

The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 68 Issue 6

March 24, 2026



Holy Week

April 2, 7:00pm, Maundy Thursday Service – Communion, Worship

April 3, 7:00 pm, Good Friday Service

Resurrection Sunday, April 5

6:30am Uth@1st Sunrise Service in gym

7:30am Breakfast

8:45am Sunday School

10:00am Worship Service in sanctuary



Uth@1st Sunrise Service Practice on Sunday, March 29th, has **changed** to the Sunday School hour beginning at 9:15.

The sanctuary is open on Tuesday evenings at 6:00pm through Holy Week. Everyone is encouraged to come for prayer and reflection.

During April, Crossroads Center will be open to the public for **walking 2 days per week, Mondays & Thursdays, 8-10:00 a.m., beginning April 6.**

Coffee Talk, Tues, **April 7**, 10:00, at the atrium.

CFW Bible Study, Thurs, **April 9**, 9:30, at the Cardinal Inn.

Board Meeting
Tues, **April 14**
6:00
at the annex

Mississippi Valley Christian Service Camp Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser
Crossroads Center
Sunday, **April 19**
11:00 - 1:00

There will be a memorial service for Walter and Marjorie Lamb at the church on Sat, April 25, 11:00.

Disciple Heritage Fellowship National Conference
April 29-30
First Christian Church in Decatur
Cost \$149/person or \$199/married couple.
Check out early bird discounts or register at discipleheritage.org/conference

Uth@1st Mission Trip!!
Still Waters Youth Ranch of Appalachia
Barbourville, Kentucky
Sunday May 31st through Friday June 5th
Students must have completed 9th grade to attend.
If interested please contact Niki Dixon 417-392-0729

As you begin your spring cleaning, remember to save some goodies for our CWF Spring Sale, June 6! This sale includes everything except the kitchen sink! (Well, almost.) We hope to include many volunteers from June 2-5 in preparation, and on the big day as we greet our shoppers and help them find all the bargains! Watch here for more info.

Light It Up
Vacation Bible School
July 12-15
2026

If you would like to donate towards Commission Encounter after listening to our guests recently, Lucas and Amanda Rife, then your check can be made payable to Commission Encounter, and mailed to Commission Encounter, PO Box 518, Bardstown, KY 40004 and be sure to write "Pittsfield" in a note or on the memo.

He is risen

Excerpts from March 10, 2026 Board Meeting

Call to Order: 6:02 p.m. by Moderator Brad Losch.

Elder Devotion and Opening Prayer: Hamer Tate led the meeting in a devotion and prayer.

Minutes from Last Meeting: Minutes from the February 10, 2026, meeting were approved by general consensus.

Pastor's Report: Minister's report was attached and discussed. Preparation for the celebrations during Lent are well under way.

Treasurer: Michelle Hart presented information from the report as of February 28, 2026. Unrestricted Operating Checking \$100,000. The total transfer to the GR—Extra Ministries-Elder Discretion Fund in February was \$7,019.05. Extra Ministries-Elder Discretion Fund through February \$32,526.47. Total Funds Available for Construction/Renovation \$1,010,284.34. YTD Receipts \$76,859.76. YTD Budgeted \$88,232. Difference <\$11,372.24>. YTD Disbursements \$68,001.38. YTD Budgeted \$90,700. Average worship attendance through February 249. Justin Poor moved to approve the Treasurer's Report and Bobby Smith seconded. Motion carried.

Trustees: Justin Poor submitted a Trustee's Report. Eight memorials were used for the purchase of the portable baptistery. Five memorials were used for the purchase of the coffee machine and equipment. The trustees decided to stay with GuideOne insurance for the 2026-2027 term.

Christian Education: Niki Dixon submitted a report. The Youth have begun working on the Sunrise Service. A memorial was used to fund 9 Square and a Gaga Ball Pit for the Youth to enjoy. The Mission Trip to Still Waters will be May 31 – June 5. Nineteen students are signed up to go.

Music: Bell Choir will play Good Friday.

Building Team: Pastor Michael expressed appreciation to the volunteers who helped lay sod. Also, brick work has begun but because we were shorted on brick materials, it is not yet complete.

Old Business:

A motion was made by Zack Boren and seconded by Bobby Smith to accept the Year-End Discretionary Employee Bonus Policy which was submitted at last month's meeting.

The church continues to search for an Associate Minister. Information has been sent to colleges in our sphere.

Adjourn: Michael Ten Eyck moved to adjourn at 6:35 p.m.; Hamer Tate seconded.

Closing Prayer: Pastor Michael closed the meeting in prayer.

Linda Belford, Recording Secretary

We're looking for volunteers for the MVCSC camp season. I'll list the dates we need help below. Our church is responsible for Tuesday meals, so we'll need volunteers for the following dates:

High School Camp – June 9

Junior High Camp – June 16

Upper Elementary Camp – June 23

Louisville Bible College Mission Trip – June 30

If anyone would like more information or is interested in helping, please reach out to me. –Jenna Hull

April Birthdays & Anniversaries 1 Nic Daniel; 3 Julie Plattner, Henry & Amy Speckhart, Ellis & Jean Sanderson, Karlie Patterson, Shelby Patterson; 4 Buster & Wanda Mendenhall; 5 Charlene Anderson, Bob Barton; 8 Juliana Lacey, Lilee Knake; 9 Joyce Lemons, Austin Long; 10 Brian Ruebush, Alicia Tate; 11 Evan Hart, Molly Dain, Rick & Mary Wombles; 13 Josie Pennock; 16 Ellis Sanderson; 17 Gemma Miller; 20 Sandy Herring, N.D. & Joyce Harrison, Marina Bradshaw; 21 Wanda Mendenhall; 22 Taylor Hayes; 23 Pat Apps, Charlotte Dunham; 24 Lena Boren; 25 Colby Tate, Jordan Lamb, Joseph Thomas, Erin Fesler; 26 Donnie Apps, Kevin Tharp; 27 Molly Caughlan; 30 Mary Harshman.

Editor's note: The next few lines are the ramblings of a soft-hearted, old man with a crusty outer shell. Feel free to skip the mushy parts but please continue at your own risk of commitment.

Understanding the Call to Serve

One of the last gifts that I gave my daughter, before she started her own story in the world, remains at my house today. It walks around, when it wants to, in the shell of a 25-pound French Bulldog named Cooper. In fact, he is a very demanding and critical master who is always looking for something that he wants me to provide (or at least help him procure). He has learned exactly which buttons to push and at what level of intensity and frequency to get his way. I know that I have a choice at any time not to respond and so does he. That understanding is why he wins without force, anger, or guilt on his part. I guess that statement explains a large part of my calling to service.

No, I am not in any way comparing this dog to God: only using the dog to understand and improve my relationship to my Lord. To me that relationship is the difference between fire insurance for the future (based on what was freely given to me) and the training, cooperation and support of my daily walk and commitment to new challenges. That doesn't always mean seeking a crown but sometimes recognizing that I can apply spit and polish to the original one. For me, Paul expressed this in his writing to the Ephesians: "So, then, be careful how you live. Do not be unwise but wise, making the best use of your time because the times are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is" (Ephesians 5: 15-17). I am so glad that God gave me options (free will) rather than "1 way or the highway".

At FCC we have lots of ways to serve both our congregation and our community (as big as you want to make it). At the risk of missing some (apologies in advance), let me list a few and a key person to contact to get involved:

CWF (Barb Fosco) -sponsored events: "Sew and Share" - Linda Belford, Funeral and Bereavement Meals – Mary Gates, Congregations Feeds – Judy Ferguson, Jenny Tate, et al., Bizarre and Fundraising – Kathy Curfman, Quilts and Prayer Shawls – Joyce Lemons, Flowers and Stuff – Sonya Bishop.

CMF (Zack Boren) sponsored – Outdoor Zone – Zack Boren/ Ed Picone, Mississippi Valley – Rod Gordley, Church Grounds and Buildings – Bob Clark.

Weekly Worship Volunteers (Rebecca driven) – Communion Prep, 1 st -Sunday Cookies – Katie McDevitt and Carole Elledge, Safety and Security – N.D. Harrison, bulletin folding and Newsletter stuffing – Edith Gant, et al., Prayer Cards – Carole Swartz.

Youth Ministries (Niki Dixon) – Food prep - Renna Walters, College and Student Ministries – Alicia Tate, and Key ministry leaders – Wayne Chamberlain, John Hall, Caleb Dixon, Justin Poor, Michelle Hart, Bethany Dunham, and many others.

We ask that you consider sharing your gifts. That pressure to serve may indeed be YOUR CALL.

Respectfully submitted (no harm intended),
David Bishop, Elder

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: Marie Awbrey, Chuck Barber, Brenda Bonnett, Richard Decker, Tressa Dickerson, Braycen Douglas, Brian Douglas, Sue Evans, Joan Halsey, Mary Harshman, Elaine Hoaglin, Donnie Houchins, Jim & Judy Kallal, Hudson Moss, Rusty Sealock, Jim Stark, Bernall Ackerman (Friend of TenEyck family), Diana Bentley (Jane Calaway's sister), Karen Birch (John Birch's sister), Martha Chamberlain (Dan Chamberlain's sister), Christine Creamer (Calvin Anderson's mother), Denny Dell (Friend of Brokaw family), Vivian Dyer (Kevin Dyer's sister-in-law), Bob & Phyllis Hammitt (Larry Wigington's brother), Sue Holcomb (Friend of Bev White), Dennie Hull (Jack Hull's brother), Rhonda Johnson (Kathy Willman's sister), James Kallal (Jim's Kallal's father), Kevin Kingery (Friend of Nathen Lothridge), Pat Lehr (Steve Lehr's sister), Billy Lowe (Barbara Fosco's nephew), Steve Newbery (Friend of Wilson family), Lois Payne (Judy Dunham/Carole Elledge sister), Roger Phoenix (Jaunae Bacon's father), Averie Ratliff (Russ/Jeana Sealock's granddaughter), Lucas Rife (Commission Encounter), Robert Wilson (Rachel Cawthon's father)
Sympathy: Sally Humphrey

Stewardship (Offering Only)	3/9-15	3/16-22
Operational	\$9,377.87	\$13,223.22
Property Improvement	55.00	15.00
Outreach-Missionaries	45.00	85.00
DHF	30.00	30.00
Construction/Renovation	8,815.88	144.91
Youth	0.00	70.00
Unmet Needs	0.00	0.00
Outreach-General	<u>250.00</u>	<u>250.00</u>
Total	\$18,573.75	13,818.13

Operating Receipts (Offering, Rentals, etc.)
 Received Last 7 Days \$9,455.88 \$13,273.22
 Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$11,030

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

The March, April, May edition of **Our Daily Bread** devotional can be found in the atrium.

Lectionary

3/29: Ps 118:1-29; Matt 21:1-11, Isa 50:4-9; Ps 31:9-16
 3/30: Isa 42:1-9; Ps 36:5-11; Heb 9:11-15; John 12:1-11
 3/31: Isa 49:1-7; Ps 71:1-14; 1 Cor 1:18-31; John 12:20-36
 4/1: Isa 50:4-9; Ps 70; Heb 12:1-3; John 13:21-32
 4/2: Ex 12:1-14; Ps 116:1-19; 1 Cor 11:23-26; John 13:1-35
 4/3: Isa 52:13-53:12; Ps 22; Heb 10:16-25; John 18:1-19:42
 4/4: Job 14:1-14; Ps 31:1-16; 1 Pet 4:1-8; Matt 27:57-66
 4/5: Ex 14:10-15:21; Acts 10:34-43; Ps 118:1-24; Col 3:1-4
 4/6: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Exodus 14:10-31; Col 3:5-11
 4/7: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Exodus 15:1-18; Col 3:12-17
 4/8: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Joshua 3:1-17; Matthew 28:1-10
 4/9: Psalm 16; Song of Solomon 2:8-15; Colossians 4:2-5
 4/10: Psalm 16; Solomon 5:9-6:3; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11
 4/11: Psalm 16; Song of Solomon 8:6-7; John 20:11-20

Serving Schedule:

March 29: Elder: Charlotte Dunham, Wayne Chamberlain
 8:00 Communion: Steve & Vickie Tharp
 10:30 Communion: Rokettia Brokaw, Joyce Harrison
 Children's Church: Niki Dixon
 Infant-Age2 Assist: Judy Ferguson, Linda Baumer
 PreK Assist: Amy Harris, Madelyn Saxe
 Safety 8:00: Kevin Wombles, Steve Tharp
 Safety 10:30: Sonya Bishop, Keenan Wine, Thomas Hull
 Sunday School Superintendent: Cindy Chamberlain
April 5: Elder: David Bishop, Matt Saxe
 6:30 Communion: Youth Group
 10:00 Communion: B. Fosco, S. Clark, S. Bacon, D. Bryant
 Children's Church: Niki Dixon
 Infant-Age2 Assist: TBA
 PreK Assist: Amy Harris, TBA
 Safety 6:30: Brad Losch, Michael Smith
 Safety 10:00: Billy Fitzmaurice, Jason Thomas, Scott Bacon
 Sunday School Superintendent: Cindy Chamberlain

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

Needed: Old sheet music and used/broken guitar strings.
 Sonya Bishop 910.874.1535

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

Worship Service	3/15	3/22
8:00	81	87
10:30	<u>181</u>	<u>172</u>
Total	262	259
Christian Education		
Youth	37	27
Disciples	14	9
Sermon Study	9	10
C.O.F.F.E.E.	<u>12</u>	<u>14</u>
Total	72	60