

The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 68 Issue 1

January 13, 2026

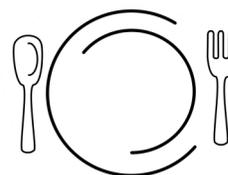


Congratulations Frazier and Ali Curless on the birth Barrett Nation Curless on January 5th!
Barrett weighed 8 lbs, 12 oz, 21.5 inches and has been welcomed home by big sister Emelia!

Elder Meeting, Sunday, Jan 18.

Time will be announced.

Christian Men's Fellowship next dinner meeting will be
Sunday, **Jan 25**, after 10:30 service at Crossroads Center.
Sign up near the coffee table on Sunday or let the office know
if you plan to attend so we have enough food prepared.



The next **Kids Outdoor Zone** event will take place at Pittsfield City Lake on Saturday, **January 31**.
Young men will learn about the importance of trapping, trapper ethics, trap setting, and fur handling.

This event will allow attendees to see trapping first hand!

Young men ages 4th grade to 12th grade are welcome to attend.

Please meet at the Crossroads parking lot by 9:00am.

Boys will return to Crossroads by 1:15 PM.

Hiking boots or rubber boots and dressing for cold weather is recommended.

If you have specific questions please contact Blake Ruebush.

The **2025 giving records** will be mailed prior to **February 1**
to those who have requested in prior years.



Congregational Meeting, Sunday, **Feb 1**, after 10:30 service.
Agenda will include review of 2025.



Youth Group Valentine Dinner Fundraiser!

Sunday, **Feb 15**, 5:00.

Tickets are now available!

\$20



Crossroads Center is open to the public for **walking** Monday through Thursday, 8-10:00 a.m.

The recent Blood Drive saw 23 good donations which was excellent because our drive was just after the holidays and everyone is so busy getting back to "normal." Thanks to all who made appointments and who walked in to donate. We kept the Red Cross crew consistently busy until 5pm. Thanks so much to everyone who came to donate. Your donation is so important and we always appreciate your help. Also, thank you Carol Schwartze for helping me all afternoon!
-Barbara Fosco and CWF.

Thank you so much for the prayers and visits during Jeanne's illness and passing. We appreciate everything that you have done for us. You have been a blessing!
-Larry Howard and family.

Thank you everyone for the concern and prayers during my recovery. I am home and doing much better!
-Nora Renoud.

With genuine gratitude, I want to thank all of you for prayers on my behalf for over 6 months. Thanks be to God, I am much better now. Again, Mary and I are so grateful for your prayers that have taken us through these trials.
-Bill VanHoose.



Valentine Dinner
Sunday February 15th
at 5pm
\$20 per ticket
ticket sales begin January 11th

Dear Church Family,

It is hard to believe we are halfway through January! It seems like we just put the new calendar on the wall and we are already turning the first page.

A new year asks us not just what we will *do*, but who we will *be*. As a church, we are beginning this year by focusing on two spiritual disciplines that have formed God's people for centuries: daily prayer and Scripture reading.

Last Sunday, we reflected on the pattern of prayer Jesus gave His disciples in the Lord's Prayer. It is striking that when the disciples asked Jesus how to pray, He did not give them a set of words to simply repeat, but rather, He invited them into relationship: "*Our Father...*" Prayer, at its heart, is not transactional but relational. It is not primarily about getting things from God, but about being with God.

This is good news for those who feel intimidated by prayer or Bible reading. You do not need to be eloquent. You do not need to put on a show. Jesus begins with simple words and daily rhythms: bread for today, forgiveness for today, grace for today. The invitation is not to impress God, but to show up.

As we begin the year, consider intentional steps of progress in prayer and Bible reading. A few minutes in the morning. A psalm before bed. The Lord's Prayer prayed slowly and thoughtfully. A single chapter of Scripture read attentively rather than many chapters read hurriedly. Spiritual disciplines often begin as acts of obedience, but over time, obedience gives way to affection. Disciplines can turn into desires. What once felt like effort can become nourishment.

These practices do not earn God's love. They position us to receive what God is already eager to give: His presence, His peace, and His transforming grace. Over time, prayer and Scripture reshape not just our schedules, but our hearts.

As we look ahead to the year, we also want to share an encouraging update. We are nearing the completion of the interior phase of our building project. Soon, we will begin using new and renewed spaces that will serve our church and community for years to come. As we do, we want to remember an important truth: we do not worship buildings. We worship God. We do not worship these spaces, but we worship *in them*.

That means gratitude without attachment, joy without pride, and stewardship with care. These spaces are tools for ministry, hospitality, discipleship, and prayer. May they always point beyond themselves to the God who dwells not in buildings made by hands, but in the hearts of His people.

With that in mind, let's care for them and take appropriate ownership and responsibility for stewarding them well.

As we begin this year together, may we be a church that is rooted in prayer, shaped by Scripture, and attentive to the presence of God in every season.

Loving you all,

Michael

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 Gordley, Custodian
 Bob Clark, Audio/Video/Maintenance
 Jenna Hull, Event Coordinator

Office Hours: M-TH 8:00am-3:30pm; F 8:00am-Noon

Worship Times: Every Sunday 8:00am & 10:30am

PRAYER CONCERNS: Richard Decker, Tressa Dickerson, Braycen Douglas, Brian Douglas, Keith Elledge, Sue Evans, Joan Halsey, Mary Harshman, Claire Heavner, Donnie Houchins, Jim & Judy Kallal, Rusty Sealock, Jim Stark, Bernall Ackerman (Friend of TenEyck family)
 Randy Alloway (Friend of Chamberlain family)
 Karen Birch (John Birch's sister)
 Janie Bishop (David Bishop's sister)
 Jan Buhrmann (Friend of Wilson family)
 Christine Creamer (Calvin Anderson's mother)
 Judy Dain (Jim Dain's mother)
 Denny Dell (Friend of Brokaw family)
 Greg Dyer (Kevin Dyer's son)
 Vivian Dyer (Kevin Dyer's sister-in-law)
 Bob & Phyllis Hammitt (Larry Wigington's brother)
 Dennie Hull (Jack Hull's brother)
 Kevin Kingery (Friend of Nathen Lothridge) Pat Lehr (Steve Lehr's sister)
 Steve Newbery (Friend of Wilson family) Raylan Turnbull (Friend of VanHoose family)
 Blake Williams (Friend of Nathen Lothridge) Robert Wilson (Rachel Cawthon's father)

*With Sympathy:
 Marjorie Lamb, Nancy Wessel*

Stewardship (Offering Only) 12/29-1/4 1/5-1/11

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Operational | \$50,056.67 | \$8,634.54 |
| Property Improvement | 60.00 | 50.00 |
| Outreach-Missionaries | 40.00 | 40.00 |
| DHF | 30.00 | 30.00 |
| Construction/Renovation | 219.91 | 144.91 |
| Youth | 600.00 | 300.00 |
| Unmet Needs | 75.00 | 0.00 |
| Fellowship of Christ. Athl. | 300.00 | 0.00 |
| Outreach-General | <u>505.00</u> | <u>205.00</u> |
| Total | \$51,886.58 | \$9,404.45 |

Operating Receipts (Offering, Rentals, etc.)

Received Last 7 Days \$45,827.27 \$9,089.54
 Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$11,030

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

The December, January, February edition of **Our Daily Bread** devotional can be found on the sanctuary mantels.

Lectionary

1/18: Isa 49:1-7; Ps 40:1-11; 1 Cor 1:1-9; John 1:29-42
1/19: Ps 40:6-17; Exodus 12:1-13, 21-28; Acts 8:26-40
1/20: Psalm 40:6-17; Isaiah 53:1-12; Hebrews 10:1-4
1/21: Psalm 40:6-17; Isaiah 48:12-21; Matthew 9:14-17
1/22: Psalm 27:1-6; 1 Samuel 1:1-20; Galatians 1:11-24
1/23: Psalm 27:1-6; 1 Samuel 9:27-10:8; Galatians 2:1-10
1/24: Psalm 27:1-6; 1 Samuel 15:34-16:13; Luke 5:27-32
1/25: Isa 9:1-4; Ps 27:1-9; 1 Cor 1:10-18; Matt 4:12-23
1/26: Psalm 27:7-14; Judges 6:11-24; Ephesians 5:6-14
1/27: Psalm 27:7-14; Judges 7:12-22; Philippians 2:12-18
1/28: Ps 27:7-14; Gen 49:1-2, 8-13, 21-26; Luke 1:67-79
1/29: Psalm 15; Deuteronomy 24:18-20; 1 Peter 3:8-12
1/30: Ps 15; Deuteronomy 24:17-25:4; 1 Timothy 5:17-24
1/31: Psalm 15; Micah 3:1-4; John 13:31-35

Serving Schedule:

January 18: Elder: David Bishop, John Hull
 8:00 Communion: Tom & Debbie Robinson
 10:30 Communion: Eric & Jill Kunzeman
 Children's Church: Kay Sealock, Mike & Julie Boren
 Infant-Age2 Assist: Linda Baumer, Crystal McClintock, Rimi Dixon
 PreK Assist: Amy Harris, Evan Hart, Konner Wombles
 Safety 8:00: Billy Fitzmaurice, John Havens, Kevin Wombles
 Safety 10:30: Bill Grimsley, Jason Thomas, Larry Wigington
 Sunday School Superintendent: Kay Sealock

January 25: Elder: Charlotte Dunham, Bob Clark
 8:00 Communion: Michael & Jessie Smith
 10:30 Communion: Jeremy & Alicia Tate
 Children's Church: TBA
 Infant-Age2 Assist: Shanna Ewers, Carol Cooley, Emma Wombles
 PreK Assist: Amy Harris, Bonnie Dain
 Safety 8:00: Brad Losch, Michael Smith, Stan Moss
 Safety 10:30: Caleb Dixon, Steve Lehr, Patrick Lamb
 Sunday School Superintendent: Vickie Tharp

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 | <u>1/4</u> | <u>1/11</u> |
| 8:00 | 76 | 89 |
| 10:30 | <u>178</u> | <u>188</u> |
| Total | 254 | 277 |

Christian Education

| | | |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|
| Youth | 32 | 35 |
| Disciples | 11 | 12 |
| Sermon Study | 12 | 7 |
| C.O.F.F.E.E. | <u>11</u> | <u>11</u> |
| Total | 66 | 65 |