

# The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 67 Issue 26

December 30, 2025



**Installation** of the newly elected officers with terms beginning in January will be during the 10:30 service on **Jan 4**.

Crossroads Center will be open to the public for **walking** Monday through Thursday, 8-10:00 a.m. starting **Jan 5**.

Christian Women's Fellowship will host an **American Red Cross Blood Drive** at the Crossroads Center on Tues, **Jan 6**, from 1-6:00. Contact Barbara Fosco if you would like to help host.

**Looking for ways to volunteer in the church? Here are some opportunities to serve:**

1) There will be **Safety Team Training** on Tues, **Jan 6**, 6:00 in the sanctuary for those currently serving or would like to join this team. Contact N.D. Harrison with questions.

2) **Like to cook?** Contact Jenna if you would consider being a certified cook in our kitchen.

3) Interested in **serving communion** on Sunday mornings since the preparation has been streamlined with juice/bread prefilled cups? Contact the office by **Jan 16** so we can incorporate you into the schedule.

**Coffee Talk** will be Tues, **Jan 6**, 10:00 at the annex. Coffee and conversation with Pastor Michael will be available!

**Circle IV Meeting**, Thurs, **Jan 8**, 9:30 at Cardinal Inn.

The **Thursday Noon Bible Study** will resume **Jan 8** in Chap7.

**Board Meeting**, Tues, **Jan 13**, 6:00. Packets will be ready Jan 11.

**Elder Meeting, Sunday, Jan 18.**

**Christian Men's Fellowship** next dinner meeting will be Sunday, **Jan 25**, after 10:30 service at Crossroads Center.

*Thank you for the amazing Christmas gifts I was blessed to receive from the First Christian Church in Pittsfield! Each and every gift is so very appreciated and useful! You folks are being kept in prayer! Even though God already knows how blessed the recipients of your Christmas gifts are to receive your kindness. -Adopt a Family recipient.*

*Thank you to everyone who helped in any way with the Jeanne Howard funeral dinner. Bless you all!  
-CWF Bereavement Ministry*

**Cookie Sunday** will be **Jan 4th!**

*Thank you so much for your donations to Pike County Unmet Needs. We are committed to helping the people of Pike County who have fallen on hard times financially by giving them assistance to get back on their feet and your donations make that possible. The needs have continued to rise and the amounts that are needed to meet their needs have risen. We really appreciate the recurring support we get from the churches and from individuals. It all does make a difference! All donations are tax deductible. God bless you all for your steady giving. Thank you!  
-Pike County Unmet Needs Board.*

**Youth Group** will meet on Sunday, **Jan 4**, 6:00.

**High School 5th Quarter Party**, Fri, **Jan 9th** at Crossroads Center. Doors open at 9pm.

**Youth Group Valentine Dinner**, Sunday, **Feb 15**. Save the date!

**January Birthdays & Anniversaries** **1** Kirk Speckhart, Russ & Jeana Sealock; **2** Shanna Ewers, Landon Poor, Lucas Poor; **4** Grace Gordley, Charlestyn Dixon; **5** Kurtis Johnson, Sami Johnson; **6** Don & Barbara Fosco; **7** Mary Wombles; **8** Jack & Kathy Hull, John Birch; **9** Hamer Tate; **11** Shari Clark, Addilyn Ruebush; **12** Matt Sealock, Laura Chamberlain; **13** Thomas Hull, Leanna Schlabowske; **14** Maycee Douglas; **15** Cameron Herring; **17** Christopher Wagoner; **19** Charles Gates, Hannah Abdelkodous; **20** Harold Loyd; **21** Bryn Fine, Terri Wombles; **22** Josie Bradshaw; **23** Tyler Grimsley; **24** Bobby & Chris Smith, Kaden Ferguson; **26** David & Julie Myers; **27** Katie Wine; **28** Keith Elledge, Keenan Wine; **30** Deana Jones, Jeff Walters, Bradyn Dixon; **31** Dave & Sandy Herring.

Thank you for your kind and generous support! Mississippi Valley Christian Service Camp exists by the will of God and the sacrifice of His people. Through the years countless numbers of people have donated to, worked with, prayed for, guided and loved this camp as well as the people we serve. Our 80<sup>th</sup> year went very well! We realized a 45% increase in attendance and baptized 12 new believers into the faith! We are excited and hope you will praise God and celebrate with us what God has done this year!

This year we held our regular season camps. In addition, we hosted several rentals and retreats. We continued our student-led Young Adults ministry named BEFF. It's Belonging, Encouragement, Fun, and Fellowship. They meet once a month for anyone who has graduated High school and considers themselves a young adult. Please join us! Watch our Facebook page for times and dates.

For our Mission Trip this year we served the people of the White Mountain Apache Christian Church, and a wonderful organization named Without Reservation Ministries near Show Low Arizona. The people who went represented your camp and churches very well. The team members led church services, men's, women's and children's ministries, helped set up a disaster relief center for forest fires, worked on completing an equipment shed, did "finish" work and painted many of the cabins at WRM's training and retreat center. You can see the pictures on our Facebook page. We were grateful to be a part of helping these ministries in their service to the Lord and their community.

The Spaghetti Dinner in April at the Crossroads Center was a great success and is planned again for 2026, the date will be announced. Thank you to all who made that event possible, and to all who attend. A hearty "Thank You" to the volunteers for all they do!

We are very grateful for your support of MVCSC. You play an important role in the success and growth here at the camp. God can use anyone at church camp. Here are a few ideas to help you to get involved at your camp. Pray for your camp. Host a retreat for your church, start a camp teaching campers about Jesus and your favorite hobby or skill, serve as a dean, family leader, teacher, nurse, dorm parent, or help with games and activities, serve in the kitchen, help clean, come talk to and pray with campers, share your faith at campfire, lead music, help get the camp grounds and buildings ready, mow, weed-eat, blade the roads, improve drainage, maintain Lake Leo and many other small or large jobs. Call Jim or talk to your church camp representative and we'll hook you up!

Please keep MVCSC in mind for your giving, and as always please remember us in your prayers.

Yours in Christ,  
Jim Dain, Manager MVCSC  
573-324-4676 cell  
<https://www.facebook.com/MVCSC.Campmvcsc.net>  
Website

#### MVCSC Wish List

- Servants of God to share their faith!
- Weather-proof sound booth for chapel
- Bibles to give away
- People to share their faith and hobbies by hosting specialty camps, IE Photography Camp, Fishing Camp, Drama Camp, etc.
- Life vests
- Paddleboards
- Shelters for classes
- Quality Landscaping Equipment
- Balls, Sports Equip, Outdoor toys
- Off Road Peddle Cars
- Workers to finish playground

## Polishing the Mirror Which Reflects the Spirit of Our Savior

Well, depending on when you get this letter, it will be the end of 2025 or the first of 2026. By the time we turn around twice we will be to Easter, planting time, Summer, and, etc. For several years at FCC there has been a focus on developing a relationship with our Savior that goes beyond fire insurance. In 2025, the sermon series have focused on faith of noted individuals in the Bible and then how we could grow individually in our own faith. I admit some of them have bruised my toes. But as we finish the year it is fitting that we each pause and evaluate our own reflection of the spirit of Jesus.

Some of the keys to the life of Christ on Earth, which we should reflect include:

- **Substituting anger and frustrations for others with love:** From John 3:16 (God sent him because of his love for us) to Luke 23:34 ("Father, forgive them for they know not what they do") love was the driving factor for the life of our Savior. Consider that before lashing out at the person driving around on ice or firing off that angry post with red flashing from your eyes. Our love is not perfect, as His was, but reflecting the Spirit allows better control of emotions.
- **Living in humility:** Jesus stated plainly that "those who seek to exalt themselves will be humbled" (Luke 18:14). My summation of living humbly is to serve others with the focus on God getting the glory: recognizing that whatever I have to work with came from Him. Even watching the cameras and locking the doors of the church are service opportunities stemming from the Old Testament (Nehemiah 7).
- **Accepting help from the Holy Spirit:** Paul wrote Philippians 4:23 ("I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me") while he was in prison, not at a sporting event. Carrying a little further on the humility discussion, we sometimes need to ask for and then accept the help that is provided from Godly sources. Trust the Spirit to find them.
- **Walking the walk of Christ:** Join (if you are not already a member) and be active in a group of believers. Jesus recruited and trained disciples. "God appointed apostles, prophets, teachers, workers of miracles, gifts of healing, helping administration and various tongues." (1 Corinthians 12:28). We were never intended to be alone, and God is walking through the garden (or the pit of fire) looking for fellowship from his children.

Submitted humbly,

David Bishop, Elder



Thank You so much First Christian Church! The Xtreme Conference in Branson was so impactful. Our trip was full of laughter, singing (sometimes off key, hahaha), food, fellowship, intense worship, Godly challenges & deep diving into the Bible. Your gifts have impacted students eternally. These students are charged up & ready to spread the good news.

<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> Jane Calaway, Richard Decker, Tressa Dickerson, Braycen Douglas, Brian Douglas, Sue Evans, Joan Halsey, Mary Harshman, Claire Heavner, Donnie Houchins, Jim & Judy Kallal, Marge Lamb, Nora Renoud, Rusty Sealock, Jim Stark, Steve Tharp, Bill Van Hoose, Bernall Ackerman (Friend of TenEyck family) Randy Alloway (Friend of Chamberlain family) Karen Birch (John Birch's sister) Chloe Birdsell (Friend of Wilson family) Janie Bishop (David Bishop's sister) Jan Buhrmann (Friend of Wilson family) Christine Creamer (Calvin Anderson's mother) Judy Dain (Jim Dain's mother) Greg Dyer (Kevin Dyer's son) Helen Sue Hendricker (Kathy Hull's aunt) Kevin Kingery (Friend of Nathen Lothridge) Steve Newbery (Friend of Wilson family) Blake Williams (Friend of Nathen Lothridge) <i>With Sympathy: Diane Birch (John Birch's sister)</i>																																										
<b>Staff:</b> Michael Ten Eyck, Pastor Niki Dixon, Christian Education Rebecca Rhodes, Administrative Secretary Grace Gordley, Custodian Bob Clark, Audio/Video/Maintenance Jenna Hull, Event Coordinator																																													
<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) 12/15-21      12/22-28</b> <table><tr><td>Operational</td><td>\$7,505.25</td><td>\$8,034.82</td></tr><tr><td>Property Improvement</td><td>10.00</td><td>10.00</td></tr><tr><td>Outreach-Missionaries</td><td>40.00</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>1,174.91</td><td>209.91</td></tr><tr><td>Youth</td><td>200.00</td><td>20.00</td></tr><tr><td>Adopt a Family</td><td>100.00</td><td>0.00</td></tr><tr><td>Outreach-General</td><td><u>205.00</u></td><td><u>205.00</u></td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>\$9,265.16</td><td>\$8,549.73</td></tr></table>			Operational	\$7,505.25	\$8,034.82	Property Improvement	10.00	10.00	Outreach-Missionaries	40.00	40.00	DHF	30.00	30.00	Construction/Renovation	1,174.91	209.91	Youth	200.00	20.00	Adopt a Family	100.00	0.00	Outreach-General	<u>205.00</u>	<u>205.00</u>	Total	\$9,265.16	\$8,549.73	<b>Serving Schedule:</b> <b>January 4:</b> Elder: Matt Saxe, Hamer Tate 8:00 Communion: Greg & Kim Bonnett 10:30 Communion: Rokettia Brokaw, Joyce Harrison Children's Church: Niki Dixon, Molly Caughlan Infant-Age2 Assist: Erin Fesler, Judy Ferguson PreK Assist: Amy Harris, Madelyn Saxe Safety 8:00: Keenan Wine, Steve Tharp Safety 10:30: C.J. Hayes, Jeremy Tate, Scott Bacon Sunday School Superintendent: Cindy Chamberlain Fellowship Treats: M. Hart, D. Robinson, R. Bennett, C. Elledge <b>January 11:</b> Elder: Zack Boren, Alicia Tate 8:00 Communion: Richard & Rebecca Rhodes 10:30 Communion: Barbara Fosco, Shari Clark, Scott Bacon, Dave Bryant Children's Church: Stan & Jill Moss Infant-Age2 Assist: Cindy Chamberlain, Amy Ruebush PreK Assist: Amy Harris, Rorie Dunham, Kamy Dixon Safety 8:00: Noah Mendenhall, Eli Smithers Safety 10:30: Sonya Bishop, Thomas Hull Sunday School Superintendent: Kathy Lehr															
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<b>Operating Receipts (Offering, Rentals, etc.)</b> <i>Received Last 7 Days</i> \$8,585.25    \$8,242.23 <i>Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget</i> \$10,568																																													
The collection boxes for greeting card fronts and reading glasses are at the annex.			<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 <u>December, January, February</u> edition of <b>Our Daily Bread</b> devotional can be found on the sanctuary mantels.																																													
<b>Lectionary</b> 1/4: Jer 31:7-14; Ps 147: 12-20; Eph 1:3-14; John 1:1-18 1/5: Psalm 72; Joshua 1:1-9; Hebrews 11:32-12:2 1/6: Isa 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-14; Eph 3:1-12; Matt 2:1-12 1/7: Psalm 72; 1 Kings 10:1-13; Ephesians 3:14-21 1/8: Psalm 29; 1 Samuel 3:1-9; Acts 9:1-9 1/9: Psalm 29; 1 Samuel 3:10-4:1a; Acts 9:10-19a 1/10: Psalm 29; 1 Samuel 7:3-17; Acts 9:19b-31 1/11: Isa 42:1-9; Ps 29; Acts 10:34-43; Matt 3:13-17 1/12: Psalm 89:5-37; Genesis 35:1-15; Acts 10:44-48 1/13: Psalm 89:5-37; Jeremiah 1:4-10; Acts 8:4-13 1/14: Psalm 89:5-37; Isaiah 51:1-16; Matthew 12:15-21 1/15: Psalm 40:1-11; Isaiah 22:15-25; Galatians 1:6-12 1/16: Psalm 40:1-11; Genesis 27:30-38; Acts 1:1-5 1/17: Psalm 40:1-11; 1 Kings 19:19-21; Luke 5:1-11			<b>Ways To Watch/Listen</b> <b>fccpittsfield.org</b> - Ministries, Live Stream <u>or</u> 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																																										
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