



PRESBY PRESS

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

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AUGUST 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:

I'm not sure where the last few months have gone—but somehow we are flipping the calendars to August already. As we close our time together during this sabbatical, we move on to the next chapter in the congregation's story. We have rested, we have been renewed, and we are called to follow Jesus.

The thing is...

These things aren't just for the time of sabbatical. We need to set time in our busy, crazy, hectic schedules to rest, to do things that help us to renew, and that help us to live out our calling from Jesus. It's hard. There are times that we all fail at this. We are part of a community that seeks to encourage and support one another. Be a source of encouragement for your brothers and sisters, asking how they have rested, how they are being renewed, and how they are following Jesus. Check in with them, invite them for coffee or a walk in the park. Send a note or card to someone you haven't seen in a while. Pray for one another. Engage in Bible Study, a Small Group, or seek ways of connecting with one another.

Dear brothers and sisters, I am so very grateful for our time together. I have enjoyed every single moment spent with you, and will continue to hold the congregation in prayer as you prepare to welcome Pastor John back from his time of sabbatical. It has been a joy and a privilege to walk with you during these last few months, to get to know you, and to share in worship and communion with you. I'm grateful for your witness to God's love in this world, and pray that you continue to be the hands and feet of God in the community. May God continue to bless the congregation and give you all grace—grace not to sell yourself short, but grace enough to risk something big for something good. May God grant rest, renewal, and a sense of call to follow Jesus in our lives every day.

Blessings be yours,
Pastor Jenny

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 with, and for, one another on Sunday mornings, at 8:45 am, and Wednesday mornings, at 10 am, at FPC

HOOTENANNY

Saturday August 17th, 4pm-gather at Sunnybrook Farm to celebrate our "Rest...Renew...Follow Jesus" Sabbatical at the Home of Joe and Nathalie Schmidt
3131 East 18th Road, Ottawa
(Just 1/4 mile north of PetSmart)

Come out to the farm to enjoy a time to celebrate and visit, enjoy a great meal and enjoy music provided by Steve Sharp

We will provide main entrée, water, lemonade, and tableware.

Bring Lawn Games, Lawn Chairs, additional beverages, and a dish to share.....

If your last name begins with...then bring the following

- A - G Fruit/Vegetable Salads
- H - Q Hot Vegetables or Side Dishes
- R - Z Desserts

Sign up at church on the easel in the sanctuary OR all Nathalie Schmidt at 433-0175 to RSVP by Wednesday, August 14th

Pastor

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jwalker@ottawafirstpres.org

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Treasurer

Betty Angus

Westminster Choir Director

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*Our Elders are
committed to serving.*

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(Missions)
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252-7462

Dan Duggan
(Trustee)
431-9168

Brian Huebner
(Worship)
433-5477

David Farrell
(Worship)
815-252-2351

Diane Farrell
(Clerk of Session)
434-2774

Ladies Nite Out Picnic

Take a gentle stroll and casual glance at Betsy's Flower Gardens as you make your way to her Air-Conditioned Workshop. Look carefully and you might discover The Wee Peoples House, or sit in the swing under the maple tree and catch a breeze. A sandwich and Strawberry Shortcake will be provided. Just bring a dish to pass.

Please contact Betsy Feagans (815-433-5480) to make your reservations.



150th Anniversary Committee

The 150th anniversary committee is trying to put together information, pictures, videos, movies, artifacts of activities in the Church since 1960 (Bob McClellan was pastor). Please look through your cupboards, closets, drawers, and basements to dig out some of the mementos and artifacts you have saved. Please bring them to the church office or give them to Chris Keely or Don Morehead. Be sure your name is on it, so it can be returned to you. We need these items by August 31st.

BIUG ~ Believe In UGanda

From June 25 to July 11, eleven BIUG Team Members served alongside the amazing ITI staff (Innovations for Transformation Initiative) and our friend, Milton Tus-ingwire. We had great adventure and wonderful mission projects. It was a PACKED schedule!! We each found we needed time of rest by the end of each day, but our joy was abundant as we served together in some wonderful activities. Our leader Debbie Damron and 3 team members (Marta Johnson, Patrick McIntyre, Nathalie Schmidt) were making a return trip, 7 were first time members (Lexi Arm-strong, Becky Cattani, Cathy Peters, Shari Potter, Joe Schmidt, Steve Johnson, Mark Gaspar). Our team members raised funds here locally to help support the projects we worked on and participated in. Debbie and Milton put together a wonderful itinerary, here is a sample of our projects and activities while there . . .

- Finished Harriet and her family's home by completing concrete floor installation. We shared in the blessing and commissioning of the home being given by Marta Johnson and her family. It was amazing to see a project begin two years ago and through Marta's efforts here back home come to the family now having a much improved home to live in. Much joy was experienced!
- Experienced the activity of roadside market and food tasting (rolex and meats on a stick) freshly prepared. This was seen in many places throughout the country, but this particular stop is a major central traffic intersection. Very busy roadside market!
- Visited two Village Savings and Loan Communities and presented seeds and livestock through the Revolving Seeds and Revolving Livestock programs. We witnessed the success of the VSLA program as well as the "Revolving" extensions of the VSLA. Ugandan's are finding success and hope through business ventures they can begin with their commitment to the group where they find support from one another. The joy of receiving an animal or drought tolerant seeds for each of them we know provides security into their near future.

BIUG cont. from pg. 4

- Books acquired locally and organized in Scott Hall by SO MANY helping hands were excitedly organized into two new school libraries! One library is in Fort Portal, the Ngombe Primary School. About 25 banana boxes lovingly packed here in Ottawa were received to their school and we filled their shelves – they were so very excited! Great work was done by our library experts so the job to do the final placement went so smoothly. The other library is located very rurally, Galilaya Primary School, same number of banana boxes and shelves were “almost” ready for us. We watched as local carpenters created shelves to receive the books. This school we were told had never had white skinned visitors, so what an amazing experience for everyone that day to get to know one another! There we also experienced amazing local dance traditions from both students and the parents who were there to share in the day!
- Character Counts Seminar and group sharing at a secondary school. We divided into small groups to talk each about a different pillar of Character Counts then gathered back as a large group to present what each group learned about – Trustworthiness, Respect, Caring, Fairness, Responsibility, Citizenship, Faith/Spirituality. These are amazing Young Men and Women who are getting well prepared for a good future!
- AFRIPads kits were distributed to two different groups of young women at schools in Kamwenge and Fort Portal. These kits with washable/reusable pads do the great work of helping young women stay in school during their cycle each month. These simple kits provide protection they need to keep engaged in school so that they can keep pursuing their education requirements instead of staying home from school.
- MAAMA Kits were distributed in the Kamwenge village to help expecting mothers deliver their babies safely. Mothers must take with them the supplies needed to have a safe and clean delivery.
- Clothing in banana boxes that came from local Ottawa efforts were organized into a Yard Sale Uganda Style! Many of the same excited people we find at yard sales in our locale we found to be the same excited shoppers there, too! Almost \$300 was raised to continue efforts for the Amagara Ga’boona Medical Center!!

Cont. on pg. 6

BIUG cont. from pg. 5

- There are always the beautiful children of Uganda and we all found ourselves taking time to play, read, sing with them every chance we got - everyday. Some of our team members became expert and favorites to be engaged and entertained by the love and joy we brought to share with these precious children!
- At Amagara Ga'boona Medical Center, some team members worked on our masonry skills :o) Not an easy task, that was most likely our messiest day and what fun we had learning how to "plaster" the brick walls of the new latrine.
- Flavia's home was brought closer to completion as it was our task that day to move bricks for the masons and move dirt into the home that would be the floors. We figured that 6 tractor buckets full of dirt were dug and moved by hand in three stages to get it into the different rooms of the home! We laughed so much that day, having a great time using the tools of the Ugandans, and our muscles!!!
- We all tapped into our "inner farmer" to have a AOK (Acts Of Kindness) Day. We helped a rural female farmer harvest a part of her field of corn. We learned deep appreciation for the difficulty and hard work it is to be Ugandan every day. We all admire the ruggedness of life for the labor it takes to complete harvest of just the corn – cut off ear and shuck, cut stalk, carry ears to dry in sun, remove corn from ear by hand once dry.
- Grocery shopping and delivery of items to our beloved sponsored families and newly loved on unsponsored families. Provided for them were healthy, nutritious and tasty food items and cleaning supplies. Clothing that was lovingly chosen was also delivered and celebrated by the lovely people who received fresh clothes to wear!
- We were blessed several times with the traditional Ugandan meal served with love and honor in their thankfulness for our help to them. Sweet potato, matoke, rice, beans, yam, cassava, stewed meats, fresh pineapple, bananas, and avocado.
- Experienced together the BEAUTIFUL animals of Uganda. Up close encounters especially with lions and elephants were admired and met with awestruck emotions!

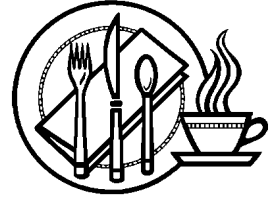
This team was blessed by so many activities and experiences. We are thankful to God for the provision of safe travel, energy, and ability to experience all that was available to us to be part of during our time there. We are also ever grateful and thankful for the support that FPC shows each year to the mission in Uganda. This work in Uganda is ongoing – and can be experienced by whomever has the call to action, the call to BIUG – Believe In UGANDA in 2020!!

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

December in 2019 and all of 2020. 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:

Brian & Joy Huebner (Sun. PM): 343-3379

Carol Engberg/Women: 433-3465

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

(2nd Thursday PM each 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 August is canned fruit. 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.

LADIES' NITE OUT PICNIC

Tuesday, August 6th

6:00 p.m. at Betsy Feagan's Gardens
1319 W. Jackson St.

A Sandwich and Strawberry Shortcake will be served. Please bring a dish to pass

Contact Betsy at

815-433-5480 for information

KUM JOIN US

Will meet on August 4

at 11 am in the Sanctuary

Lunch will follow at Halftime



FOOD, FELLOWSHIP & FAMILY



AUGUST

Carol Engberg	2
Tobias Burkey	9
Jack Finnegan	20
Addison Duggan	22
Debbie Long	22
Jackie Bean	25
Char Bragg	31
Ashley McGrath	31

SEPTEMBER

Cindy Arjes	4
Brian Zeilmann	6
Jon Woodyer	14
Peggy Roeder	15
Mark Brockman	15
Dan Duggan	16
Craig Harvey	22
Deb Damron	23
Katie Duggan	26
David Farrell	28

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><u>Every Sunday</u> 8:45 am Prayer 11 am-Adult Bible Study</p>			<p><u>Every Wed.</u> 10 am -Prayer Time</p>	<p><u>Every Thurs.</u> 9:30 am Seniors Small Group</p>		<p><u>Every Saturday</u> 7:30 am Men's Small Group</p>
				1.	2.	3.
4. 11 am—Kum Join Us	5.	6. 6 pm— Ladies' Nite Out	7. 10 am— Prayer Time	8.	9.	10.
11.	12.	13. 7 pm-Committee Meetings	14. 10 am— Prayer Time	15. LAST DAY OF SABBATICAL	16.	17. 4 pm—Hootenanny At Schmidt's Farm
18. PASTOR JOHN RETURNS THANK YOU TO JENNY NOON-Community Meal	19.	20. 7 pm-Session Meeting	21. 10 am— Prayer Time	22.	23.	24.
25. John Returns to the Pulpit Celebration!	26.	27.	28. 10 am— Prayer Time	29.	30.	31.



August 2019

First Presbyterian Church
114 East Jefferson Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

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REST....RENEW....FOLLOW JESUS

Sabbatical is coming to an end and we will be welcoming Pastor John back to the pulpit on Sunday, August 25th. We still have several opportunities to join in the celebration:

- August 4 is the Riverfest Parade with FPC walking and riding bikes.
- August 17th is the Hootenanny at Nathalie & Joe Schmidt's farm. Join us for lots of food, music, fellowship and fun!
- Sunday, August 18th will say a fond farewell to Pastor Jenny and welcome back Pastor John.

The end of sabbatical is near but you still have opportunities to be part of the fun!

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*** Refresh Your Prayer Life on Sunday & Wednesday Mornings**