



# PRESBY PRESS

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

114 EAST JEFFERSON STREET † OTTAWA, IL 61350  
(815)433-1045

WWW.OTTAWAFIRSTPRES.ORG

VOLUME 42 No. 9

NOVEMBER 2018

## THE *Power* OF A SABBATICAL

### 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

## 2019 is Sabbatical Year!

It is hard to believe it's already been 7 years since our last Sabbatical. The Sabbatical Renewal Team (SRT) has been gathering since January to plan and prepare! That team is James Burkey (chairman), Dan Mestelle, Lisa Smithmeyer, Lori Trolinger and Nathalie Schmidt, along with Pastor John.

The theme of the 2019 Sabbatical is Following the Footsteps of Jesus. Pastor John and the FPC Church Family will explore new ways to do just that through study, rest and renewal.

Sabbatical begins April 22 and winds up August 15. The SRT is planning and exploring many ideas for us to discover and follow in Christ's footsteps. We'll bring back some popular activities and worship services from the last sabbatical, and also try new, different things. Some ideas being explored are a Festival of Ottawa Churches, a prayer walk, camping, a special AOK Sunday, and worship content relating to John's sabbatical studies! Plans are to wrap this whole thing up with a Hootenanny Celebration Picnic together.

Jenny Suydam, ordained Presbyterian Pastor and wife to Park Presbyterian Church's pastor in Streator, will be our Sabbatical pastor. She was with us in September, and Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, we have chance to worship with her again as she will be preaching and leading our communion Sunday. We are so thankful for God's provision of her to this congregation during Pastor John's time away from us.

Cont. on pg. 3

### 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.**



The Semi-Annual congregational meeting will be held next Sunday, November 11, 2018 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



The Thanksgiving Jubilee is trotting at us quickly, on Sunday November 18, 2018 The Fellowship and Outreach Committee needs your help! Any questions see David Farrell (815-252-2351) or Gayle Schmitt (815-667-4964).

- 2-3 Turkeys - fully cooked and sliced.
- Volunteers to help set up, server, and/or clean up on the day of the event. Signup sheets are in Scott Hall.

Bring a dish to pass, based on the following breakdown:

If your last name begins with:

- A-G Vegetables
- H-Q Deserts
- R-Z Salads

**Pastor**

*John W. Walker*

[jwalker@ottawafirstpres.org](mailto:jwalker@ottawafirstpres.org)

**Church Secretary**

*Cindy Arjes*

[fpcone@ottawafirstpres.org](mailto:fpcone@ottawafirstpres.org)

**Treasurer**

*Betty Angus*

**Westminster  
Choir Director**

*Lloyd Chapman*

[Lloyd@udnet.net](mailto:Lloyd@udnet.net)

**Organist**

*Diane Chapman*

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Sabbatical cont. from pg. 1

Sabbatical 2019 is coming this spring & summer, and it is not just FOR you, it NEEDS you. We'll create and implement a wonderful Sabbatical 2019 TOGETHER!!!

To make this spiritual time enriching to all and cover any financial needs during the Sabbatical we will be accepting donations. Please prayerfully consider providing funding to cover our guest Pastor, Jenny Suydam, ministerial time, special event expenses and possibly assist Pastor John on travel costs. Donations can be provided to the church at any time and will end in the Spring of 2019 at the beginning of the Sabbatical. Early donations will be most welcomed to assist in planning 2019 functions. Please earmark all donations with a note stating "Sabbatical 2019". Our goal will be to reach \$15,000.

Please feel free to contact any one of the SRT Members for your thoughts, comments, questions, and ideas!!

**James Burkey** bighairyfoo@hotmail.com (815-685-2531)

**Lisa Smithmeyer** lsmithmeyer@gmail.com - (815)313-5843

**Nathalie Schmidt** natbakescakes@gmail.com - (815)433-0175

**Lori Trolinger** troll@mtco.com

**Dan Mestelle** DMestelle@hutchisoneng.com

## **PLEASE SIGN UP FOR REMIND MESSAGES!**

Please sign up for important messages from First Pres. We are using the **remind.com** system to send you urgent and non-urgent messages.

Please text the message @dd7ch9 to the number 81010 for non-urgent messages and follow the instructions you may get. Please text @urgent to 81010 for urgent messages. It is important to sign up for both types of messages. If you have any questions please contact Cindy (433-1045) in the office, or stop by the office, and she will try to help you.

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

**Brian Huebner**  
(Worship)  
433-5477

**Mike Farrell**  
(Worship/Deacon)  
434-2774

**Brian Smithmeyer**  
(Discipleship)  
795-6791

**Brad Angus**  
(Trustee)  
433-2946

**Dan Mestelle**  
(Trustee)  
252-7462

**Dan Duggan**  
(Trustee)  
431-9168

**Pete Trolinger**  
(Administration)  
795-6791

**Gayle Schmitt**  
(Fellowship & Outreach)  
815-667-9892

**David Farrell**  
(Fellowship & Outreach)  
815-252-2351

**Ron Koestler**  
(Missions)  
343-6088

**Diane Farrell**  
(Clerk of Session)  
434-2774

## Explore God Chicago

Explore God invites people to come together and explore honest questions that they have about God. They provide excellent resources that equip Christians to facilitate group discussions about these questions.

Beginning on January 13<sup>th</sup>, the Explore God Chicago event will kick-off and will take place for 7 weeks. First Presbyterian Church, along with 500-1000 other churches, will simultaneously explore 7 questions about God during worship services and in thousands of discussion groups across Chicagoland. Six of those churches, and many of those discussion groups, will be here in Ottawa!!

This outreach event is big!! It has the potential to impact the whole Chicagoland area and our own community!! If you would like to know more about this initiative or how you can be involved, please see Ron Koestler (343-6088) Pastor John (433-1045), or Betty Ehret (228-2217).

We invite you to join us in praying

### **The Explore God Chicago ~ “Everyday • Everywhere • Everyone” Prayer:**

I will pray as the Lord leads me; everyday, everywhere, for everyone.

*“In Jesus’ name for this day I ask you Holy Spirit for confidence and opportunities to pray for someone who is far from God to care for someone at their point of need with love and share my Jesus story with an invitation to explore God.”*

## **BELIEVE IN UGANDA**

While in Uganda in June, I felt the urge to have another quilt made that would somehow benefit the village of Kahondo. Milton helped collect traditional Uganda fabric from the skirts of the 60+ local women. But upon receiving that fabric, it became very clear that we had been sent fabric that was “less than perfect”; in fact, most pieces were very worn, having holes created from years of use and the sparks of their outside kitchen fires. BUT, as I gently handled this fabric, I was overcome with emotion as I realized each contributor had given all they had—just as the widow had given her last coins in Mark 12:41-44. I had some difficulty finding a quilter who would commit to making this Lava Lamp pattern quilt. However, Sandy Cook, sis of Patti Good and the quilter who made our last fundraising quilt, agreed to tackle this complicated project. Sandy painstakingly completed this quilt, knowing the purpose was honorable as funds collected from the fund raiser would be used to purchase a motorcycle ambulance for the medical clinic (unless another project related to the medical center arises in the meantime)!! The completion and beauty of this quilt reminds me of what God can do if we turn our lives over to him—He takes our less than perfect lives and can make us into a masterpiece, just as Sandy did creating this amazing quilt!

For a \$20 donation, you will be able to sign your name in the orange sashing around the perimeter of the quilt! Team Believe in Uganda will present this historical quilt and accompanying photo book to the Kahondo community in 2019 where it will proudly hang in Amagara Ga’Boona as a constant reminder of the love our two communities share! —Kahondo, Uganda and Ottawa, IL USA

The quilt will be on display in Scott Hall for signing on **Sunday, November 11**. The quilt is pictured on the next page.



Uganda cont. from pg. 5



## **Galatians 4 Week Survey starting Nov 11th**

Come be part of Paul's classic explanation, defense, and application of the doctrine of justification by faith. Paul reminds the Galatians of their freedom in Christ, and he exhorts them to put aside the tendency to go back into the legalistic relationships with God. Also described is the work of the Holy Spirit as He produces in the believer the godly characteristics known as the fruit of the Spirit.

The class will start on Nov 11<sup>th</sup> and run for 4 weeks (taking a break on Nov 18<sup>th</sup>). We will meet in the Library around 10:45 am following worship.

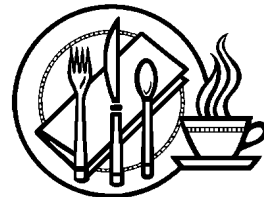
***Come join in and be part of this exciting adventure into God's word!***

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

Free **Community Meals; 3rd Sunday of every month:** We are looking to fill January, July, August, September and December. 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 David Farrell (815-252-2351) or Gayle Schmitt (815-667-4964) for more information and to sign up.

### 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

Carol Engberg/Women: 433-3465

John Walker (1<sup>st</sup> Sun. PM monthly): 433-1045

(Thurs. PM, once a month)

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

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. If you have any questions please contact Gayle Schmitt (815-667-9892).

### 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 please contact Brian Huebner (815-433-5477) for more information.

### LOL4JC

LOL4JC is currently meeting the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month and we're looking for people, groups, families willing to supply our youth kids with meals. Each youth meeting begins with a quick meal together. It can be something as simple as pizza or sandwiches! Regular youth meetings begin in October and end in April. If you would like to provide a meal during those months, please see Lori Trolinger and get

**LADIES' NITE OUT**

Tuesday, November 6

6:00 p.m.at  
Annie's

Contact  
Jackie Bean  
434-3380

for information and reservations

**KUM JOIN US**

**Will meet on November 4**

**We will meet in the  
Sanctuary at 11 am.**

**Lunch will follow at Halftime**

*All are welcome!*



**FOOD, FELLOWSHIP & FAMILY**



**NOVEMBER**

Brad Armstrong	1
Julie Angus	1
Carol Zimmerman .	6
Jean Zeilmann	6
Brian Smithmeyer	6
Chris Keely	8
Nolan Zarwell	12
Dave Stuedemann	13
Griffin Clemens	15
Laura Zarwell	15
Kevin Arjes	16
Gayle Schmitt	17
Pat Gerding	18
Kyle Zarwell	22
Thaddeus Armstong	26
Ron Koestler	28
Lori Trolinger	30

**DECEMBER**

Aspen Stuedemann	1
Sandy Finnegan	4
Ben Dial	6
Bruce Smith .	6
Karen Mikkelsen	6
Helen Tammen	11
Betty Angus	8
Holly Hess	9
Jax & Marek Zarwell	12
Anna Schmidt	13
Willow Stuedemann	13
Olivia Trolinger	13



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<u>Every Sunday</u> 9:15 am Prayer 9:30 am WORSHIP 10:45 am Fellowship 10:45 am-ZONE 10:45-Jr. & Sr. High Sunday School			<u>Every Wednesday</u> 6 pm- Bell Choir Practice 7 pm- Choir Practice	<u>Every Thurs.</u> 9:30 am— Seniors Small Group		<u>Every Saturday</u> 7:30 am— Men's Small Group
				1.	2.	3.  <b>BE SURE TO                      TURN YOUR                      CLOCKS BACK                      ONE HOUR!</b>
4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
11.  10:45 am-Semi- Annual Meeting  5 pm-LOL4JC & Sr. High Youth Group	12.	13.  7 pm- Committee Meetings	14.	15.	16.	17.
18.  NOON- THANKS- GIVING JUBILEE!	19.	20.  7 pm- Session	21.  NO CHOIR	22.  THANKSGIVING!	23.	24.
25.  5 pm-LOL4JC & Sr. High Youth Group	26.	27.	28.	29.	30.	



# November 2018

**First Presbyterian Church**  
114 East Jefferson Street  
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

**Non-Profit Organization**  
**U.S. Postage Paid**  
**Ottawa, Illinois**

Return Service Requested

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<i>* 2019 Sabbatical</i>	<i>pg. 1</i>	<i>* Believe in Uganda</i>	<i>pg. 6</i>
<i>* Announcements</i>	<i>pg. 2</i>	<i>* Love, Win, Grow, Go</i>	<i>pg. 7</i>
<i>* Sabbatical cont.</i>	<i>pg 3</i>	<i>* Food, Fellowship, Family</i>	<i>pg. 8</i>
<i>* Explore God</i>	<i>pg. 4</i>	<i>* Calendar</i>	<i>pg. 9</i>
<i>* Believe in Uganda</i>	<i>pg. 5</i>	<i>* Highlights</i>	<i>pg. 10</i>

**\* Prayer Partners: pg. 1**