

The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 61 Issue 12

June 4, 2019



Coming Events

- 6/9 8:00 & 10:30 am Worship
9:15 am Sunday School
9:15 am VBS Meeting
5:00 pm High School Youth Group
- 6/10 8:00 pm Church League Softball
8:00 pm AI Anon Meeting
- 6/11 8:30 am Bible Study
6:00 pm Church Board Meeting
- 6/12 8:30 am Unmet Needs
6:00 pm VBS Set Up
6:30 pm Cross Over Hoops
- 6/13 Noon Bible Study
5:30 pm Hobby Horse Meeting
7:00 pm Jr/Sr Girls Bible Study
- 6/16 8:00 & 10:30 am Worship
9:15 am Sunday School
- 6/17 8:00 pm AI Anon Meeting
9:00 pm Church League Softball
- 6/18 8:30 am Bible Study
- 6/19 5:30 pm Children First Board Meeting
6:00 pm VBS Set Up
- 6/20 5:30 pm Hobby Horse Parent Meeting
7:00 pm Jr/Sr Girls Bible Study

We are excited to have had Justin, Amber and Aidan Poor declare their faith in Jesus Christ and place their membership with FCC on Sunday, June 2. The family has been active in the church and we look forward to continuing worship with them!

VBS needs you! There will be a volunteer meeting Sunday, **June 9** at 9:15am in the sanctuary. We would love to have you! If you have any questions, contact Kacie! VBS building and painting and set up dates: **June 12, 19 & 26** at 6pm at Crossroads.

Junior High / High School girls will meet at Kayla's home each **Thursday** at 7pm this summer for Bible Study.

The **Church Board** will meet Tues, **June 11**, 6:00. Packets will be in the Long Room on Sunday.

The **Thursday noon Bible Study** will conclude their current study on **June 13** then break for the summer.

Rebecca will be out of the office **June 17-22** but church staff will be available and phone messages will be returned.

The **Children First Board** will meet Wed, **June 19**, 5:30.

Youth Group Schedule:

- June 9 - Only High School, 5:00.
June 16 - No meeting due to Father's Day.
June 23 - Movie / hang out.
June 30 - Pool night.
July 7 - Help set up for VBS.
July 14 - VBS kickoff!
July 21 - Sky Zone for VBS help.
July 28 - Regular youth group.
Aug 4 - Regular youth group.
Aug 11 - Regular youth group.
Aug 18 - Escape room /pizza blitz kickoff night.

Elders will meet Tues, **June 25**, 6:00.

The next **Men's Breakfast and Study** will be Sat, **June 29**, 7-8:30 at Crossroads. Contact Zack Boren for more information.

Pictures for a **new church directory** will be taken **Nov 1-2, 6-9**. All church attendees are asked to save these dates.

Church camp forms are on the sanctuary mantels and camp website. CMF will pay half the cost for youth in our church family.

Brenda Kramer is working on our **2019 scrapbook**. If you have a church event picture and haven't already provided the office a copy, feel free to send it in.

Church League Softball:

- 6/10 8:00, 6/17 9:00, 7/1 7:00,
7/8 9:00, 7/22 9:00.
Games will be at Pittsfield Lake.

Prepaid gift cards are available through the church office. A percentage of each card's purchase price benefits Children First. They are great for your summer travel needs. A list of participating vendors is on the sanctuary mantels and in the office.

Prayer Concerns: Tereasa Apps, Dora Lee Claus, Landon Davenport, Stacey Helms, Shirley Loyd, Carol Schwartze, David Allen (friend of Rick & Mary Wombles) Dorothy Boss (Carol Schwartze's aunt) Peter Roccaforte (Chuck Barber's nephew)

We express our sympathy to the family and friends of the following who recently passed: James "Tip" Collver, Pat Lord and John Grawe.

Thank you FCC family for remembering me with phone calls, cards, and food since my return home from the hospital. Special thank you to Helen and Pastor Michael for your concern and words of encouragement.
-Mardell Bryant.

Thank you Keith Elledge for constructing and Richard Decker for carpentering the ramp leading from the overflow room to the coffee table area! We appreciate your carpentry skills!

Dear FCC,
Thank you so much for the use of the sanctuary for our piano recital. And thank you for the help moving the piano and setting up the keyboard. I am so thankful for the support of our church!
-Becky Fitzmaurice

Joan and I would like to thank Michael and all the people in our church who visited us, sent cards, and was concerned with our health while we were in the hospital.
-Ronald Halsey.

Thank you to the Keith and Darlene Smith family for donating the couch for the church Long Room!

*First Christian Church of Pittsfield,
We wish to express our appreciation for your generosity in support of the Pikeland Snack Pack Program. Your contribution was incredibly helpful and has allowed us to continue assisting students in the Pike-land community. Thank you from all of us.*
Sincerely,
The Board of the Pikeland Snack Pack.

Thank you everyone for supporting the Mississippi Valley Christian Service Camp fundraiser at Pizza Hut. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

Thank you to everyone who helped with the James "Tip" Collver and Pat Lord funeral luncheons. -CWF Bereavement Ministry.

SHHHHH, It's a SURPRISE!

The family of Edith Gant will hold a surprise birthday party for her at the Senior Center on Saturday, **June 15**, 2-4:00. Everyone is invited to come and wish her happy birthday. **Remember, it's a surprise!**

Dear First Christian Church Family,
First, I am sorry for sending this announcement so late. The past semester has been very busy, and things are finally starting to wind down. As you may have heard, I graduated with my master's degree in counseling. I am currently looking for a full-time counseling job in Arizona while I finish up some commitments. My next steps include applying for a counseling license, taking a national exam, and finding a job that will provide good supervision and experience while I work towards an independent license.

You all have been in my thoughts and prayers over the last few years. I am so thankful for all of you and for your support, encouragement, and prayers for me both in moving and in pursuing my degree. I really like Phoenix, especially the weather, so I plan to stay here for a while. However, I continue to remain open for the moving of God's spirit in my life. I am blessed to hear about the work God is doing with FCC, and I look forward to sharing with you about my next steps.

"Now to him who is able to do for more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever, amen."
Ephesians 3:20-21

Love in Christ,
Aly Cooley

Bible School News

VBS - POWER UP! - will be Mon-Fri, **July 15-19**.
Registration and family fun time will be Sunday, **July 14**.

If you are looking to help in some way, we have a list of items we'll need to start out with. Thank you so much for your help in making VBS so awesome for our kids!

4-55 gallon trash barrels (that we can spray paint)
Green (All shades) Black square paper plates)
2 rolls of Plastic Black Tarp (We will be painting)
White Balloons-5 packs
3 Rolls of White/Cardboard color Paper
5 packs of balloons (multi-color)
Sturdy Square boxes (not broken down)
Tall Pieces (3ft-5ft) of Sturdy Cardboard
Colored square Plastic table clothes-ALL colors
LOTS of water balloons
5 packs of Construction paper
colorful Flag Banner
Green Spray Paint (5 cans)
Red Spray Paint (5 cans)
Yellow Spray Paint (5 cans)
3 Old Tires

Please contact Kacie at klipcaman6@gmail.com or 217-242-7271. I can let you know if the items have already been picked up! Thank you!

Kudos to Crossroads Kitchen Volunteers

Crossroads was designed to enrich the community and model God's love. We think that is being done through many of our FCC ministries but with this article the spotlight is on the Kitchen Crew. We sincerely wish to thank those people who have taken the time (with often very busy lives) to help with meals served at Crossroads.

Volunteers have hosted the Chamber of Commerce, Republicans, RSVP, Pike Press Scholars, PHS Honor students/families, PHS basketball families, Children First brunches, FCC fundraisers, VBS family meals, FCC dinners, CEO class fundraisers, Rotary Ag groups, PHS basketball, Easter Sunrise breakfast, CWF Bazaar lunch. And we really can't forget the numerous hours used for White-tail breakfasts, lunches and dinner!!

With each of those meals the following must be done:

Helen has made arrangements for menus to be decided, contacted a chief chef, reservations counted, food ordered, bought, and put away.

Volunteers must be contacted and scheduled as to when they can help. Rebecca is often called on for phone numbers.

Prep time is usually the morning before the event when they clean lettuce/tomatoes/carrots, bake desserts, set out rolls, prep meats, thaw potatoes, make tea, set the tables and set-up the buffet line, etc.

Event day is full with cooking the main entree, potatoes, and vegetable, plating the salads and desserts, baking the rolls, and washing dishes almost continually.

Volunteers come to serve the meals/drinks.

More folks come to clean-up, scrape and wash dishes, put them away, take out the garbage.

Table cloths must be laundered and put away.

Some people help an hour and some stay many hours. Some folks are there both days for the full time. (Recently departure time was about 11:00 PM.) Some meals are for 50 guests and sometimes 175 or more.... which means lots of food to prepare and each guest uses a plate/glass/eating utensils which have to be washed and put away.

Sometime during the work hours we gather in a circle in the kitchen, hold hands (or elbows) and pray thanking the Good Lord that we are able to be a part of the Family of God who can help serve in this ministry and to convey Christian love.

The following people have helped sometime during the year: (Please contact Kay if your name was accidentally left off this list.) Cherise Anderson, Jordyn Apps, Brenda Ator, Chuck & Carolyn Barber, Wayne & Edna Baughman, Linda Belford, Ruth Bennett, John & Cheryl Birch, Sonya Bishop, Kayla Boren, Mike & Julie Boren, Carolyn Capps, Mary Lou Chamberlain, Wayne & Cindy Chamberlain, Bob & Shari Clark, Vivian Cloninger, Craig & Carrie Collver, Kathy Curfman, Mary Davis, Bella Dority, Roger & Charlotte Dunham, Judy Dunham, Bill & Helen Earls, Carole Elledge, Bob Evans, Ann Ferguson, Judy & Dana Ferguson, Barb Fosco, Melba Foster, Becky & Billy Fitzmaurice, Rodney Gordley, Edith Gant, Mary Gates, Michelle Gates, Charlene Gleckler, Karen Goodwin, Tony Goodwin, Betty Hayden, Angie Hittner, Elaine Hoaglin, John Hull, Eleanor Jenkins, Deana Jones, Dave & Tammi Koltveit, Tucker Kunzeman, Tate Kunzeman, Steve & Kathy Lehr, Joyce Lemons, Judy Losch, Katie McDevitt, Gary Mendenhall, Eli Mendenhall, Wanda Mendenhall, Stan Moss, Scott & Jenny Palmer, Mary Pfyl, Julie Plattner, Rhodora Pursley, Roger Reel, Dee Reeves, Cassie Richmiller, Debbie Robinson, Lauren Saxe, Emma Saxe, Kay Sealock, Matthew & Brianne Sealock, Marcia Stark, Chris Sydney, Kendra Sydney, Alicia Tate, Jenny & Hamer Tate, Ellie Ten Eyck, Lainey Ten Eyck, Michael & Renita Ten Eyck, Sandy Wigington, Brad Willman, Dorothy Yaeger. = **94 WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS!!!**

We also want to recognize the work that Gina Bryant and the Work Camp guys do to keep the kitchen/ dining room clean, set-up/ take down of the many configurations needed for the various groups we serve.

FCC is very blessed to have so many people who are willing to volunteer their time to help with Crossroads meals. (We considered having a "thank you" meal..... but guess who we would be calling to do it? Ha!) **We sincerely thank each and everyone of you!!!!!!**

Though there is lots to be done, we have fun doing it..... hard to believe?.... come and help for an hour, several hours or many hours!! Most of the time you get to choose which job fits you best. Check the work list above to see what part you would like to play. We share cooking ideas and learn from each other.

The camaraderie is wonderful with many relationships begun or continued.

VBS meals will be the next project so see you there!

Kay Sealock

Volunteer Co-ordinator - 217-285-4991

Orange Conference Report

Before going to the Orange Conference I thought my purpose in life was to wake up every morning, go to work, come home and be a wife and mom, do some good things, love God and show Him I love Him, and do it all over again the next day. I never really thought of having another purpose to life, and I was content with that. That was until I heard Dharius Daniel say "you were purposely born on this place for a purpose." It made me start thinking, am I here for something more? He also said "God knew you before you were born. He knew your strengths and weaknesses. He knew the world needed you. God got his hands dirty creating you - he got personal." So I really started thinking that there really is more of a purpose for me here.

I know I was asked to attend this conference (which by the way was one of the biggest honors) for a reason. It was a sign for me that I am here to make a difference. I may not make a difference in a lot of lives, but even if I make a difference in one life, than I have still succeeded. God already knows my weaknesses and he knows my mistakes, but in the words of Mike Foster, "your past does not define you." I never really thought I could be that "person" for anyone because I'm not perfect, never have been, and never will be. I have done things I am not proud of, but I want to now be able to be that one that a kid or a child might be looking for. I want to tell them it's going to be okay, and just because we have all done things that we know we should not have done, that it does not define the person we are. I want to be that safe person they can come to and talk to when times get tough or when they have something really awesome to celebrate. I want to be that person that can show kids they can do good and they can be loved no matter what. I want to show them they can have consistency in their life and that no matter how unique they are, they are truly a blessing and have a purpose on this earth. I want to be that person that helps that one kid know who God is or the person that helps them know there is a church home waiting for them to be welcomed in to. I want to give that one kid that has lost their sense of faith or purpose, hope. If I can do that for just one child, then I hope others will follow and do the same.

Together we can build up our youth and teach them to believe in not only themselves, but in God. Together we can teach them to have faith in God and continue to have faith as they grow older. It was quoted in one of the breakouts that 55-65% of teens go to college and lose faith. They have a broken faith once they get in to the real world. What if by working together and investing in our youth, we can make a difference and change those numbers? What if each of us could have an influence on just one kid? What if each one of us could be that one person that a kid could go to when times are tough, or when they are questioning their faith? Can you think of someone growing up that was there for you? I honestly cannot say that I had that one person that stands out that I trusted, influenced me, or reminded me that God gave me a purpose to this life, but I sure wish I would have. It's not too late for us to help our children. It all starts with making it personal. Our youth aren't "problems to be solved, but people to be loved." Together we can share our faith and knowledge with our youth and let them know that no matter what, God is with them.

I am so thankful I got the opportunity to attend the Orange Conference. It truly was a life changing experience for me. I would encourage anyone and everyone who has the slightest hope of making a difference to experience the conference. There are so many inspirational leaders and teachers out there. If you don't get the chance to attend, I hope you reach out to those who have and talk with them and gain knowledge through them. There are so many amazing inspirational things out there for our youth and people of all ages. It takes a village, and one by one, we can start building that village. Every day, we need to make sure we hear from God, pray to God, talk about God, and live for God because we never know whose life we may be changing.

Thank you,
Danielle Hayes

Orange Conference Report

I want to thank the church for allowing me to go to the Orange Conference. It was truly a life changing experience that I wish all our leaders would get to experience. I have so many takeaways from this conference but I would be writing a book if I shared all of them. This conference also opened my eyes up to one of my own testimonies.

During the conference a speaker asked us to think of the person that really pushed us on our walk with God or took time to show they care. When things got messy who showed up and made it personal. I couldn't think of anyone. My mom planted the seed at a young age and I grew up in a church. I did everything a Christian should do; Sunday school, youth group, conferences, church camp, vbs, etc. I learned all the stories, memory versus, and could even name all the books of the bible in order. However, I couldn't think of anyone who tried to have a personal relationship with me regarding my walk with God. I had great teachers in my life and great leaders sharing God's work with me but I couldn't remember anything being personal. My 1st breakout session I learned 1 out of 2 students will check out of the church during their first year of high school. Yep, that was me. However, no one reached out to me to check on me, to encourage my walk with God. Of course my mom did, but as kids we don't want to hear it from our parents. I had mistakes in my past and received judgmental comments made from leaders in my church who were trying to be funny. Not one person sat me down to get to know what was going on in that stage of my life or to encourage me. I am where I am today due to the seed my mom planted years ago but I wonder if it could have been different had somebody made it personal. This was a great church, and I loved it there. However, I quickly learned my childhood church and I as a teacher today were missing very important tools.

The most important tool I was provided with during this conference was to make it personal. To know our kids name, were they live, what season of life are they in. I have been a Sunday school teacher for several years here at FCC, but I have learned I have been a shallow teacher. I go through the "to do" list of the items I need to cover, but did I really connect and make it personal???? I need to get to know every student personally. I need to show up and be present not only at church but at life.

I learned that I am called to be a Purpose Partner. I am a partner with God to fulfil his purpose in each student I am working with. I am committed to this purpose to help plant the seed, nourish it, and help God's purpose become a masterpiece. I learned we need to stop pointing kids in the right direction and start walking with them to the point. I hope I have the opportunity someday to share my story with kids, to let them know their mistakes do not have to shape them. God's grace is bigger than their problem and he has a purpose for them. To be honest, this conference finally gave me closure on some of my regrets in my past. I truly believe now that God's grace is bigger than my past and I no longer have to carry my past with me.

Another breakout session I got to experience talked to us about God's purpose for our bodies and the purity code. It provided us with the knowledge and tools needed to teach kids at their appropriate age levels. I realized I am way late on teaching my own children this and I have some catching up to do. I also understand it's our purpose as a church to teach our kids God's purpose for their body and provide them with the tools they need to hold onto their purity. Let's be honest, kids may not want to hear this from their parents as we all know it can be awkward. We have to get in front of the world and provide our kids with the tools they need before the world conforms them into the world's ways.

This conference provided us with many more tools to make an impact on our children. I am proud to share that some of the tools our church is already doing; letting kids serve communion, be in the praise band, lead the sermon, and help with younger kids. We have to give kids a purpose if we want them to stay, and I feel we are doing a great job of creating these purposes.

I look at the passion all 6 of us came home with from the conference and I am excited to see what our future holds. I also look at what Kacie has accomplished in just one year from her last trip at the orange conference. I don't know if anyone has noticed our 4th and 5th grade Sunday school class lately, but there are awesome things happening. Her class is growing weekly and the kids love her. I am sure other parents like me have noticed this joy our kids now have and the fact that they love to come to church. This all happened due to what Kacie experienced at the orange conference. I truly wish all individuals who work with or have children of their own could go to this conference. I can only imagine what a huge impact this would be to our church and community. If you're not at the stage of life where you are able to go I pray maybe you could sponsor someone who works with our children to go to the conference next year so they can experience the life changing event. I know I would love to go back each year as would everyone else who has been in the past.

Again I truly thank you from the bottom of my heart for providing a way for me to go to this conference. As I mentioned before there was a lot of information shared with us. I ask for you to pray for all of us as we process this and find our path as "Purpose Partners." I love the quote provided to us by Danielle Strickland, "If you want to move something big, do something small."

In Christian Love,
Michelle Hart

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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

Stewardship (Offering Only)	5/26	6/2
Operational	\$9,452.79	\$7,543.06
Property Improvement	3.00	38.00
Outreach-Missionaries	70.00	70.00
DHF	25.00	25.00
Outreach-General	53.00	53.00
Church Constr/Renova	0.00	100.00
Unmet Needs	500.00	203.00
Children First	<u>50.00</u>	<u>40.00</u>
Total	\$10,153.79	\$8,072.06

Operating Receipts (Offering, Rentals, etc.)
 Received Last 7 Days \$9,652.79 \$7,543.06
 Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$9,494

Lectionary

6/9: Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-35; Rom 8:14-17; John 14:8-27
 6/10: Ps 48; Joel 2:18-29; 1 Corinthians 2:1-11
 6/11: Ps 48; Ezekiel 11:14-25; 1 Corinthians 2:12-16
 6/12: Ps 48; Numbers 24:1-14; Luke 1:26-38
 6/13: Ps 8; Prov 3:13-18; Ephesians 1:17-19
 6/14: Ps 8, Prov 3:19-26; Ephesians 4:1-6
 6/15: Ps 8; Prov 4:1-9; Luke 2:41-52
 6/16: Prov 8:1-31; Rom 5:1-5; John 16:12-15
 6/17: Ps 124; Prov 7:1-4; Ephesians 4:7-16
 6/18: Ps 124; Prov 8:4-21; Ephesians 5:15-20
 6/19: Ps 124; Dan 1:1-21; Luke 1:46-55
 6/20: Ps 42 & 43; Gen 24:1-21; Rom 2:17-29
 6/21: Ps 42 & 43; Job 6:14-30; Galatians 3:15-22
 6/22: Ps 42 & 43; Prov 11:3-13; Matt 9:27-34

Serving Schedule

June 9, 2019

Elder: Ruth Bennett, Roger Brokaw
Diaconate: Kacie Lipcaman, Kathy Curfman, Stan Moss, Jill Moss, Angie Ruebush, Brian Ruebush
8:00 Communion: N.D. & Joyce Harrison
10:30 Communion: Kathy Curfman, Edith Gant
Scripture: Barbara Fosco
10:30 Nursery: Jordyn Apps
Children's Church: 10:30 Matt, Hannah, Jessica
Shut-ins: Bob & Shari Clark

June 16, 2019

Elder: N.D. Harrison, Zack Boren
Diaconate: Kevin Tharp, Steve Tharp, Vickie Tharp, Bethany Dunham, Sonya Bishop, Michelle Hart
8:00 Communion: Hamer & Jenny Tate
10:30 Communion: Roger & Charlotte Dunham
Scripture: Michelle Gates
10:30 Nursery: Shelby Bauer
Children's Church: 10:30 Matt, Hannah, Jessica
Shut-ins: Roger & Charlotte Dunham

Wishes & Wants

None at this time.

	5/26	6/2
Worship Attendance		
8:00 AM	133	115
10:30 AM	<u>148</u>	<u>175</u>
Total	281	290

Christian Education

Age 3-PK	8	8
K-1st	7	6
2nd-3rd	3	4
4th-5th	12	9
Jr/Sr High	13	14
Disciples	10	12
New Beginnings	0	6
Sermon Study	6	8
Misc Adult Grps	<u>24</u>	<u>24</u>
Total	83	91