

The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 67 Issue 18

September 9, 2025



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.

Elder Meeting, Tues, Sept 23, 6:00.

CWF will host an **American Red Cross Blood Drive** on Tues, **Nov 4**, 1-6:00.

The **Vesper Service** at the Hamer & Jenny Tate home will be Sunday, **Oct 12**.
Save the date!

Youth Group cookout and hayride will be Sunday, **Oct 26**, at the Dunham farm. Save the date!

Christian Women's Fellowship plans to host their **Christmas Bazaar** on Sat, **Dec 6**.
Mark your calendar now!

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. **Last call for this request as preparations will begin immediately.**

We have some new faces on the church staff! Amy Harris will be our Nursery Attendant on Sunday mornings during 9:15 Sunday School and 10:30 Worship Service. Jenna Hull will be our Crossroads Center Coordinator overseeing the administration of events. Welcome ladies!

We want to thank Hannah Roig and Shari Clark for serving as Nursery Attendant and Crossroads Center Coordinator respectively during the last several years!

Sunday School Information

Ages	Drop Off	Pick Up	Classroom	Teacher
Infant - 2	Crossroads	Crossroads	Crossroads upstairs middle room	Amy Harris
3 - PreK	Crossroads	Crossroads	Crossroads upstairs large room	Amy Casto
K - 1st	Crossroads	Crossroads	Crossroads upstairs west room	Renna Walters & Niki Dixon
2nd - 4th	Crossroads	Crossroads	Annex large room	Matt Sealock & Caleb Dixon
5th - 8th	Annex	Crossroads	Annex middle room	Bethany Dunham, Amber Poor & Wayne Chamberlain
High School	Annex	Crossroads	Annex back room	Michelle Hart & John Hull
Please walk your infants thru PreK children upstairs				

Promotion Sunday was a great success! Huge thank you's to all our Sunday School teachers...Michelle Hart, John Hull, Amber Poor, Wayne Chamberlain, Bethany Dunham, Matt Sealock, Renna Walters and Amy Casto. Thank you for your flexibility and your giving hearts. Amy Harris knocked it out of the park with PreK children's church and Nursery. Thank you to ND Harrison and his incredible security team helping with these changes and protecting our students. Grace Gordley was so vital to this transition, moving furniture and helping sift through toys and books. Though there were so many changes on September 7th all the students were excited and had smiles on their faces!

I also want to take time to thank Hannah Roig for all that she has done for our Nursery, pouring time and energy into our little ones.

Please be in prayer with us as we host a 5th Quarter party September 26th after the home football game. Excited for all the new things to come!

-Niki Dixon
Christian Ed

Parents, be sure to thank Judy Losch for replenishing the kid's activity bags each week with activities and treats! We appreciate Judy's time to this detail at worship service!

Dear Church Family,

The other day, several of us were working in the Long Room in the northwest corner of the church. As we pulled down the suspended ceiling, we uncovered old fiberglass insulation. Above that insulation, hidden for years, was an even older paneled ceiling. But what captured our attention most was what lay above those layers—a beautiful, hand-stenciled border painted long ago. I stood there in awe at the simplicity, precision, and beauty that had been hidden away under decades and layers of ceiling coverings.

To me, this moment served as a picture of the Restoration Movement, of which our congregation is a part. Just as that painted border had been covered over by layer after layer, so too can the simple, biblical truths of the Christian faith be obscured by traditions, trends, and the latest cultural fads. In our eagerness to be “relevant,” the danger is that we bury what is timeless and true under what is temporary and popular.

The heart of the Restoration plea has always been to “restore the ancient order of things” by returning to Scripture as the only rule of faith and practice. The prophet Jeremiah called God’s people to a similar path: *“Stand by the roads, and look, and ask for the ancient paths, where the good way is; and walk in it, and find rest for your souls”* (Jeremiah 6:16, ESV).

The apostle Paul warned Timothy to *“guard the good deposit entrusted to you”* (2 Timothy 1:14, ESV), reminding us that the truth of the gospel is something to be preserved, not reinvented. As Augustine once said, “If you believe what you like in the gospel, and reject what you don’t like, it is not the gospel you believe, but yourself.” Our calling is not to cover up Scripture with our preferences, but to let its original beauty shine.

The Restoration Movement is not about innovation for its own sake, but about uncovering what has always been there: the authority of Christ, the centrality of Scripture, the simplicity of the gospel, the unity of believers, and the hope of eternal life. Like that painted border hidden above layers of ceilings, the truths of God’s Word remain, waiting to be rediscovered and cherished anew.

As a church, may we always resist the temptation to trade the eternal for the trendy. Let us cling to God’s Authoritative Word, remembering Paul’s encouragement: *“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness”* (2 Timothy 3:16, ESV). If we stay committed to uncovering and preserving what God has given, we will continue to be a people shaped by the enduring truth of Christ, not by the passing fashions of a cultural moment.

Loving you all,

Michael

<p>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</p> <p>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</p> <p>Office Hours: M-TH 8:00am–3:30pm; F 8:00am-Noon Worship Times: Every Sunday 8:00am & 10:30am</p>	<p>PRAYER CONCERNS: Phoenix Bacon, Carolyn Barber, 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) Diana McCartney (Friend of Evans family) 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)</p> <div><p><i>With Sympathy:</i> <i>*Chris Nichols;</i> <i>*Henrietta Barber (Chuck Barber's sister-in-law)</i> <i>*Paul & Jan Gill (Charlotte Dunham's sister and brother-in-law);</i></p></div>																														
<table><tr><th>Stewardship (Offering Only)</th><th>8/25-31</th><th>9/1-7</th></tr><tr><td>Operational</td><td>\$8,412.35</td><td>\$8,966.18</td></tr><tr><td>Property Improvement</td><td>15.00</td><td>60.00</td></tr><tr><td>Outreach-Missionaries</td><td>40.00</td><td>60.00</td></tr><tr><td>DHF</td><td>30.00</td><td>30.00</td></tr><tr><td>Construction/Renovation</td><td>244.91</td><td>144.91</td></tr><tr><td>Youth</td><td>0.00</td><td>360.00</td></tr><tr><td>Unmet Needs</td><td>75.00</td><td>0.00</td></tr><tr><td>Outreach-General</td><td><u>250.00</u></td><td><u>5.00</u></td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>\$9,067.26</td><td>\$9,626.09</td></tr></table> <p>Operating Receipts (Offering, Rentals, etc.) Received Last 7 Days \$8,412.35 \$9,006.18 Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$10,568</p>	Stewardship (Offering Only)	8/25-31	9/1-7	Operational	\$8,412.35	\$8,966.18	Property Improvement	15.00	60.00	Outreach-Missionaries	40.00	60.00	DHF	30.00	30.00	Construction/Renovation	244.91	144.91	Youth	0.00	360.00	Unmet Needs	75.00	0.00	Outreach-General	<u>250.00</u>	<u>5.00</u>	Total	\$9,067.26	\$9,626.09	<p>Serving Schedule: September 14: Elders: Roger Brokaw, Matt Saxe 8:00 Communion: Michael & Jessie Smith 10:30 Communion: Chris & Cherie Wagoner Children's Church: Stan & Jill Moss</p> <p>September 21: Elder: Steve Tharp, Alicia Tate 8:00 Communion: Brad & Kathy Willman 10:30 Communion: Larry & Sandy Wigington, Justin & Amber Poor Children's Church: Kay Sealock, Mike & Julie Boren</p> <div><p>Ways to Give</p><ul style="list-style-type: none">•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.</div>
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<p>The collection boxes for greeting card fronts and reading glasses are at the annex.</p>	<div><p>Ways To Watch/Listen</p><p>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</p></div>																														
<p>The <u>September, October, November</u> edition of Our Daily Bread devotional can be found on the sanctuary mantels.</p>	<table><tr><th>Wishes & Wants</th><th>Worship Service 8/31</th><th>9/7</th></tr><tr><td>None at this time.</td><td>8:00 95</td><td>97</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>10:30 <u>180</u></td><td><u>165</u></td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Total 275</td><td>262</td></tr></table> <div><p>Christian Education</p><table><tr><td>Youth</td><td>36</td><td>35</td></tr><tr><td>Disciples</td><td>6</td><td>12</td></tr><tr><td>Sermon Study</td><td>9</td><td>9</td></tr><tr><td>C.O.F.F.E.E.</td><td><u>13</u></td><td><u>12</u></td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>64</td><td>68</td></tr></table></div> <p>Pardon our dust during the construction process.</p>	Wishes & Wants	Worship Service 8/31	9/7	None at this time.	8:00 95	97		10:30 <u>180</u>	<u>165</u>		Total 275	262	Youth	36	35	Disciples	6	12	Sermon Study	9	9	C.O.F.F.E.E.	<u>13</u>	<u>12</u>	Total	64	68			
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<p>Lectionary 9/14: Jer 4:11-28; Exod 32:7-14; 1 Tim 1:12-17; Luke 15:1-10 9/15: Psalm 94; Jeremiah 5:1-17; 1 Timothy 1:18-20 9/16: Psalm 94; Jeremiah 5:18-31; 2 Peter 3:8-13 9/17: Psalm 94; Jeremiah 14:1-10, 17-22; Luke 22:31-33, 54-62 9/18: Psalm 79:1-9; Jeremiah 12:14-13:11; Romans 3:1-8 9/19: Psalm 79:1-9; Jeremiah 8:1-13; Romans 8:31-39 9/20: Psalm 79:1-9; Jeremiah 8:14-17; 9:2-11; Mark 12:41-44 9/21: Jer 8:18-9:1; Amos 8:4-7; 1 Tim 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-3 9/22: Psalm 106:40-48; Jeremiah 9:12-26; Acts 4:1-12 9/23: Psalm 106:40-48; Jeremiah 10:1-16; 1 Corinthians 9:19-23 9/24: Psalm 106:40-48; Jeremiah 10:17-25; Luke 20:45-21:4 9/25: Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16; Jeremiah 23:9-22; 2 Corinthians 8:8-15 9/26: Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16; Jeremiah 23:23-32; Ephesians 2:1-10 9/27: Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16; Jeremiah 24:1-10; Luke 9:43b-48</p>																															