

The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 67 Issue 17

August 26, 2025



<p>Hangout 45, Aug 31, immediately following 10:30 service. All 4th and 5th grade students are invited! Contact Niki for details!</p>	<p>Coffee Talk, Tues, Sept 2, 10:00. Stop by the annex for conversation and coffee with Pastor Michael.</p> <p>Youth Sunday School Classes will be promoted on Sunday, Sept 7. Old Testament Bible Walk Thru will begin that morning.</p>
<p>The College Student Outreach Ministry will kickoff with a Care Package Packing Party on Sunday, Sept 7, 3:00 at the annex. We will fill postal service boxes with misc goodies, treats, and messages then mail to the college students in our church family. If you would like to participate but are unable to attend, then feel free to drop off donations to the annex before noon Sept 5. Contact Alicia Tate if you have questions.</p>	
<p>Nominating forms are on the sanctuary mantels for officers and officials who's term will begin Jan 1, 2026. Due date to submit is Monday morning, Sept 8.</p>	<p>Board Meeting, Tues, Sept 9, 6:00. Packets will be ready Sept 7.</p>
<p>Choir Practice will resume on Wed, Sept 10, 6:30. If you have a choir folder and/or music then please return them to the church office so we can use the materials this fall.</p>	<p>CWF Bible Study, Thurs, Sept 11, 9:30 at Cardinal Inn.</p>
<p>The Thursday Noon Bible Study will resume on Sept 11 at Crossroads Center. The ladies will study the book "Romans: The Gospel of Grace" by Dr. David Jeremiah. The book is available for purchase at the office for \$10.</p>	
<p>The Vesper Service at the Hamer & Jenny Tate home will be Sunday, Oct 12. Save the date!</p>	<p>Who: Christian Men's Fellowship What: Luncheon When: Sunday, Sept 14, following 10:30 service Where: Crossroads Center Why: Gather together as men of faith. Following the meal, there will be training for Kids Outdoor Zone which is an outdoor adventure ministry for boys. CMF will mentor the program. Contact Zack Boren or Ed Picone for more details. Sign up near the coffee table or contact the office if you plan to attend so we have enough food prepared.</p>
<p>Youth Group wiener roast and hayride will be Sunday, Oct 26, at the Dunham farm. Save the date!</p>	
<p>On December 21 we will perform our 100th Christmas Cantata. Do you have a special memory or story from prior Cantatas that you would like to share? Contact Pastor Michael.</p>	

Sunday August 24th Uth@1st had a Back to School Bash at Crossroads. It was an absolute success! Between 45 & 50 students were in attendance praising Jesus, eating food & having fun! Huge thank you's go out to Renna Walters, Steve & Vickie Tharp, Zach & Libby Boren, Alicia Tate, Michelle Hart and Cameron & Amanda Sledge for helping with food & games. We're so grateful to Kayla Boren, Kathy Hull & Pastor Michael for leading us into worship. John Hull & Bob Clark handled our sound & we are so grateful for their knowledge. Caleb Dixon brought an outstanding salvation message Sunday Night. We're excited for a New School Year!

We want to thank all of the volunteers who helped with the funeral dinner for the family of Mary Lou Chamberlain. Your commitment to this ministry is appreciated by so many!

Thank you David and Sonya Bishop for reconditioning the FCC signs located on several roads leading into town. We appreciate your handyman and artistic talents!

Members of the First Christian Church,
Thank you so much for the yummy gift of cookies to our staff. They were delicious and appreciated! What a wonderful way to start the school year. Thanks again!
Sincerely,
Pikeland Staff

Mississippi Valley Christian Service Camp will host Family Camp on Fri, Sept 5, thru Sun, Sept 7. There are various activities on site concluding on Sunday with 11:00 worship service followed by a luncheon. See their website or Facebook page for details or contact Jim and Brittany Dain. Everyone is welcome!

The public is invited to the Detroit Christian Church on Fri, **Aug 29**, 7pm for a congregation Hymn Sing. There will be singing from the hymnal as well as special music. Ice cream will be served afterward.

September Birthdays & Anniversaries 1 Bill Irwin, Julie Dehart; 2 Joan Halsey, John & Lisa Pennock; 5 Steve & Vickie Tharp, Kennedy Knight; 6 Michael & Sharon Wilson; 7 Ruth Anne Goodin; 8 Michael Smith, Rhodora Pursley; 9 Liam Bonnett; 10 Chuck & Carolyn Barber, Billy Fitzmaurice, Avanelle McNulty; 11 Jamie Pennock; 12 Courtney Pennock, Levi Boren; 13 Judy Losch, Melissa Douglas, Brylee Piper; 14 Chris & Amber Apps, Brian & Angie Ruebush, Bob Clark; 15 Terry Fine, Frank Smith, Connor Sweeting, Avery Wyatt; 16 Dorothy Yaeger, Elijah Mendenhall, Kay McKinney, Weston & Maddi Campbell; 17 Gary Mendenhall, Hendrix Lipcaman, Clara Speckhart; 18 John & Jennifer Griffith; 19 Karen Goodwin, Ryder Lipcaman; 20 Alex Tharp, Ethan Darnell; 21 Rex Lothridge, Rilee Boatright; 22 Bethany Dunham, June Speckhart-Quirarte, London Thometz; 23 Allison Plattner, Ben Freesen, Tate Kunzeman, Nathan Lothridge, Thomas & Jenna Hull; 24 Loyd & Amy Casto, Amy Cox; 25 Steve Tharp; 26 Victoria Dain; 27 Leecia Carnes; 28 Bill & Rhonda Irwin; 29 Bill & Laura Grimsley; 30 Ellie Ten Eyck, Patrick & Jordan Lamb, Wren Frieden

Excerpts from August 12, 2025 Board Minutes

Call to Order at 6:02 p.m. by Moderator Kathy Hull. Steve Tharp led the meeting in a devotion and prayer. Minutes from the July 8, 2025, meeting were approved by general consensus.

Pastor's Report: Report was attached. The building project has taken lots of time, including daily discussions with the project manager. Helped to cover responsibilities for staff during vacations. Met with 10 individuals about placing membership at FCC. Pastor Michael was appreciative for the recognition of his 20 years at FCC and noted that Rebecca Rhodes has also worked for and been a tremendous asset at FCC for 20 years.

Treasurer: Eleanor Jenkins presented information from the report as of July 31, 2025. Total General Checking \$1,664,129.28. Total Funds Available for Construction/Renovation \$1,515,902.54. YTD Receipts \$325,844.86. YTD Budgeted \$317,050.00. Difference \$8,794.86 YTD Disbursements \$247,893.38. YTD Budgeted \$318,867.00. Difference \$70,973.62. Zach Boren moved to approve the Treasurer's Report Motion passed unanimously.

Trustees: Justin Poor submitted a Trustee's Report. The following occurred after the July 31 financial statement. With trust distribution designated for property improvement was received. A contribution in the form of beans was received and designated towards operating usage. Bibles for youth Sunday School classes were purchased with the Vivian Cloninger memorial.

Christian Education: VBS attendance averaged 43 students and students gave over \$800 towards flood relief in Texas. Back to School bash for the Youth Group is scheduled for 8/24 from 4-8 p.m.

Music: 100th Cantata will be "He Shall Reign Forevermore!". Worship team meeting was very productive.

Building Team: An app-based door entry system will be installed; wiring is in. Mechanicals are roughed in. Installation done. Roofing done. Masonry repairs done. Utilities are scheduled to be in during the week of 8/18. Concrete in the rear and front should be started before the end of the month.

The building project committee submitted some suggestions for signage for the building. The board agreed with the design that the committee recommended. There have been some costs that exceeded estimates Ameren, brick damage repair, and concrete cracks. Fixing issues as found.

New Business: The board has been made aware of some nursing home residents who would like to attend services but are in need of transportation. One of the freezers at Crossroads is in need of repair. There will be some upcoming changes in the nursery.

Wayne Chamberlain made a motion to adjourn at 6:43p.m. and he closed the meeting in prayer.

Dear Church Family,

The book of James reminds us that *“faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead”* (James 2:17, ESV). As we have been studying, true faith is never stagnant; it moves us to action. When we believe in Christ, we are called to live out that faith through service, generosity, and a willingness to meet the needs of the body of Christ.

Paul also wrote, *“For the body does not consist of one member but of many... Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it”* (1 Corinthians 12:14, 27). Each member has a part to play, and when we all work together, the whole body grows stronger.

This is a timely reminder, as Zack reminded us last Sunday, that nomination time is upon us! I want to encourage all that if asked to serve, please prayerfully consider saying “yes.” God may be opening a door of opportunity for you to use your gifts to bless others.

But service doesn’t stop there—our church family has many opportunities for involvement:

- The **technology team** that supports our worship services in sound, lighting, and video.
- The **property committee** helps maintain and improve our many facilities.
- The **safety team** responds to needs and concerns during services.
- **Youth sponsors** who encourage and disciple the next generation.
- **Sunday School teachers and small group leaders** who build up the body through God’s Word.
- The **building project**, where there are tasks such as cleaning, painting, and other hands-on needs.

Every act of service, whether seen or unseen, matters in the Kingdom of God. Even simple things—like noticing a broken fixture, cleaning a corner of the building, or letting someone know about a repair—help us steward the resources God has entrusted to us. Sometimes the best response is not only to tell someone but to roll up our sleeves and take care of the need ourselves.

Church is not just a building we gather in—it’s a family we belong to. Let’s all take ownership of our shared ministry and property so that together we can reflect Christ’s love to one another and to our community. As Galatians 6:10 encourages us: *“So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.”*

May our faith be alive, visible, and fruitful—demonstrated through godly works of service for His glory.

Loving you all,
Michael

Building Update News: Drywall has been hung. Windows are going in this week. Network wiring run. HVAC mechanicals are being installed. Exterior siding has been ordered. We are awaiting masonry contractor to finish his portion. We are working on the stained glass windows. Researching vendors for the greeting area wood ceiling. Starting in Sept we will be giving the Long Room a much needed remodel. Gutter tiling has been installed.

Nursery news: To facilitate the expedited timeline of the remodel, the nursery will be meeting at the Crossroads Center upstairs middle room starting Sept 7. Parents can drop off children at the upstairs room. Once the remodel is complete, the nursery will move back to the church building. Thank you parents for bearing with us during the construction process.

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
 Niki Dixon, 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: Phoenix Bacon, Carolyn Barber, Leslie Willard Bower, Jane Calaway, 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, Bill Van Hoose, Karen Birch (John Birch's sister)
 Janie Bishop (David Bishop's sister)
 Terry Collins (Angie Ruebush's father)
 Denny Dell (Friend of Brokaw family)
 Nancy Foster Donnell (Katie Wine's grandmother)
 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 Evans family)
 Malachi Ratliff (Russ & Jeana Sealock grandson)
 Chuck Seybold (Rob Seybold's father)
 Corda Suhling (Friend of Barber family)
 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)

*With Sympathy:**Kristi Guthrie**(Randy Guthrie's sister),**Chris Barngrover**(Sonya Bishop's brother)***Stewardship (Offering Only) 8/11-17 8/18-24**

Operational	\$17,321.28	\$12,793.05
Property Improvement	10.00	10.00
Outreach-Missionaries	40.00	40.00
DHF	30.00	30.00
Construction/Renovation	294.91	174.91
Youth	1,200.00	240.00
Unmet Needs	200.00	0.00
Outreach-General	<u>205.00</u>	<u>5.00</u>
Total	\$19,301.19	\$13,292.96

Operating Receipts (Offering, Rentals, etc.)

Received Last 7 Days \$17,971.28 \$12,793.05

Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$10,568

Serving Schedule:**August 31:** Elders: Matt Saxe, Bob Clark

8:00 Communion: Dan & Sue Speckhart

10:30 Communion: Jeremy & Alicia Tate

Children's Church: Niki Dixon

September 7: Elder: Alicia Tate, Charlotte Dunham

8:00 Communion: Michael & Jessie Smith

10:30 Communion: Jason & Erica Thomas

Children's Church: Ali Curless, Molly Caughlan

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.

The collection boxes for greeting card fronts and reading glasses are at the annex.

The September, October, November edition of **Our Daily Bread** devotional can be found on the sanctuary mantels.

Lectionary**8/31:** Jer 2:4-13; Prov 25:6-7; Heb 13:1-16; Luke 14:7-14**9/1:** Psalm 58; Jeremiah 2:23-37; Hebrews 13:7-21**9/2:** Psalm 58; Jeremiah 3:1-14; Titus 1:1-9**9/3:** Psalm 58; Jeremiah 3:15-25; Luke 14:15-24**9/4:** Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18; Jer 15:10-21; Philippians 2:25-30**9/5:** Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18; Jer 16:14-17:4; Colossians 4:7-17**9/6:** Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18; Jer 17:14-27; Matthew 10:34-42**9/7:** Jer 18:1-11; Deut 30:15-20; Phlm 1:1-21; Luke 14:25-33**9/8:** Psalm 2; Jeremiah 18:12-23; 1 Timothy 3:14-4:5**9/9:** Psalm 2; Jeremiah 19:1-15; 1 Timothy 4:6-16**9/10:** Psalm 2; Jeremiah 20:1-18; Luke 18:18-30**9/11:** Psalm 14; Jeremiah 13:20-27; 1 Timothy 1:1-11**9/12:** Psalm 14; Jeremiah 4:1-10; 2 Peter 2:1-10a**9/13:** Psalm 14; Jeremiah 4:13-21, 29-31; John 10:11-21**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.**97.5 FM** - Sunday mornings at 10:30**Wishes & Wants**

None at this time.

Parents: Be sure to watch the Kids@FCC Facebook page for the latest news and events!

Pardon our dust during the construction process.

Worship Service 8/17 8/24

8:00 98 74

10:30 152 130

Total 250 204

Christian Education

Youth 50 43

Disciples 11 13

Sermon Study 10 12

C.O.F.F.E.E. 13 11

Total 84 79