



PRESBY PRESS

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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WWW.OTTAWAFIRSTPRES.ORG

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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 Study *Living and Loving in a Crazy World*

Do you sometimes wonder where the country you grew up in has gone? I know I do. It can be overwhelming some days to hear all the negative news and listen to all the nasty political rhetoric, not just in this election season, but pretty much regularly these days. Is there anyone anywhere who's good, who wants to give him or herself to really serve others? It leaves me feeling like I want to run and hide. But where?

I know where – *the church!* This is why I believe in Christ's church, and why I am so glad to be part of First Presbyterian Church. Even in this day in our country when the church is also a place that seems to be in decline, at least if you listen to statistics, I know the church is the one place where God and his sovereign purpose will not fail to be revealed. And that revelation will always be LOVE, including the kind of love that expresses itself through loving one another and then going out to actively serve a crazy world in need together.

First Presbyterian Church is a great body of people who are demonstrating the kind of love that honors God and blesses people. Let me tell you just a few places where I see this kind of love unfolding in our midst:

- **Loving Community:** I see and hear the good people of FPC working on this part of our mission all the time, and it blesses me to see you loving one another so readily and tenderly. I see circles of spontaneous prayer breaking out in the building as you listen to and care for one another's burdens in life. Powerful prayers for healing are being spoken in the sanctuary, hallways, classrooms, etc. I hear you offering words of hope, joy, fellowship and encouragement to one another as you face the ups and downs of life. You are coming together faithfully to read, listen to and do God's word, drawing strength from one another as you show up for one another in tough times.

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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.**

Looking Back over 150 Years

FPC in 1959 – 90th anniversary of the church

In the USA in 1959 people were watching Bonanza on TV and listening to Doris Day and Frank Sinatra on the radio. Alaska had just become a state and a new organization named NASA was formed with the first astronauts John Glenn and Alan Shepard. The average wage in the US was \$5010.00 (about \$40,000 today) Famous people born in 1959: Vice President Candidate, Mike Pence, Lester Holt, Marie Osmond and **Pastor John Walker!**

At FPC in Ottawa our pastor was Dr. McClelland, who had been in the pastor role for about 35 years. His salary was \$5300.00 (about \$44,000 today) and the church provided him with housing across the street in the manse. There were pledges from 209 members to give about \$15,000 (\$128,000 today). All of the elders were men. Mrs. Arlene Gerding was the church treasurer and Mr. Capsel was the clerk of session. The budget that year planned for hiring a new youth leader, and a committee was formed of elders who would make contacts with colleges to identify a new graduate to fill the role. In March of 1959 LaVeda Mayers was hired for the job at a salary of \$4000 per year with 3 weeks vacation. (a salary of about \$33,000 today)

During the year 1959 there were 49 new members added to the church family, some of those are still part of our church family, and some we lost this year. Dr. Robin Lewis, Shirley and Jim Davey were some of the new members. We had 10 in the confirmation class, including Carol Woeckel's sister Karen. It was a growing congregation, and a leadership who focused on keeping members active and keeping the church active in the community and the world. They had an annual "church-o-rama" which seemed to be a talent show, music show and play.

In 1959 Ottawa opened the first supermarket with Sunday shopping hours. A sub committee was formed of elders who identified that this was not in line with God's plan for "remembering the Sabbath and keeping it Holy". The session voted to discourage church members from shopping on Sunday.

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Pastor

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***Our Elders are
committed
to serving.***

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870-740-0442

Carol Woeckel
(Worship)
434-6852

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(Discipleship)
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Lisa Mestelle
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433-0868

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(Fellowship & Outreach)
434-4123

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(Fellowship & Outreach)
228-2217

Ron Koestler
(Missions)
343-6088

Mike Farrell
(Deacon)
433-5477

Diane Farrell
(Clerk of Session)
434-2774

Continued from pg. 1

Sometimes these loving moments are plain to see. Other times they are not so. But the growing spirit of loving community here is real, and it's breath taking.

- Loving Service:*** It has been rich to see the small and big ways so many have stepped out to serve others in the world around us. Two big moments to serve Opportunity School teachers, students and parents come to mind: First, there were the FPC teams who stood at our doors to welcome precious little ones and their parents as they came for their first day of school. *What hospitality!* Second, was the Opportunity School open house when FPCers gave up their evenings to come welcome students and families, and share smiles, conversation and cookies. I was blessed to be part of that awesome night to serve and I had so much fun! I know the staff and families were blessed. Other loving service: Our junior high student ministry – **LOL4JC** – did an awesome job of serving a huge meal for the community on October 16. There was an army of students with family there to serve a very full Scott Hall that day, expressing hearts of service and hospitality. *Way to go LOL4JC!* When we decided to form an inter-church team for the Ottawa Labor of Love with Calvary Baptist and Christ Community churches, so many stepped up from FPC. Brian Huebner served as our captain and FPC showed up with a great spirit to share in a wonderful day of serving a dear woman whose house was dramatically improved when we left. *It was a day of hard work, but also of great joy...and fun!*

Jesus sends us, *his Loving Community*, into the world to show the world who we are by our LOVE for each other and by our moving together into a crazy world with that love. And so I know this: If I'm needing a place to run and hide from all that's discouraging in the world around me, I'm glad I have Jesus' church to run to. I know that his church is sent by him...to run to the broken, hurting world. To show and share the love of God that rescues. That redeems. That heals those who are broken and alone in a crazy world. Jesus wants you and me to LIVE and LOVE right in the middle of all that mess.

Are we ready to run? I hope so, because that's our mission. That's what Jesus, the Savior – *your Savior and mine!* – sends us to do. We are his church. Let us run!

Running to the world joyfully with you,
Pastor John Walker



**CHRISTMAS BELL CHOIR PRACTICE STARTS
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2!**

If you are interested in joining or have any questions please contact
Lloyd Chapman (433-2111) or any member of the choir

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Some research in world history identified that in 1959 the Netherlands relinquished their rule on Indonesia. The national Presbytery was active in bringing displaced families to the USA. The session minutes show that the session voted to house a “family from Holland” rent free in a home owned by a church member. In June, Presbytery sent a family to Ottawa from Indonesia. This turned out to be a native Indonesian family rather than a Dutch family. No further mention was in the minutes of how they settled into the Ottawa community.

In 1959 session clarified the duties of the Trustees, which remain the same today. The trustees continue to be responsible for 1) Holding the title to church property 2) Maintain insurance on all church property 3) Make routine repairs around the church.

We continue to be thankful to those who have lead the way over the years, giving us a good example of “the loving community of Jesus Christ”.

Call to the semi-annual Congregational meeting

The Semi-Annual congregational meeting will be held November 13, 2016 following worship for the purpose of ;

1. reviewing and voting on the adequacy of the compensation of the pastor upon report of prior review by session
2. electing of new elders
3. Presentation of the narrative budget for information



Don't forget to turn your clocks back 1 hour on Saturday, November 5th so you won't be late for church on Sunday, November 6th!

OUR **New** ADDRESS

Cathy and Roy Peters

941B Highway AD

Mountain Grove, MO 95711

(417) 927-0701

Mark and Amanda Brockman

1433 Adams St.

Ottawa, IL 61350



On behalf of Opportunity School, we would like to thank you for all of the volunteering you have done this school year. We so appreciated your services as greeters the first week of school and again at the Open House on November 17th. Thanks to all who volunteered to bake cookies or assist at the Open House. We had a great turnout and we appreciated all of your hard work. A special thank you to Pastor John Walker and church members for your continued support.

~ The Staff of Opportunity School

Please join us for our monthly prayer breakfast at **7:30 a.m. on Saturday November 5** at Illinois Valley Evangelical Free Church, 1611 Adams Street, Ottawa, for a time of faith, food, and fellowship. Pastor Tim Underwood will lead us in music and mind-setting ("to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace").

Also, mark your calendars for **Saturday December 3 at 6:30 a.m.** for breakfast at First Presbyterian Church and placing the paintings in Washington Park at 8:00 a.m.



THANKSGIVING JUBILEE!

You are cordially invited to join us in Scott Hall on Sunday, November 20th for the Thanksgiving Jubilee starting at 12 p.m.. As in the past years, this meal will be combined with our Community Meal. Turkey, dressing, and homemade mashed potatoes will be served. Beverages will include coffee, tea, milk and water. We ask that you please bring a dish to share according to the following:

If your last name begins with:

A-G Salads

H-Q Vegetables

R-Z Desserts

We are also looking for donations of Butter, Milk and Rolls. (Please check with Kerry or Betty to see if these are still needed). In addition we need:

6 volunteers to help set up tables and chairs before church on that morning.

6 people to help clean up after the meal (wipe tables, trash removal, etc.).

There will be sign up sheets in Scott Hall or you can contact Kerry Gerding (815-434-4123) or Betty Ehret (815-228-2217).



LABOR OF LOVE

Saturday, October 8, couldn't have been a more perfect day for the 25th Annual Ottawa Labor of Love!! And it was good to see FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH represented once again!

We were joined by members of Calvary Baptist Church and Christ Community Church. The team arrived early at Marquette Academy to meet, greet and eat together, which started the perfect day off with lots of LOVE and conversation!

After gathering our tools and getting our job assignments from our very able bodied house captain, Brian Huebner, we hustled over to State Street to the home we would be working on! Mary Louise was waiting for us and expressed a deep appreciation for those who had come to serve her!! Jobs varied from clearing the yard of overgrown, aggressive bushes and trimming trees to repairing and improving the handicap ramp to make it easier for the homeowner to move safely. There was much laughter and fellowship as we served our homeowner, beautifying the landscape of her home and making small improvements inside. Three dump trucks were filled with yard waste by the end of the day!!

Our team consisted of seventeen hardworking Christians, all ages, and we all agreed that it was time well spent! And the homeowner was brought to tears as she shared the joy she felt knowing that total strangers had chosen to spend the day with her, working to make her life a little better! Our hope is that next year, there will be even more members who will plan to be the hands and feet of Jesus in this ever-growing city event.

ZONE PRAYER CHAIN

Philippians 4:6 " Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God." ZONE has begun a prayer chain! You will find it in the hallway outside the church kitchen. We are hoping that all will participate so our children can see what a mighty God we serve. When you have a request, simply write it out on a plain piece of paper from the basket, or just attach a plain piece of paper if its to personal to be written. When you get an answer from God use the paper with the crosses on it and attach that to the chain. This will be such a faith booster for all of us to see God at work, but especially for our Zone Kids.



The Mitten Tree will be back in Scott Hall this holiday season. Please place your new mittens and gloves on the tree to be donated to the Salvation Army. The warm wear will be distributed to children in need so they can be warm this winter.



The Deacons Fund is need of donations.
The current balance of the fund is \$500.

Because of your generosity the Deacons have been able to assist Church family member's and others by paying for food, bills and other necessities in the amount of \$2400 so far this year.

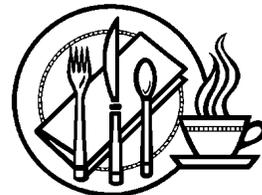
Please prayerfully consider how you could assist in supporting this ministry.

LOVE, WIN, GROW, GO: SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!⁹

Would you be willing to supply a meal for our Jr. High Youth Group (LOL4JC)? They start each meeting with a meal to begin a time of fellowship before launching into their discussion and game time. Please contact Lori Trolinger (815-795-6791) or Lisa Smithmeyer (815-313-5843) if you would like to commit to preparing a meal for our LOL4JC kids

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

January and into 2017. 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) Betty Ehret (228-2217) for more information and to sign up.



or

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

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

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

Betsy Feagans (Mon. PM): 433-5480

Lisa Mestelle/Women-Beth Moore Bible

Study (Thurs. PM): 252-7462

Carol Engberg/Women: 433-3465

(Thurs. PM, once a month)

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 November is Baking Products. 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. This is a great way to contribute to the life of your church. Contact Chris Keely (433-0868)

FOOD, FELLOWSHIP & FAMILY

LADIES' NITE OUT

Tuesday, November 1

6:00 p.m. at Annie's

Carpool will meet at FPC

at 5:30 p.m.

Please contact:

Jackie Bean

434-3380

for info & reservations.

KUM JOIN US

SUNDAY, November 6

**IN THE LIBRARY
FOLLOWING WORSHIP.**

**WE WILL MEET AT HALFTIME
RESTAURANT FOLLOWING OUR
MEETING**

All are welcome!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

NOVEMBER

Brad Armstrong	1
Scott Jamison	1
Julie Angus	1
Carol Zimmerman .	6
Jean Zeilmann	6
Brian Smithmeyer	6
Chris Keely	8
Nolan Zarwell	12
Dave Stuedemann	13
Steve Kennedy	13
Jennifer Mansour	13
Griffin Clemens	15
Audrey Grobe	15
Laura Zarwell	15
Kevin Arjes	16
Gayle Schmitt	17
Pat Gerding	18
Kyle Zarwell	22
Thaddeus Armstong	26
Ali Stevenson (remember Ali's family today)	27
Ron Koestler	28
Jenniver O'Connor	29

DECEMBER

Aspen Stuedemann	1
Sandy Finnegan	1
Ben Dial	1
Bruce Smith .	6
Karen Mikkelsen	6
Helen Tammen	6
Kevin O'Connor	7
Betty Angus	8
Holly Hess	9
Jax & Marek Zarwell	12
Anna Schmidt	13
Willow Stuedemann	13
Olivia Trolinger	13

First Presbyterian Church
114 East Jefferson Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

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Worship on Sunday, November 6th!**



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for the Thanksgiving Jubilee starting at 12 p.m.. As in the past years, this meal will be combined with our Community Meal. Turkey, dressing, and homemade mashed potatoes will be served. Beverages will include coffee, tea, milk and water. We ask that you please bring a dish to share according to the following: If your last name begins with:

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