

The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 68 Issue 16

September 8, 2026



What is Sew 'n Share?

Sew 'n Share meets on the **2nd and 4th Thursdays, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**, September 10 & 24 this month at the annex. There's no need to arrive at 9:00 or stay until 3:00. **Come when you can, leave when you need to, and stay as long as you like.**

Bring a project of your own or lend a hand with one of our group projects. We sew for our church family, our community, and people far beyond our own neighborhood through projects such as baby quilts for FCC families, Christmas Shoebox backpacks, Leaps of Love, Honor Flight quilts, Sew Powerful purses for Zambia, and flannel hearts for Project Sweet Peas.

No assignment, no pressure—just sewing, creativity, fellowship, and the chance to make something that matters.

Come see what's happening at Sew 'n Share! Contact Linda Belford for more details.

All women in the church are invited to the **Christian Women's Fellowship Bible Study** on Thurs, **Sept 10**, 9:30 at Cardinal Inn. Meetings are the 2nd Thursday of the month Sept thru May. Contact Joyce Lemons for more info.

College Ministry care packages will be assembled on Sat, **Sept 12**, 8:30 a.m. at the annex. This should take 30-40 minutes. Bring an item to share in the packages. Contact Alicia Tate with questions.

Nominating forms are on the sanctuary mantels for officers and officials who's term will begin Jan 1, 2027. **Due date to submit is Monday morning, Sept 14.**

The **Thursday Noon Bible Study** will resume on **Sept 17** at Crossroads Center in the book "Praying with Women of the Bible for 30 Days" by Sherry Harney. Books are available in the office for \$15 and at the first meeting.

CMF Luncheon will be Sunday, **Sept 20**, at Crossroads Center right after 10:30 service. Sign up in the atrium or contact the office if you plan to attend so we have enough food prepared.

Back to School Bash for grades 6-12th, Sunday, **Sept 20**, 6-8:00. Food, inflatables, worship, Jesus.

Elder Meeting, Tues, **Sept 22**, 6:00.

ImpactLife will hold a **Blood Drive** on Tues, **Sept 29**, 1-5:00 at Crossroads. To schedule an appt, call 800.747.5401.

5th Quarter Party, Fri, **Oct 2**, 9:30-11:00, High School Students only. Food and inflatables.

Choir/Cantata Practice will start on Wed, **Oct 7**, 6:30.

Sunday, **Nov 1**, **Youth Group Hayride and cookout** at the Charelotte Dunham Farm.

Vesper Service, Sunday, **Oct 11** at Hamer & Jenny Tate farm. Mark your calendar. Worship, food, fishing, campfire.

Ladies! There is a new Sunday school class just for you!

Please join me while we walk through Galatians 5 and dive into the fruit of the spirit – joy, love, peace, patience, gentleness, kindness, goodness, faithfulness and sometimes the hardest... self-control.

The first meeting was in the dining room on Sunday, **Sept 6, 9:15**, **but it's not too late to join in!** Contact Renna Walters with questions. The book is available in the office for \$10 or at the study time.

Needed: Volunteer Sunday School Teacher for K-1st Grade to teach alongside Niki. Contact her if interested.

We could use an additional **drummer** on our worship team rotation. If you have the ability and are interested then let us know!

Periodically we send out a "Steeple Point" which is a mass email to the congregation with timely info or reminders. If you would like to be added to the email list then write Rebecca a note in the attendance pad with your email printed clearly.

The September, October, November edition of **Our Daily Bread** is now available in the atrium.

Dear Church Family,

On a recent drive to Green Pond for a funeral, I noticed that harvest had begun in a few of the fields along the way. Combines were moving, trucks were waiting, and people were working out in what felt like very unseasonable heat.

Watching them brought back a memory from a summer a long, long time ago. Back when I was a young man, had more hair, probably more energy, and apparently believed I could do just about anything if somebody was willing to pay me a little gas money.

That particular summer, I was involved in one of Ken Bradbury's productions at Green Pastures Christian Campground. We were doing Jesus Christ Superstar, and I had been cast in the role of Jesus. That sentence sounds considerably more impressive than the reality probably was.

At the same time, I was picking up whatever odd jobs I could find to keep gas in my tan Ford Fairmont. Our very own Roger Dunham needed some help putting up square bales, and Roger was kind enough to hire a decidedly non-farmboy for the day.

Now, if you have never put up square bales in the summer, let me just say that it is a wonderful way to discover muscles you didn't know you had and reconsider several of your previous life choices. I did my best... I am sure I provided entertainment for the real farmhands.

What I did not know was that Roger was getting some additional entertainment out of the arrangement. Apparently, sometime during all of this, Roger went to coffee at the local restaurant. He rather enjoyed telling the guys around the table that he had "Jesus Christ" working for him, putting up bales on his farm. I'm guessing that story got told more than once. The funny thing is, I never knew about it. Decades went by before Roger finally told me what he had been saying at coffee all those years earlier, and I laughed when I heard it.

But driving past those fields recently, I found myself thinking about that story again, and this time another thought occurred to me. Back then, I was only playing the role of Jesus. I put on a costume, learned some lines, sang some songs, and when the production was over, the role was finished. But for those of us who call ourselves Christians, representing Jesus is not a role we take off when the performance is over.

Paul says in 2 Corinthians 5:20, "*We are therefore Christ's ambassadors.*" An ambassador represents someone else wherever he goes. And whether we think about it or not, that is exactly what we are doing every day. People are forming impressions about Jesus by watching those of us who carry His name. They watch how we work when the day is hot and we are tired.

They notice how we treat the waitress when the restaurant is busy, how we talk about someone who isn't in the room, how we respond when we don't get our way, how we conduct business, how we treat our family, and whether the faith we talk about on Sunday seems to make any difference on Monday.

Most of the time, we don't even know anyone is watching. I certainly didn't know, all those years ago, that somewhere over coffee Roger Dunham was telling people that "Jesus Christ" was working on his farm. And maybe that is the part of the story worth remembering.

Whether we realize it or not, Jesus Christ really does go to work with us. He goes to school with us. He goes to the coffee shop with us. He goes to the ballgame, the grocery store, the office, the field, and the family gathering with us. Not because we are playing the part of Jesus, but because we bear His name.

So wherever this week takes you, remember: somebody may be getting an impression of Jesus by watching you. Let's do our best to represent Him well.

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, Edna Baughman, Zack Boren, Richard Decker, Greg Dickerson, Tressa Dickerson, Brian Douglas, Sue Evans, Cameo Fesler, Charlie & Mary Gates, Joan Halsey, Laynie Hart, Donnie Houchins, Jim & Judy Kallal, Zane Schlieper, Carol Schwartz, Janet Scranton, Jim Stark, Flora Campbell (Elledge great granddaughter), Christine Creamer (Calvin Anderson's mother), Evelyn Dehart (Harold Loyd's sister), Denny Dell (Friend of Brokaw family), Vivian Dyer (Kevin Dyer's sister-in-law), Adam & Angie Hammitt (Larry Wigington's family), Bob & Phyllis Hammitt (Larry Wigington's brother), Carol Hark (Friend of Belford family), Sue Holcomb (Friend of Bev White), Dennie Hull (Jack Hull's brother), Chaddam Johnson (Friend of Wilson family), Pat Lehr (Steve Lehr's sister), Steve Newbery (Friend of Wilson family), Lucas Rife (Commission Encounter), Michael Sleight (Kathy Wainman's son), Tim Vahle (Friend of Ten Eyck family), Donna Wade (Grace Gordley's grandmother), Debby Wilder (Brandi Pennock's mother)

Stewardship (Offering Only)	8/24-30	8/31-9/6
Operational	\$11,777.32	\$19,265.46
Property Improvement	15.00	65.00
Outreach-Missionaries	100.00	65.00
DHF	30.00	30.00
Construction/Renovation	124.91	124.91
Youth	0.00	400.00
Unmet Needs	0.00	20.00
Outreach-General	<u>265.00</u>	<u>10.00</u>
Total	\$12,312.23	\$19,980.37

Operating Receipts (Offering, Rentals, etc.)

Received Last 7 Days \$11,876.32 \$19,590.46
Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$11,030

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.

Lectionary

9/13: Ex 14:19-31; Gen 50:15-21; Rom 14:1-12| Matt 18:21-35
9/14: Psalm 77; Joshua 3:1-17; Hebrews 11:23-29
9/15: Psalm 77; Nehemiah 9:9-15; Romans 14:13-15:2
9/16: Psalm 77; 2 Kings 2:1-18; Mark 11:20-25
9/17: Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45; Exodus 15:22-27; 2 Corinthians 13:1-4
9/18: Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45; Exodus 16:1-21; 2 Corinthians 13:5-10
9/19: Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45; Exodus 16:22-30; Matthew 19:23-30
9/20: Ex 16:2-15; Jonah 3:10-4:11; Phil 1:21-30; Matt 20:1-16
9/21: Psalm 119:97-104; Exodus 16:31-35; Romans 16:1-16
9/22: Psalm 119:97-104; Numbers 11:1-9; Romans 16:17-20
9/23: Psalm 119:97-104; Numbers 11:18-23, 31-32; Matthew 18:1-5
9/24: Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16; Isaiah 48:17-21; James 4:11-16
9/25: Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16; Numbers 20:1-13; Acts 13:32-41
9/26: Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16; Numbers 27:12-14; Mark 11:27-33

Serving Schedule:

Sept 13, 2026:

Elder: Matt Saxe, Alicia Tate
8:00 Communion: Richard & Rebecca Rhodes
10:30 Communion: Rokettia Brokaw, Shari Clark
Children's Church: Stan & Jill Moss
Infant-Age2: Shanna Ewers, Emma Wombles
Pre-K Assist: Amy Harris, Rorie Dunham
Safety 8:00: John Havens, Kevin Wombles
Safety 10:30: Caleb Dixon, Larry Wigington, Thomas Hull
Sunday School Superintendent: Kathy Lehr

Sept 20, 2026

Elders: Hamer Tate, Zack Boren
8:00 Communion: Tom & Debbie Robinson
10:30 Communion: B. Fosco, J. Harrison, S. Bacon, D. Bryant
Children's Church: Kay Sealock, Mike & Julie Boren
Infant-Age2: Carol Cooley, Cindy Chamberlain
Pre-K Assist: Amy Harris, Evan Hart, Konner Wombles
Safety 8:00: Michael Smith, Steve Tharp
Safety 10:30: Billy Fitzmaurice, Jason Thomas, Keenan Wine
Sunday School Superintendent: Kay Sealock

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

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: Scrap fabric
&/or old clothes,
preferably fall colors for
art project. Sonya
Bishop 910.874.1535

Parents: Watch the
Kids@FCC Facebook
page for the latest
news and events!

Worship Service

	8/30	9/6
8:00	86	93
10:30	<u>125</u>	<u>125</u>
Total	211	218

Christian Education

Youth	23	39
Disciples	12	11
Sermon Study	12	4
C.O.F.F.E.E.	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>
	58	66