

# The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 61 Issue 3

January 29, 2019



## Coming Events

- 2/3 8:00 & 10:30 am Worship  
9:15 am Sunday School  
11:45 am Congregational Meeting  
5:00 pm Youth Group
- 2/4 1:00 pm Interagency Meeting  
5:00 pm Open Gym  
8:00 pm AI Anon Meeting
- 2/5 8:30 am Bible Study  
6:00 pm Girl Scout Meeting
- 2/6 3:45 pm Kids Connection  
6:30 pm Choir Practice
- 2/7 Noon Bible Study  
6:00 pm Emergency Mgt Meeting
- 2/10 8:00 & 10:30 am Worship  
9:15 am Sunday School  
5:00 pm Valentine Dinner
- 2/11 6:30 pm Circle I Meeting  
8:00 pm AI Anon Meeting
- 2/12 8:30 am Bible Study  
6:30 pm Board Meeting
- 2/13 8:30 am Unmet Needs Meeting  
3:45 pm Kids Connection  
6:30 pm Choir Practice
- 2/14 9:30 am Circle IV Meeting  
Noon Bible Study

The **February Congregational Meeting** will be Sun, **Feb 3**, immediately after the 10:30 worship service. Agenda includes review of 2018 and discuss sanctuary remodel. Reports can be found on the sanctuary mantel.

**The annual Youth Group Valentine Dinner Fundraiser will be Sunday, Feb 10, at 5 p.m.** Doors will open at 4:30. A large chicken breast dinner will be \$15, and a very nice ribeye steak dinner will be \$20. 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 what you can't eat. This will be the youth's only fundraiser this year and we think this is a great way for the kids to serve, make money and build relationship with those in the congregation. **The deadline to call the office with your reservation is Mon, Feb 4. Parents of youth need to call in a meal choice even if you will be working. This is a fantastic meal so invite your family, friends and neighbors!**

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 carryout order. Choices are cheesecake, turtle cheesecake, cherry pie, and angel food cake.

When you make your reservation, let us know if you are interested in childcare at Crossroads that evening. Children will need to eat before they arrive or parents can bring food for them. Please know that as always, all children are welcome to the fundraiser meal with their family.

*Congratulations to Eddie White for being elected 2018 CMF Layman of the year! Eddie has been a faithful member of the group for many years.*

**Easter choir practices** will start at 6:30 on Wed, **March 6**.

*On Sunday, January 20, Russ Baker came forward during 8:00 service, claimed his faith in Jesus Christ and placed his membership with FCC. We are excited to have Russ worship with us each week and welcome him to the church family!*

## Youth Group News

This coming Sunday, **Feb 3**, junior high and high school will have a combined meeting starting at 5:00. Bring snacks to share as everyone is welcome to stay and watch the football game!

**Junior High Parents:** Cost for BELIEVE Conference is \$60 payable to the church. We also have a health and permission form that needs completed.

**Jr. High and High School Girls:** Our 'Beauty by the Book' 9:15am class will begin on Sunday, **February 10** upstairs at Crossroads Center. (Guys, your class will continue with a great study until the gals get back!) We are expecting the class to last through March. The study is based on the Book of Proverbs. We will meet 'ladies' known to all of us (what does that mean? come find out!) through our Bible study as well as guest speakers (truly beautiful ladies!) and we will discuss ways to recognize and become the Biblical beauties God created! Bring your friends for this special gathering - there will be food! See you Feb. 10!

**Prayer Concerns:** Dora Lee Claus, Vivian Cloninger, Judy Ferguson, Karen Goodwin, Stacey Helms, Vera Murr, Chris Phipps, Sharon Shannon, Vera Staffy, Mary Wintjen, Kathy Clark (Hayley Wombles' aunt)  
Lauren Fencik (Friend of Ashli Freesmeyer)  
We express our sympathy to the family and friends of the following who recently passed: Betty Ragar, Darlene Smith, Greg Smithers.

#### Upcoming Crossroads Center Events

The **CEO Banquet** will be Sat, **Feb 2**. Let Kay Sealock know if you can help.

Matt Sealock will host **Open Gym** for basketball at Crossroads on Monday, **Feb 4** from 5-6:30.

CWF will host an **American Red Cross Blood Drive** on Mon, **Feb 18**, at Crossroads Center from 1-6pm. Contact Barbara Fosco for more info.

The **Volleyball League** will begin in Mon, **Feb 25** so start getting your team ready! Contact Matt Sealock for info or to sign up. Cost \$20 per person.

The church **Garage Sale** will be Friday and Saturday, **April 5 & 6**. While the winter weather has you confined to your home, start looking now for items you can donate! More details later.

*Our family would like to thank everyone for all the prayers and cards during Mom's illness and passing. A very special thank you to Pastor Michael for his support and the beautiful service when Mom passed. Thank you, also, to everyone who helped provide the funeral dinner. The compassion shown to us by our wonderful church family has been such a blessing to us during this difficult time. Mom loved her church family very much.  
-The Family of Darlene Smith.*

*Thank you to everyone who helped in any way with the Darlene Smith and Greg Smithers funeral luncheons. We are so blessed to have so many helping hands. Bless you all!  
-CWF Bereavement Comm.*

*Winter weather keeps coming and we are so appreciative of our snow/ice removal volunteers who appear with shovels and equipment!!!!*

This weekend is Cookie Sunday!!! Plan to stay after worship service for hot coffee and sweet treats!

**CMF** has decided to have their dinner meetings at the Cardinal Inn, Dutch treat, on Saturday mornings. Their next meeting will be **Mar 16**, 8:00 a.m.

The **Children First Graduation and Fundraiser** will be Sunday, **May 19**. Mark your calendar and start thinking about what you can contribute to the silent auction.

**Crossroads Center is open for walking.** Hours are Monday through Thursday mornings from 8:00 until 10:00. The gym office will be staffed during that time. Special events may alter the schedule and will be posted.

**February Birthdays & Anniversaries:** **1** John Hull, Lisa Wombles, Keaton Hittner; **2** Madison Palmer, Clara Fitzmaurice; **3** Jessica Dain; **4** Kaitlyn Apps, Sydnee Cox, Carlos Quirarte; **6** Megan Hittner, Roger Brokaw; **8** Kathy Lehr; **10** Patty Ruble; **11** Tom & Debbie Robinson; **12** Alice Ghrist, Jeff Lacey, Jamie Sweeting, Emma Wombles; **17** Richard Rhodes, Jill Kunzeman, Miriam Fitzmaurice; **20** Amy Casto, Jill Moss, Sally Lipcaman; **21** Stella Bonnett; **22** Chelsea Hayden, Chad Sealock, Jessica Hull, Rick Wombles, Ron Phipps; **23** Karly Losch, Luke & Michelle Hart; **24** Vickie Tharp, Justin Pennock; **25** Jake McNulty, Loyd Casto; **26** Peyton Apps, Glen Cooley; **27** Kelly Masters, Erik Tharp; **28** Ron & Teresa Bauer, Howard Staffy, Ruth Bennett, Dale Black, Wally Lamb.

**IF:Gathering 2019** will be **Feb 8-9** in Dallas, TX led by Jennie Allen. If you would like to watch a live stream of this sold out women's conference, contact the church office and we will forward you a link. **RightNow Media** has a wealth of studies available including several by Jennie Allen. Contact the office if you are not on RightNow Media and we will get you connected!

St. Louis Christian College in Florissant will host **Men's Day**, "How Men Are Wired", on Sat, **Mar 2**. Registration begins at 9:30, Service at 10:00, BBQ lunch at noon. Register online at [www.stlchristian.edu/mensday](http://www.stlchristian.edu/mensday) or call 314.837.6777. Contact Wayne Chamberlain if you would like to car pool.

Friends,  
Western IL Fellowship of Christian Athletes will hold its annual banquet on Sunday, **March 17th**, at 4:00, at The Ambiance. The featured speaker will be Prince Amukamara of the Chicago Bears. Seating will be limited this year and we wanted to offer you an early opportunity to reserve a table(s) or individual tickets. There is no charge to attend, but you must make reservations. Please, do so soon by going to [www.westernilfca.org](http://www.westernilfca.org) or by emailing Todd Sweatman at [tsweatman@fca.org](mailto:tsweatman@fca.org). Thanks, for your continued support of FCA!!!

The **Intentional Church Conference** will be Sat, **April 6**, 9-3:30 at Decatur Christian Church. For more info or to register, go to [intentionalchurchconference.com](http://intentionalchurchconference.com). Let us know if you plan to attend so we can organize a car pool.

**Mississippi Valley Christian Service Camp 2019**  
**Save the Dates!**

Family Fun Day May 25th all ages Free  
High School Camp June 2-7 \$130  
Jr High Camp June 9-14 \$130  
Jr Week June 16-20 \$115  
Outdoor Sporting Camp June 21-23 \$115  
Christian Climbers Jun 23-25 \$80  
First Chance Camp Jun 27-28 \$40  
Day Camp Jun 26 \$25  
Mission Trip TBD \$350  
Wilderness Camp August 5-9 \$249  
Family Camp Sep 6-8 \$20 per person \$80 immediate family maximum  
Minister's Wives Retreat Sep 13-14  
Hope to see you here!!!

## **Board Meeting Excerpts From January 8, 2019.**

Call to Order at 6:30pm by Moderator Gary Mendenhall. Devotion and opening prayer on The Gifting of Leadership was given by Helen Earls. The minutes from the last meeting had a small typing error that was changed under the Task Force notes. Minutes approved by general consensus.

Minister's Report was attached and presented.

**Treasurer's Report: Report** Michelle Hart reported as of December 31, 2018 Total Checking/Savings = \$467,960.27. Total Unrestricted Checking = \$100,000.00. Total Budgeted Receipts = \$494,498.86. Total Budgeted Disbursements = \$358,857.63. Non-budgeted Receipts = \$101,237.41. Nonbudgeted Disbursements = \$45,762.95. Year-to-Date worship attendance averaged 288 per week. Last year's average 253. Judy Ferguson moved to approve the Treasurer's Report, Bobby Smith seconded, and the motion carried.

**Trustees:** Tim Belford reported he would look over information he had just been handed and report to the board at the next scheduled meeting.

**Crossroads:** Helen Earls reported some changes to the calendar. We will no longer host the Whitetail Properties Convention. It has been moved to St. Louis area.

Illini Hospital will be doing renovations to their kitchen and have asked to rent our kitchen to prepare meals for a 6-week period during the summer. Bobby Smith made a motion to approve the rental of Crossroads kitchen, N.D. Harrison seconded, motion carried. Added that Helen Earls would be empowered to negotiate rental price and any restrictions with kitchen use.

**Children's First:** Helen reported there is a staffing concern for more teachers.

**Balsman Property:** A contract for purchase is in process.

### **New Business**

The policy packet was studied.

There was discussion to move board meeting time from 6:30pm to 6:00pm and Executive meeting to 5:30pm. Tim Belford moved to adjust meeting to 6:00 pm, Bobby Smith seconded, motion carried.

Judy Ferguson moved to adjourn meeting at 7:15, Bobby Smith seconded, and the meeting was closed in prayer.

**Next board meeting will be Tuesday, February 12, 2019 at 6:00.**

I have been thinking about Michael's presentation on his Cuba mission trip. It was so informative and inspirational! But for those of us who may never make it on a mission trip, I would like to give you some food for thought.

We all have a personal ministry or a personal mission and it changes over time. God calls us by providing opportunities for us to serve and grow all the time. Sometimes we do them and sometimes we don't or at least I can speak for myself in that category. There are so many excuses that we/ I use: too busy, not qualified, not educated enough, not smart enough, afraid of making a mistake or doing the wrong thing, too tired, etc.....you get the idea. I would like to take a look at one of the most well known miracles that Jesus performed...the feeding of the 5,000.

Matt 14: 13-21

*When Jesus heard what had happened, he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place. Hearing of this, the crowds followed him on foot from the towns. When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick.*

*As evening approached, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a remote place, and it's already getting late. Send the crowds away, so they can go to the villages and buy themselves some food."*

*Jesus replied "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat." "We have only five loaves of bread and two fish," they answered.*

*"Bring them here to me," he said. And he directed the people to sit on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to all the people. They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. The number who ate was about 5,000 men, besides women and children.*

Put yourselves in the disciples' place for a minute. Can you imagine what their real response was to Jesus when he said...You give them something to eat... But they trusted Jesus and did bring him what they had and it was amazing!

It was a lesson for the disciples. It was a lesson for the crowd. And it is a lesson for us. If we just bring Jesus what we do have. If we just trust him with our meager talents, skills, time, thoughts, our hearts, imagine what He could do with that!

We may not feed 5,000 plus people but we may make someone feel better, we may comfort someone who desperately needs it, we may feed one person, we may show someone the face of God who really needs to see it.

I can tell you that everytime I have answered God's nudging, He has blessed me and sometimes others through me. Every. Single. Time. I am still amazed when He uses me because I feel so inadequate and undeserving but when I feel that way, He reminds me that I don't have to do it all. I just have to do what I am supposed to do and He will do the rest.

We all have different gifts and different missions to accomplish. As we embark into a new year, I pray we will all seek God's will for us and answer God's calling for us. It will look different at different stages in life but God is constantly there for us. He is constantly providing opportunities for us, showing us grace, and hoping that we will show His grace to others.

Praying blessings for all of you!

Helen Earls

**First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois**  
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**Staff:**  
 Michael Ten Eyck, Pastor  
 Helen Earls, Programs & Christian Ed  
 Kayla Boren, Music  
 Kacie Lipcaman, Christian Ed  
 Rebecca Rhodes, Administrative Secretary  
 Gina Bryant, Custodian  
 Bob Clark, Audio/Video

**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><u>1/20</u></b> | <b><u>1/27</u></b> |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Operational                        | \$8,323.32         | \$10,015.80        |
| Property Improvement               | 53.00              | 28.00              |
| Outreach-Missionaries              | 270.00             | 70.00              |
| DHF                                | 25.00              | 0.00               |
| Outreach-General                   | 208.00             | 38.00              |
| Church Constr/Renova               | 0.00               | 100.00             |
| Snack Pack                         | 0.00               | 15.00              |
| Unmet Needs                        | 0.00               | 125.00             |
| Children First                     | <u>160.00</u>      | <u>200.00</u>      |
| <b>Total</b>                       | <b>\$9,039.32</b>  | <b>\$10,591.80</b> |

**Operating Receipts (Offering, Rentals, etc.)**  
 Received Last 7 Days \$8,824.39 \$9,704.25  
 Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$9,494

**Lectionary**  
 2/3: Jer 1:4-10; Ps 71:1-6; 1 Cor 13:1-13; Luke 4:21-30  
 2/4: Ps 56; 1 Kings 17:8-16; 1 Cor 2:6-16  
 2/5: Ps 56; 2 Kings 5:1-14; 1 Cor 14:13-25  
 2/6: Ps 56; Jer 1:11-19; Luke 19:41-44  
 2/7: Ps 138; Num 20:22-29; Acts 9:19-25  
 2/8: Ps 138; Num 27:12-23; Acts 9:26-31  
 2/9: Ps 138; Judges 3:7-11; Luke 4:42-44  
 2/10: Isa 6:1-13; Ps 138; 1 Cor 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11  
 2/11: Ps 115; Judges 5:1-11; 1 Cor 14:26-40  
 2/12: Ps 115; 1 Sam 9:15-10:1; Tim 3:1-9  
 2/13: Ps 115; Isa 8:1-15; Luke 5:27-32  
 2/14: Ps 1; Jer 13:12-19; Acts 13:26-34  
 2/15: Ps 1; Jer 13:20-27; 1 Pet 1:17-2:1  
 2/16: Ps 1, Jer 17:1-4; Luke 11:24-28

**Serving Schedule**

**February 3, 2019**

**Elder:** Brad Willman, Jeremy Schoenherr  
**Diaconate:** Scott Bacon, Bethany Dunham, Angie Ruebush, Brian Ruebush, Sonya Bishop, Burdette Irwin  
**8:00 Communion:** Dan & Sue Speckhart  
**10:30 Communion:** Keith & Carole Elledge  
**Scripture:** Tucker Kunzeman  
**10:30 Nursery:** Emma Saxe  
**Children's Church:** 8:00 Michelle, 10:30 Matt  
**Shut-ins:** Dave & Sandy Herring  
**Kids Connection 2/6:** Wanda Mendenhall, Edith Gant  
**Fellowship Treats:** Vickie Tharp, Kathy Hull, Amy Casto, Cindy Chamberlain

**February 10, 2019**

**Elder:** Kathy Hull, Matt Saxe  
**Diaconate:** Bethany Dunham, Cherise Anderson, Lauren Saxe, Faith Saxe, Debbie Robinson, Tom Robinson  
**8:00 Communion:** Hamer & Jenny Tate  
**10:30 Communion:** Ann Ferguson, Joyce Lemons  
**Scripture:** Eli Mendenhall  
**10:30 Nursery:** Olivia Smith  
**Children's Church:** 8:00 Michelle, 10:30 Matt  
**Shut-ins:** N.D. & Joyce Harrison  
**Kids Connection 2/13:** Ann Ferguson, Eleanor Jenkins

**Wishes & Wants**  
 None at this time.

|                            | <b><u>1/20</u></b> | <b><u>1/27</u></b> |
|----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Worship Attendance</b>  |                    |                    |
| 8:00 AM                    | 76                 | 108                |
| 10:30 AM                   | <u>168</u>         | <u>195</u>         |
| <b>Total</b>               | <b>244</b>         | <b>303</b>         |
| <b>Christian Education</b> |                    |                    |
| Age 3-PK                   | 9                  | 9                  |
| K-1st                      | 3                  | 7                  |
| 2nd-3rd                    | 5                  | 3                  |
| 4th-5th                    | 10                 | 11                 |
| 6th-8th                    | 9                  | 9                  |
| Sr High                    | 0                  | 0                  |
| Disciples                  | 8                  | 11                 |
| New Beginnings             | 5                  | 8                  |
| Sermon Study               | 0                  | 5                  |
| Misc Adult Grps            | <u>13</u>          | <u>13</u>          |
| <b>Total</b>               | <b>62</b>          | <b>76</b>          |