

# The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 67 Issue 11

June 3, 2025



## First Christian Church's Safety Team could use a few additional volunteers.

Three volunteers serve at each service. Each Sunday morning you see the one serving at the ramp door and the one serving at the north door. You probably don't see the other volunteer serving in the old church office room west of the sanctuary and monitoring the cameras and communicating with the volunteers at the doors as necessary.

We have sufficient volunteers now such that each serves one one-third or one-fourth of the Sundays. We would like to get additional volunteers so that no one serves more than once a month.

The Elders recently agreed it would be a good idea to invite women to serve on the Safety Team.

So, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, this is your invitation to serve the important function of helping keep those who worship with us safe.

If you want more information, please call or text me.

-N.D. Harrison

Cell: 217.370.1451

## Congratulations to all graduates in the church family!

*Congratulations Ronald and Shanna Ewers on the birth of their daughter, Steelie Jean Ewers. She was born May 20 and has been welcomed home by big brother Boone!*

We have 6 adults and 9 youth on a mission trip to Still Waters Ranch in Kentucky who will return by the weekend. Please keep everyone in your prayers for safe travels and blessed encounters throughout the trip.

**Board Meeting**, Tues, **June 10**, 6:00. Packets will be at the church on June 8.

**CWF** will meet Thurs, **June 12**, 9:30 at the Cardinal Inn. All women in the church are invited to attend the Bible study!

We will **not** have **Children's Church** at 10:30 service during June and July in order to give our volunteers a season of rest.

**Gather Up Sunday School** will be during the month of **June**. Grades K-4<sup>th</sup> will be combined and meet at Cross-roads Center. This allows our Sunday School teachers a time to rejuvenate

The recent Missouri storms hit the carpentry crew which has placed us approximately 2 weeks behind schedule with a June 16 resume date. In the interim we are doing prep work on the south wall windows. Please pardon our dust as we make modifications at the building in preparation for the framing process.

We want to thank everyone who helped make the CWF Garage Sale a great success! Net proceeds were over \$2,100. We could not have done it without the donations, volunteers throughout the week and day of sale, and all the shoppers! The ladies will be able to continue their ministry to the church family and community!

Mark your calendars for  
**\*\*\*LIVE IT OUT VBS\*\*\***  
**July 13th through 16th**  
Interested in lending a hand?  
Contact Niki Dixon 417-392-0729

The 2025 camp dates are posted on the **Mississippi Valley Christian Service Camp** website where you can also register your child. Our Christian Men's Fellowship will pay for one half of the camp fee for youth from FCC to attend. Volunteers are needed after 3:00 on June 7, 13, 20, 26, 28 to clean the facilities in preparation for the next camp. FCC has been assigned to clean the cafeteria/kitchen. Stop by and lend a hand!

We are excited to announce a new Sunday School curriculum! Beginning this September we will start an Old Testament Bible Walk Thru. We're so excited to guide our students on a deeper knowledge of God's Word. Please be in prayer as we start to develop lessons.

## Excerpts from May 13, 2025 Church Board Meeting Minutes

Call to order at 6 p.m. by Moderator Kathy Hull. Charlotte Dunham led the meeting in a devotion and prayer. Minutes from the April 8, 2025, meeting were approved by general consensus.

**Pastor's Report:** Minister's report was attached and discussed. Highlights include: We are once again on local radio on Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m. Damage to bricks near sanctuary entry has been repaired. Those who were baptized each gave a testimony. Holy week services went well. FCC is hosting baccalaureate.

**Treasurer:** Eleanor Jenkins submitted a report and Rebecca Rhodes presented information from the report as of April 30. The total transfer to the building fund in April was \$7,856.27. Total Funds Available for Construction/Renovation \$1,752,969.06. YTD Receipts \$188,221.65. YTD Budgeted \$179,661.00. Difference \$8,560.65. YTD Disbursements \$136,433.90. YTD Budgeted \$180,663.00. Difference \$44,229.10

**Trustees:** Justin Poor submitted a Trustee's Report. Additional memorials were received in memory of Roger Dunham and a new memorial was established in the name of David Grimsley. It was noted that \$10,000 of the \$12,500 cost has been donated toward the purchase of new pew cushions so that will reduce what will need to be withdrawn from the Trustee account.

**Christian Education:** Students worked incredibly hard on the Sunrise Service. Sunday School and Children's Church are going well.

**Music:** Choir will take a summer break and worship teams will be revised.

**Building Team:** The building project is 2 weeks behind because of weather but is going well.

**Old Business:** Greg Bonnet will step in to complete Roger Dunham's term as Trustee. The parsonage roof will be patched.

Charlotte Dunham moved to adjourn at 6:26 p.m. and Steve Tharp seconded. All approved. Roger Brokaw closed the meeting in prayer.

Linda Belford, Recording Secretary



## Elder Corner

As we are about to turn another page of the calendar, we are reminded of just how quickly time flies. It seems that we only recently hung the 2025 calendar, and now we're about to embark upon the halfway point of this new year, which brings a flurry of summer activities. With so many activities and responsibilities filling our days, I'm afraid there are times when we miss opportunities to reflect on those very special moments in our lives that have had meaning for us. For me, one such memory is a childhood in which my days were spent playing outdoors with my siblings in the expansive yard of our country home for hours on end. It seemed that time stood still as we children played among the flowering plants and bushes which were prevalent in the yard each Spring. It was at this time in my life that I realized that the sweet fragrance of the blooms of the lilac bushes became apparent every year just before my birthday. This was a special time for me, as I knew a time of celebration would soon be happening in a few days!

Recently, I was reminded of my affection for the "sweet fragrance of the lilacs" as we prepared our hearts for the Celebration of the Resurrection. We thought about the death of Jesus and how horrific the scene would have been to witness in person. Now try and imagine witnessing it from the Father's perspective! Think about how he saw, heard, felt, knew, and wept over everything that happened to Jesus. Think about how he felt placing the sin of the world, the sin of you and me, on the shoulders of his perfect and undeserving Son. Imagining all of this enables us to gain perspective on the unfathomable love of God as expressed in Ephesians 5:2:

"And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a slain offering and sacrifice to God, a sweet fragrance."

With all the Father witnessed that day, with all the suffering Jesus faithfully endured, God still considers Jesus' death "a sweet fragrance." How is that possible? How could anyone consider the death of Jesus "a sweet fragrance," let alone the Father? Such is the incredible depth of God's love for us that he would count the atrocities committed against his Son as "a sweet fragrance." Such is the enormity of God's desire for restored relationship with us that he would look upon the death of his Son with favorable remembrance.

The death of Jesus was a turning point in the scope of eternity. His sacrifice meant a change from all of humanity opposing God to the crown of his creation returning to his fold. God so longs for communion with you and me that he paid the ultimate price. He counts us worthy of the death of his son. May we allow God's love to be the foundation for our perspective, thoughts, emotions, and actions. May we slow down, rest in his presence, and find hope and security in the truth that his arms are always open to us -- ready to embrace us just as we are.

In Christ,

Charlotte Dunham  
Elder

<b>First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois</b> 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  <b>Staff:</b> Michael Ten Eyck, Pastor Niki Dixon, Christian Education Rebecca Rhodes, Administrative Secretary Grace Henthorn, Custodian Bob Clark, Audio/Video/Maintenance Shari Clark, Event Coordinator Rodney Gordley, Facilities Assistant  <b>Office Hours: M-TH 8:00am–3:30pm; F 8:00am-Noon</b> <b>Worship Times: Every Sunday 8:00am &amp; 10:30am</b>				<b>PRAYER CONCERNS:</b> Phoenix Bacon, John & Jane Calaway, Craig & Caree Collver, Richard Decker, Tressa Dickerson, Brian Douglas, Bill Earls, Sue Evans, Lane Foster, Ruth Anne Goodin, Joan Halsey, Donnie Houchins, Jeanne Howard, Jim Kallal, Marge Lamb, Wanda Mendenhall, Tristyn Ruzich, Bill Schwartze, Rusty & Jeana Sealock, Yvonne Stauffer, Karen Birch (John Birch's sister), Darci Brooks (Deloras Martin's niece), Dave Dunham (Brokaw/Dyer family), Dennie Hull (Jack Hull's brother), Pat Lehr (Steve Lehr's sister), Diana McCartney (Friend of Evans family), Debbie Thomas (Jason Thomas' mother), Gail Walston (Laura Grimsley's sister), Robert Wilson (Rachel Cawthon's father), Steve Young (Friend of Bev White) <i>With Sympathy: Jesse Davidsmeyer, Marjorie Gamble, Joel Noble,  James T. Smith</i>			
<b>Stewardship (Offering Only) 5/12-18      5/19-25      5/26-6/1</b> Operational      \$17,523.65      \$6,034.18      \$11,490.89 Property Improvement      10.00      10.00      10,065.00 Outreach-Missionaries      40.00      40.00      40.00 DHF      30.00      30.00      30.00 Construction/Renovation      194.91      237.91      144.91 Church Camp      0.00      20.00      0.00 Unmet Needs      0.00      0.00      275.00 Mission Trip      0.00      100.00      0.00 Outreach-General <u>205.00</u> <u>5.00</u> <u>10.00</u> Total      \$18,003.56      \$6,477.09      \$22,055.80  <b>Operating Receipts (Offering, Rentals, etc.)</b> Received Last 7 Days      \$17,673.65      \$8,009.18      \$12,110.89 Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$10,568				<b>Serving Schedule:</b> June 8: Elders: Bob Clark, Roger Brokaw 8:00 Communion: Steve & Vickie Tharp 10:30 Communion: Chris & Cherie Wagoner  June 15: Elders: David Bishop, Steve Tharp 8:00 Communion: Brad & Kathy Willman 10:30 Communion: Larry & Sandy Wigington Justin & Amber Poor  <b>Ways to Give</b> •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.			
The collection boxes for greeting card fronts and reading glasses are at the annex.  The <u>June, July, August</u> edition of <b>Our Daily Bread</b> devotional can be found on the sanctuary mantels.  <b>Lectionary</b> <b>6/8:</b> Acts 2:1-21; Ps 104:24-35; Rom 8:14-17; John 14:8-17 <b>6/9:</b> Psalm 48; Joel 2:18-29; 1 Corinthians 2:1-11 <b>6/10:</b> Psalm 48; Ezekiel 11:14-25; 1 Corinthians 2:12-16 <b>6/11:</b> Psalm 48; Numbers 24:1-14; Luke 1:26-38 <b>6/12:</b> Psalm 8; Proverbs 3:13-18; Ephesians 1:17-19 <b>6/13:</b> Psalm 8; Proverbs 3:19-26; Ephesians 4:1-6 <b>6/14:</b> Psalm 8; Proverbs 4:1-9; Luke 2:41-52 <b>6/15:</b> Prov 8:1-4; Rom 5:1-5; John 16:12-15 <b>6/16:</b> Psalm 124; Proverbs 7:1-4; Ephesians 4:7-16 <b>6/17:</b> Psalm 124; Proverbs 8:4-21; Ephesians 5:15-20 <b>6/18:</b> Psalm 124; Daniel 1:1-21; Luke 1:46b-55 <b>6/19:</b> Psalm 42 and 43; Genesis 24:1-21; Romans 2:17-29 <b>6/20:</b> Psalm 42 and 43; Job 6:14-30; Galatians 3:15-22 <b>6/21:</b> Psalm 42 and 43; Proverbs 11:3-13; Matthew 9:27-34				<b>Ways To Watch/Listen</b> <b>fccpittsfield.org</b> - Ministries, Live Stream or Resources, Sermons. <b>YouTube</b> - Search First Christian Church of Pittsfield and subscribe. <b>Facebook</b> - Search First Christian Church of Pittsfield. <b>90.9 FM</b> while parked next to the church building. <b>97.5 FM</b> - Sunday mornings at 10:30  FCC has a presence on the YouVersion Bible app. Check it out!  <b>Wishes &amp; Wants</b> Men's Wrangler jeans. New, washed once, never worn. 42x30. \$5. Carole Elledge 217.285.4929  Parents: Be sure to watch the Kids@FCC Facebook page for the latest news and events!			
				<b>Worship Service 5/18      5/25      6/1</b> 8:00      101      72      72 10:30 <u>159</u> <u>177</u> <u>123</u> Total      260      249      195  <b>Christian Education</b> Youth      36      37      35 Disciples      15      12      11 Sermon Study      13      15      7 C.O.F.F.E.E. <u>14</u> <u>12</u> <u>9</u> Total      78      76      62			