

The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 65 Issue 8

March 28, 2023



Holy Week

April 2: Palm Sunday

- Regular service schedule.

April 6: Maundy Thursday

- 7:00 pm Worship & Communion Service (sanctuary).
- 8:00 pm 24 Hour Prayer Vigil will begin in the Church Long Room.

April 7: Good Friday

- 7:00 pm 24 Hour Prayer Vigil concludes.
- 7:00 pm Journey to the Cross with music & drama will begin in the sanctuary then walk to various stations on campus, depending on the weather, before concluding back in the sanctuary.

April 9: Resurrection Day

- 6:30 am Sunrise Service led by the youth (gym).
- 7:30 am Breakfast.
- 8:45 am Sunday School.
- 10:00 am Worship (sanctuary).

The sign up sheet for the **Prayer Vigil** will be near the coffee table on Sundays and at the annex during the week. The church building will be supervised during the overnight vigil hours.

We will do baptisms on Easter Sunday, April 9. Anyone interested in baptism should contact the church office. Pastor Michael will be glad to schedule a meeting.

Youth News

***Fri, Mar 31: Huge Community Youth Event:** YWAM - Youth with a Mission - will be here all the way from Kona Hawaii! A group of 12 young adults are touring all around the Midwest sharing the word, with awesome fellowship & worship! God has placed them in PITTSFIELD! Every age, every church, everyone! Let's Fill the Pews! Bring a friend! This is going to be amazing!! Church doors open at 6:00. Event begins at 6:30 followed by pizza in the fellowship hall.

***Sat, April 1:** Easter Service Project 10:30-1:30 on the square.

***Thurs, April 6:** Youth Group 6-8:00.

***Fri, April 7:** Sunrise Service Practice 10-1:00.

***Sun, April 9:** Sunrise Service, 6:30 a.m., students arrive at 5:45.

Our prayerfully-considered, God-guided adventure is beginning!

By a unanimous voice vote March 26, 2023, the congregation of First Christian Church approved plans to begin construction of a new facility to replace our aging and inadequate education building.

A successful capital campaign has brought the church within \$250,000 of funds needed for the project, with designated gifts and plans for intended giving still coming in. Included in approval for construction of the education building is authorization for church leaders to secure any needed financing for completion.

What's next?

Even though the architect and subcontractor anticipate 60 to 90 days of needed planning before building work can begin, staff members and volunteers at the church are already busily planning how several Sunday School classes and other ministries, such as the nursery and Children's Church, can be accommodated while construction is in progress.

In addition, ad hoc committees are being organized to work with the core building committee and meetings are scheduled with the builder to adjust, improve and finalize floor plans for the building. Finally, as authorized by the recent vote, discussions are taking place regarding any additional financing needed for the project.

What can you do?

Throughout the many years of consideration our church has given to this project, God has been our protector and guide. We ask that the congregation continue in prayer for decisions that will still need to be made and, especially, for the many lives that can be touched for the glory of God through our efforts.

Financial needs still exist in order for this project to be completed. Anyone who would like to step forward in support of our church's vision for the future may designate a one time gift or inform the church office of intended future giving.

Any questions about getting personally involved — through praying, volunteering or giving — may be directed to Church Moderator Brad Losch.

In closing, take a moment to praise God for what He has done for us — and what He is going to do. Exciting times are ahead!

The sanctuary will be open for **prayer** during noon hour **March 29 and April 5.**

Come to the Annex on Tues, **April 4**, 10:00 for Coffee Talk - and conversation with Pastor Michael.

Church Board Meeting, Tues, **April 11**, 6:00. Packets will be in the Long Room on April 9.

April 2 will be Cookie Sunday!

Circle V, Thurs, **April 6**, 2:00.

Circle IV, Thurs, **April 13**, 9:30.

There will be an **IF:Table (study group)** meeting to watch a breakout session from the IF:Gathering. It will be Sat, **April 15**, from 10-12 in the Crossroads conference room. Contact Rokettia Brokaw with questions.

CMF will meet on Sat, **April 29**, 8 am, Cardinal Inn. We will also be voting in new officers. Guest speaker will be Chris Little who will be discussing financial matters.

The **Disciple Heritage Fellowship National Conference** will be Wed/Thurs, **April 26-27**, at Decatur. Register online at the DHF website.

Mississippi Valley Christian Service Camp has posted the 2023 summer camp information. Go to their website for details and to register your child online. Christian Men's Fellowship will pay one half of our youth's registration fee.

*Thank you for all your prayers, cards, phone calls and the beautiful prayer shawl. It was very encouraging to know that my church family was supporting me during the difficult time after my stroke. I am doing much better now, but I am still going to therapy and would like continued prayer for my right hand to regain proper function again. Thanks and appreciation go to our God and Savior Jesus Christ for providing the blessings of healing and the strength, comfort and determination Cheryl and I needed on this journey. We have missed everyone so much, and hope to see you all soon.
In Christian Love,
John & Cheryl Birch.*

The mission trip to Artemus Christian Church in Knox County, KY will be **June 3 through June 10, 2023**. We plan to build two new showers for the church and take part in spiritual outreach. **If you are interested and want to learn more, contact Wayne Chamberlain at 217.248.3367 by Friday, April 14, 2023.** There is still room for YOU!

CWF will host an **American Red Cross Blood Drive** on Wed, **May 3**, 1-6:00 .

Vacation Bible School, July 16-19.
Save the dates!

The church office has boxes of unused offering envelopes from prior years that you can use for 2023. Let Rebecca know if you are interested and she will get them ready for you.

*Thank you for generously hosting Dominic and I for a great weekend. We were very encouraged and blessed. In addition, thank you for your overwhelming generosity in repairing our van and making sure we got home safely. That was a huge blessing!
In Christ,
B.J. Leonard.*



HOLY WEEK

April Birthdays and Anniversary 3 Julie Plattner, Henry & Amy Speckhart, Ellis & Jean Sanderson; 4 Buster & Wanda Mendenhall; 5 Charlene Anderson; 8 Howard & Vera Staffy, 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; 14 Don & Mary Lou Chamberlain; 16 Ellis Sanderson; 20 Sandy Herring, N.D. & Joyce Harrison; 21 Wanda Mendenhall; 22 Taylor Hayes; 23 Pat Apps, Charlotte Dunham; 24 Lena Boren; 25 Colby Tate; 26 Donnie Apps, Marjorie Gamble, Kevin Tharp; 30 Mary Harshman.

There will be an important Christian Education meeting on Sunday, April 16 immediately after the 10:30 service in the Long Room. All Sunday School teachers and subs of all classes and all Children Church leaders are asked to attend. We will keep it as short as we can but we do have some pressing items to go over.

Here is the agenda for the meeting:

1. Discussion on the location and relocation of all Sunday School classes during the building project
2. Location of the nursery during the construction process
3. Possible addition of toddler nursery
4. Sunday School teaching staff and attendance rosters for summer
5. Sunday School teaching staff and attendance rosters for fall and 23-24 school year
6. Children's Church staff and rotation

I have been asked to temporarily assist with the administration of Christian Education over the next few months due to my experience in the area and the tremendous load the building project puts on the staff. This is temporary but this is an area that I am extremely passionate about so please, don't hesitate to reach out to me if you have a question or a concern. If you are unable to attend this meeting, please respond to me in this email and I will make sure you know what comes from this meeting and have what you need to successfully fulfill your volunteer role. You are all critical to the mission of FCC and to the Kingdom of God! What you do is important and there are not enough words to convey how much the Staff and leadership of FCC appreciate all of you!

I pray God's blessings on you and your family as we move through this Easter season. I pray we will all be renewed and inspired by the Easter message! I look forward to seeing you all on Apr 16. Here is my information if you need to reach me.

217-473-1027 or helen.earls@yahoo.com or helen@fccpittsfield.org

Blessings,
Helen Earls

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
 Kayla Boren, Music Coordinator
 Rebecca Rhodes, Administrative Secretary
 Grace Henthorn, Custodian
 Bob Clark, Audio/Video/Maintenance
 Shari Clark, Event Coordinator
 Rodney Gordley, Assistant Event/Student Ministry Coord

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

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

Stewardship (Offering Only)	3/13-19	3/20-26
Operational	\$7,744.36	\$8,181.90
Property Improvement	60.00	10.00
Outreach-Missionaries	60.00	60.00
DHF	130.00	30.00
Construction/Renovation	19,644.91	7,979.60
Unmet Needs	4.00	0.00
Outreach-General	<u>209.00</u>	<u>205.00</u>
Total	\$27,852.27	\$16,466.50

Operating Receipts (Offering, Rentals, etc.)

Received Last 7 Days \$8,999.36 \$7,831.90
 Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$9,732

Serving Schedule:

April 2: Elders: Hamer Tate, Roger Brokaw
 8:00 Prep: Leecia Carnes
 10:30 Prep: Gary & Noah Mendenhall
 Children's Church: Libby Boren, Ali Curless
 Fellowship Treats: Chris Smith, Dorothy Yaeger,
 Barbara Fosco, Leanna Schlawbowski
 April 9: Elders: Spencer Boren, Matt Saxe
 8:00 Prep: Charlie & Jessica Hull
 10:30 Prep: Eric & Jill Kunzeman
 Children's Church: Kathy Curfman, Katie McDevitt

Lectionary

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

PRAYER CONCERNS: Tereasa Apps, John Birch, Jane Calaway, Carolyn Casteel, Tressa Dickerson, Brian Douglas, Sue Evans, Melba Foster, Marjie Guthrie, Mary Harshman, Judy Kallal, Corinne Pennock, Sandy Reel, Ellis Sanderson, Madilyn Wombles, Search for Associate or Youth Minister, Karen Birch (John Birch's sister), Darci Brooks (Deloras Martin's niece), James Dean (Friend of Karl Benjamin), Emma Kaleta (John Calaway's sister), Deb Kruger (Friend of Brandi Pennock), David Leamons (Sharron Houchins' cousin), Jean Lord (Friend of Deloras Martin), Kay McDonald (Bev White's niece), Karen Martin (Friend of Sonya Bishop), Juanita Miller (Myrtle Tharp's sister), Billy Reel (Amber Poor's father), Rusty Sealock (Jean Sanderson's son-in-law), Jim Shrenkel (John Calaway's relative), Julie Talley (Judy Ferguson's sister-in-law), Sue Tice (Lisa Pennock's sister), Sherry Upton (Vivian Cloninger's niece), Journee Vinyard (Kim Bauer's family),
We express our sympathy to the family and friends of Doug Pennock and Nadine Riley.

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 are 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.
WBBA 97.5, Sundays, 10:30 a.m., Sermon only.
90.9 FM while parked next to the church building.

Worship Service	3/19	3/26
8:00	57	69
10:30	<u>144</u>	<u>191</u>
Total	201	260

Christian Education

Age 3-PK	4	5
K-2nd	7	11
3rd-5th	6	11
6th-8th	0	23
Jr/Sr High	4	7
Disciples	17	14
Sermon Study	0	14
C.O.F.F.E.E.	<u>0</u>	<u>12</u>
Total	38	97