

The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 65 Issue 12

May 23, 2023



We will have a celebration to kick off the education building project on Sunday, June 4. There will be one service in the sanctuary at 9:00. Then at 10:15 everyone is encouraged to stay for brunch at Crossroads Center! This will be a wonderful time of fellowship bringing our two services together. All proceeds from the meal will go towards the building project.

Faith & Fellowship

CWF is looking forward to the Garage Sale on Sat, June 24, 7:30-1:30. Items can be brought to Crossroads Center during the following times: 6/20 8-4:00, 6/21 8-4:00, 6/22 8-8:00, 6/23 8-4:00. In the clothing line we will be accepting children's clothing only. Please do not bring large appliances, large furniture or electronics. Anyone wanting to help will be welcomed and appreciated! Call Charlotte Dunham 217.242.0333 or Joyce Lemons 217.248.4862 if you have any questions.



Sunday, **May 28**, will be the last day for **Children's Church** until fall.

Circle V, June 1, Noon, at Courtyard Café.
Circle IV, June 8, 9:30.

There will be a meeting on Mon, **June 5**, 6:00 at the Annex for those who have been contacted to serve on a **committee affiliated with the education building project**. Contact Brad Losch if you have any questions.

Coffee Talk, Tues, **June 6**, 10:00, @ Annex.

Wayne Chamberlain has started a **Wed evening Bible study**, 7:00, at Crossroads Center. Contact Wayne for more info.

Adrienne Ann Ruebush was born May 20 to Blake and Amy Ruebush. Brantley and Addilyn are excited to welcome their sister home! Congratulations to all!

Thank you to all of our volunteers who helped with the RSVP Luncheon on May 17! Your time is greatly appreciated!

Thank you to all the ladies who donated salads, desserts, and all the ladies and gentlemen who helped serve and clean up after the Lyndal Zumwalt funeral luncheon. Bless You All!
-CWF Bereavement

The **Pike County Teen Worship & Prayer Night** will be at Crossroads Center on Sunday, **June 4**, 6-8pm. All teens in Pike County are invited! Message and worship will be led by Maddie Palmer.

Youth Group is growing and so is the need for food/drink. Contact one of our youth leaders if you would like to help.

VBS will be July 16-19. Would you like to volunteer? If so, complete the Volunteer Form on the sanctuary mantels and place it in an offering box or return to Bethany Dunham.

The June, July, August edition of Our Daily Bread can be found on the sanctuary mantels and at the annex.

Staff Update: We are excited to announce that at the last board meeting it was decided Kacie Lipcaman will be rejoining the church staff in June 2023. Kacie will be serving as youth coordinator and helping in Christian Education. Kacie is an enthusiastic and joyful youth leader who has worked with our children for years. Please join us in welcoming Kacie back on staff. Rodney had been serving the youth coordinator roll during pastor Michael's sabbatical. He will be focusing his efforts on facilities as Facilities Assistant. We have appreciated his willingness to fill in that time.

Mississippi Valley Christian Service Camp has posted the 2023 summer camp information. Go to their website for details and register your child online or see the camp flyer on the mantels. Christian Men's Fellowship will pay one half of our youth's registration fee. The first youth camp is June 10.



Excerpts from May 9, 2023 Church Board Meeting Minutes

Call to order at 6:09PM by Moderator Brad Losch. Spencer Boren gave the opening devotion and prayer. Minutes from the April 11 meeting were approved by general consensus.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Michael added that the County wide Youth worship night went wonderful; there will be two more baptisms on May 28th; staff and a group of volunteers are working on moving items out of the current Ed building; and we will be discussing improving security.

Treasurer: Michelle Hart submitted a report and presented info. Unrestricted Operating Checking \$100,000. The transfer to the building fund in April was \$8,859.57. Total Funds Available for Construction/Renovation, including outstanding pledges, \$1,601,903.58. Rebecca added in that as of 05/09/2023 this number was up to \$1,610,120.15 and the current remaining amount needed is down to \$189,879.85. Average worship attendance through April 30: 244

Trustees: Dan Speckhart submitted a Trustee Report. Rebecca added that the 4,000 bushels of corn will soon be sold and should be around \$25,000. Spencer Boren made a motion to approve the Trustee Report and Roger Brokaw seconded. Passed unanimously.

Christian Education: Helen Earls submitted a report. Helen added that the moving of classrooms would be pushed back one week due to the process being slower than expected. The youth group is interested in doing a fundraiser. It is the time of year to buy tickets for next year's Orange Conference at the cheapest rate. Leecia Carnes made a motion to approve purchasing 5 tickets for the 2024 Orange Conference. Brandi Pennock seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Helen also pointed out that the county wide youth service on May 7th went well. There was a total of 7 churches involved and approximately 120-130 youth attended.

Music: Kayla Boren submitted a report. She did not have anything to add other than figuring out if anyone had trucks available to help move file cabinets. Brad Losch volunteered to bring a truck and flat bed trailer on May 17th at 10:00am.

Building Team: Pastor Michael and Brad Losch gave a brief update. There is a standstill at this point with the architects as they have been inundated with projects. This is due to a lot of Covid funds running out and organizations needing to use their funds for their projects.

New Business: Rodney's job duties have been adjusted to solely facilities assistant for 10 hours per week. Pastor Michael was approached about Kacie Lipcaman coming back on staff to serve as youth coordinator. Kacie submitted a proposal to the Executive Committee for 25-30 hours per week. There is enough in the admin budget to support this. The Executive Committee discussed it and should a Youth/Associate Minister be hired it could potentially affect this position. Members of the Board agreed to rehiring Kacie for the position of youth coordinator.

Finally, Pastor Michael mentioned some concerns about security for the church. This had been discussed last summer, but we had gotten away from working on changes with everything else going on with the building project. The Board discussed ways to increase security. A team addressing security will be formed.

The Motion to Adjourn was made by Leecia Carnes and seconded by Brad Willman. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 8:10PM.

Orange Conference 2023 - Michelle Hart

I have been blessed to attend my third Orange Conference. As many of you have witnessed, our youth group is growing and on FIRE! The community is even talking about our youth group. I truly believe they are going to be the change our schools, churches, and community need. I think this is partially due to us attending orange conferences and gaining the tools necessary for our youth. Each year I receive information to take our kids to the next level of their faith. It teaches me to be a leader they need now versus the leaders we used to be. Our world has changed over the years, and we as leaders must adapt to new ways of leading to keep kids engaged. Think of how our world used to be 20 years ago. If we taught our students the same way, and same topics, our church would be empty. Leaders of orange conference are always one step ahead. They always know what we need before we are even experiencing it as leaders. This conference focused on "see you tomorrow." We want to make sure our youth group has hope for a better tomorrow. As a youth leader of Jr. high and high school aged kids, I chose sessions that I felt were important to their phase of life.

My favorite session equipped me with tools to help build character so our kids will have faith beyond youth group. We want our youth to walk with God all the days, not just Sunday school and Youth Group. We don't want our students to stay "I just need to make it to Youth Group, then it will get better". What about the rest of the week. What character do our students show when they aren't with us leaders. We need to help develop our youth's character. Character shapes our identity, our belonging, and our purpose. 90 min of church a week can 100% change their life. **We have to Cultivate Trust.** Teenagers wonder if they can trust you. It's less about grand gestures and more about showing up for the small moments. Teenagers want to know if we are real. Can they connect with us and share their struggles with us. **We as leaders need to model growth.** We need to share our struggles with them if we want them to share their struggles with us. Less about celebrating victories and more about sharing life and struggles. Teenagers wonder why should I pay attention to you, I have heard this all before. **We need to teach for transformation.** It's less about what to think and more about how to think. We need to make room for tricky topics students want to talk about. They aren't listening if we aren't talking about what they are interested in. **We need to Practice together.** It's important for kids to see leaders and other adults in their life serving. Kids need to take faith to their world outside of youth group. We need to build character that moves their hands and feet through current events or volunteering. Getting them serving outside of youth group will help create muscle memory so it becomes natural to them. We have already been working with kids on serving but we tend to ask what they feel comfortable with when serving. I need to remember serving isn't about preference. We need to be an image bearer of Christ. **We have to Make Meaning.** Teenagers wonder, "What does it mean". We need to touch deeply and help kids make sense of what they are going through. It's less about facts and what happened and more on feelings and what now. Jesus used symbols, actions, and stories to make meaning. He took everything going on in the world to make meaning. When we shape teenager's character, faith matters beyond youth group. They will have a foundation to carry them throughout their young adult life.

Another session I attended was "Helping youth break free from the anxiety spiral". Students are experiencing an alarming rate of anxiety and depression. This session equipped me with tools to help understand kids' behavior and how we can help. Students want to belong, have a purpose, and a safe place to be honest and grow. (People, Place, and Purpose = Church) When our youth is experiencing anxiety or depression their brain doesn't function correctly. The left side processes logic, and the right side processes their emotions. When anxiety or depression is elevated, they can't think clearly because the right side is taking over the left side. We as leaders need to connect, respond in love, and show empathy to level it out. Our first reaction can be damaging if we don't react accurately. We need to see them; we need to see them beyond their behavior to see the emotion. We need to help them find their purpose so they can grow. We have to win their heart before we can win their mind. One emotional exhale allows the logical side room to increase.

This conference not only gives me tools needed to lead our youth, it teaches me how to be a leader. We all know when we constantly pour into others, we become drained. I look forward to Orange Conference each year as it allows us time to fill our cup spiritually. We always say watching church online is nothing compared to being present in church, Orange conference is the same. We could read all the books needed to try to better ourselves, but being able to be present at the conference keeps my cup filled to keep going. Orange conference always motivates us and encourages us to do better. Prior to attending my first Orange Conference, I was a volunteer who would get burned out looking for a rotation of teachers so I could have a break. I would just read the lesson and not put any heart into it. If I can be truly honest, Orange is what gave me a passion to be a leader, not just a volunteer. Orange made me realize Jesus puts hope in us leaders to share the gospel and carry on the next generation. We are made with a purpose for a purpose. We were born at the exact time God planned so we can be exactly where he needed us at that exact time. I know I am here at this exact time to be a leader in our youth group. My mistakes as a teenager and young adult can now be used for God's glory when I share life with these kids. I want our youth to know I am here for them no matter what. I will love them no matter what. Hope happens tomorrow when we as leaders act like Jesus.

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, Facilities Assistant

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

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

Stewardship (Offering Only)	<u>5/8-14</u>	<u>5/15-21</u>
Operational	\$22,335.36	\$7,298.12
Property Improvement	10.00	30.00
Outreach-Missionaries	40.00	40.00
DHF	30.00	30.00
DHF—Ukraine	0.00	100.00
Construction/Renovation	26,995.05	415.72
Youth Group	0.00	90.00
Outreach-General	<u>105.00</u>	<u>5.00</u>
Total	\$49,515.41	\$8,008.84

Operating Receipts (Offering, Rentals, etc.)

Received Last 7 Days \$22,945.36 \$7,249.31
 Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$9,732

Serving Schedule:

May 28: Elders: Judy Ferguson, Hamer Tate
 8:00 Prep: Greg & Kim Bonnett
 10:30 Prep: Gary & Carol Sherwin
 Children's Church: Kay Sealock, Mike & Julie Boren
 June 4: Elders: Matt Saxe, Helen Earls
 9:00 Prep: TBA

PRAYER CONCERNS: John Birch, Jane Calaway, Carolyn Casteel, Tressa Dickerson, Brian Douglas, Roger Dunham, Sue Evans, Marjie Guthrie, Corinne Pennock, Sandy Reel, Search for Associate or Youth Minister, Karen Birch (John Birch's sister), Darci Brooks (Deloras Martin's niece), James Dean (Friend of Karl Benjamin), Kevin Henthorn (Grace Henthorn's father), Bradyn Jensen (Leecia Carnes Family), Deb Kruger (Friend of Brandi Pennock), Juanita Miller (Myrtle Tharp's sister), Rusty Sealock (Jean Sanderson's son-in-law), Sue Tice (Lisa Pennock's sister), Sherry Upton (Vivian Cloninger's niece), Journee Vinyard (Kim Bauer's family)
With Sympathy: Lyndal Zumwalt (Christie Mendenhall's father)

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.

The church office will be closed
 May 29 in observance of Memorial Day.

Lectionary

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

Worship Service	<u>5/14</u>	<u>5/21</u>
8:00	81	111
10:30	<u>177</u>	<u>174</u>
Total	258	285

Christian Education

Age 3-PK	6	7
K-2nd	10	12
3rd-5th	13	9
6th-8th	17	10
Jr/Sr High	8	6
Disciples	10	14
Sermon Study	6	7
C.O.F.F.E.E.	<u>9</u>	<u>13</u>
Total	79	78