

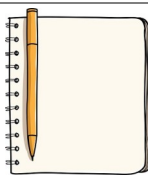
The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 65 Issue 25

October 31, 2023



 **Congregational Meeting, Nov 5 after 10:30 service.** Agenda: Elect 2024 Officers and other elected officials and approve 2024 budget. The list of proposed nominations and budget is on the sanctuary mantels.

Circle V Meeting, Thurs, Nov 2, 2:00.
Circle IV Meeting, Thurs, Nov 9, 9:30.

Cookie Sunday! Nov 5. Cookies & Fellowship after worship service!



Coffee Talk! Tues, Nov 7, 10:00. Stop by the annex for coffee and conversation with Pastor Michael!



Soak Service, Sunday evening, Nov 12, 6:00. Everyone is welcome for an evening of music & praise!



Church Board Meeting, Tues, Nov 14, 6:00. Packets will be ready Nov 12.



Turkey Dinner! Wed, Nov 15, 5:30. Everyone in the church family is encouraged to attend and fellowship together! Our fabulous volunteers will have a turkey dinner with all the sides ready for you! Please let us know if you plan to attend so we have enough food prepared. Call, email, or sign up near the coffee table. Contact Kay Sealock 217.285.4991 or Judy Ferguson 217.491.2824 if you are available to help in the kitchen.



Calling all men of the church! CMF (Christian Men's Fellowship) will meet at 11:45 on Sunday, **November 19, 2023.** We'll meet for lunch and fellowship in the Crossroads dining room. Ed Picone will be serving pulled pork sandwiches. Once again, **CHILD CARE WILL BE PROVIDED** for kids 5th grade and below in the Crossroads gym, with youth group volunteers providing the child care. Lunch will also be provided for your kids. N.D. Harrison will be giving a program on tax tips and policy, and Wayne Chamberlain will also give a brief update on his recent trip to Poland and Ukraine. Feel free to bring your son(s) age 9th grade or older. We had a great turnout in September and would love to keep the momentum going!

Operation Christmas Child! The **Youth Group** will be shopping to fill 25 shoeboxes! We have 25 boxes available for families in the congregation to take & fill and **return by November 10th** to be shipped! Please contact Libby Boren for any questions!



Ladies (and gentlemen, too!) please be assured that YOU are invited to help with our 2023 CWF BAZAAR which will be held on Saturday, Dec 2, 7:30-1:30! We will be setting up our Treasure Chest indoor yard sale on Wednesday through Friday, Nov 29 - Dec 1 from 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM. You may come to help unpack, price and distribute our donated items during the week, and/or come on Saturday Dec 2, 7:30 – 1:30 to assist shoppers and add up purchases. We also need helpers to pack up leftover items beginning at 1:00. We do have fun preparing and hosting this yearly event and wish you would come be a part of the merriment! If you have questions, please call Kathy Curfman at 217-248-5214. 'Tis the season!

Do you have items to donate for our indoor yard sale, the **Treasure Chest**? If so, please bring them to the Crossroads gym **Wed, Nov 29 through Fri, Dec 1, 8:00 am - 6:00 pm.** We will not be selling any clothing or shoes except for Christmas apparel and winter boots. If you have questions, please contact Kathy Curfman 217-248-5214.

The **Country Store** will be ready to accept all baked and homemade items on **Thurs afternoon, Nov 30 and all day Friday, Dec 1.** We would love to have all items before Noon on Friday so they can be put in containers. As always, we are very grateful for all the wonderful donations to our Country Store! If any questions, please call Bev White at 285-2420 or Barbara Fosco at 285-2608.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES 1 Edna Baughman, Justin Poor; 2 Rosi Picone, Seth Boren; 3 Zack & Libby Boren; 5 Bob & Shari Clark; 6 Lori Johnson; 7 Jeannine Robertson, Amy Boltz, Rhonda Irwin, Bill Schwartze, Kacie Lipcaman; 8 Dave Herring, Phoenix Bacon; 9 Clinton McNulty, Kevin Masters; 10 Joelle Goldbeck; 12 Chad Ferguson, Debbie Robinson, Denver Richmiller; 14 Anna Speckhart, Dustin Wintjen; 16 Korey Wombles; 17 Carole Elledge, Elizabeth Rowland, Paul Ruble, Vince Havens, Vivian Havens; 21 Eleanor Jenkins, Brittany Dain, Tucker Kunzeman; 22 Bob Evans, Griffin Moss; 23 Kay Sealock; 24 Eli Ten Eyck; 25 Kathy Curfman; 29 Dan Speckhart, Mason Lamb.



Contact Kacie or any Youth Group Leader if you would like to help provide Youth Group Meals.

**Youth Group Event:
Potluck with Parents
Sunday, Nov 26, 6:00.**



**Christmas Caroling, Dec 10.
Christmas Cantata, Dec 17.**



The Crossroads walking track will be open weekday mornings starting in January through March or as the weather determines. Contact Shari Clark if you would like to supervise the gym office on a rotating basis.



Don't forget to change your clocks back one hour on Saturday night, **Nov 4.**



Not long ago I found myself conversing with a person who knew a fair amount about Christianity but had no interest in becoming part of any church or becoming a Christian. Their rhetoric was very respectful towards Jesus's teachings but disregarded His divinity. They affirmed their agreement to the concept of loving one's neighbor and treating others as you would want to be treated, what we call the "Golden Rule" found in Luke 6:31. They had confidence that as long as they tried to follow the teachings of Jesus they were, in their own view, righteous, but they did not view Jesus as God.

This is a prevalent notion today, but I would suggest that it is dangerously deceptive. If Jesus is just a moral teacher, what makes Him or His teachings any different than any other moral teacher?

The problem with viewing Jesus just as a moral teacher and not as He Himself claimed, God, is foundational to control. As Dr. Michael Kruger points out in his book, *The Ten Commandments of Progressive Christianity, Jesus is not just a moral example to follow but rather a God to be worshipped.*

Dr. Kruger points out that if Jesus is just a teacher, there is nothing that sets His teaching apart from other moral teachers. Sadly, today many try to look for commonality between the many religion's teachings. They assume that the things that they all agree with are the principles that we should base morality on.

The concept of morality based upon the majority opinion has some truly dark chapters in world history. The presiding views of specific moral issues ebb and flow like the waves in the sea.

If we view Jesus as a moral teacher instead of God, we have the liberty to accept or reject what we agree with or not. In my conversation, it did not take long for me to ask a few questions about some of Jesus's statements that this person did not agree with. Since they viewed Jesus as a moral example, but not as God, they felt empowered to judge His words according to their own feelings about them, thus they viewed themselves as greater than Jesus.

The divinity of Jesus is foundational to the pursuit of truth. His divinity validates His claims that His words stand alone as authoritative and true. This is why He was born of a virgin, performed miraculous signs and wonders, and even foretold His death, burial, and resurrection. These were all proof that He was who He claimed to be, God.

If Jesus is God, then all of His words are far more than mere moral instruction. John 6:63 *The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.* ESV Jesus is far more than a teacher of morality, He is God. May we transcend mere obedience to authentic worship.

Loving you all,
Michael

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|----------------------|------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| Bagent, Emmett | Marine, 66-69 | Kattelman, Megan | Air Force, Present | In observance of Veterans Day, we express our sincere gratitude to those who have served and are currently serving our country. If there are any corrections or additions to our list, please notify the church office. Veterans and active duty personnel include: |
| Barber, C.A. III | Army, 55-57 | Korte, Adam | Army, 09-14 | |
| Boren, Michael | Army, 68-71 | Lacey, Jeff | Army, 98-06 | |
| Boren, Zack | Army, 06-11 | Lamb, Walter | Air Force, 45-46 | |
| Borrowman, Paul | Army, 72-74 | Lierly, Jeffrey | Air Force, 95-08 | |
| Casteel, Greg | Air Force, 85-Present | Lightle, Mike | Air Force, 68-70 | |
| Casteel, Larry | Air Force, 82-05 | Lind, Bryce | Army | |
| Chamberlain, Don | Army, 52-54 | Kacie Lipcaman | Army, 05-09 | |
| Clark, Cathlyn | Air Force, Present | Long, Austin | Army, 14-18 | |
| Clark, Richard | Army, 68-72 | McNulty, Jake | Air National Guard, Present | |
| Conatser, Regan | Air Force, 10-14 | McNulty, Sarah | Air National Guard, Present | |
| Dain, Jim | Navy, 89-97 | Martin, Jeff | Air Force, 82-90 | |
| Decker, Richard | Air Force, 59-67 | Mendenhall, Buster | Army, 58-60 | |
| Dunham, Roger | Army, 66-68 | Owens, Charles | Navy | |
| Earls, Shane | Army Infantry, 10-14 | Phipps, Ron | Air Force, 59-63, Army Reserves 66-78 | |
| Earls, William | Army, 55-58 | Piper, Seth | Air Force, 20-Current | |
| Everhart, Carlton | Air Force, 81-18 | Pursley, Joseph | Marines, Present | |
| Everhart, Michele | Air Force Res, 86-06 | Speckhart, Dan | Army, 70-73 | |
| Gates, Charles | Navy, 66-89 | Staffy, Howard | Air Force, 50-54 | |
| Grimsley, Bill | Marines, 85-93 | Stark, Jim | Navy, 66-70 | |
| Herring, Dave | Army, 89-93 | Tharp, Corey | Air Force, 06-Present | |
| Houchins, Don | Army, 66-68 | Walters, Jeff | Army, 89-15 | |
| Howard, Carol A. | Army, Present | Weil, Thomas | Air Force, 69-73 | |
| Howard, Catherine J. | Army, Present | Willard, Robert M. | Army, 71-73 | |
| Hull, Quintin | Army, 14-Present | Yaeger, Roger E. | Army, 66-68 | |
| Kattelman, Cory | Army Reserves, Present | Zimmerman, Randall | Army, 67-69 | |
| | | Zumwalt, Lyndal | Army, 65-67 | |

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Church Building: 225 N. Memorial Street
 Crossroads Center: 125 W. Jefferson Street
 Offices: 115 W. Jefferson Street
 Phone (217) 285-4129
 E-mail: info@fccpittsfield.org

Staff:

Michael Ten Eyck, Pastor
 Kayla Boren, Music Coordinator
 Kacie Lipcaman, Christian Education
 Rebecca Rhodes, Administrative Secretary
 Grace Henthorn, Custodian
 Bob Clark, Audio/Video/Maintenance
 Shari Clark, Event Coordinator
 Rodney Gordley, Facilities Assistant

Office Hours: M-TH 8:00am-3:30pm; F 8:00am-Noon

Worship Times: Every Sunday 8:00am & 10:30am

Stewardship (Offering Only) 10/23-29 10/16-22

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Operational | \$6,784.51 | \$6,084.55 |
| Property Improvement | 10.00 | 10.00 |
| Outreach-Missionaries | 60.00 | 40.00 |
| DHF | 30.00 | 30.00 |
| DHF-Ukraine | 150.00 | 0.00 |
| Construction/Renovation | 239.29 | 360.00 |
| Youth | 40.00 | 0.00 |
| Outreach-General | 25.00 | 105.00 |
| Total | \$7,338.80 | \$6,629.55 |

Operating Receipts (Offering, Rentals, etc.)

Received Last 7 Days \$6,784.51 \$6,556.05
 Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$9,732

PRAYER CONCERNS: Tereasa Apps, John Birch, Roger Brokaw, Carolyn Casteel, Vivian Cloninger, Tressa Dickerson, Brian Douglas, Sue Evans, Bill Ferguson, Ruth Anne Goodin, Marjie Guthrie, Joan Halsey, Stacey Helms, Sandra Reel, Marcia Stark, Search for Associate or Youth Minister, K-Lou Ashmore (Friend of Jill Moss), Ann Bell (Cindy Chamberlain/Linda Baumer mother), Karen Birch (John Birch's sister), Marty Carnes (Leecia Carnes' mother), Patty Curry (Alicia Tate's aunt), Donna Gleckler (Mary VanHoose/Donnie Houchins' sister), Sandy Henry (Kristen Andress' mother), Bradyn Jensen (Leecia Carnes Family), Deb Kruger (Friend of Brandi Pennock), Vince Moore (Denny Moore's brother), Marcia Schimpf (Kacie Lipcaman's cousin), Rusty Sealock (Jean Sanderson's son-in-law), Remmy Snyder (Sharron Houchin's great nephew), Journee Vinyard (Kim Bauer's family), Tom Wainman (Kathy Wainman's family)

Serving Schedule:

Nov 5: Elders: Spencer Boren, Matt Saxe
 8:00 Prep: Richard & Rebecca Rhodes
 10:30 Prep: Chris & Cherie Wagoner
 Children's Church: Libby Boren, Ali Curless
 Fellowship Treats: Faith Saxe, Kayla Boren, Kathy Curfman, Carolyn Barber
 Nov 12: Elders: N.D. Harrison, Helen Earls
 8:00 Prep: Steve & Vickie Tharp
 10:30 Prep: Eric & Jill Kunzeman
 Children's Church: Stan & Jill Moss

Ways to Give

- Mail: PO Box 306, Pittsfield, IL 62363
- Online: Website fccpittsfield.org then Resources
- At the Office: 115 W. Jefferson Street
- Black metal offering boxes secured on the sanctuary mantels.

Ways To Watch/Listen

fccpittsfield.org - Ministries, Live Stream or Resources, Sermons.
YouTube - Search First Christian Church of Pittsfield and subscribe.
Facebook - Search First Christian Church of Pittsfield.
WBBA 97.5, Sundays, 10:30 a.m., Sermon only.
90.9 FM while parked next to the church building.

Lectionary

11/5: Josh 3:7-17; Micah 3:5-12; 1 Thess 2:9-13; Matt 23:1-12
11/6: Psalm 128; Joshua 4:1-24; 1 Thessalonians 2:13-20
11/7: Psalm 128; Joshua 6:1-16, 20; Acts 13:1-12
11/8: Psalm 128; Joshua 10:12-14; Matthew 15:1-9
11/9: Psalm 78:1-7; Joshua 5:10-12; Revelation 8:6-9:12
11/10: Psalm 78:1-7; Joshua 8:30-35; Revelation 9:13-21
11/11: Psalm 78:1-7; Joshua 20:1-9; Matthew 24:1-14
11/12: Josh 24:1-25; Solomon 6:12-16; Thess 4:13-18; Matt 25:1-13
11/13: Psalm 78; Joshua 24:25-33 1 Cor 14:20-25
11/14: Psalm 78; Neh 8:1-12; 1 Thess 3:6-13
11/15: Psalm 78; Jer 31:31-34; Matt 24:29-35
11/16: Psalm 123; Judges 2:6-15; Rev 16:1-7
11/17: Psalm 123; Judges 2:16-23; Rev 16:8-21
11/18: Psalm 123; Judges 5:1-12; Matt 12:43-45

| Worship Service | 10/29 | 10/22 |
|-----------------|------------|------------|
| 8:00 | | 86 |
| 10:30 | 262 | 144 |
| Total | 262 | 230 |

Christian Education

| | | |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|
| Age 3-PK | 4 | 5 |
| K-2nd | 4 | 4 |
| 3rd-5th | 12 | 13 |
| Jr/Sr High | 41 | 19 |
| Disciples | 12 | 17 |
| Sermon Study | 8 | 7 |
| C.O.F.F.E.E. | 5 | 11 |
| Total | 86 | 76 |

Wanted: Someone to wash outside windows.
 Contact Judy Dunham
 217.285.2738