



# The Pittsfield Christian

First Christian Church of Pittsfield, Illinois

Volume 54 Issue 8

February 22, 2012

## Coming Events

Date	Event
2/21	8:00pm Open Gym
2/22	3:40pm Wednesday Youth
	5:30pm Family Meal
	6:30pm Oasis
2/23	Farmers State Bank Meetings
2/25	Basketball Tournament
	10:00am Bless A Block
2/26	9:15am Oasis
	9:15am Sunday School
	Basketball Tournament
	8:00am Worship
	8:00am Bible Study
	10:30am Worship
	3:00pm Coping With Loss
	5:30pm Family Night
2/27	7:00pm Long Range Planning Committee
2/28	7:00pm Elders Meeting
	8:00pm Open Gym
	12:00pm Bible Study
2/29	7:15pm Choir Practice
	3:40pm Wednesday Youth
	5:30pm Family Meal
3/1	7:00pm Circle V Meeting
	6:00pm EMS Training
3/3	9:00am to 1:00pm Brunch
3/4	9:15am Sunday School
	9:15am Oasis
	8:00am Bible Study
	8:00am Worship
	10:30am Worship

Date	Event
	4:30pm LIFE Meeting
	6:00pm LIFE & CYF Meal
	6:30pm CYF Meeting

## Lectionary Scriptures

February 22 Isaiah 32: 11-20  
 February 23 Mark 9:1-13  
 February 24 Mark 9:14-29  
 February 25 Mark 9:30-41  
 February 26 Mark 9:42-50  
 February 27 Mark 10:1-12  
 February 28 Mark 10:13-16

## Brunch is Back

Our Fundraising Committee has scheduled a Brunch for Saturday, **March 3**, from 9:00am until 1:00pm. Please note the change in time from previous Brunch events. The menu will not only include sausage, ham, hash brown casserole, scrambled eggs, egg casserole, biscuits and gravy, pancakes, sweet breads, fruit salad, and drinks but at 11:00am soup and hot dogs will be added for lunch. Your generous donations will be greatly appreciated. This event is part of our "Race to the Finish" to retire the Crossroads Center mortgage. **If you would like to help in any way contact Joyce Lemons or Kay Sealock or see the sign up sheet at the fellowship table.** Invite your friends and family to join us for Brunch at Crossroads.

## CMF Dinner Meeting

The next CMF Dinner Meeting has moved from **March 13 to March 6 at 6:00pm.** All men of the church are considered members of CMF and encouraged to attend. Circle IV will prepare the delicious meal. **Sign up at the fellowship table if you plan to be there so the ladies can better plan the meal.** The 2012 CMF officers are Chair, Wayne Baughman; Vice-Chair, Michael Smith; Treas., Kevin Hittner; Secretary, Mike Boren; Devotions, Mike Boren and Richard Stauffer.

## Choir News

The Vesper Choir will begin rehearsals for Holy Week starting Wednesday **March 7** at 7:15 p.m. They will be singing a special number with the kids on Palm Sunday **April 1st** and several numbers for Good Friday service **April 6th** and Resurrection Day at the 10 a.m. service **April 8th.** Anyone wishing to sing in the choir for these services is welcome to come **March 7.** Please call Helen if you have any questions.

## Youth Group News

Bless A Block will be this Saturday, **Feb. 25.** Be at Crossroads by 10:00 am.

Family Night will be this Sunday, **Feb. 26**, from 5:30-8:00. Let Pastor Luke know if you plan to attend. We will

begin with a potluck meal.

**Note that youth will prepare Family Meal Feb. 29 instead of March 7 as originally scheduled.**

### **Long Range Planning Committee**

The Long Range Planning Committee will meet at 7pm next Monday, **Feb. 27.**

### **Elder Meeting**

The Elders will meet at 7pm next Tuesday, **Feb. 28.**

### **They're Here!**

If you are one of the few who have not picked up your church directory you may stop in the office to do so. If you did not have your picture taken but would like a copy we were able to order a few extra and the cost for them is \$5.

### **Job Well Done**

Elizabeth Chamberlain received second place in the Youth Division for her vocal performance of Edelweiss, from The Sound of Music, in the Jacksonville Symphony Talent Among Us Competition Finals on Feb. 18 at Rammelkamp Chapel at Illinois College. She was one of 13 performers chosen to compete in the final competition out of 34 auditioning from as far as Peoria. Elizabeth is the 9 year old daughter of Jeff and Lori Chamberlain and the granddaughter of Charles & Maria Owens and Dan & Bonnie Chamberlain.

### **Board Meeting Excerpts**

The following are excerpts from the Feb. 14, 2012 Church Board meeting: Approved a \$10,000

principal payment towards Crossroads mortgage from excess operating funds, Pastor Luke will co-chair high school camp at Mississippi Valley. By the end of February the Crossroads mortgage should be approximately \$107,000.

### **Coping with Loss**

The next Coping With Loss session will be this Sunday, **Feb. 26**, at 3:00. If you missed the first meeting or have any questions contact Ann Ferguson or Joyce Lemons.

### **Thank You**

*Thank you for the prayers and loving concern during my recent illness; I truly felt God's presence and healing power through your prayers. We are so blessed to have a wonderful church family. A very special thank you to Michael, Luke, and Helen. -Neitha Dickerson*

### **Children's Church Presentation**

This Sunday, **Feb. 26**, during 10:30 service our Children's Church youth will give a special presentation outlining what they have learned in recent weeks.

### **Address, Phone Number, Email, Etc.**

Recently changed your address, phone number, email, etc? If so make a note in the red attendance pads located in the pew backs. This is a great way to communicate these pieces of information with the church office so changes can be made accordingly.

**Important Wednesday Oasis News Starting Wednesday, Feb. 29,**

**we will no longer have Wednesday Oasis.** We are researching the possibility of using that time for other events. Stay tuned for future announcements regarding Wednesday evenings.

### **Mortgage Update**

By the end of February the Crossroads mortgage balance will be approximately \$107,000. The "Race to the Finish" is on and we are making great strides at retiring the mortgage. Soon the bird will fly on the board again!

### **Bible Study**

The Bible Study is every **Tuesday** at 12:00 noon in the Long Room. EVERYONE is invited!

### **Family Meal Crew**

**Feb. 29: Betty Hayden, Yvonne Stauffer, Judy Ferguson, all CYF and LIFE youth and parents.**

### **Volleyball League**

The annual spring Volleyball League will be at Crossroads every Monday evening from **March 5 through April 30.** To sign up or for more information contact Matt Sealock or David and Kate Marable by **March 1.**

### **Circle V Meeting**

Circle V will meet in the fellowship hall on Thursday, **March 1**, at 7pm.

### **World Day of Prayer**

The Christian women of Malaysia invite us, men and women, to join them Friday, **March 2** for World Day of Prayer 2012. The Pittsfield worship service will be held at

St. Mary's Catholic Church, 226 E. Adams, at 2:00pm. World Day of Prayer is a worldwide ecumenical movement of Christian women of many traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year on the first Friday in March. For this year the women of Malaysia developed the program "Let Justice Prevail."

### **Spaghetti Fundraiser**

The annual Mississippi Valley Christian Service Camp spaghetti dinner fundraiser will be Sunday, **April 29**, at Crossroads. Mark this on your calendar today!

**Banquets Need Your Help**  
**We have booked 3 banquets at Crossroads in March that all need kitchen help to prepare and serve the meal.** They are: March 5 PHS Girls Basketball Banquet, March 15 Republican Dinner, March 16 Consistory Dinner. If you are available to help with any of these events please contact Joyce Lemons or sign up at the fellowship table.

### **Prayer Vigil**

Once again we will offer a 24 hour prayer vigil during Holy Week. It will begin Thursday **April 5** at 7 p.m. immediately following the Guided Prayer Time service and will end at 7 p.m. on Good Friday. It is held in the Long Room (room by Rebecca's office) and prayer times are in half hour segments. You may sign up for an hour if you desire. Sign up sheet will be available soon and will be placed in the overflow room of the sanctuary.

## **Pastor's Message: Equipped**

This past Sunday we discussed the next step in embracing God's vision for our life: Being Equipped. I remember vividly the excitement that I first felt when I began embracing the foundational concept that the church was not here to simply serve me, but to equip me for service. It was such a freeing and liberating concept. Embracing this truth immediately thrust me in a deeper relationship with God. I began to understand that my life had a purpose. I found this translation of our scripture text in Ephesians chapter 4 very interesting:

*Ephesians 4:10-16 ...He handed out gifts above and below, filled heaven with his gifts, **11** filled earth with his gifts. He handed out gifts of apostle, prophet, evangelist, and pastor-teacher **12** to train Christians in skilled servant work, working within Christ's body, the church, **13** until we're all moving rhythmically and easily with each other, efficient and graceful in response to God's Son, fully mature adults, fully developed within and without, fully alive like Christ.*

***14** No prolonged infancies among us, please. We'll not tolerate babes in the woods, small children who are an easy mark for impostors. **15** God wants us to grow up, to know the whole truth and tell it in love - like Christ in everything. We take our lead from Christ, who is the source of everything we do. **16** He keeps us in step with*

*each other. His very breath and blood flow through us, nourishing us so that we will grow up healthy in God, robust in love. -from THE MESSAGE*

When we understand that the church is here to equip us for service, not to simply to serve us, it radically changes our approach. This concept deepens our commitment and willingness to become a disciple. Let me remind us all that our spiritual walk did not end with baptism, but it was the beginning. We all have a calling and a purpose in Christ.

Paul writes to the church in Ephesians 2:10 *For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. -NKJV*

So let me reiterate this foundational concept: The church is here to equip me for service. If this is a new concept to us, then may we prayerfully wrestle with it so we may not waste another day living beneath the standard that Christ has given us. If we have understood this concept, but have become lax in our implementation of it in our lives, or perhaps felt that our "useful" days have come and gone and now we have nothing to offer, let me challenge this mindset. Be reminded that God does not look at things as we do.

He does not ask us to try to do "our best" for Him, but be willing to allow Him to do "His best" through us. Our perceived limitations are simply the

beginning of seeing God's miraculous power work in our lives. We can all encourage and pray. These are not simple and small things, but rather foundational and powerful.

God wants to use you today. Do you want to be used? If so, the challenge is for us to be willing.

Loving you all,

Michael

## Prayer Concerns

Eddie White  
Stacie Willard  
Parker Zumwalt

Bryce Baxter (*John Crull's son*)  
Aimee Booth (*Friend of John VanAntwerp family*)  
Darcie Brooks (*Deloras Martin's niece*)  
Kent Brunenn (*Ann Yaeger's brother-in-law*)  
Joe Burch (*Linda Lovell's son-in-law*)  
Delanie Casto  
Mary Chamberlain (*Dan Chamberlain's sister*)  
Evelyn Chamberlain Einhouse (*Don Chamberlain's sister*)  
Liz Childs  
Alan & Shawna Coffey (*Friends of Lori Schweighardt*)  
Lisa Colison (*Beverly Johns' family*)  
Shelia Combs (*Friend of Steve Allred family*)  
Wayne Daniels (*Friend of Paul Borrowman family*)  
Neitha Dickerson  
Karen Dworzynski (*Mary Boehm's sister*)  
Molly Goodman  
Paul Guthrie  
Crystal Hack (*Ann Ferguson's family*)  
Bill Johns (*Beverly Johns' family*)  
Eva Kelly  
Sharon Killebrew  
Betty Killebrew  
Betty Kindle (*Ann Yaeger's sister*)  
Dawn Kubinski & family (*Friends of Lori Schweighardt*)  
Jack Lemons (*Elaine Hoaglin's father*)  
Rosemary Lerch  
Angie Lin (*Friend of John VanAntwerp family*)  
Joe and Ruth Lofgren (*Rosemary Clark's family*)  
Dawn Manson (*Kenny Manson's mother*)  
Jodi Markham (*Bill & Helen Earls' daughter*)  
Dan Martin (*Rhonda Vinyard's cousin*)  
Taylor Martin (*Friend of Larry Wigington family*)  
Ron Martin (*Rhonda Vinyard's cousin*)  
Becky Neese  
Scott Osment  
Scott Payne (*Judy Dunham & Carole Elledge's brother-in-law*)  
Nona Perry (*Friend of Larry Weinant family*)  
Kathy Pressey  
Debbie Hayden Rhodes  
Mary Evelyn Rupert  
Scotty Scarbeary (*Friend of Dorothy Yaeger*)  
Mary Scoggins (*John Crull's aunt*)  
Keith Skinner (*Friend of Michael Ten Eyck family*)

## **Serving Schedule for February 26, 2012**

*Elders:* Rosemary Clark, Richard Stauffer

*Diaconate:* Carrol Hoover, Kayla Spangler, Spencer Boren, Joyce Harrison, Mary Harshman, Betty Hayden

*Preparation of Communion-8:00AM:* Linda Decker, Carol O'Malley

*Preparation of Communion-10:30AM:* Keith & Carole Elledge

*Sound System:* Robin Herron

*Candle Lighters:* Sami Johnson, Kurtis Johnson

*Scripture Reader:* Charlene Anderson

*Nursery Helper-8:00AM:* Sydney Bauer

*Nursery Helper-10:30AM:* Sydney Bauer

*Communion to Shut-ins:* Bill & Helen Earls, Carrol & Evelyn Hoover

*Family Meal Date:* February 29, 2012

*Family Meal Crew:* LIFE & CYF Parents & Youth

*Driver:* Call the church--285-4129

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
PITTSFIELD, ILLINOIS

225 N. Memorial Church: (217) 285-4129  
P.O. Box 306 FAX: (217) 285-9649  
Pittsfield, IL 62363 Crossroads: (217) 285-6171  
E-mail: info@fccpittsfield.org

Staff: Michael Ten Eyck, Pastor  
Luke Justice, Youth/Associate Minister  
Helen Earls, Music & Christian Education  
Rebecca Rhodes, Administrative Secretary  
Maria Owens, Custodian

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. M-Th  
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. F  
Worship times every Sunday:  
8:00 a.m., 9:15 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.  
Church School: 8:00 a.m. and 9:15 a.m.

10:30AM Worship 144  
Wednesday Oasis 30  
**Total** 333

**Operating Fund Receipts**

**02/19**  
Received Last 7 Days \$21,873.00  
Estimate Needed Each Week to Meet Budget \$8,268.00  
Estimate Needed Year to Date to Meet Budget \$66,145.00  
Received to Date \$98,215.00

**Wishes and Wants**

**Wanted:** Contact Deloras Martin or Linda Decker for your prom dress alterations. 285-2980.

**Stewardship**

**02/19**  
Operational \$20,775.77  
Property Improvement \$60.00  
Outreach--Missionaries \$225.00  
DHF \$1,401.63  
CYF \$12.00  
Outreach-General \$51.00  
**Total** \$22,525.40

**Christian Education Attendance**

**02/19**  
Nursery 3  
Three - K 10  
First-Third 5  
Fourth-Sixth 7  
Seventh-High School 7  
Disciples 12  
New Beginnings 10  
Young Adult 8  
Bible Study 8  
8:00 Youth Class 6  
Wednesday Youth 57  
**Total** 133

**Worship Attendance**

**02/19**  
8AM Worship 77  
9:15AM Oasis 82