

The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 61 Issue 5

February 26, 2019



Coming Events

- 3/3 8:00 & 10:30 am Worship
9:15 am Sunday School
5:00, 6:00 pm Youth Group
- 3/4 1:00 pm Interagency Meeting
6:00 pm Volleyball League
8:00 pm AI Anon Meeting
- 3/5 8:30 am Bible Study
2:30 pm CWF Meeting
6:00 pm Girl Scout Meeting
- 3/6 3:45 pm Kids Connection
6:30 pm Choir Practice
- 3/7 Noon Bible Study
2:00 pm Circle V Meeting
- 3/10 8:00 & 10:30 am Worship
9:15 am Sunday School
5:00, 6:00 pm Youth Group
- 3/11 6:30 pm Circle I Meeting
6:00 pm Volleyball League
8:00 pm AI Anon Meeting
- 3/12 8:30 am Bible Study
6:00 pm Church Board Meeting
- 3/13 8:30 am Unmet Needs Meeting
6:30 pm Choir Practice
- 3/14 9:30 am Circle IV Meeting
Noon Bible Study
6:00 pm Boys Basketball Banquet
- 3/16 8:00 am CMF Breakfast Meeting
- 3/17 8:00 & 10:30 am Worship
9:15 am Sunday School
5:00, 6:00 pm Youth Group

The **Church Board** will meet Tues, **March 12**, 6:00. Packets will be ready Sunday, March 10.

On Saturday, Feb 23, Tim Collver was baptized and placed his membership with FCC. We are excited to welcome Tim to our church family!

March 3 will be Cookie Sunday! Plan to enjoy extended fellowship with your church family after worship service!

CMF will have their first Breakfast Meeting on Saturday, March 16, 8:00 a.m. at the Cardinal Inn. All men of the church are invited to attend the men's ministry. This will be in place of their usual meetings at Crossroads. Contact CMF president Roger Dunham for more info.



Getting ready for spring? If you are spring cleaning and have extra items you would like to donate for the **Church Yard Sale** to be held on Friday and Saturday, **April 5 & 6**, they would be greatly appreciated! Items can include, but not limited to, knick knacks, jewelry, handbags, shoes, home décor, household items, small appliances, furniture, puzzles, books, toys, games, etc. Spring and summer clothing will also be accepted. Questions, contact Ruth Anne at 285.2705 or Linda at 285.4042.

Items may be brought to Crossroads gym beginning Monday, April 1 at 8:00 a.m. Items will be accepted Monday through Wednesday from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. and on Thursday from 8:00 a.m. until noon.



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

CWF Meetings

Tues, March 5, 2:30, CWF Board Meeting at Crossroads.

Thurs, March 7, 2:00, Circle V at Crossroads. Everyone is invited to attend the study of David Jeremiah.

Mon, March 11, 6:30, Circle I at Crossroads.

Thurs, March 14, 9:30, Circle IV at Cardinal Inn.

We will **not** have **Kids Connection** on Wed, **March 13**, due to Pikeland School early dismissal.

Children First Fundraiser and Graduation will be Sunday, **May 19**.

Vacation Bible School will be Sunday through Friday, **July 14-19**.

Prayer Concerns: Dora Lee Claus, Vivian Cloninger, Beth Edgar, Judy Ferguson, Stacey Helms, Isabel Willard
Heather Arnold (Friend of Sonya Bishop)
Patty White (Friend of Karl Benjamin)

*Outreach Ministry,
I am enjoying my Valentine gift of assorted fruits. I love the selection of clementine's, apples, pear, bananas, Russell Stover candy and peppermint. Thank you. My love to all. -Betty Hoover.*

*Thank you to everyone who helped with the set up, cooking, serving and cleanup for the Joyce Groom and Jane Currie funeral luncheons. We are so blessed with this ministry and the help from so many caring and thoughtful helping hands. God Bless You All!
- CWF Bereavement Ministry.*

Children First News

Children First will offer a Summer Program for ages 6-12 with hours from 7:00 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. Activities will include field trips, science experiments and theme weeks. To register your child or for more info, contact Jennifer at 285-4129 or email at childrenfirst@fccpittsfield.org.

Children First offers prepaid gift cards through the Scrip program. Example: write a check payable to Children First for \$50. Receive a prepaid Walmart card worth \$50. Children First receives a % of the \$50. There are many vendors, denominations and %'s available. See the list on the sanctuary mantels or stop by the office.

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 or by emailing Todd Sweatman at tsweatman@fca.org.

Thanks, for your continued support of FCA!!!

The **Disciple Heritage Fellowship National Conference** will be Fri & Sat, **April 5 & 6**, at Decatur Christian Church. This will coincide with the **Intentional Church Conference Sat, April 6**. For more info or to register, go to intentionalchurch-conference.com. Let us know if you plan to attend so we can organize a car pool.

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.

Our Outreach Ministry supports the local **Snack Pack programs** through the school districts. If you would like to contribute to this program, mark your offering and funds will be disbursed accordingly. Funds help purchase food that is sent home on Fridays with children in need.

Our Red Cross Blood drive got off to a great start with people coming in before 1pm! We had a steady stream of people all afternoon and kept the Red Cross crew busy. Our goal was 22 and we had 25 people come in and only 5 were unable to donate. Our drives are now organized through the Quincy Red Cross office and their crews come from the Peoria/Quincy area. They were terrific to work with and very efficient. No delays for any donor all afternoon! Thanks to Jenny Tate for home-made cookies, Carole Elledge and Carol Schwartze for volunteering their time and to everyone who came to donate. And special thanks to Gina for getting the gym set up for us and coming back to lock up.

March Birthdays & Anniversaries **2** Dave Awbrey; **3** Joan Hagerbaumer, Lucas Wombles; **5** Bill & Carol Schwartze; **7** Wayne Chamberlain, Eddie White; **8** Brad & Judy Losch; **10** Bonnie Dain; **11** Walter & Marge Lamb, Kevin & Kelly Masters; **12** Richard Decker, Ezra Boren; **13** Jacob Hull; **14** John & Jane Calaway; **16** Christie Mendenhall, John Schoenherr, Rokettia Brokaw, Ashlyn Havens; **18** Claire Tate; **19** Ashley Grimes; **20** Jack Korte; **21** Carolyn Barber, Adam & Allison Korte; **22** Larry & Jeannie Howard, Joseph Pursley, Ethan Palmer; **23** Jim Kallal; **24** Roger Yaeger, Evan & Kacie Lipcaman; **25** Abigail Cox; **26** Spencer Boren, John Havens, Carol Cooley; **29** Jason Sargent, Jeremy Tate; **30** Burdette Irwin, Lisa Pennock, Natilee Grimes; **31** Bill Earls, Hannah Roig.

Board Meeting Excerpts From February 12, 2019

Opening Prayer and Devotion given by Ruth Bennett - Putting Others First. Minutes from Last Meeting approved by general consensus.

Minister's Report: Michael explained that he has now posted on the National Posting for Youth Ministers in our search for a youth minister.

Treasurer: Rebecca Rhodes read the report in the absence of Michelle Hart.

Reported Total Checking/Savings=\$487,287.19

Total Unrestricted checking = \$100,000.00

Total Budgeted Receipts=\$38,222.20

Total Budgeted Disbursements=\$24,451.72

Average Attendance YTD=284

Rebecca also received information from Farmers State Bank about the Withus Trust Endowment. A distribution will be made after the trust tax return is filed this spring.

Trustees: Tim reported that the committee met on 2/11/19. There was a concern about church insurance policy having an increase of \$1,600.00 in the premium. Glen Cooley reviewed the policy and is comfortable with it. The committee may meet in November to look over the renewal and bids. Motion to approve the report by Bob Clark. Bobby Smith seconded. Motion carried.

Crossroads: Helen Earls reported that Mr. Bennett will refinish tile floors starting May 20. It will take the entire week to finish.

Youth Ministry: Michael and Helen both had praises for the Valentine's Dinner. Kayla and Katie did a wonderful job organizing the event and the kids were outstanding. Shout out to the cooks and the parental participation.

There was discussion about purchasing a bigger bus for our youth outings. Kacie has planned field trips for Kids Connection and the idea of a bigger bus seems worthy to look into.

Helen also reported that the Crossroads water softener may need to be replaced.

Children's First: Helen announced that a teacher's assistant has been hired (Kendra Sydney). The start date for her is 2/11/19. Meals with hospital starts in March. The Children First fundraiser is set for May 19, 2019. The fundraiser will involve a brunch, auction, and graduation.

Balsman Property: Bobby Smith presented a plot plan of the easement across Harter property.

Task Force: Focus is on the sanctuary renovation. Exploring options on flooring with colors, pattern, weaves etc. Goal is to have renovation complete by Easter.

Old Business:

Closing on the Lovell town lot was January 22, 2019

New Business:

Diaconate voting member requirements. Motion was made to defer this issue to last year's nominating committee on recommendations and a proposal of voting requirements for diaconate. Motion made by Tim Belford. Zack Boren second. Motion carried.

There was talk about a trip to Macomb in early March to look at another construction site.

Meeting adjourned @ 6:40 pm. Next Meeting set for Tuesday, March 12, 2019 @ 6:00pm.

Excerpts from Congregational Meeting February 4, 2019

The meeting was called order at 11:42 am. by Moderator Gary Mendenhall. Administrative Secretary Rebecca Rhodes confirmed that the quorum of 16 was met. Elder N.D. Harrison led in opening prayer.

Recording Secretary Betty Hayden read the minutes from the November 4, 2018 Congregational Meeting. Wayne Baughman moved to accept the minutes Bobby Smith seconded. Motion carried.

Moderator Gary Mendenhall directed the congregation to look at the year-end reports of each ministry/committee of First Christian Church for 2018 year.

Pastor Michael Ten Eyck pointed out that our church average attendance had an increase this past year. The average Sunday attendance was 288 up from 253 in 2017.

The 2018 year-end report states the Unrestricted Offering and Gross Receipts from events less cost of food and supplies totaled \$494,708. Budgeted Receipts and Disbursements shows that less was spent than had been budgeted.

Moderator Gary Mendenhall asked to approve all 2018 year-end reports. N.D. Harrison made motion to accept and approve all 2018 year-end reports. Larry Wigington seconded. Motion carried.

Looking ahead for the 2019 church year projected goals include:

Finish Sanctuary Remodel:

Pastor Michael Ten Eyck addressed some of the structural issues that have been discovered while the renovation continues.

Michael also stated that the renovation needed a full-time on-sight contractor daily to address those issues that may come up. Michael and Hamer Tate had contacted Black Construction to see if they would be available to not only supervise, but to finish the structural part of the renovation. Black Construction is available and will accept the renovation job upon approval from congregation. Discussion followed from the congregation about the extent of renovation and costs. \$35,000.00 approved by board plus \$26,500 = \$61,500 total.

David Bishop made a motion to approve Black Construction to complete the renovation. Roger Brokaw seconded. Motion carried.

Christie Mendenhall then made a motion to add a buffer amount of money if any unforeseen structural problems arise. The amount of \$15,000.00 was put out for approval. Bobby Smith second. Motion carried. This brings the total approved to \$76,500 for the project. Pastor Michael explained that hiring Black Construction to finish the renovation would speed up the project.

FCC is addressing staffing needs and actively seeking a youth minister.

The church would like an increase in attendance and baptism from personal evangelism.

Kids Connection. Kacie Lipcaman, Christian Education, gave highlights of upcoming year - focusing on service. The Kids Connection will be visiting different sites to see how our community serves, and how they can serve. Kacie also stated Kids Connection has grown in numbers, not only with kids, but also volunteers. AWESOME!

Michael Ten Eyck stated he is in discussion with the Living Hope Counseling from Springfield to explore opportunities of bringing much needed counseling services to Pittsfield.

Michael reported 18 Jr. High would be attending the BELIEVE Convention this March.

Michael Boren asked about the possibility of a flashing stop sign at our intersection of Memorial and Jefferson Street. Michael stated that we could check with the city.

Having no other business or goals to discuss, a motion was made to adjourn by Jenny Tate @ 12:40pm. Ruth Bennett second. Motion carried. Pastor Michael Ten Eyck closed the meeting in prayer.

The renovation of our sanctuary is now well underway. With each day we are making progress and have entered the phase where the changes are not as subtle as before. Some days begin with uncovering new issues that must be addressed. Unfortunately, some of these issues were actually minor problems that were more easily covered up rather than fully corrected. As we deal with these challenges I am reminded of life lessons that we can draw parallels to in a project such as this.

Of course, an obvious observation is that while it may seem easier in the short run to just cover up an issue, eventually it must be dealt with. When we have glossed over an issue for so long, we are unable to truly comprehend the extent of work that may be needed to rectify the specific problem. Things can look good on the outside, but underneath, serious issues may lurk. The prudent person will take the responsible, although taxing, process of dealing with the little issues before they continue to expand undiscerned and unnoticed.

The next lesson I have been challenged with is the need for flexibility. To attempt an undertaking such as ours, without a certain degree of flexibility, is futile. I appreciate the flexibility our staff, musicians, choir members, and congregation as we continue to roll with the punches in terms of practices, building access, and, of course, worship services. We may have to worship in the Crossroads Gym if needed for a few Sundays. If we do, that will be okay. We will remember the Children of Israel worshipping in the Tabernacle from location to location as the Lord led them. We too are on a journey together.

The third lesson I have learned is how valuable our volunteers are. I have been so blessed and thankful for those who have shown up to help. There is no shortage of cleaning, moving, and hauling to be done. Soon there will be even more projects to do, such as some painting, sanding, furniture moving, and dusting.

Prayers for wisdom, safety, and God's blessing are crucial as well. I am convinced that prayer has kept and directed us thus far.

These are exciting times! Get involved and be a part of the project. This is God's project, but we are all a part of it. Your continued support is appreciated as we strive to reach, teach, and empower our community for Christ.

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
 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

Stewardship (Offering Only)	2/17	2/24
Operational	\$7,621.66	\$10,043.35
Property Improvement	8.00	129.00
Outreach-Missionaries	70.00	270.00
DHF	25.00	25.00
Outreach-General	3.00	13.00
Church Constr/Renova	90.00	500.00
Snack Pack	0.00	15.00
Unmet Needs	20.00	103.00
Youth Group	50.00	0.00
Children First	<u>90.00</u>	<u>50.00</u>
Total	\$7,977.66	\$11,148.35

Operating Receipts (Offering, Rentals, etc.)
 Received Last 7 Days \$7,343.80 \$14,048.49
 Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$9,494

Lectionary
 3/3: Ex 34:29-35; Ps 99; 2 Cor 3:12-4:2; Luke 9:28-36
 3/4: Ps 35:11-28; Ex 35:1-29; Acts 10:9-23
 3/5: Ps 35:11-28; Ezekiel 1:1; Acts 10:23-33
 3/6: Joel 2:1-17; Ps 51:1-17; 2 Cor 5:20-6:10; Matt 6:1-6
 3/7: Ps 91:1-16; Ex 5:10-23; Acts 7:30-34
 3/8: Ps 91:1-16; Ex 6:1-13; Acts 7:35-42
 3/9: Ps 91:1-16; Eccl 3:1-8; John 12:27-36
 3/10: Deut 26:1-11; Ps 91:1-16; Rom 10:8-13; Luke 4:1-13
 3/11: Ps 17; 1 Chronicles 21:1-17; 1 John 2:1-6
 3/12: Ps 17; Zech 3:1-10; 2 Peter 2:4-21
 3/13: Ps 17; Job 1:1-22; Luke 21:34-22:6
 3/14: Ps 27; Gen 13:1-18; Philippians 3:2-12
 3/15: Ps 27; Gen 14:17-24; Philippians 3:17-20
 3/16: Ps 27; Ps 118:26-29; Matt 23:37-39

Serving Schedule

March 3, 2019
Elder: Bob Clark, Brad Willman
Diaconate: Kevin Tharp, Steve Tharp, Vickie Tharp, Kacie Lipcaman, Scott Bacon, Michelle Hart
8:00 Communion: N.D. & Joyce Harrison
10:30 Communion: Mike & Julie Boren
Scripture: Matt Saxe
10:30 Nursery: Shelby Bauer
Children's Church: 8:00 Bethany, 10:30 Korey & Lisa
Shut-ins: Julie Myers
Kids Connection 3/6: Special Treat
Fellowship Treats: Carolyn Casteel, Cheryl Birch, Jessica Hull, Rebecca Rhodes

March 10, 2019
Elder: Roger Brokaw, Kathy Hull
Diaconate: Angie Ruebush, Brian Ruebush, Sonya Bishop, Michelle Hart, Burdette Irwin, Cherise Anderson
8:00 Communion: Richard & Rebecca Rhodes
10:30 Communion: Zack & Libby Boren
Scripture: Cameron Sweeting
10:30 Nursery: Emma Saxe
Children's Church: 8:00 Bethany, 10:30 Korey & Lisa
Shut-ins: Matt & Faith Saxe

Wishes & Wants
 None at this time.

	2/17	2/24
Worship Attendance		
8:00 AM	95	104
10:30 AM	<u>186</u>	<u>203</u>
Total	281	307
Christian Education		
Age 3-PK	7	7
K-1st	4	7
2nd-3rd	4	7
4th-5th	13	10
Jr/Sr High	13	3
Disciples	7	10
New Beginnings	7	3
Sermon Study	0	4
Misc Adult Grps	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u>
Total	78	75