



# PRESBY PRESS

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

WWW.OTTAWAFIRSTPRES.ORG

VOLUME 43 NO. 5

MAY 2019



## 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;*

### *Grace and Peace be with you!*

It is a joy to be with you all during this time of sabbatical. This summer's sabbatical theme is "Rest...Renew...Follow Jesus!" and what a wonderful road map for all of us to follow. It is very good advice.

I'm a big movie fan. I quote movies a lot, use them as illustrations in sermons, and after we watch a movie, my husband and I spend a lot of time discussing it. A lot of time. I digress.

In the animated Disney movie Alice in Wonderland, Alice finds herself in a peculiar place. She is lost, she doesn't know how to get back home, and finds herself in a dark and lonely forest. She sings "I give myself very good advice, but I very seldom follow it. That explains the trouble that I'm always in."

It is easy in this busy world to forget to rest. We collapse in our beds at the end of a long day, exhausted, trying to sleep. But we don't rest. Not really. We don't take the time to sit and do "nothing". Most of us fill our time with things, with noise, with something to always "do". When was the last time you had a good rest?

When was the last time you felt renewed? Was it after a vacation of sitting with your toes in the sand, soaking up the beauty of the beach? Was it after being with your friends and family, being able to catch up with one another?

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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.**

**AOK SUNDAY—Be Part of the Team!**

On the fifth day of May just a short time from now  
you are needed to go on a mission!!

To serve in our town, be HIS hands and feet,  
and find joy in this First Pres tradition!

It's AOK SUNDAY, and this is your chance—

We think our problem's been solved!  
Each one of you, both young and old—  
has a place you can get involved!!

We can't make a difference or change the world  
by sitting quietly in church pews!  
So a day's set aside to serve just 3 hours  
with various jobs you can choose!

We'll organize closets, do yard work, and books—  
and puzzles might be a chore!  
Teamwork and serving the Lord go together—  
the blessings we gain will be more!!

So plan to be with us—100%!!  
Be part of the FPC CREW!  
This mission is yours, if you choose to take it~  
But it's only possible with YOU!!

**DON'T FORGET TO WEAR YOUR**  
**“FIRST PRES CREW” T-SHIRTS!**

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*Our Elders are  
committed to serving.*

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Was it after a self-care day, where you did things that filled your cup back up? We have to find these things in life – to find rest, to be renewed, so that we can go and follow Jesus.

Following Jesus is not for the faint of heart. It is good work, and it can be draining at times, physically and mentally. Part of this time of sabbatical is to fill our drained cups back up, so we can gain a sense of renewed excitement as we follow Jesus, and as we continue to be the hands and feet of Christ in our community.

So friends, as we begin this journey of sabbatical together, I pray that you find time to rest and be renewed this summer.

Be intentional about taking a few moments each and every day to rest, to be renewed, and to connect with God.

Blessings be yours,

Pastor Jenny

**MAY CALENDAR & PRAYER REQUESTS FOR  
PASTOR JOHN WALKER**

**May 2-11:** Home & Rest #1

- *Pray for John to Rest...Renew...and Follow Jesus*

**May 12-30:** Footsteps of Paul in Turkey and Greece

- With 20 others following the discipleship journey of the Apostle Paul who follows Jesus
- *Pray for deep awakenings and discoveries of faith as we follow Paul's life and ministry*

**May 30– June 3:** 4 extra days to rest, explore and enjoy Athens, Greece

- With sister, Elizabeth Hartley and Scott & Diane Jamison and Rick & Veta Roberts
- *Pray for lots of fun and great expectations of life together in a remarkable, historic place*

# SABBATICAL 2019

## REST..RENEW..AND FOLLOW JESUS

COMING UP THIS MONTH – A-OK SUNDAY! We are starting the month off with some fantastic ways to get involved in our community as well as in our church building. Below are the places you can serve that morning. Sign-up sheets are available outside the church office.

Landscaping Clean-up – Friendship House and Servant's Heart

Packing books for Uganda – Scott Hall

Cleaning our closets and pantry - PADS

Kitchen Cabinet Organizing – FPC Kitchen

Puzzle Cabinet Sorting – FPC Top Floor (kids)

### COMING UP IN MAY:

May 5 – A-OK Sunday

*special time from [8-12](#)*

May 12 – Mother's Day

*\*children pass out flowers*



May 19 – Small Group Sunday/Community Meal

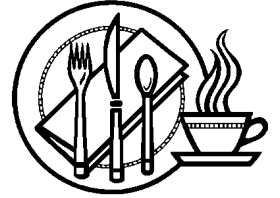
May 26 – Footsteps of Paul (video)

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

**Would you be willing to supply a meal for our Jr. High Youth Group (LOL4JC & Sr. High Group)?** They meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays from 5 pm to 7 pm, and 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**

September and December in 2019. 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 Julie Angus (433-2946) 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 May is canned meat. 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.

# FOOD, FELLOWSHIP & FAMILY

## LADIES' NITE OUT

Tuesday, May 7

6:00 p.m. at Red Dog Grill

Contact  
Carol Engberg

at 815-433-3465

for information and reservations



### MAY

Addilyn Woodyer	3
Lisa Mestelle	10
Sue Paul	10
Tucker Clemens	11
Steve West	13
Don Morehead	15
James Burkey	15
Byron Long	16
Jackie Stevenson	19
John Bean	23
Casey Clemens	25
Betsy Feagans	25

### JUNE

Nicole Stevenson	1
Madisyn McGrath	3
Donna Burkey	14
Jenna Smithmeyer	17
Tim Huebner	20
Bill Buckingham	26
Max McGrath	26

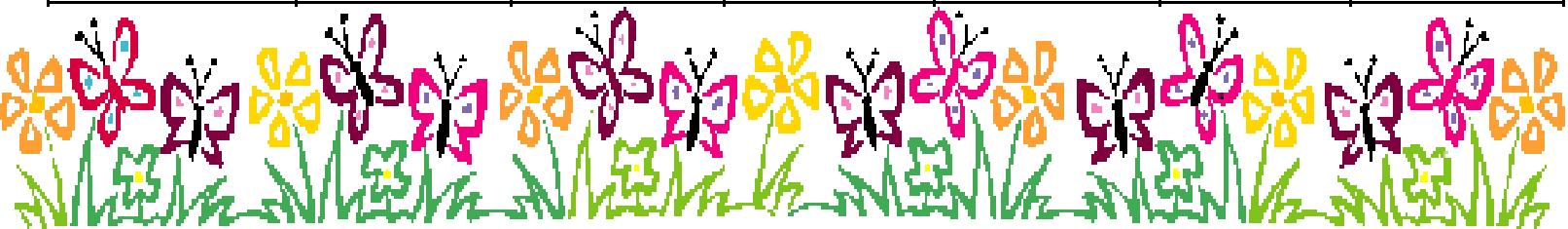
## KUM JOIN US

**Will not meet on May 5**

**due to A-OK Sunday**



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<u>Every Sunday</u> 8:45 am Prayer 9:00 a.m. Choir Practice 9:30 am WORSHIP 10:45 am Fellowship 10:45 am-ZONE, Jr. & Sr. High Sunday School			<u>Every Wed.</u> 7 pm Choir in the Library	<u>Every Thurs.</u> 9:30 am Seniors Small Group		<u>Every Saturday</u> 7:30 am Men's Small Group
			1.	2.	3.	4.
5.  <b>A-OK SUNDAY!</b>	6.	7.  7 pm- Ladies' Nite Out	8.	9.	10.	11.
12.  <b>HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!</b>	13.	14.  7 pm- Committee Meetings	15.	16.	17.	18.
19.  Noon-Community Meal  5 pm- LOL4JCS	20.	21.  7 pm- Session	22.	23.	24.	25.
26.	27.  Memorial Day	28.	29.	30.	31.	



*May 2019*

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

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**LOL4JC BIG END-OF-THE-YEAR EVENT!**

Sunday, May 19th at 5 p.m. will be the BIG end-of-the-year event for LOL4JC.

The meeting will be at FPC in Scott Hall.

Don't forget, *incoming 5th graders are invited to attend!*



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