

The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 68 Issue 8

April 28, 2026



<p>Mississippi Valley Christian Service Camp workdays will be Saturday, May 2 & 30. Stop by between 8:00 – Noon if you are available to lend a hand.</p>	<p>May 3 = Cookie Sunday! Sweet treats will be served in the atrium after both services.</p>
<p>Hangout 45 (4th & 5th graders) will be Sunday, May 3, following 10:30 service. We will travel to Crazy Town Trampoline Park in Quincy. Cost is \$20 per student. Parents contact Niki with questions.</p>	<p>Coffee Talk, Tues, May 5, 10:00 @ atrium.</p>
<p>Board Meeting, Tues, May 12, 6:00. Packets will be at the church May 10 in the communion prep room.</p>	<p>CWF Bible Study, Thurs, May 14, 9:30 at Cardinal Inn.</p>
<p>College commencement ceremonies are upon us. Let us know by May 15 if you have a college graduate in your family. We will need their name, school, degree, and picture.</p>	<p>See the Mississippi Valley Christian Service Camp website for 2026 summer camp dates. Online registration is available. Our Christian Men's Fellowship will pay one half the cost of youth in our church family to attend the camp.</p>
<p>Our church is responsible for Tuesday meals at church camp during June. If anyone would like more info or is interested in helping, please reach out to Jenna Hull.</p>	<p>LIGHT IT UP! VBS, July 13-15. Kick-off celebration July 12.</p>

CWF Spring Sale is Saturday, June 6 in the Crossroads Center gym! We will accept your donations from Tuesday 6/2-Friday 6/5. We welcome all household items, small kitchen appliances, outdoor items and house plants, books (no encyclopedia sets,) toys, electronics/games (no tvs, computers, printers, etc..) small furniture pieces (if you have large pieces we can post a photo and help you make connections.) We are not taking clothing but still accept purses, bags, shoes, jewelry and other accessories. Please consider helping during the setup and/or sale day! There are jobs for everyone and all help is very much appreciated! Proceeds are distributed among many local charities and causes. Contact Kathy Curfman by phone, text or pm 217-248-5214

Introducing Sew 'n Share

Do you love to sew? Would you enjoy using your skills to make a difference in someone's life?

We're excited to introduce **Sew 'n Share**, a new gathering for anyone who enjoys sewing and wants to share their gifts with those in need. Whether you're an experienced quilter, a casual stitcher, or just someone who enjoys being around creative people, you're welcome to join us.

Sew 'n Share is all about community, creativity, and compassion. Together, we'll work on projects that can bless others—quilts, simple sewn items, and more—while enjoying fellowship and the joy of creating side by side.

We will meet on the **2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** in the **Annex** beginning on Thursday, May 14. Come for the whole day or just drop in when you can.

What to Bring

- Your sewing machine and basic supplies
- Any projects you'd like to work on or contribute (we will also have supplies and ideas to get you started)
- Your own lunch (we'll take a break to eat and visit together)

For more information, please contact: Linda Belford – 217-779-2945

Come as you are, bring what you have, and let's create something beautiful—together.

First Christian Church of Pittsfield,

Thank you for allowing us to come share about Commission Encounter and permitting me (Lucas) to preach as well. We appreciate your hospitality, generosity and warm welcome. CE has always enjoyed partnering with you and we look forward to our next trip this summer.

In Christ,

Lucas & Amanda Rife

Commission Encounter

MAY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES 1 Angie Hittner, David James, Jeremy Schoenherr; 2 Chloe Chastain; 4 Buster Mendenhall, Cassie Richmiller, Kirk & Jessica Speckhart; 5 Morgan Plattner, Cadience Roig; 6 Beryl Richards, Angie Ruebush; 7 Will Freesen; 8 Kathy Kindler; 9 Paul & Patty Ruble, Miranda Thomas, Diana Dyer; 10 Julie Lierly, Karleigh Starman; 11 Vera Staffy, Katie Sidwell, Jack Palmer; 12 Corinne Pennock; 13 Randy & Marjie Guthrie; 15 Ron & Shanna Ewers, Bennett Daniel; 16 Brad Losch, Luke Saxe, Maxwell Bonnett; 18 Abby Lipcaman, Lainey Miller; 20 Adrienne Ruebush, Steele Ewers; 21 Ralph Piper; 22 Zachary Boren, Benjamin Boren; 23 Mackenzie Lipcaman, Wesley Picone; 24 Jamie & Brandi Pennock, Braxton & Laura Boren, Lia Picone, Mary VanHoose, Brooks Frieden; 25 Dalton & Cherise Sheurman, Brian Daniel; 26 Brian Douglas, Raleigh Stout; 27 Delbert Robertson; 28 Rick Curfman, Randy Guthrie; 29 Isabel Smith, Olivia Smith; 30 Skylar & Cara Knake, Luke & Erin Fesler, Seth Daniel; 31 Henry Speckhart, Archie Fesler.

Excerpts from April 13, 2026 Board Minutes

Quorum of 8 met. Call to Order at 6 p.m. by Moderator Brad Losch. Matt Saxe led the meeting in a devotion and prayer. Minutes from the March 10, 2026, meeting were approved by general consensus.

Pastor's Report: Minister's report was attached and discussed. Highlights include: Holy week prep. Thanks to all who helped with all of the services. A big thanks to Bob Clark for all of the work he did following the lightning strike. New Baptistry purchase and installation.

Treasurer: Michelle Hart presented information from the report as of March 31, 2026.
The total transfer to the GR—Extra Ministries-Elder Discretion Fund in March was \$23,896
Total Funds Available for Construction/Renovation: \$1,006,329
YTD Receipts: \$136,480; YTD Budgeted: \$143,386; Difference \$7,906
YTD Disbursements: \$101,064; YTD Budgeted: \$135,885; Difference: \$34,820
Net Non-Budget Receipts/Disbursements: \$27,350
Average worship attendance through March 31, 2026: 254

Christian Education: Niki Dixon submitted a report. Highlights include: Youth have been doing volunteer work with community fundraisers and helping with Easter egg hunts. Youth group worked hard preparing for the sunrise service. The Still Waters Mission Trip participants will receive monies from the Tracy Foundation Youth Trip Grant to help offset the cost.

Music: There will be special music on May 17 and July 5.

Crossroads Center: Jenna Hull summarized her report. Highlights include: Besides the usual activities, the MVCSC spaghetti supper will be on 4/19, Saukee Nation Pancake breakfast on 5/2, Pikeland baccalaureate ceremony on 5/17 and graduation parties. A motion was made by Michael Ten Eyck and seconded by Bob Clark to have the walking track refinished this summer. Gym closed 6/3-6/7 for the annual yard sale fundraiser.

Building Team: Pastor Michael gave an update on the current progress. Brick installed and tuck pointing is being finished. Brick will be sealed. Sod has been installed. Thanks to all those who helped.

New Business:

A motion was made by David Bishop and seconded by Bobby Smith to accept the bid from Waters Concrete to install a pad and walkway on the west side of the building. Motion carried. Money will be paid out of the construction fund.
After discussion and the recommendation from the executive committee, Bob Clark made a motion which was seconded by Brad Willman to accept the bid from Casco Paving to replace and/or repair the parking areas. Motion carried.
There was a discussion about clean up of the coffee area after 2nd service. Looking for a solution as Bob Clark or Pastor Michael have been doing it.

Adjourn: Bobby Smith made a motion at 6:45 p.m. to adjourn. Hamer Tate seconded. Motion carried.

Closing Prayer: Pastor Michael closed the meeting in prayer.

Thank you to everyone who was able to help with the Walter and Marjorie Lamb memorial service luncheon last weekend. We appreciate all donations of food and time to provide this service to the family.
-CWF Bereavement Ministry

*Dear Church Family,
I want to show my deepest appreciation for all of the prayers, visits, and the beautiful shawl. I truly believe in the healing power of prayer and I am recovering well. I am blessed to be part of the First Christian Church.*
Best,
Brenda Bonnett

Dear Church Family,

My wife's grandmother was the most wonderful cook. My wife would often recall some of her grandma's special dishes and try to replicate them, only to find that the recipe cards were not super specific. Her grandma knew that these dishes might need a bit more or less of something on a certain day than on others. In her vast experience, she could mix things up, adjust as needed, improvise if required, but ultimately, she had a gift to "just know" how to make it wonderful. These recipes could not simply translate to a card; they needed to be learned by cooking with her.

When we think about legacy, we often think about what we leave behind: a name, a building, a tradition, a recipe nobody can quite duplicate, or a restored car that everyone in the family secretly hopes to inherit. But for the Christian, legacy is not about what we leave behind. It is about who we help lead toward.

God has brought us into a new community through the work of the cross of Christ. We were not saved as isolated individuals and then told, "Good luck out there. Try not to get eaten up by the world." On the contrary, through Christ, we have been brought into the family of God. Paul writes, "So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God" (Ephesians 2:19, ESV). Or as John frames it, we have been adopted into a family, grafted into a vine.

In other words, the Christian life is not a solo project. We may think of it like a church potluck... everyone brings something, we all contribute, and we are all better because we showed up and participated.

Most of us can name people whom God has used to shape our faith. Perhaps it was a parent or grandparent who prayed faithfully. Maybe it was a Sunday School teacher who opened the Bible with patience, joy, and the supernatural ability to survive a room full of children with glue sticks. Maybe it was a pastor, elder, youth leader, neighbor, or friend who encouraged us when we were weary. Perhaps it was a coach who knew it was more about eternity than simply wins and losses. Some of these wonderful individuals showed us how to serve. Some taught us how to forgive. Some demonstrated what faithfulness looks like quietly over the years. Their influence may not have been loud, but it was lasting.

Paul gives this kind of instruction to Timothy: "What you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also" (2 Timothy 2:2, ESV). Notice the pattern. Paul poured into Timothy. Timothy Poured into others. Those others would then teach still more. That is the Christian legacy. It is a faith handed from life to life, heart to heart, generation to generation. It does not have to be flashy. It simply requires faithful people investing in other faithful people. It is a faith learned by a shared journey.

This is not only the work of pastors or church leaders. It is the calling of the entire church. Older believers are called to teach and encourage younger believers. Mature Christians are called to walk alongside those who are still growing. Friends are called to "stir up one another to love and good works" (Hebrews 10:24, ESV). (Some of us are very good at stirring things up already, so Scripture kindly gives us the right direction: love and good works, not drama and gossip.)

The church continues as one generation intentionally pours into the next. Programs may help. Buildings may serve. Events may encourage. Coffee may keep us awake through meetings and long-winded messages, but the life of the church is carried forward as disciples make disciples, as Christians befriend, mentor, teach, and encourage others in the Lord.

So consider the Christian influences God has placed in your life. Who helped form your faith? Who prayed for you? Who corrected you, lovingly enough that you did not immediately change churches? Who encouraged you to keep going? Who showed you what it means to love Christ and His church?

Then ask the next question: Who might God be calling you to influence?

Perhaps there is a young person who needs encouragement. Perhaps there is a new believer who needs someone to walk beside them. Perhaps there is a lonely person who needs friendship. Maybe someone near you simply needs the invitation to come to church. Perhaps there is a family, a student, a child, a neighbor, or a fellow church member who would be strengthened by your prayers, your presence, and your example.

A legacy for Christ is not built by accident. It is intentional. It is built through faithful love, ordinary obedience, persistent patience, intentional kindness, and real relationships. Let us prayerfully consider who we can pour into, befriend, mentor, invite, and encourage. By God's grace, let's become the kind of people who help others see Jesus more clearly, follow Him more faithfully, and pass the faith on to still another generation.

Let's hand down the recipes of our life through more than words, but in a shaping, shared journey together.

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: Marie Awbrey, Chuck & Carolyn Barber, Richard Decker, Greg Dickerson, Tressa Dickerson, Brian Douglas, Sue Evans, Mary Gates, Joan Halsey, Mary Harshman, Elaine Hoaglin, Donnie Houchins, Jim & Judy Kallal, Jim Stark, Miranda Thomas, Diana Bentley (Jane Calaway's sister) Karen Birch (John Birch's sister) Weston & Maddi Campbell (Elledge family) Martha Chamberlain (Dan Chamberlain's sister) Christine Creamer (Calvin Anderson's mother) Vicki Dams (Rokettia Brokaw/Kathy Lehr cousin) Denny Dell (Friend of Brokaw family) Vivian Dyer (Kevin Dyer's sister-in-law) Bob & Phyllis Hammitt (Larry Wigington's brother) Tracey Helms (Heather Anderson's sister-in-law) Sue Holcomb (Friend of Bev White) Dennie Hull (Jack Hull's brother) Chaddam Johnson (Friend of Wilson family) 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) Lucas Rife (Commission Encounter) Tim Vahle (Friend of Ten Eyck family)

Stewardship (Offering Only)	4/13-19	4/20-26
Operational	\$9,341.74	\$7,913.21
Property Improvement	145.00	15.00
Outreach-Missionaries	45.00	45.00
DHF	30.00	30.00
Construction/Renovation	124.91	124.91
Youth	90.00	450.00
Church Camp	50.00	0.00
Outreach-General	<u>10.00</u>	<u>810.00</u>
Total	\$9,836.65	\$9,388.12

Operating Receipts (Offering, Rentals, etc.)

Received Last 7 Days \$9,741.74 \$8,513.21
 Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$11,030

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

Lectionary

5/3: Acts 7:55-60; Ps 31:1-16; 1 Pet 2:2-10; John 14:1-14
 5/4: Psalm 102:1-17; Exodus 13:17-22; Acts 7:17-40
 5/5: Psalm 102:1-17; Proverbs 3:5-12; Acts 7:44-56
 5/6: Psalm 102:1-17; Proverbs 3:13-18; John 8:31-38
 5/7: Psalm 66:8-20; Genesis 6:5-22; Acts 27:1-12
 5/8: Psalm 66:8-20; Genesis 7:1-24; Acts 27:13-38
 5/9: Psalm 66:8-20; Genesis 8:13-19; John 14:27-29
 5/10: Acts 17:22-31; Ps 66:8-20; 1 Pet 3:13-22, John 14:15-21
 5/11: Psalm 93; Genesis 9:8-17; Acts 27:39-44
 5/12: Psalm 93; Deuteronomy 5:22-33; 1 Peter 3:8-12
 5/13: Psalm 93; Deuteronomy 31:1-13; John 16:16-24
 5/14: Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47; Eph 1:15-23; Luke 24:44-53
 5/15: Psalm 93; 2 Kings 2:1-12; Ephesians 2:1-7
 5/16: Psalm 93; 2 Kings 2:13-15; John 8:21-30
 5/17: Acts 1:6-14; Ps 68:1-10; 1 Pet 4:12-14; John 17:1-11
 5/18: Psalm 99; Leviticus 9:1-11, 22-24; 1 Peter 4:1-6
 5/19: Psalm 99; Numbers 16:41-50; 1 Peter 4:7-11
 5/20: Psalm 99; 1 Kings 8:54-65; John 3:31-36
 5/21: Psalm 33:12-22; Exodus 19:1-9a; Acts 2:1-11
 5/22: Psalm 33:12-22; Exodus 19:16-25; Romans 8:14-17
 5/23: Psalm 33:12-22; Exodus 20:1-21; Matthew 5:1-12

Serving Schedule:

May 3: Elder: Matt Saxe, David Bishop
 8:00 Communion: Michael & Jessie Smith
 10:30 Communion: Larry & Sandy Wigington, Justin & Amber Poor
 Children's Church: Ali Curless, Molly Caughlan
 Infant-Age2 Assist: Rimi Dixon, Judy Ferguson
 PreK Assist: Amy Harris, Kamy Dixon
 Safety 8:00: Michael Smith, Stan Moss
 Safety 10:30: Bill Grimsley, Jason Thomas, Scott Bacon
 Sunday School Superintendent: Cindy Chamberlain
 Fellowship Treats: C. Capps, S. Wigington, B. Dunham, K. Lehr
May 10: Elder: John Hull, Charlotte Dunham
 8:00 Communion: Dan & Sue Speckhart
 10:30 Communion: Rokettia Brokaw, Joyce Harrison
 Children's Church: Stan & Jill Moss
 Infant-Age2 Assist: Elliot Alger, Amy Ruebush
 PreK Assist: Amy Harris, Rorie Dunham
 Safety 8:00: John Havens, Steve Tharp
 Safety 10:30: Sonya Bishop, Billy Fitzmaurice, Jeremy Tate
 Sunday School Superintendent: Kathy Lehr

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.

Worship Service	4/19	4/26
8:00	108	81
10:30	<u>147</u>	<u>148</u>
Total	255	229

Christian Education

Youth	40	33
Disciples	10	13
Sermon Study	7	9
C.O.F.F.E.E.	<u>13</u>	<u>7</u>
Total	70	62

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