

The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 66 Issue 6

March 12, 2024



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

Are you interested in joining FCC? There will be a **First Things First** meeting on Sunday, **March 24**, 9:15 in the sanctuary with Pastor Michael.

We will have baptisms on Easter Sunday, March 31. Anyone interested in baptism should contact the church office. Pastor Michael will be glad to schedule a meeting.

The Kitchen Committee needs volunteers (Jr. high and older) to help for Easter breakfast, Mar 31. We need volunteers the morning before to prep as well as before the meal. There are a variety of jobs such as: cooking, preparing, traying, setting up the line and tables, cleaning during and after the event, etc. If you have a preference as to the type of help you want to do, just let us know. We appreciate any amount of time you can give, whether an hour or more!! Please call Kay Sealock (217-285-4991, 217-779-6127).

Holy Week

Sunday, **March 24** - Palm Sunday, regular schedule.

Maundy Thursday, **March 28** - 7:00 Service and Prayer.

Good Friday, **March 29** - 7:00 Reader's Theater.

Resurrection Sunday, **March 31** -
6:30 Sunrise Service to be lead by Youth Group. (gym)
7:30 Breakfast.
8:45 Sunday School.
10:00 Worship Service. (sanctuary)

Childcare will be provided Thursday, Friday, and on Sunday during Sunday School and 10:00 Service.

Christian Men's Fellowship Luncheon!

Sunday, **March 17**, following 10:30 service at Crossroads Center.

Building Team Meeting, Mon, **March 18**, 8:30.

Hangout45, Sunday, **March 24**, immediately after 10:30 service until 1:30.

Elder Meeting, Tues, **March 26**, 6:00.

We would still love to add people to the **Youth Group Meal Teams** as well as there are many ways to serve. If you do not have time or are unable to physically cook or provide a meal, then you can always sponsor a night and volunteers will do the leg work. Contact Renna at 931.217.6842.

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way with the Gary Downing funeral dinner. Your time is greatly appreciated!
-CWF Bereavement Ministry

*Dear Prayer Shawl Ministry,
Thank you very much for the shawl. Your special kindness is much appreciated. - Marilyn Losch.*

*Dear Church Family,
Thank you so much for the love and prayers during my recent neck injury. I also want to thank the Prayer Shawl Ministry for the wonderful shawl. I am thankful to be back in church!*
-Ruth Anne Goodin.

CWF recently hosted a very successful American Red Cross Blood Drive! It was a busy afternoon with 33 good donations! Thank you all donors and those who helped!

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.

IF:Local is a gathering of women committed to discipleship who gather across denominations, generations, and cultures to be in the Word and worship together. Be a part of women who are willing to step out in faith and experience the love of Jesus. The Bible study will be **Fri evening, March 22, and Sat, March 23** at the annex. Contact Rokettia for more info and to sign up.

**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

Elder Corner

As a farmer, when I plant a seed, I want to see results. I want the plant to get up out of the ground quickly. I want it to be healthy. I want it to grow strong and produce an abundant crop. While there are several cultural practices I can do to help the plant produce, such as proper fertility, providing disease and insect protection, and proper and adequate weed control. There are important variables that I as a producer cannot control that are vital to accomplishing my goal. I can't control the amount of sunshine, rain, or growing degree days the plant receives. I can't protect it from frost, wind, or hail. When it comes to these factors I am helpless. I have to rely upon God.

The same is true when we sow the seed of the Gospel of Jesus. Jesus told us in Matthew 28:19-20

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

We sow the seed. We can do our best to prepare to share the word and share it. We are not the grower. God is the one who provides the growth and the production of faith in those we share it with. Paul acknowledged this in 1 Corinthians 3:6-7

"I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. 7 So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth."

I find myself discouraged when I share the good news of Jesus and I don't see the response of faith in Jesus in the person I shared it with. I need to be reminded that I am the one who sows not the one who grows. I need to be faithful and obedient to sow, and let God work in the person's heart.

Isaiah 55:10-11 says

"For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

11 so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it."

Let us be faithful and obedient to share the word. God is faithful, He will accomplish what He purposes.

In Christian Love,

Roger Brokaw, Elder

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, Karl Benjamin, Tressa Dickerson, Brian Douglas, Sue Evans, Marjorie Gamble, Marjie Guthrie, Joan Halsey, Stacey Helms, Jim Kallal, Marilyn Losch, Sharon Rahe, Sandra Reel, Erica Thomas, 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), 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), <i>With sympathy: Gary Downing (Rex Lothridge's brother), Patricia Long (Kathy Willman's sister-in-law), Floyd Scranton (Delbert Scranton's brother), Sue Tice (Lisa Pennock's sister), Maxine Wilder (Linda Belford's mother)</i>																																									
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) 2/26-3/3			3/4-10																																									
Operational \$13,320.77			\$8,543.08																																									
Property Improvement 10.00			10.00																																									
Outreach-Missionaries 40.00			40.00																																									
DHF 30.00			30.00																																									
DHF-Ukraine 0.00			0.00																																									
Construction/Renovation 344.91			144.91																																									
Youth 900.00			40.00																																									
Unmet Needs 0.00			0.00																																									
Outreach-General 205.00			5.00																																									
Total \$14,850.68			\$8,812.99																																									
Operating Receipts (Offering, Rentals, etc.) Received Last 7 Days \$13,440.77 \$9,242.08 Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$10,433																																												
Wishes & Wants <u>Free:</u> 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. <u>Free:</u> McKesson Compressor Nebulizer System machine. Barbara Fosco 217.285.2608.																																												
Lectionary 3/17: Jer 31:31-34; Ps 51:1-12; Heb 5:5-10; John 12:20-33 3/18: Ps 119:9-16; Isa 43:8-13; 2 Cor 3:4-11 3/19: Ps 119:9-16; Isa 44:1-8; Acts 2:14-24 3/20: Ps 119:9-16; Haggai 2:1-9, 20-23; John 12:34-50 3/21: Ps 118:1-2, 19-29; Deut 16:1-8; Philippians 2:1-11 3/22: Ps 118:1-2, 19-29; Jer 33:1-9; Philippians 2:12-18 3/23: Ps 118:1-2, 19-29; Jer 33:10-16; Mark 10:32-34, 46-52 3/24: Ps 118:1-2, 19-29; Mark 11:1-11 3/25: Isa 7:10-14; Ps 45; Heb 10:4-10; Luke 1:26-38 3/26: Is 49:1-7; Ps 71:1-14; 1 Cor 1:18-31; John 12:20-36 3/27: Isa 50:4-9; Ps 70; Heb 12:1-3; John 13:21-32 3/28: Ex 12:1-14; Ps 116:1-19; 1 Cor 11:23-26; John 13:1-35 3/29: Isa 52:13-53:12; Ps 22; Heb 10:16-25; John 18:1-19:42 3/30: Job 14:1-14; Ps 31:1-16; 1 Pet 4:1-8; Matt 27:57-66																																												
			Serving Schedule: March 17: Elders: Kathy Hull, Wayne Chamberlain 8:00 Prep: Greg & Kim Bonnett 10:30 Prep: Chris & Cherie Wagoner Children's Church: Kay Sealock, Mike & Julie Boren March 24: Elders: Brad Willman, David Bishop 8:00 Prep: Dan & Sue Speckhart 10:30 Prep: Eric & Jill Kunzeman Children's Church: Katie McDevitt, etc. Youth Group Meal Team: Judy Losch, Renna Walters, Carole Elledge																																									
			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.																																									
			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.																																									
			<table><tr><td></td><td>Worship Service 3/3</td><td>3/10</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>8:00</td><td>102 71</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>10:30</td><td>187 166</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Total</td><td>289 237</td></tr><tr><td></td><td colspan="2">Christian Education</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Age 3-PK</td><td>8 6</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>K-2nd</td><td>12 8</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>3rd-5th</td><td>15 11</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Jr/Sr High</td><td>31 29</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Disciples</td><td>12 9</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Sermon Study</td><td>13 15</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>C.O.F.F.E.E.</td><td>14 13</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Total</td><td>105 91</td></tr></table>				Worship Service 3/3	3/10		8:00	102 71		10:30	187 166		Total	289 237		Christian Education			Age 3-PK	8 6		K-2nd	12 8		3rd-5th	15 11		Jr/Sr High	31 29		Disciples	12 9		Sermon Study	13 15		C.O.F.F.E.E.	14 13		Total	105 91
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			The Crossroads Center walking track is open to the public Monday through Thursday, 8-10AM.																																									