

# The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 67 Issue 15

July 22, 2025



Have you been attending worship service and interested in placing your membership with FCC? Contact the office or Pastor Michael after worship service on July 27 for details. The following Sunday, August 3, you will have the opportunity to come forward during the service to declare your faith in Jesus Christ and place membership with FCC.

**Youth Group** will meet Sunday, **July 27**.  
Watch the Kids@FCC Facebook page for details!

We will not have Hangout 45 during July.

**Children's Church** at 10:30 service will resume on **August 3**.

It's time to replace a few pieces of furniture in the youth space at the annex. If you have recently updated your furniture and do not know what to do with your sofa and arm chair then we would be interest! Contact the office.

Attention Sunday morning volunteers: An email is sent at the end of each week reminding those on the upcoming Sunday volunteer schedule that it is their turn in the rotation. Please be vigilant and watch for these emails.

We want to thank Linda Belford who has come to the office monthly for several years to download, print, and meticulously assemble the Sunday school curriculum for all of our youth classes. This task takes several hours each month and we appreciate her time! Thank you Linda!

*Thank you so much for helping make my mission trip to Florida possible. Your support meant the world and allowed me to serve others, grow in faith, and experience something truly life-changing. Thank you!!*  
Jacob Kollmann  
Fellowship of Christian Athletes  
Illinois Collage 2028

The wind storm last Saturday morning blew over a tree at the Congregational Park. Thank you Steve Tharp, Jim Dehart, Hamer Tate, and Richard & Rebecca Rhodes for cutting up and hauling it off and for doing the same with the tree behind the house.

Old Testament Bible Walk Thru coming this fall to youth Sunday School.  
Please be in prayer as we start to develop lessons.

Pardon our dust during the construction process.

## **Excerpts from the July 8, 2025 Church Board Minutes**

**Call to order at 6:02 p.m.** by Moderator Kathy Hull. Alicia Tate led the meeting in a devotion and prayer. Minutes from the June 10, 2025, meeting were approved by general consensus.

**Pastor's Report:** Website transition is still being implemented. Building project is going well. Busy with weddings, funerals, and possible new memberships. Worship Teams will meet and reorganize.

**Treasurer:** Rebecca Rhodes summarized the Treasurer's report as of June 30, 2025. The total transfer to the building fund in June was \$12,256.11. Total Funds Available for Construction/Renovation \$1,637,086.61. YTD Receipts \$279,978.11; YTD Budgeted \$274,778; Difference \$5,200.11. YTD Disbursements \$209,841.17; YTD Budgeted \$265,651; Difference \$55,809.83. Average worship attendance through June 2025 243. Roger Brokaw moved to approve the Treasurer's Report and Bob Clark seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**Christian Education:** Niki Dixon attached a report. VBS is full steam ahead. Students prayed for and wrote on the studs of the building project. "Gather Up" Sunday School classes ended in June. July and August will continue with the current curriculum. In September, the Bible Walk Through curriculum will begin.

**Music:** Narrowing down the possible music for the 100<sup>th</sup> Cantata and continuing to work on worship team groups.

**Crossroads Center:** Shari Clark submitted a calendar of upcoming events.

**Building Team:** Kathy Hull and Michael Ten Eyck said that work is continuing with a decision to be made concerning the type of entry locks (fobs or keypad) that will be used.

### **Old Business:**

Work is continuing on the church website which will be using the Servant Keeper software.

### **New Business:**

One of the two HVAC systems in the Long Room is no longer functioning and the other needs repair. Portable air conditioning will be used until the new system for the building project can be installed.

The parking lot on the east side of the church building will be resurfaced once construction is completed.

**Adjourn:** Michael Ten Eyck moved to adjourn at 6:24 p.m.; Bob Clark seconded and all approved.

**Closing Prayer:** Roger Brokaw closed the meeting in prayer.

## Here's Your Sign...

A few years ago, I felt a recurring nudge to write a blog-type post about a few personal experiences. The details of those experiences are not important right now, but the gist of the recurring nudge was that those experiences connected in a way that made a nice moral, or maybe even biblical, lesson. For some reason that I couldn't explain, I felt compelled to write out that lesson. But, I was resistant to the nudge.

I was good at thinking of reasons why I shouldn't waste my time writing:

I'm too busy. I'm tired. My time is better spent doing other things. I'm not a good writer. Who would want to read it? I don't have anywhere to share something like this. Isn't it kind of arrogant for me to assume that I have a worthwhile point to make anyway? The possibility that I might have some wisdom to share is probably just me being prideful.

I kept up this internal struggle for longer than I'd like to admit. The nudge to write and then the excuses.

One morning while I was getting ready for the day, I remember praying something like this, "God, if this is really you wanting me to write down this lesson/post, give me a sign." I know that I shouldn't ask God for signs, but that's what I did that day. Later, when I opened Facebook to read the "news," this is the first post that I saw:

Is anyone else ever like, "God, give me a sign."

"No, a bigger sign."

"God, I'm kind of dumb, a bigger sign."

"You know what? If you could just let a baseball fall out of the sky and hit me over the head with step-by-step instructions, that would be awesome. Thanks. A text message would also work."

Gulp. Got it, thanks. It's not a baseball or a text message, but I guess this Facebook post is good enough. I decided to finally obey the nudges and I sat down at the computer that day to type out the thoughts that had been running through my head for months. After that, I finally felt peace. Those thoughts quit nagging at me.

I didn't share what I had written with anyone. The funny thing is that after I had written it, I didn't feel led to share it. But I don't think that sharing it was the point of the nudge, obeying the nudge to write was the point. I believe now that God was preparing me for something else and helping me to practice obedience.

I've been studying up a little bit on obedience. In John 14:15 we read that Jesus said, "If you love me, keep my commands." In 1 John 5:3 we read, "In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands..."

If loving God means keeping his commands, then when I don't keep his commands (or obey his nudges) does that mean that I'm not truly loving God? I'm not perfect, but I'm working on it. Maybe next time, God won't even have to call me out like that on social media.

Alicia Tate,  
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>PRAYER CONCERNS:</b> Phoenix Bacon, Leslie Willard Bower, Jane Calaway, Craig & Caree Collver, Richard Decker, Tressa Dickerson, Brian Douglas, Bill Earls, Sue Evans, Terry Fine, Ruth Anne Goodin, Joan Halsey, Donnie Houchins, Jeanne Howard, Jim Kallal, Marge Lamb, Rusty & Jeana Sealock, Karen Birch (John Birch's sister), Nancy Foster Donnell (Katie Wine's grandmother), Denny Dell (Friend of Brokaw family), Dave Dunham (Brokaw/Dyer family), Dennie Hull (Jack Hull's brother), Pat Lehr (Steve Lehr's sister), Phil Lipcaman (Chris Phipps' brother), Diana McCartney (Friend of Evans family), Chris Nichols (Friend of Bob Evans family), Chuck Seybold (Rob Seybold's father), Gretchen Vahle (Pastor Michael Ten Eyck's sister), Beth Wade (Friend of Schwartze family), Gail Walston (Laura Grimsley's sister), Robert Wilson (Rachel Cawthon's father)																													
<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:</b> Every Sunday 8:00am & 10:30am																																
<b>Stewardship (Offering Only) 7/7-13                      7/14-20</b> <table><tr><td>Operational</td><td>\$7,632.64</td><td>\$6,723.24</td></tr><tr><td>Property Improvement</td><td>10.00</td><td>60.00</td></tr><tr><td>Outreach-Missionaries</td><td>60.00</td><td>40.00</td></tr><tr><td>DHF</td><td>30.00</td><td>30.00</td></tr><tr><td>Construction/Renovation</td><td>274.91</td><td>224.91</td></tr><tr><td>Youth</td><td>0.00</td><td>40.00</td></tr><tr><td>Outreach-General</td><td>5.00</td><td>25.00</td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>\$8,012.55</td><td>\$7,143.15</td></tr></table>			Operational	\$7,632.64	\$6,723.24	Property Improvement	10.00	60.00	Outreach-Missionaries	60.00	40.00	DHF	30.00	30.00	Construction/Renovation	274.91	224.91	Youth	0.00	40.00	Outreach-General	5.00	25.00	Total	\$8,012.55	\$7,143.15	<b>Serving Schedule:</b> <b>July 27:</b> Elders: David Bishop, Alicia Tate 8:00 Communion: Steve & Vickie Tharp 10:30 Communion: Chris & Cherie Wagoner  <b>August 3:</b> Elder: Wayne Chamberlain, Roger Brokaw 8:00 Communion: Brad & Kathy Willman 10:30 Communion: Larry & Sandy Wigington, Justin & Amber Poor Children's Church: Ali Curless, Molly Caughlan Fellowship Treats: K. Speckhart, K. Wainman, J. Dehart, B. Fosco					
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<b>Operating Receipts (Offering, Rentals, etc.)</b> <i>Received Last 7 Days    \$7,807.64                      \$6,723.24</i> <i>Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$10,568</i>			<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.			<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																													
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>7/27:</b> Hosea 1:2-10; Gen 18:20-32; Col 2:6-19; Luke 11:1-13 <b>7/28:</b> Psalm 44; Hosea 2:14-3:5; Colossians 2:16-3:1 <b>7/29:</b> Psalm 44; Hosea 6:1-10; Romans 9:30-10:4 <b>7/30:</b> Psalm 44; Hosea 6:11-7:16; Matthew 5:43-48 <b>7/31:</b> Psalm 107:1-9, 43; Hosea 8:1-14; Romans 11:33-36 <b>8/1:</b> Psalm 107:1-9, 43; Hosea 9:1-17; Ephesians 4:17-24 <b>8/2:</b> Psalm 107:1-9, 43; Hosea 10:1-15; Mark 10:17-22 <b>8/3:</b> Hosea 11:1-11, Eccl 1:1-14; Col 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21 <b>8/4:</b> Psalm 60; Hosea 11:12-12:14; Colossians 3:18-4:1 <b>8/5:</b> Psalm 60; Hosea 13:1-16; Colossians 4:2-6 <b>8/6:</b> Psalm 60; Hosea 14:1-9; Luke 12:22-31 <b>8/7:</b> Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23; Isaiah 9:8-17; Romans 9:1-9 <b>8/8:</b> Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23; Isaiah 9:18-10:4; Acts 7:1-8 <b>8/9:</b> Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23; Isaiah 1:2-9, 21-23; Matthew 6:19-24			<table><tr><td rowspan="3">FCC has a presence on the YouVersion Bible app. Check it out!</td><td colspan="2"><b>Worship Service 7/13                      7/20</b></td></tr><tr><td>8:00</td><td>82                      84</td></tr><tr><td>10:30</td><td>142                      111</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Total</td><td>224                      195</td></tr><tr><td colspan="3"><b>Wishes &amp; Wants</b> None at this time.</td></tr><tr><td rowspan="5">Parents: Be sure to watch the Kids@FCC Facebook page for the latest news and events!</td><td colspan="2"><b>Christian Education</b></td></tr><tr><td>Youth</td><td>18                      11</td></tr><tr><td>Disciples</td><td>6                      8</td></tr><tr><td>Sermon Study</td><td>11                      8</td></tr><tr><td>C.O.F.F.E.E.</td><td>7                      4</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Total</td><td>42                      31</td></tr></table>			FCC has a presence on the YouVersion Bible app. Check it out!	<b>Worship Service 7/13                      7/20</b>		8:00	82                      84	10:30	142                      111		Total	224                      195	<b>Wishes &amp; Wants</b> None at this time.			Parents: Be sure to watch the Kids@FCC Facebook page for the latest news and events!	<b>Christian Education</b>		Youth	18                      11	Disciples	6                      8	Sermon Study	11                      8	C.O.F.F.E.E.	7                      4		Total	42                      31
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