

The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 66 Issue 4

February 13, 2024



Valentine's Day Dinner Party, Feb 18, 5:00.

Youth Fundraiser Tickets will be available to purchase for \$20.

Your ticket will include:

A delicious meal of Marinated Pork chops, Green Beans, Strawberry Poppyseed Salad, Baked Potato, rolls, and desserts!

Entertainment throughout the evening!

The best servers around to wait on you. You can even tip them if they are up to par (The youth)

This fundraiser is an event that brings us all together to fellowship, have fun, and allows the students the opportunity to serve those who support them all year! This year, we will only be selling a certain amount of tickets, so make sure to grab yours soon from the office or any youth leader!

*The dinner will be held in Crossroads Center.

*There will be no carry out dinners this year, as we anticipate a larger number of attendance.

*You won't want to miss out on this lovely dinner experience.



Elder Meeting, Tues, Feb 27, 6:00.

We will host **World Day of Prayer** service on Fri, **March 1**.

CWF will host an **American Red Cross Blood Drive** at Crossroads Center on Wed, **March 6**, 1-6:00. Contact Barbara Fosco if you would like to help during the event.

The **Carol V. Baughman Scholarship Fund** is available for students pursuing a degree in teaching or religious studies. Contact the church office by **March 7** for more info or an application.

Griefshare is a 14 week program that is designed to help you in your walk through your journey of grief. There is no charge for this group. Griefshare is a nondenominational loss support group. Next session starts Tues, **March 19**, 6-8:00 at Crossroads Center. For more info contact Vicki 217.285.6520, Rita 217.248.7269, or Brenda 217.577.8489. Pamphlets can be found at the sanctuary mantels and at the annex.

All kids are invited to participate in the choir songs for **Palm Sunday and on Easter Sunday**. We will be practicing during Children's Church on Sundays. There will also be a run-through with the choir on Wed, **Mar 20** at 6:30pm in the sanctuary.

Disciple Heritage Fellowship National Conference April 24-25

@ First Christian Church Decatur
Cost \$99/person or \$149/married couple.
Includes 2 day admission and 3 meals.
To register: discipleheritage.org/conference

The **Prayer Shawl Ministry** needs more volunteers. Contact Charlotte Dunham for more info.

The **2023 Year End Report** is on the sanctuary mantels. Contact the office if you need a copy emailed.

Congratulations to Chuck and Carolyn Barber on the birth of their great grandson, Patrick Charles Hartman.

The latest edition of **Our Daily Bread** is on the mantels.

We want to thank all volunteers who have helped clean, etc. while our custodian has been under the weather. We greatly appreciate your time and assistance!

A big Thank You to Hamer and Jenny Tate and Steve Tharp for doing the BIG JOB of cleaning our large range hood in the Cross-roads kitchen!

Thank you so much your donation to Pike County Unmet Needs. We are committed to helping the people of Pike County who have fallen on hard times financially by giving them assistance to get back on their feet and your donations make that possible. The needs have continued to rise and the amounts that are needed to meet their needs have risen. We really appreciate the recurring support we get from the churches and from individuals. It all does make a difference! All donations are tax deductible. Thank you! -Pike County Unmet Needs Board

Mississippi Valley Christian Service Camp has posted their 2024 camp schedule and registration info.

Vacation Bible School
July 14-17

Contact Renna Walters if you want to be on a Meal Team for Youth Group Nights!

SPECIAL EVENT 👉
HIGHSCHOOL LUNCH:
FEBRUARY 28TH



FEBRUARY

2024

**SAT
17**

ALL YOUTH GROUP @ CROSSROADS

9 am - decorating/mic check/kitchen prep for Valentine's Day dinner

**SUN
18**

YOUTH GROUP ARRIVE AT 4PM

➤ dress nicely, no sweats! All hands on deck!

**SUN
25**

HANGOUT 45 AFTER 2ND SERVICE-1:30

↘ At crossroads! All 4th and 5th graders welcome!

**SUN
25**

REGULAR YOUTH GROUP!

6th-12th grade: 6-8pm!

Dear Church Family,

1 John 4:10 *In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. -ESV*

As we approach the month of February, our hearts turn towards the celebration of love, commonly associated with the secular observance of Valentine's Day. While popular culture often reduces this occasion to expressions of romantic love, it is crucial for us, as a faith community, to delve deeper into the roots of this day and uncover the profound legacy of a historical figure, Saint Valentine.

Saint Valentine, a third-century Christian martyr, stands as an inspiring example of zeal and dedication in sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ. His commitment to faith and love transcended the temporal and the mundane, making his story a timeless testament to the enduring power of God's love.

One remarkable episode in the life of Saint Valentine was his compassionate act of healing a judge's blind daughter. This miraculous event not only demonstrated Valentine's unwavering faith but also showcased the transformative power of God's love in bringing light to the darkest corners of our lives.

Legend has it that he left a note for the young girl God used him to heal just before he was put to death. This gave rise to the traditions of giving "Valentine's."

In a time when the Roman Empire forbade marriages for young men involved in military service, Saint Valentine fearlessly conducted forbidden marriages. He believed in the sanctity of love and marriage, risking his own safety to uphold the divine institution of matrimony. This bold defiance against unjust laws underscores Valentine's commitment to the principles of love and justice rooted in his Christian faith, as well as the sacred bond of Holy Matrimony.

Ultimately, Saint Valentine's story culminates in his martyrdom for refusing to renounce his Christian beliefs. His sacrifice is a poignant reminder of the cost of discipleship and the depth of commitment required to follow Jesus Christ faithfully.

As we reflect on the life of Saint Valentine, let us not succumb to the superficiality of modern celebrations but instead embrace a deeper understanding of love. Valentine's Day, in its true essence, is an opportunity for us to celebrate God's creation of love itself, as manifested in the person of Jesus Christ. His sacrificial love, the ultimate gift to humanity, serves as the model for selfless and unconditional love that we are called to emulate.

In the midst of the commercialized expressions of affection, let us take a moment to remember the profound love that Christ exemplified. As we exchange tokens of love, let us also share the love of Christ with those around us, extending compassion, forgiveness, and grace.

May this Valentine's Day be a celebration not just of romantic love but a reminder of the transformative power of God's love, as demonstrated by Saint Valentine's unwavering commitment to his faith. Let us strive to embody this love in our daily lives, bringing light to the darkest corners and reflecting the true essence of love that emanates from our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Loving you all,
Michael

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	PRAYER CONCERNS: Tereasa Apps, Tressa Dickerson, Brian Douglas, Judy Dunham, Sue Evans, Marjie Guthrie, Joan Halsey, Stacey Helms, Marilyn Losch, Sharon Rahe, Sandra Reel, Debbie Robinson, Jason & Erica Thomas, Eddie White, Search for Associate or Youth Minister, Raeleigh Bess (Nanette Bess' granddaughter), Karen Birch (John Birch's sister), Patty Curry (Alicia Tate's aunt), Bradyn Jensen (Leecia Carnes Family), Pat Lehr (Steve Lehr's sister), Kevin McDonald (Bev White's nephew), Vince Moore (Denny Moore's brother), Bob Norris (Friend of Rokettia Brokaw), Marcia Schimpf (Kacie Lipcaman's cousin), Rusty Sealock (Jean Sanderson's son-in-law), Journee Vinyard (Kim Bauer's family),																																				
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) 1/29-2/4 2/5-11 <table><tr><td>Operational</td><td>\$18,632.02</td><td>\$18,079.61</td></tr><tr><td>Property Improvement</td><td>115.00</td><td>20.00</td></tr><tr><td>Outreach-Missionaries</td><td>40.00</td><td>40.00</td></tr><tr><td>DHF</td><td>30.00</td><td>30.00</td></tr><tr><td>DHF-Ukraine</td><td>50.00</td><td>50.00</td></tr><tr><td>Construction/Renovation</td><td>598.91</td><td>94.91</td></tr><tr><td>Outreach-General</td><td><u>210.00</u></td><td><u>35.00</u></td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>\$19,675.93</td><td>\$18,349.52</td></tr></table>	Operational	\$18,632.02	\$18,079.61	Property Improvement	115.00	20.00	Outreach-Missionaries	40.00	40.00	DHF	30.00	30.00	DHF-Ukraine	50.00	50.00	Construction/Renovation	598.91	94.91	Outreach-General	<u>210.00</u>	<u>35.00</u>	Total	\$19,675.93	\$18,349.52	Serving Schedule: Feb 18: Elders: Roger Brokaw, Steve Tharp 8:00 Prep: Brad & Kathy Willman 10:30 Prep: Rokettia Brokaw, Rosi Picone, Joyce Harrison Children's Church: Kay Sealock, Mike & Julie Boren Feb 25: Elders: Steve Tharp, Roger Brokaw 8:00 Prep: Richard & Rebecca Rhodes 10:30 Prep: Richard & Rebecca Rhodes Children's Church: Katie McDevitt												
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Operating Receipts (Offering, Rentals, etc.) Received Last 7 Days \$19,218.84 \$18,254.61 Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$10,433	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. 90.9 FM while parked next to the church building.																																				
Lectionary 2/18: Gen 9:8-17; Ps 25:1-10; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15 2/19: Psalm 77; Job 4:1-21; Ephesians 2:1-10 2/20: Psalm 77; Job 5:8-27; 1 Peter 3:8-18a 2/21: Psalm 77; Proverbs 30:1-9; Matthew 4:1-11 2/22: Psalm 22:23-31; Genesis 15:1-6, 12-18; Romans 3:21-31 2/23: Psalm 22:23-31; Genesis 16:1-6; Romans 4:1-12 2/24: Psalm 22:23-31; Genesis 16:7-15; Mark 8:27-30 2/25: Gen 17:1-16; Ps 22:23-31; Rom 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38 2/26: Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45; Genesis 21:1-7; Hebrews 1:8-12 2/27: Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45; Gen 22:1-19; Heb 11:1-3, 13-19 2/28: Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45; Jer 30:12-22; John 12:36-43 2/29: Psalm 19; Exodus 19:1-9a; 1 Peter 2:4-10 3/1: Psalm 19; Exodus 19:9b-15; Acts 7:30-40 3/2: Psalm 19; Exodus 19:16-25; Mark 9:2-8	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.																																				
	Wishes & Wants Free: Huffy 16" Marvel Spiderman bike for boys w/ training wheels. Huffy 12" Sea Star bike for girls ages 3 & up w/o training wheels. Christina Majthoub 217.204.5063.	Worship Service 2/4 2/11 <table><tr><td>8:00</td><td>114</td><td>116</td></tr><tr><td>10:30</td><td>180</td><td>131</td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>294</td><td>247</td></tr></table>		8:00	114	116	10:30	180	131	Total	294	247	Christian Education <table><tr><td>Age 3-PK</td><td>7</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td>K-2nd</td><td>10</td><td>9</td></tr><tr><td>3rd-5th</td><td>14</td><td>8</td></tr><tr><td>Jr/Sr High</td><td>24</td><td>19</td></tr><tr><td>Disciples</td><td>11</td><td>11</td></tr><tr><td>Sermon Study</td><td>15</td><td>17</td></tr><tr><td>C.O.F.F.E.E.</td><td>13</td><td>8</td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>94</td><td>78</td></tr></table>	Age 3-PK	7	6	K-2nd	10	9	3rd-5th	14	8	Jr/Sr High	24	19	Disciples	11	11	Sermon Study	15	17	C.O.F.F.E.E.	13	8	Total	94	78
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The Crossroads Center walking track is open to the public Monday through Thursday, 8-10AM.																																					