



PRESBY PRESS

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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**KEEP
CHRIST
AND
CARRY
ON**

OUR MISSION

TO BE THE
LOVING
COMMUNITY OF
JESUS CHRIST
THAT WILL

WIN

NEW FOLLOWERS
OF CHRIST TO
SAVING FAITH

GROW

ALL FOLLOWERS
TO DEEPER FAITH

GO

INTO THE
WORLD AND
DEMONSTRATE
FAITH

From the Pastor's Desk: *A Prayer for Lent*

Dear fellow Lenten journeyers,

On Sunday, February 15, I included a powerful, no-holds-barred prayer in my sermon, "*Never Give In!*" Many of you have asked to have the words of that prayer for your reference. Let me briefly remind you of the background and author. The Reverend Bud Robinson (1860-1942) was an uneducated pastor/preacher in the Nazarene Church. Many found the man and his prayer a bit amusing, but they had to admire how he prayed it faithfully every day as he carried out his ministry. There was no doubt that it was a heartfelt and passionate prayer for God to give him all the strength he needed each day to *KEEP CHRIST AND CARRY ON*. The example of his resolve and strength was used by God to bring many people to deeper, saving faith in Christ. I commend this prayer to you during your own journey to the Cross and the Resurrection as we all come to deeper understanding of how high the stakes really are in the struggle for human hearts and souls to be won daily to Christ Jesus.

"Oh Lord, give me a backbone as big as a sawlog, ribs like the sleepers under the church floor, put iron shoes on me and galvanized breeches, give me a rhinoceros hide for a skin, and hang a wagonload of determination up in the gable-end of my soul, and help me to sign the contract to fight the devil as long as I've got a fist and bite him as long as I have a tooth, then gum him till I die. All this I ask for Christ's sake. Amen."

With love and joy as your pastor, I am praying for every one of you in this journey.

KEEP CHRIST AND CARRY ON!

Pastor John Walker

Remember to Pray for One Another!

Your First Presbyterian Church Family believes in the power of prayer. (See Romans 1:9b-10a). You are invited to pray intentionally for one another in the First Presbyterian Church family..

Please pick up a name of someone to pray for from the basket at the back of the sanctuary at the start of each new month.



Dear Pastor John & FPC Family,
We want to thank each and every one of you for all the prayers for our family. We truly appreciate all of them. We thank you as our family walks through this journey together. I will be returning home to Guatemala with Craig March 26th. We also want to thank everyone at FPC for seeding monthly into the ministry in Guatemala. We truly appreciate everyone's faithfulness. We continue to pray for our church family here in Ottawa at FPC! We love you all!
Blessings,
Craig & Peggy Harvey & family

Pastor
John W. Walker
jwalker@ottawafirstpres.org

Church Secretary
Dianne Jamison
fpccone@ottawafirstpres.org

Treasurer
Betty Angus

**Westminster
Choir Director**
Lloyd Chapman
Lloyd@udnet.net

Organist
Diane Chapman

New Beth Moore Bible Study
“Here and Now...There and Then”
a study of Revelation
beginning on Thursday, March 5
in the church library at 7:00 p.m.
Books can be purchased at lifeway.com
For more info call, Lisa Mestelle 252-7462.

“In Your Heart of Hearts”
In your heart of hearts, God is always there.
His mercy and love nothing and no one can compare.
Always beside you and hears you when you pray.
He does understand and listens to what you've got to say.
He knows every thought and every deed.
He died on the cross so that we could be redeemed.
Every day wake up and praise Jesus name.
That is a great way to start the day.
In your heart of hearts, God is always there.
His mercy and love nothing can compare.

Ruth Stephan

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committed
to serving.*

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(Fellowship & Outreach)
228-2217

Joy Huebner
(Deacon)
433-5477

Diane Farrell
(Clerk of Session)
434-2774

NEW MEMBER CLASS STARTS MARCH 1

If you are interested in being a member of FPC, please come to the New Member Class which begins March 1 at 11:25 a.m. in the library. We will meet for 70 minutes March 1, 8, 29 and April 12. Please see Pastor John if you have questions. Child care will be provided in the nursery.

Easter Lilies

Orders for Easter Lilies will be due by,
Sunday, March 15.

Watch your bulletins for order forms.
They are \$14 each.



**Scholarship applications
will be available from
March 1st - April 12th**

for all full-time college students here at First Pres. We will also have electronic submissions available as well. You can either pick up an application form on the table outside of the church office or email Lori Trolinger at troll@mtco.com to receive a form electronically to fill out and return. Please return all hard copies to the church office by the April 12th deadline.

LOOKING AHEAD

Our annual Easter Egg Hunt is coming up quickly!
April 5th is Easter Sunday and we will have the hunt
right after the worship service that morning.

We are looking for donations of candy and other small
items that might fit inside the Easter eggs. We will col-
lect them until the end of March.

Donations can be dropped off at the church office



COMING ON MARCH 22nd

PASTOR APPRECIATION SUNDAY

We are inviting our church family to join us for this special morning of worship together, as we set aside that day to show our appreciation and love for all that Pastor John has done for our congregation. He has served us so faithfully all of these years and we are very excited to be able to honor him in this way.

We will be taking up a special love offering for Pastor John and his family in the weeks prior to this service, so we can present him with this gift on the 22nd. Letters will be going out with a giving envelope enclosed for this offering. Please look for those to arrive in the mail soon.

Then, after this fun morning of worship and celebration, we will finish up our time together with, what else? A Potluck! So, immediately following the service, we ask that you come down to Scott Hall and join us for a time of food, fellowship, and fun! Our fabulous Fellowship Team will be providing the chicken for our meal and we're asking that everyone bring a dish to pass.

If your last name begins with:

A-G desserts

H-Q salad

R-Z vegetable

The Bible tells us in Ephesians 4:11-12, "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ." Pastor John's work here with us makes it clear that God has truly blessed us, and we want to be sure to express our appreciation for him.

So, COME! JOIN US for this great morning together as we give our thanks to John and his family for his continued ministry in our church!

Since 1949, Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God's love with people experiencing need. Our gifts support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, and community development that help people find safe refuge, start new lives and work together to strengthen their families and communities.



sharing resources. changing lives.

Recognizing that the hope we have in Christ is lived out in our hope for one another, we respond with gifts that help our sisters and brothers around the world find the hope for a brighter future.

The Presbyterian Hunger Program receives 36%, Self-Development of People receives 32%, and the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance receive 32% of the undesignated One Great Hour of Sharing gifts.

Our sharing offering will be received during Lent, ending on Easter Sunday. The offering envelopes will be in the pews for your use or mark your gifts for "One Great Hour of Sharing".

Thanks for your dedicated gifts to the service and glory of God.

MISSION

Our Mission Committee would like to tell you of a couple opportunities to **"Go"** that we have planned so far this coming year:

We will be working on our **3rd Annual A OK Sunday** coming up in May. You have responded in a great way the last 2 years and we want to continue going out into our community. We are just in the planning stages, so if you have any ideas of projects that we may work on, please let one of us know. (Dianne Jamison, Betsy Feagans, Cindy Arjes, Debbie Damron)

Next, in June or July, we are planning another **mission trip to Uganda**. We always have several projects to work on while we are there and, best of all, we get to visit many families in their homes and work with the precious children at Glory Primary School. It is truly a life-changing trip. Please prayerfully consider if God is calling you for this trip. Let Dianne Jamison or Debbie Damron know if you are interested and we will get more information to you.

See page 6!!

SPECIAL DONATIONS FOR YOUNG WOMEN IN KAHONDO, UGANDA

As an outreach of the Amagara Ga'Boona Medical Center, we want to help provide personal feminine products to the girls of Kahondo, Uganda.

We have located a company in Uganda that produces a reusable cotton-cloth pad called AFRIPad. When properly cleaned these pads can last up to one year and give the recipient a safe way to manage her personal hygiene as well as provide dignity and the opportunity to stay in school EVERYDAY! The AFRIPad kits (3 pads, holder and case) are **\$15.00** and our goal is to provide **100 kits** which we will deliver when we go to Uganda this summer.

Your donation will help Ugandan school girls, in the Kahondo area, go to school every day and have a complete education. You will also be helping the women who produce the AFRIPads have an income to support their families.

Please contact Dianne Jamison, Debbie Damron, Betsy Feagans or Cindy Arjes for more information. Donations can be made to FPC with "Uganda kits" in the memo line.

The Mission Committee thanks you for your continued support!



They are excited to go to school!

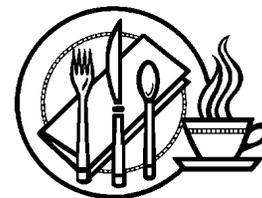
WIN, GROW, GO: SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

Wednesday Prayer Team:

Please come pray each Wednesday, 9:30 am—10 am, in the church library with a team of dedicated pray-ers lifting praises and concerns to the LORD for members of our church family, the greater Ottawa community, our missionaries and prayers for our nation and the world.

Free Community Meals; 3rd Sunday of every month: LOOKING TO FILL 2015 MONTHS!!

Might God call you to work on the community meal project? On the third Sunday of each month volunteers are needed to do the following: Organize the meal (decide what to make, plan the purchase of food); cook the meal; visit with those eating; clean up. Who can help? Anyone, any age. Are you feeling like you and your friends can be the next ones? Contact Kerry Gerding (434-4123) or Betty Ehret (228-2217) for more information and to sign up.



Prayer Ministry Team:

Please consider joining this group. We meet the first Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the Library, and we would love to add to our group. Please contact any of our current team: Mike & Diane Farrell, Gayle Schmitt, Cindy Arjes, Susan Hayward, or Pastor John Walker.

Prayer Shawls: Our Prayer Shawl Ministry is still going strong.

Do you know someone who could use a hug from God (who doesn't)? Please call us so that we may provide a Prayer Shawl for you to give that "someone" who needs God's hug.

Jackie Bean 434-3380

Why not join a small group? At FPC small groups are important. Why? Because few experiences encourage and build our faith more than small groups. Small groups teach us how to better know, understand and apply God's word in daily life. They also become a place of good friendship and caring. Want to join a small group? It's easy! Just talk to Pastor John or one of the small group contacts listed below:

Mike & Diane Farrell (Sun. PM): 434-2774

John Walker (1st Sun. PM monthly): 433-1045

Betsy Feagans (Mon. PM): 433-5480

Jack & Sandy Finnegan (Thurs. AM): 433-5253

Carol Engberg/Women: 433-3465

(Thurs. PM, once a month)

Diane Kennedy (Thurs. PM): 870-740-0442

Lisa Mestelle/Women-Beth Moore Bible Study (Thurs. PM): 434-2318

Jim Keely/Men (Sat. AM): 433-0868

Handy Food Receipts

Please save your receipts and bring them to church. We can earn 1% of the receipts totals for our church! Boxes will be in Scott Hall and on the table by the church offices.

Ottawa Community Food Basket:

Donations for the Food Basket for the month of March will be **canned meats!** Let's fill the barrels at the entrances to our sanctuary and share our gifts with the less fortunate in our community.



Sunday Greeters needed:

We need your smiling face to greet newcomers and "oldcomers" at the front door on Sunday mornings. Please contact Chris Keely (433-0868) to pick a Sunday for you and/or your family. This is a great way to contribute to the life of your church.

LADIES' NITE OUT

Tuesday, March 3, 6:00 p.m. at
Annie's in Naplate

Please contact:
Carol Zimmerman (434-6693)
for info & reservations.

All women are invited for the fun!!
Bring an extra \$1 and maybe
win a free meal!

KUM JOIN US

Meets on Sunday, March 1, 12:30 p.m.
at the hospital café

All are welcome!

**Q PLACE
ARTS OF SPIRITUAL CONVERSATIONS
ADULT ED CLASSES!**

The 1st Q Place Adult Ed class began
Feb. 22, in classroom F on the top floor
right across from the elevator. Our topic for
this 4 week session is "The Art of Asking
Questions". We will also be meeting March
1, 8, and 15. Feel free to get in touch
with me if you have any questions. Cindy
Arjes, 815-915-1159

Men's Saturday Morning Group

Gentlemen,
We will meet at Trinity Lutheran Church, 717
Chambers St., Ottawa, on Saturday March 7,
at 7:00 a.m. for breakfast and time of prayer
and fellowship. Please invite a friend or
neighbor who has not joined us recently for
this time together. For more information
please contact Jim Keely
(433-0868)

FOOD, FELLOWSHIP & FAMILY



MARCH

Beverly Boudreau	1
Lisa Smithmeyer	2
Kerry Gerding	5
Nancy Lewis	6
Randy Ehret, Sr.	8
Kathy Gonzalo	13
Darren Bragg	15
John W. Walker	16
Sarah Walker	17
Grant Smithmeyer	21
Ed Grobe, Madi Trolinger	22
Matthew Walker	24

APRIL

Rob McGrath	1
Shawn Yepsen	3
Sue Koestler	3
Mike Farrell	8
Lyle Robinson	8
Diane Farrell	11
Brian Huebner	12
John Roark	13
Jade Prebianca (Boaz)	16
Karla Armstrong	18
Caroline Schmidt	18
Tyler Angus	19
Brad Angus	20
Hannah Duggan	21
Loyce Beyer	22
Danielle Ehret	23
Pete Trolinger	27
Joy Nevins	30

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Every Sunday 9:00 am Fellowship 9:00 am ZONE 9:00 am Prayer 9:30 Choir Practice 10:00 am WORSHIP 11:15 am Adult Ed.			Every Wed. 9:30 am Prayer, library 7:00 pm Choir Practice, library	Every Thurs. 9:30 am Seniors Small Group		Every Saturday 6:30 am Men's Small Group
1 COMMUNION 9 am Q Place Class 11:25 am New Member Class 12:30 pm Kum Join Us	2	3	4	5	6	7 7 am Men's Breakfast (see pg. 8) DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS Turn your clocks ahead 1 hr tonight!
8 9 am Q Place Class 11:25 am New Member Class 6 pm LOL4JC	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 9 am Q Place Class 12:00 p.m. Community Meal 4 pm Elder Orientation	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 PASTOR APPRECIATION SUNDAY 6 pm LOL4JC	23	24	25	26	27	28
29  11:25 am New Member Class	30	31				



MARCH

2015

First Presbyterian Church
114 East Jefferson Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

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HOLY WEEK SERVICE SCHEDULE

March 29 10:00 a.m.—Palm Sunday Worship

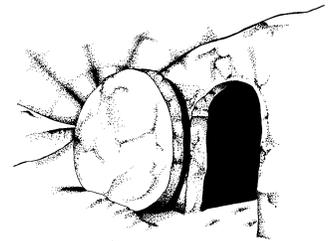
April 2, 7:00 p.m.—Maundy Thursday Worship with the Lord's Last Supper

April 5, **RESURRECTION DAY!**

8:30 a.m.—Easter Breakfast

10:00 a.m.—Easter Worship Service

11:15 a.m.—Easter Egg Hunt



*“As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven,
Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem.”— Luke 9:51*

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* *Prayer Partners: pg. 1*