. I gave up my chance to find something special, only to find something equally special at church.

-Eli Ten Eyck

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
 Helen Earls, Programs & Christian Ed
 Kayla Boren, Music
 Kacie Lipcaman, 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, 10:30am
Sunday School: 9:15am

Stewardship (Offering Only)	9/16	9/23
Operational	\$6,840.64	\$6,569.80
Property Improvement	3.00	3.00
Church Construction/Renova	50.00	25.00
Outreach-Missionaries	70.00	70.00
DHF	25.00	25.00
Outreach-General	7.00	28.00
Unmet Needs	50.00	3.00
Christian Education	100.00	420.00
Kids Connection	55.00	0.00
Snack Pack	0.00	0.00
Children First	<u>140.00</u>	<u>185.00</u>
Total	\$7,340.64	\$7,328.80

Operating Receipts (Offering, Rentals, etc.)
 Received Last 7 Days \$7,305.64 \$6,969.80
 Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$9,328

Lectionary
 9/30: Esther 7:1-10, 9:20-22; Num 11:4-29; James 5:13-20; Mark 9:38-50
 10/1: Ps 140; Esther 4:1-17; 1 Peter 1:3-9
 10/2: Ps 140; Esther 5:1-14; 1 John 2:18-25
 10/3: Ps 140; Esther 8:1-17; Matt 18:6-9
 10/4: Ps 26; Job 2:11-3:26; Gal 3:23-29
 10/5: Ps 26; Job 4:1-21; Rom 8:1-11
 10/6: Ps 26; Job 7:1-21; Luke 16:14-18
 10/7: Job 2:1-10; Gen 2:18-24; Heb 1:1-4, 2:5-12; Mark 10:2-16
 10/8: Ps 55:1-15; Job 8:1-22; 1 Cor 7:1-9
 10/9: Ps 55:1-15; Job 11:1-20; 1 Cor 7:10-16
 10/10: Ps 55:1-15; Job 15:1-35; Matt 5:27-36
 10/11: Ps 22:1-15; Job 17:1-16; Heb 3:7-19
 10/12: Ps 22:1-15; Job 18:1-21; Heb 4:1-11
 10/13: Ps 22:1-15; Job 20:1-29; Matt 15:1-9

Serving Schedule

September 30, 2018
Elder: Helen Earls, Judy Ferguson
Diaconate: Charlie Hull, Jessica Hull, Tammi Koltveit, Steve Tharp, Vickie Tharp
8:00 Communion: Dan & Sue Speckhart
10:30 Communion: Jamie & Sarah Sweeting
Scripture: Cameron Sweeting
10:30 Nursery: Emma Saxe
Shut-ins: Joyce Lemons, Greg & Kim Bonnett
Children's Church: 8:00 Bethany 10:30 Korey & Lisa
Kids Connection Treats Oct 3: Judy Dunham, Carole Elledge

October 7, 2018
Elder: Matt Saxe, N.D. Harrison
Diaconate: Gary Mendenhall, Cherise Anderson, Betty Hayden
8:00 Communion: Hamer & Jenny Tate
10:30 Communion: Ruth Bennett, Kay Sealock
Scripture: TBA
10:30 Nursery: Shelby Bauer
Shut-ins: Kay McKinney, Mike & Julie Boren
Children's Church: 8:00 Michelle 10:30 Matt
Fellowship Treats: Rebecca Rhodes, Sonya Bishop, Kay Sealock, Vera Staffy
Kids Connection Treats Oct 10: Kay McKinney, Barbara Fosco

Wishes & Wants
Free: 3 #02 inks new still in the box for a printer. Carole Elledge 285.4929.
For Sale: Lot on the east edge of Pittsfield. Contact the church office or Bobby Smith if you are interested in purchasing the lot or would like to help the church sell it.

	9/16	9/23
Worship Attendance		
8:00 AM	117	103
10:30 AM	<u>164</u>	<u>166</u>
Total	281	269
Christian Education		
Age 3-PK	7	7
K-1st	6	5
2nd-3rd	5	3
4th-5th	11	7
6th-8th	11	7
Sr High	0	0
Disciples	11	12
New Beginnings	6	5
Sermon Study	4	8
Misc Adult Grps	<u>23</u>	<u>23</u>
Total	84	77