

The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 66 Issue 16

July 23, 2024



We were excited on July 21st to celebrate the dedication of Beau Sealock by his parents, Matthew and Brianne Sealock, and family! We look forward to worshipping with Beau as he grows in his Christian faith!

Volunteers Needed!

We need Sunday School teachers for youth classes at 9:15. We also need individuals to help with Children's Church during 10:30 service. The rotation, depending on the quantity of help, would be a once per month commitment. Contact the office if interested in either or both.

Youth Group: Sunday, **August 4:** Worship Night.

August 4 - Cookie Sunday!

Coffee Talk, Tues, **Aug 6,** 10:00 at the Annex. Stop by for coffee and conversation with Pastor Michael.

Circle IV Meeting, Thurs, **Aug 8,** 9:30 at Cardinal Inn.

Promotion Sunday
August 11

Dear Church Family,
Thanks to Michael, the elders, and the rest of my church family for all the prayers and calls. Prayer definitely works!
In Christian Love,
Tereasa Apps

Our church family is amazing! We so appreciated your cards, prayers and well-wishes as we celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary! We were happy to have so many join us at Hopewell Winery for the lovely party hosted by our children! God is good all the time, and we thank Him for those years together.
Love to all,
Rick & Kathy Curfman

We will not have youth Sunday School classes during the 4 Sundays in July. The Nursery will still be staffed on Sunday mornings starting with the 8:00 worship service and continuing until the conclusion of 10:30 service.

Hebrews 2:17-18 ESV

17 Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

18 For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

VBS 2024 *"Start the Party"* is in the books!

Kickoff Sunday was a bit warm but made for a great day for water slides and fellowship! VBS was Monday through Wednesday with each night filled with lesson, worship, crafts, and games.

We want to thank EVERYONE who was able to volunteer and make VBS possible. There is A LOT of preparation and we greatly appreciate everyone's invested time:

Leaders

Helpers

Cooks/Kitchen Crew

Parents/Families

Generator Owners (Thanks Glen Cooley!)

VBS offering totaled over \$650 and will be donated towards Advocacy Network Center of Pike County.

Romans 8:38-39 ESV

38 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers,

39 nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Excerpts from July 9, 2024 Board Meeting

Call to order at 6:00PM by Moderator Brad Losch. Brad Willman led the meeting in a devotion and prayer. Minutes from the June 11, 2024 meeting were approved by general consensus. Ministers report was attached and discussed.

Treasurer: Eleanor Jenkins submitted a report and presented information from the report— as of June 30, 2024:

The total transfer to the building fund in June was \$15,261.12

Total Funds Available for Construction/Renovation \$1,733,015.25

David Bishop moved to approve the Treasurer's Report and Bob Clark seconded. Passed unanimously.

Christian Education: Kacie Lipcaman submitted a report. Junior High students will be participating in youth group events this summer, but will not be helping at VBS.

Crossroads Center: Shari Clark submitted a report. There was a freezer malfunction and loss of approximately \$500 of frozen food. The church was able to donate usable food to MVCSC for campers.

Building Team: Brad Losch stated that the committee met on 7/8/24. Floor plan was not available at that meeting but should be delivered in the coming days. Once the building is in receipt of the floor plan, bid process for excavation, foundation work, and roughed-in plumbing and electrical can begin.

Libby Boren moved to adjourn at 6:31 pm. ND Harrison seconded; passed unanimously.

Dear Church Family,

Last Sunday, I shared about Florence Chadwick, an accomplished long-distance swimmer, who set out to swim from the California coast to Catalina Island in July of 1952. Despite her experience and determination, she quit less than one mile from her goal due to the dense fog that clouded her vision and judgment. She later revealed that if she had been able to see the shore, she would have persevered. This story underscores a vital truth: isolation can obscure our perception and lead us to surrender.

In the same way, isolation can profoundly affect our mental health. When we are alone, the challenges and difficulties of life can often seem insurmountable. We become like Florence Chadwick in the fog, unable to see the shore and feeling overwhelmed by the vastness of our struggles. However, when we allow others into our lives, their perspectives can offer clarity, insight, and encouragement that we might otherwise miss.

The Bible offers many examples and teachings on the importance of community. In Ecclesiastes Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 we read, *Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. 10 For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! 11 Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? 12 And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—a threefold cord is not quickly broken. ESV*

This passage highlights the strength and support we gain from being in relationships with others. When we face life's challenges together, we are less likely to fall and more likely to succeed.

In the New Testament, we see the importance of mutual encouragement in the early church. Hebrews 10:24-25 urges us to *“... consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, 25 not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.” -ESV*

Gathering together and sharing our lives helps us stay focused on our spiritual and mental well-being, providing us with the strength to press on.

Isolation can lead to distorted thinking, where our problems seem bigger and our resources smaller than they are. Proverbs 11:14 reminds us, *Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety. ESV*

Seeking advice and support from others helps us see our situations more accurately and find solutions that we might not have considered on our own.

Mental health struggles, such as anxiety, depression, and stress, often thrive in isolation. When we isolate ourselves, we cut off the very support system that can help us navigate these challenges. Like Florence Chadwick, who might have succeeded had she seen the shore, we too can overcome our struggles with the help of others. Trusted friends, family, and church members can offer us the encouragement, perspective, and support we need.

If you are feeling overwhelmed, don't isolate yourself. Reach out to someone who can offer a different perspective and help you see the "shore" that might be closer than you think. In a Christian community, we find strength, clarity, and encouragement to keep moving forward. Together, we can navigate the fog of life's challenges and reach the shores of hope and healing.

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

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

PRAYER CONCERNS: Karl Benjamin, Ruth Bennett, John & Jane Calaway, Brian Douglas, Sue Evans, Edith Gant, Eleanor Jenkins, Jim Kallal, Sharon Rahe, Tom Robinson, Search for Associate or Youth Minister, Abby Walters Bean (Jeff/Renna Walters' daughter), Raeleigh Bess (Nanette Bess' granddaughter), Karen Birch (John Birch's sister), Nancy Grogan (Donnie Houchins/Mary VanHoose sister), Bradyn Jensen (Leecia Carnes family), Pat Lehr (Steve Lehr's sister), Rusty Sealock (Jean Sanderson's son-in-law), Aerianna Spangler (Kayla Boren's niece), Raylan Turnbull (Aaron & Allison Turnbull's son), Journee Vinyard (Kim Bauer's family), Steve Young (Friend of Bev White)

With Sympathy: -Katherine Ballenger (Rodney Gordley's great grandmother)
 -Bob Gleckler (Bryce Gleckler's father)
 -Juanita Miller (Myrtle Tharp's sister)
 -Linda Turnbaugh (Michelle Opitz's stepmother)
 -The 10 year old grandson of Elaine Hoaglin's cousin,
 Rhonda Lemons Higgins

Stewardship (Offering Only) 7/8-14	7/15-21
Operational \$6,079.90	\$9,641.22
Property Improvement 10.00	10.00
Outreach-Missionaries 40.00	40.00
DHF 30.00	30.00
DHF-Ukraine 50.00	50.00
Construction/Renovation 174.91	226.91
Youth 100.00	0.00
Unmet Needs 250.00	0.00
Outreach-General <u>205.00</u>	<u>205.00</u>
Total \$6,939.81	\$10,203.13

Operating Receipts (Offering, Rentals, etc.)

Received Last 7 Days \$6,079.90 \$10,091.22
 Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$10,433

Wishes & Wants

None at this time.

Serving Schedule:

July 28: Elders: Roger Brokaw, Bob Clark
 8:00 Prep: Brad & Kathy Willman
 10:30 Prep: Chris & Cherie Wagoner
 August 4: Elders: Kathy Hull, Wayne Chamberlain
 8:00 Prep: Steve & Vickie Tharp
 10:30 Prep: Gary & Noah Mendenhall
 Fellowship Treats: Kim Speckhart, Kathy Wainman
 Julie Dehart, Carol Sherwin

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.

Lectionary

7/28: 2 Sam 11:1-15; 2 Kings 4:42-44; Ps 145:10-18; Eph 3:14-21
7/29: Psalm 37:12-22; 2 Samuel 11:14-21; Phil 4:10-20
7/30: Psalm 37:12-22; 2 Sam 11:22-27; Rom 15:22-33
7/31: Psalm 37:12-22; 2 Chronicles 9:29-31; Mark 6:35-44
8/1: Psalm 51:1-12; Ex 32:19-26; 1 Cor 11:17-22
8/2: Psalm 51:1-12; Joshua 23:1-16; 1 Cor 11:27-34
8/3: Psalm 51:1-12; Judges 6:1-10; Matthew 16:5-12
8/4: 2 Sam 11:26-12:13; Ex 16:2-15; Eph 4:1-16; John 6:24-35
8/5: Psalm 50:16-23; 2 Samuel 12:15-25; Eph 4:17-24
8/6: Psalm 50:16-23; 2 Samuel 13:1-19; 1 Cor 12:27-31
8/7: Psalm 50:16-23; 2 Samuel 3:20-36; Mark 8:1-10
8/8: Psalm 130; 2 Samuel 13:37-14:24; Rom 15:1-6
8/9: Psalm 130; 2 Samuel 14:25-33; Galatians 6:1-10
8/10: Psalm 130; 2 Samuel 15:1-13; Matt 7:7-11

FCC has a presence on the YouVersion Bible app. Check it out!

The June, July, August edition of **Our Daily Bread** devotional can be found on the sanctuary mantels.

Worship Service 7/14	7/21
8:00	85 102
10:30	<u>156</u> <u>128</u>
Total	241 230

Christian Education

Age 3-PK		
K-2nd		
3rd-5th		
Jr/Sr High		
Disciples	13	9
Sermon Study	9	11
C.O.F.F.E.E.		
Total	22	20