

# The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 67 Issue 19

September 23, 2025



Dear Church Family,

There will be a congregational meeting on October 12th, after the 10:30 service, to vote on recommended revisions to our Bylaws regarding how Deacons are appointed and operate in the church. The revisions will have the Elders appoint and oversee Deacons for specific areas of service in the ministry. We have been discussing the operation of Deacons at First Christian Church for quite some time, and we believe that these changes will help this important aspect of ministry be more productive, well-defined, beneficial, and more biblical. Copies of the proposed changes will be available on the church man-tles, or you may contact the office, and we would be happy to email a copy to you.

We will be announcing the meeting and proposed changes in the next few weeks. Elders are available to answer any ques-tions. We will answer any questions at Coffee Talk on October 7th, or during Sunday School hour the next 2 Sundays.

*We had reason to celebrate on Sunday, September 14! During the 8:00 service, Lori Bradshaw came forward to declare her faith and desire to join the FCC family! Then during 10:30 service, Benjamin Bor-en declared his faith in Jesus Christ, was baptized, and became an FCC member! Congratulations and welcome!*

**See You At The Pole**, Wed,  
**Sept 24**, before school.

**5<sup>th</sup> Quarter Party**, Fri, **Sept 26**, at Crossroads Center, 9:30-11:00. In-flatables, food, games and Jesus! Open to High School students.

**High School Girls' Bible Study** begins Wed, **Oct 1**, 6:30A.M. at the annex. Contact Niki with ques-tions.

**Hangout 45** will meet Sunday, **Oct 19**, after 10:30 service.

**Coffee Talk**, Tues, **Oct 7**, 10:00 at the annex. Stop by for conversation with Pastor Michael or if you have questions regarding the proposed Bylaw change.

The **CWF Bible Study** will meet Thurs, **Oct 9**, 9:30 at the Cardinal Inn.

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

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

CWF will host a **Red Cross Blood Drive** at Crossroads on Tues, **Nov. 4th**, from 1pm to 6pm. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to support our neighbors and help save lives in our community. To register a time slot, you can log in online at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org). If you have any questions, please reach out to [customercare@redcross.org](mailto:customercare@redcross.org) or Barbara Fosco at [bardonfosco@casscomm.com](mailto:bardonfosco@casscomm.com). Walk-ins are also welcome on the day of the event. Every donation makes a difference—thank you for considering being part of this important cause!

**Choir Practice** has resumed on **Wednesdays** at 6:30. It's not too late to join this music ministry! The **100th Christmas Cantata** will be Sunday, **Dec 21**, 5:00.

Christian Women's Fellowship will host their  
**Christmas Bazaar** on Sat, **Dec 6**.

**Youth Group: Xtreme Winter Conference**  
**Dec 27-29** at Branson, MO  
6<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> Grade; \$75 + 2 meals  
Contact Niki Dixon if interested.

Christian Men's Fellowship has discussed and trained for the program Kid's Outdoor Zone which is a mentoring program for boys in the church family. **CMF will host a Kid's Outdoor Zone event after church on Sun, Oct 12.** The church will bus participants to Hamer/Jenny Tate's home for a campfire, grilled burgers, then lead a catch/release fishing event at a Tate pond. At drop off, parents will need to choose one of the following options (1) boy returns on the bus to Crossroads at 4:00; or (2) boy stays at Tate's and the parent picks him up at Tate's; or (3) boy stays for Vesper Service and returns to Crossroads on the bus around 8:00.

Men – If you would like to be a mentor but missed the Sept 14 meeting then contact Zack Boren at [zboren@gmail.com](mailto:zboren@gmail.com) and he will send you the login info for training.

Parents – Contact Zack for more info.

**Turkey Dinner** will be served on Wed, **Nov 19**. We will not offer carryout meals in our effort to encourage everyone to come and fellowship together. Sign up sheet will be out in a few weeks.

### Comfort Zone

Church Family,

I've been called to write something for our newsletter. Thirty seven years as an over the road truck driver did not prepare me for this! I'm out of my comfort zone which is the second pew in the back by the north door! I am two years and seven months into my first elder term and have certainly grown my faith and grown in my walk with Jesus.

Jesus used regular people to serve in His ministry, fisherman to tax collector, and He can use you as well! Jesus tells His disciples in Mark 10:42-45 *"You know that the rulers in this world Lord it over their people, and officials flaunt their authority over those under them. But among you it will be different. Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first among you must be the slave of everyone else. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others, and to give His life as a ransom for many."*

If the Nominating Committee approaches you this fall then prayerfully consider serving in one of the many offices. If leadership isn't in your comfort zone then consider helping in the kitchen or in the new building construction. Thanks to all those already serving! P.S. One man can't do it all!

Steve Tharp,  
Elder

### **Excerpts from the Sept 9 Church Board Meeting**

**Call to order** at 6:11p.m. by Moderator Kathy Hull. Bob Clark led the meeting in a devotion and prayer. Minutes from August 12, 2025, meeting were approved by general consensus.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor's report was attached and discussed. Michael Ten Eyck, David Bishop and Rebecca Rhodes interviewed and recommended to the executive committee the hiring of Amy Harris as Nursery Coordinator and Jenna Hull as Crossroads Coordinator. As a result, the executive committee extended the offer to hire both. Major part of August was in the building project. Hospital visits for member's surgeries and follow-ups. DHF--Resigned from role as advisor to Decatur FCC.

**Treasurer:** Eleanor Jenkins presented information from the report as of August 31, 2025. The total transfer to the building fund in August was \$23,714.69. YTD Receipts \$380,659.79. YTD Budgeted \$369,895. Difference \$10,764.79. YTD Disbursements \$283,831.59. YTD Budgeted \$361,398. Difference \$77,566.41. Net Non-Budget Receipts/Disbursements \$117,133.21. Average worship attendance through August 31 = 240.

**Trustees:** Justin Poor submitted a Trustee's Report. Memorials were received in the name of Carolyn Long Casteel, Mary Lou Chamberlain, and Jo Rhodes.

**Christian Education:** Niki Dixon's report included: Kids church has started back up. Back to School Bash went well. 5<sup>th</sup> Quarter party is scheduled for September 26 at Crossroads. Hayride at Dunham farm October 26. The cost and itinerary for the Xtreme Winter Conference December 27-29 in Branson, Missouri, was explained. After discussion, a motion was made by David Bishop and seconded by Matt Saxe to let Niki make the final decision on the cost per student to attend. Motion carried.

**Music:** Cantata music printed and ready for choir to start.

**Building Team:** Highlights include: Pastor Michael continues daily meetings with Mike Black on the project needs. There has been much progress on the new building. A committee met to plan out the Long Room renovation process. Volunteers have begun the demolition phase. This is not part of the building project budget.

#### **Old Business:**

A motion was made by Jill Moss and seconded by Steve Tharp to affirm the hiring of Amy Harris as Nursery Coordinator and Jenna Hull as Crossroads Coordinator. Motion carried.

#### **New Business:**

Recommendations were given by Moderator Kathy Hull for the nominating committee and they will be contacted:

2 Elders: Charlotte Dunham and Wayne Chamberlain

2 Deacons: Justin Poor and Amy Ruebush

2 Voting Members: John Hull and Dan Speckhart

A motion was made by Jill Moss and seconded by Justin Poor to accept these recommendations.

A conversation ensued from the eldership regarding proposed changes to how we handle the appointment and administration of deacons. The elders will discuss this at their next meeting.

A bid from Peters Heating & Air Conditioning for HVAC yearly maintenance for the sanctuary and new building was discussed. A motion was made by Jill Moss and seconded by Eleanor Jenkins to accept this bid. Motion carried.

A bid from Peters Heating & Air Conditioning to replace the HVAC system in the Long Room was presented and discussed. David Bishop made a motion and seconded by Zach Boren to accept this bid. Motion carried.

A memorial was received from the Betty Lacy memorial.

David Bishop moved to adjourn at 7:01 p.m.; Wayne Chamberlain seconded. Motion carried.

Roger Brokaw closed the meeting in prayer.

Linda Belford, Recording Secretary

**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, Richard Decker, Tressa Dickerson, Brian Douglas, Bill Earls, Sue Evans, Terry Fine, Ruth Anne Goodin, Joan Halsey, Mary Harshman, Donnie Houchins, Jeanne Howard, Jim Kallal, Marge Lamb, Rusty & Jeana Sealock, Bill Van Hoose, Eddie White  
 Karen Birch (John Birch's sister)  
 Chloe Birdsell (Friend of Wilson family)  
 Janie Bishop (David Bishop's sister)  
 Jan Buhrmann (Friend of Wilson family)  
 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)  
 Zoey O'Leary (Friend of Wilson family)  
 Chuck Seybold (Rob Seybold's father)  
 Corda Suhling (Friend of Barber family)  
 Beth Wade (Friend of Schwartze family)  
 Gail Walston (Laura Grimsley's sister)  
 Robert Wilson (Rachel Cawthon's father)

*With Sympathy:*  
*Harvy Bradshaw*  
*(Marni Bradshaw's father-in-law)*

**Stewardship (Offering Only) 9/8-14 9/15-21**

Operational	\$6,869.47	\$9,651.25
Property Improvement	50.00	200.00
Outreach-Missionaries	40.00	40.00
DHF	30.00	30.00
Construction/Renovation	312.91	144.91
Youth	102.00	50.00
Outreach-General	<u>205.00</u>	<u>205.00</u>
Total	\$7,609.38	\$10,321.16

**Operating Receipts (Offering, Rentals, etc.)**

Received Last 7 Days \$8,144.47 \$9,651.25  
 Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$10,568

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**

9/28: Jer 32:1-15; Amos 6:1-7; 1 Tim 6:6-19; Luke 16:19-31  
 9/29: Psalm 119:49-56; Jer 32:16-35; Rev 3:14-22  
 9/30: Psalm 119:49-56; Jer 32:36-44; James 5:1-6  
 10/1: Psalm 119:49-56; Jeremiah 33:1-13; Matthew 19:16-22  
 10/2: Lam 3:19-26; Jer 52:1-11; Rev 2:8-11  
 10/3: Lam 3:19-26; Jer 52:12-30; Rev 2:12-29  
 10/4: Lam 3:19-26; Lam 1:7-15; Matthew 20:29-34  
 10/5: Lam 1:1-6; Hab 1:1-4; 2 Tim 1:1-14; Luke 17:5-10  
 10/6: Psalm 137; Lam 1:16-22; James 1:2-11  
 10/7: Psalm 137; Lam 2:13-22; 1 John 5:1-5, 13-21  
 10/8: Psalm 137; Lam 5:1-22; Mark 11:12-14, 20-24  
 10/9: Psalm 66:1-12; Jeremiah 25:1-14; 2 Timothy 1:13-18  
 10/10: Psalm 66:1-12; Jeremiah 27:1-22; 2 Timothy 2:1-7  
 10/11: Psalm 66:1-12; Jeremiah 28:1-17; Luke 5:12-16

**Serving Schedule:**

**September 28:** Elder: David Bishop, Roger Brokaw

8:00 Communion: Greg & Kim Bonnett

10:30 Communion: Rokettia Brokaw, Rosi Picone, Joyce Harrison

Children's Church: Grace Gordley, Katie Wine

**October 5:** Elder: Wayne Chamberlain, Steve Tharp

8:00 Communion: Richard & Rebecca Rhodes

10:30 Communion: B. Fosco, S. Clark, S. Bacon, D. Bryant

Children's Church: Ali Curless, Molly Caughlan

Fellowship Treats: A. Casto, R. Rhodes, K. Sealock, H. Evans

**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.

**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 9/14 9/21**

8:00 91 76

10:30 169 158

Total 260 234

**Christian Education**

Youth 33 46

Disciples 11 9

Sermon Study 12 12

C.O.F.F.E.E. 13 16

Total 69 83