

The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 68 Issue 9

May 19, 2026



The CWF Spring Sale is Saturday, June 6, 7:30 - 12:30 at Crossroads Center. Proceeds are given to many of our local charities and non-profits. Donations will be accepted Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 7:30 - 5:30, and Friday from 7:30 - 12:30. Donations may include indoor/outdoor items such as kitchenware and small appliances in good condition, bedding, cleaning supplies, craft supplies, collector items, jewelry, shoes, purses, pet products, gardening, tools, patio furniture, and plants. Please, no electronics such as computers or printers, large furniture, mattresses, encyclopedia sets or magazines. If you do have large items you would like to donate, we can take pictures of them and post for our guests to consider. We will need help setting up and/or pricing items Tuesday through Friday, as well as workers on Saturday to add up purchases and make our shoppers feel welcome! Clean up afterwards at 12:30 is an opportunity for your help in packing up the leftovers, putting away tables, and turning the sale site back to normal! We could not host this event without our volunteers and can always use more! Questions - call or message Kathy Curfman 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. **The next gathering will be May 28.** 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.

Kids Outdoor Zone Event! Sat, May 30, 1-4:30, Gardner Camp near Hull. Guys, this is your day! Adventure, friends, faith, fun. A day built for young men ages 12-18. Archery, fellowship, cook out, pray, have fun! Make memories, build brotherhood, grow in faith. Contact Caleb Dixon for more details 417.392.0730.

Elder Meeting, Tues, May 26, 6:00.

Mississippi Valley Christian Service Camp **workday** will be Saturday, **May 30.** Stop by between 8:00 – Noon if you are available to lend a hand.

The youth group mission trip to Still Waters Ranch in Kentucky will begin at 6a.m. on Sunday, May 31, when they leave. Please be in prayer for safe travels and open doors.

Coffee Talk, Tues, June 2, 10:00 @ atrium.

Board Meeting, Tues, June 9, 6:00. Packets will be at the church June 7 in the communion prep room.

CWF Bible Study, Thurs, June 11, 9:30 at Cardinal Inn.

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.

LIGHT IT UP! VBS 2026.

Kick-off celebration July 12 following 10:30 service.

VBS Mon, July 13 through Wed, July 15.

Grown Up VBS! July 13-15

Same time as kids VBS. Women of all ages.

Contact Renna Walters 931.217.6842

The Thursday Noon Bible Study will resume Sept 10.

<p>Over \$800 was donated towards the toiletry kits for the Still Waters Ranch mission trip. Thank you everyone who made this project a great success!</p>	<p>David and Julie Myers are the proud grandparents of Alice Marjorie Santana-Myers, born to Audrey and Weverton on April 15, 2026. Congratulations to all!</p>
<p><i>I would like to thank everyone at the church for their prayers and concerns. Charlene brought me the shawl which is absolutely beautiful I thank the women from the bottom of my heart. The Christian Church in Pittsfield has always been my church and will always be. I am very weak and I'm looking at months of recovery. I can't go anywhere for fear of contracting something else. But by the grace of God I'll make the journey and will be able to thank people in person. Again thank you all. Love Greg Dickerson</i></p>	<p>We want to congratulate Evan Darnell for being awarded the Carol V. Claus Baughman Memorial Scholarship for 2026. Evan will attend Ozark Christian College to study Worship Ministry.</p> <p>Jim Dain will be our guest speaker on Sunday, May 31, and present information on Mississippi Valley Christian Service Camp. Camp season will begin in June!</p> <p>On Sunday, May 31, we will not have Children's Church for ages K-2nd grade but the nursery will still be available for infant-PreK.</p>
<p>Concrete work will begin on the west side of the church building, weather permitting, on May 20. Parking will be interrupted for a short time until this project is complete.</p>	

Excerpts from May 12, 2026 Church Board Meeting

Call to Order: 6:01 p.m. by Moderator Brad Losch.

Elder Devotion and Opening Prayer: Zach Boren led the meeting in a devotion and prayer.

Minutes from Last Meeting: Minutes from the April 14, 2026, meeting were approved by general consensus.

Pastor's Report: Minister's report was attached and discussed. Highlights include: HOLY WEEK, DHF 2026 Conference, Work on a trust that FCC was a residual beneficiary, Memorial service for Marge and Wally Lamb.

Treasurer: Michelle Hart presented information from the report as of: April 30, 2026. Total Funds Available for Construction/Renovation \$987,738.07. YTD Receipts \$177,994.05; YTD Budgeted \$187,502; Difference \$9,507.95. YTD Disbursements \$148,146.73; YTD Budgeted \$181,070; Difference \$32,923.27. Average worship attendance through April 2026 255. John Hull made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and Hamer Tate seconded. Motion carried.

Trustees: Justin Poor submitted a Trustee's Report. Memorials were received in the name of Walter and Marjorie Lamb. Carol V. Claus Baughman Scholarship was awarded to Evan Darnell. GR Extra Ministries fund will purchase a \$25,000 CD to remain liquid and earn interest.

Christian Education: Niki Dixon submitted a report. Highlights include: The students worked very hard in preparing for the sunrise service. The high school girls' Bible study is growing beyond Wednesday mornings. Preparation is underway for the mission trip to Still Waters. Kids church will continue throughout the summer months. Beginning to prepare for VBS.

Music: The Vesper Choir will be singing patriotic selections on May 17 and July 5 in observance of the 250th celebration of our nation. Work for the Cantata has begun.

Crossroads Center: Jenna Hull submitted a report. In addition to regular activities, there are . . . Birthday and graduation parties and a family reunion are scheduled. Walking track will be resurfaced 5/25-28. Gym closed 6/3-7 for FCC yard sale. Open Yoga sessions Tuesday mornings in June.

Building Team: Pastor Michael gave an update on the current progress. Concrete work will begin next week on the west side of the sanctuary. The brick sealant is now complete. Bids for parking area work are complete and selection made. Work should begin soon. Working on outdoor signage and paint for parking space allotment.

New Business:
Any request for use of the Atrium will need to come to the board for approval.
Décor team is taking a look at plaques and how they can best be displayed.
The east side of the sanctuary is in need of brick work. Rex Lothridge submitted a price quote. Clarification is needed before the bid is approved.

Adjourn: Bob Clark made a motion to adjourn at 6:44 p.m. John Hull seconded and all approved.

Closing Prayer: Pastor Michael Ten Eyck closed the meeting in prayer.

Dear Church Family,

We are wrapping up another school year and beginning the shift into summer. With this transition, the rhythms of life change. The days get longer, and often fuller for those involved in travel sports and youth activities. This is often a time for projects that have gone neglected.

Around the church, summer is a season for addressing such projects. This week, the pad by the Atrium is scheduled to be poured. The parking area will be resealed and painted. We will take a closer look at the Crossroads parking lot to see whether it needs maintenance. The books from the Long Room need to be sorted. The areas that became “catch-all” spaces during the construction process need to be sorted, stored, or disposed of.

These are the projects that need to be done, but don’t make it to the top of our priority lists. We know that, at some point, they must be done, but often, those projects sit. Not because we do not want to address them, but because there is always something else demanding our attention.

As I thought about the upcoming summer projects, another question began to challenge me: What spiritual projects have we been putting off?

Not building projects. Not parking lots. Not boxes of books or closets full of odds and ends, but the deeper things in our lives require addressing. These are the matters of the soul. Things like a stagnant prayer life, no Bible study, a lack of relational connection, the nagging sin that goes unchecked, or any spiritual discipline that we know needs attention, but we simply put off.

The danger, of course, is that life rarely slows down on its own. If we wait for the perfect season to address these matters, it may never come. Proverbs 27:1 reminds us, “Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring.” We must take care not to let tomorrow become a convenient hiding place for today’s obedience.

Scripture often calls God’s people to respond in the here and now. Hebrews 3:15 says, “Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts.” That word “today” is important. God’s invitation is not merely for some future version of ourselves, the version with more time, more energy, more focus, or fewer distractions. He calls us now, in the middle of ordinary life, with all its noise and dust and busyness.

This does not mean we can fix everything at once, but we cannot make spiritual procrastination commonplace. God is patient and gracious. But His grace is not an invitation to neglect. It is an invitation to begin.

Let’s consider if this summer could be a season of holy attention. As we look around the church and address the projects that have been waiting, let us also ask the Lord to show us what has been waiting for attention in our own hearts and spirits. Let us follow David’s example. In Psalm 139:23–24 he offers a good prayer: “Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!”

Ponder and meditate on this idea as we approach the changing season.

So let me encourage you to ask prayerfully: Lord, is there anything I have been putting off? Then listen. And when He brings something to mind, consider making it a priority.

Maybe the first step is small. Make the phone call. Open the Bible. Spend ten quiet minutes in prayer. Ask for forgiveness. Offer forgiveness. Volunteer. Return to worship with renewed intention. Speak with an elder, a trusted friend, or a mentor. Begin with what God’s Spirit shines light upon.

This summer, by God’s grace, as we tend to concrete and parking areas, boxes and books, may we also tend to our hearts. Let’s address not only what has been put off around us, but what has been put off within us.

Loving you all,
Michael

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, Corinne Pennock family, Janet Scranton, Jim Stark, Miranda Thomas, Karen Birch (John Birch's sister)

Weston & Maddi Campbell (Elledge family)
 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)
 Chaddam Johnson (Friend of Wilson family)
 Kevin Kingery (Friend of Nathen Lothridge)
 Pat Lehr (Steve Lehr's sister)
 Steve Newbery (Friend of Wilson family)
 Lucas Rife (Commission Encounter)
 Melinda Upchurch (Friend of Schwartz family)

With Sympathy:
Vicki Dams
 (Rokettia Brokaw/Kathy Lehr cousin)
 Tracey Helms
 (Heather Anderson/Joe Helms family)
 James Kallal
 (Jim Kallal's father)

Billy Lowe (Barbara Fosco's nephew)
 Sam Rayfield (Carol Schwartz's cousin)
 Ross Spies (Brandi Pennock's nephew)
 Tim Vahle (Friend of Ten Eyck family)

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

Stewardship (Offering Only)	4/27-5/3	5/4-10	5/11-17
Operational	\$13,092.14	\$12,272.53	\$7,957.69
Property Improvement	95.00	65.00	15.00
Outreach-Missionaries	65.00	45.00	45.00
DHF	30.00	30.00	30.00
Construction/Renovation	124.91	144.91	124.91
Youth Related	250.00	1,493.62	345.00
Church Camp	20.00	0.00	0.00
Outreach-General	<u>210.00</u>	<u>930.00</u>	<u>290.00</u>
Total	\$13,887.05	\$14,981.06	\$8,807.60

Operating Receipts (Offering, Rentals, etc.)

Received Last 7 Days 13,045.14 \$12,272.53 \$7,957.69
 Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$11,030

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

Lectionary

5/24: Acts 2:1-21; Ps 104:24-35; 1 Cor 12:3-13; John 20:19-23
 5/25: Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Joel 2:18-29; Romans 8:18-24
 5/26: Ps 104:24-34, 35b; Ezekiel 39:7-8, 21-29; Rom 8:26-27
 5/27: Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Numbers 11:24-30; John 7:37-39
 5/28: Psalm 8; Job 38:1-11; 2 Timothy 1:8-12a
 5/29: Psalm 8; Job 38:12-21; 2 Timothy 1:12b-14
 5/30: Psalm 8; Job 38:22-38; John 14:15-17
 5/31: Gen 1:1-2:4; 2 Cor 13:11-13; Matt 28:16-20
 6/1: Psalm 29; Job 38:39-39:12; 1 Corinthians 12:1-3
 6/2: Psalm 29; Job 39:13-25; 1 Corinthians 12:4-13
 6/3: Psalm 29; Job 39:26-40:5; John 14:25-26
 6/4: Psalm 33:1-12; Genesis 13:1-18; 2 Peter 2:17-22
 6/5: Psalm 33:1-12; Genesis 14:17-24; Acts 28:1-10
 6/6: Psalm 33:1-12; Genesis 15:1-20; Matthew 9:27-34

Serving Schedule:

May 24: Elder: David Bishop, Wayne Chamberlain
 8:00 Communion: Brad & Kathy Willman
 10:30 Communion: Jeremy & Alicia Tate
 Children's Church: Debbie Robinson, Sue Miller
 Infant-Age2 Assist: Shanna Ewers, Emma Wombles, Madelyn Saxe
 PreK Assist: Amy Harris, Bonnie Dain, Eva Francis
 Safety 8:00: Kevin Wombles, Stan Moss
 Safety 10:30: Keenan Wine, Scott Bacon, Thomas Hull
 Sunday School Superintendent: Vickie Tharp

May 31: Elder: Zack Boren, Alicia Tate
 8:00 Communion: Greg & Kim Bonnett
 10:30 Communion: Eric & Jill Kunzelman
 Children's Church: No Children's Church May 31
 Infant-Age2 Assist: Erin Fesler, Linda Baumer
 PreK Assist: Amy Harris, Jordan Lamb
 Safety 8:00: Michael Smith, Patrick Lamb
 Safety 10:30: Bill Grimsley, Caleb Dixon, Jason Thomas
 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

None at this time.

Worship Service	5/3	5/10	5/17
8:00	98	65	85
10:30	<u>227</u>	<u>134</u>	<u>131</u>
Total	325	199	216

Christian Education

Youth	45	31	21
Disciples	13	8	13
Sermon Study	8	9	8
C.O.F.F.E.E.	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>
Total	75	58	53

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