



PRESBY PRESS

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

WWW.OTTAWAFIRSTPRES.ORG

VOLUME 43 No. 10

NOVEMBER 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

HOW TO PACK A SHOEBOX FOR OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD DROP OFF DATE IS Sunday, November 10

1. **FIND A SHOEBOX**—Start with an average-size cardboard or plastic shoebox. If you want to wrap it, cover the box and lid separately. Or use a pre-printed one available at FPC.
2. **GIRL OR BOY?**—Decide whether you will pack a box for a girl or a boy, and the age category: 2-4, 5-9, or 10-14.
3. **FILL WITH GIFTS**—Select a medium to large “wow” item such as a soccer ball with pump or stuffed animal, then fill with other fun toys, hygiene items, and school supplies.
4. **PRAY!**—Most importantly, pray for the child who will receive your gift. You can also include a personal note and photo.
5. **DROP OFF**—Bring your filled shoeboxes to FPC on **Sunday, November 12** to drop off .

Please contact Lori Trolinger (795-6791) if you have any questions.

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

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

SEMI-ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Semi-Annual congregational meeting will be held Sunday, November 10, 2019 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

Pastor
John W. Walker
 jwalker@ottawafirstpres.org

Church Secretary
Cindy Arjes
 fpcone@ottawafirstpres.org

Treasurer
Betty Angus

Westminster Choir Director
Lloyd Chapman
 Lloyd@udnet.net

Organist
Diane Chapman



Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour Saturday, November 3rd before you go to bed!

The Presby Press is published monthly by
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 114 E. Jefferson St., Ottawa, IL 61350
 Telephone 815-433-1045

*Our Elders are
committed to serving.*

Jim Keely

(Administration)
433-0868

Pete Trolinger

(Administration)
795-6791

Mike Farrell

(Deacon)
434-2774

Brian Smithmeyer

(Discipleship)
795-6791

Lisa Mestelle

(Discipleship)
252-7462

Gayle Schmidt

(Fellowship & Outreach)
815-667-4964

Julie Angus

(Fellowship & Outreach)
815-252-3402

Ron Koestler

(Missions)
343-6088

Brad Angus

(Trustee)
433-2946

Dan Mestelle

(Trustee)
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

PRAYER IS POWERFUL. LET'S PRAY TOGETHER!

We invite you to be a part of refreshing the PRAYER LIFE of our congregation! We know that the foundation of prayer is so important for anything we do. There are two opportunities each week to be a part of this important and special work of the church; **Sunday mornings from 8:45-9am AND/OR Wednesday mornings from 9-10 am**, in the library. Please come join us to see what great work God is waiting to do, as we thank, seek & ask Him.

Heavenly Father, Thank you, that we can come before you, our loving, powerful Father and ask for you help and guidance. Thank you for how you have blessed FPC these past 150 years. Will you please continue to pour out your blessings upon us? We ask for you protection and provision, for our church and leaders, as we enter this time of wanting to grow closer to you, and be your disciples. Please help our hearts to be open to what you want to teach us. Help us to see your love for us, and others all around us. Show us where we can be your hands and feet. Give us courage to speak out in love and kindness, in your Name, where we see need. Please heal those who are sick; comfort those whose hearts are hurting; provide for those in need; bless and protect our families; heal our nation and world. Jesus, thank you for your amazing gift of complete forgiveness, because of your obedience and sacrifice on the cross, on our behalf. Please help us to live with new awareness of the freedom we have been given, as your deeply loved sons and daughters. Help us to grasp and understand the rich PRIZE you have for us, and those all around us. Holy Spirit, please reveal yourself to us, guide, lead, and protect us.

In Jesus's Mighty Name,

Amen

Want more help with HOW to pray and for WHAT? See the daily Calendar for PRAYER on page 6.



PLEASE PRAY EACH DAY WITH US, FOR OUR COMMUNITY AND CHURCH

1. Pray for Restoration and Revival <i>Psalm 80:19</i>	2. Pastor John and his family <i>Galatians 6:9</i>	3. FPC Staff <i>1 Corinthians 16:4</i>	4. Our Hurting World <i>John 3:16</i>	5. Public Schools & Opportunity School <i>Proverbs 22:6</i>	6. Shut-ins <i>James 1:27</i>
7. Community Meals <i>Matthew 25:37-40</i>	8. Worship <i>Psalm 86: 9-10</i>	9. Hearts of Hurting People <i>Psalm 34:18</i>	10. Session <i>Isaiah 41:10</i>	11. PADS Shelter & Homeless <i>Matthew 25:35-40</i>	12. Protection of the Congregation <i>Ephesians 6:10-18</i>
13. Invite & Welcome the Holy Spirit <i>Titus 3:4-7</i>	14. Choir & Music Team <i>Psalm 92:1</i>	15. LOL4JC & Sr. High Ministry <i>Proverbs 22:6</i>	16. Our Children <i>Matthew 19:14</i>	17. Pray for Missionaries Strength & Protection <i>Acts 1:8</i>	18. Riverside Women's Center <i>Luke 21:18-19</i>
19. Health of the Congregation <i>James 5:14</i>	20. Small Groups & Missional Communities <i>Hebrews 10:25</i>	21. Nation, State & Government <i>1 Timothy 2:1-4</i>	22. Z.O.N.E. <i>Matthew 19:14</i>	23. Our Seniors <i>Psalm 90:14</i>	24. Churches of Ottawa <i>Hebrews 10:24-25</i>
25. Ottawa Mayor & City Counsel <i>1 timothy 2:1-4</i>	26. Leaders of Ministries <i>Hebrews 13:17-18</i>	27. Ottawa Community <i>Jeremiah 29:7</i>	28. Pray for those who are far from God <i>Luke 10:2</i>	29. Servant's Heart <i>Matthew 25:37-40</i>	30. Marseilles Community <i>Jeremiah 29:7</i>

LABOR OF LOVE FOLLOW UP

Dear FPC,

You and your Team are a true joy to work with. You make leading a Labor of Love home look easy, and we both know that it is NOT!!! You again went over and above. Thank you for your sharing your time, talents and hard work. You certainly made a difference in the lives of Kim M. and her Grandson.

I talked with Kim yesterday, and in her own words;

"ABSOLUTELY FANTASTIC! Excellent work. Such nice people - beautiful crew. It boosted my mental health."

What a wonderful tribute to you and the folks from the First Presbyterian Church and their families.

THANK YOU!

See you next year.

With gratitude and friendship,

Shelli Ocepek, Director

United Way of Eastern LaSalle County





THANKSGIVING

Guess what time it is??

Thanksgiving Jubilee!!

Sunday, November 17 at Noon

We will be sharing this Thanksgiving meal with our Community Meal! There will be turkey and dressing, mashed potatoes, gravy and rolls, along with coffee, tea and milk. We just ask you to please bring a dish to share.

If your last name begins with:

A-G Salads

H-Q Vegetables

R-Z Desserts

We are looking for people to donate turkeys and people willing to cook them. We are also looking for volunteers to help set up Sunday morning and clean up after dinner. There will be a sign-up sheet at the back of the sanctuary or you can email Gayle at lgschmitt75@hotmail.com

Psalm 136: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good.

His love endures forever.

Thank you!

Fellowship and Outreach Committee

The Message of 1 Peter

The message of Peter's first letter turned the world upside-down for his readers. He saw the people of the young church of the first century as strangers, aliens who were only temporary residents, travelers heading for their native land.

Peter speaks to our own pilgrimage when he tells of suffering now and glory to come. Stormy seasons of persecution were beginning for the churches in Asia Minor. These storms rage on in the modern world.

In this study we learn how no true Christian can escape at least a measure of suffering for Christ's sake. Out of firsthand knowledge as an apostle of Christ, Peter shows us what the story of Jesus' life means for us as we take up our cross and follow him.

The class will start on Oct 27th. We will meet in the Library around 11:00 am following worship.

Come join in and be part of this 7-week study as we learn what God's word proclaims about the Christ.

Please contact Allen Gibbs (304) 633-1069 for information

1st Peter

October 27th – Background & Survey of 1st Peter

November 3rd – Suffering & Salvation

November 10th – The Christian Pilgrimage

November 17th – God's Chosen People

November 24th – Off

December 1st – Life of Subjection



Would you like to send someone a “blessing” to let them know you are thinking about them?

There are greeting cards in Scott Hall that are available for anyone who would like to send a note of encouragement, get well, happy birthday, thinking of you, to someone special in our church family. Contact Gayle Schmitt (815) 667-4964 or Julie Angus 433-2946 for any questions.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

The Fellowship and Outreach committee is looking for groups, families, friends, co-workers, or anyone who would like to prepare and serve the Community Meal on the 3rd Sunday of each month in 2020.

It's not as hard as it may sound and it is a lot of fun!

Please contact Gayle Schmitt (815) 667-4964 or Julie Angus 433-2946 for any questions about serving the LORD in a wonderful way.

Do you or your FPC ministry need event space within FPC's building?

Please be sure to fill out an *Event & Space Reservation* form and get it in!

If you or a ministry you are involved with need any space at any time within the First Presbyterian Church building, please stop by the office to pick up this necessary form. Once you have filled it out and submitted it to Cindy Arjes, FPC secretary, she will put your event on the office calendar and your space will be reserved. Cindy will then confirm with you that your event and space are scheduled. Failure to submit this form may cause you to lose the space and time you want for your event to another properly planned and approved event. Please call 433-1045 with any questions.

NOTE: *If you want to sponsor the use of FPC's building by a non-FPC organization, the trustees have a separate use request form that must be completed and submitted to the trustees.*

Have 20/20 Vision for 2020

Is your “vision distorted” as you “look” into your future? Have you “lost sight” of what’s truly important? Do you fail to “see” a way to serve our Lord by serving others? Have you been thinking lately how you might get out of your comfort zone and impact the lives of others in a big way?

TEAM Believe In UGanda 2019 has recently returned from our mission trip to the rural villages of Uganda where we served the poorest families in the communities. We are already gearing up for 2020! In fact, we have a lofty goal of taking two teams throughout that summer and you could be part of the team!

As you contemplate this, “look” into your future and what do you “see”? Do you yearn for something more? Going to UGanda in 2008 really helped me “see clearly” that much of my prior life was devoted to me and what I could do for me! God’s “vision” for my life had become “fuzzy and out of focus” and left me feeling somewhat empty and restless! I felt there was too much me (self serving) and not enough Him! (God serving) But the “focus” of my life changed dramatically when I put God in charge of where I should be serving to bring HOPE to the HOPELESS! And 11 years later, my heart still breaks for the injustices that I witnessed while serving in the most remote villages of Uganda—but I witnessed JOY in the people that can only be explained by their love and dependence on God for all their basic needs; the same God we serve that blesses our daily lives so abundantly!!!

20-20 Vision cont. from pg. 5

A friend approached me not long ago inquiring about Believe In Uganda mission trips but she wondered whether or not she might have anything to offer the people! Here's my response:

If your heart breaks over the plight and condition of the poorest of the poor in our world—this mission trip is for you!!

If your heart breaks knowing that children in Uganda often only eat one meal a day— this mission trip is for you!!

If your heart breaks knowing that mothers typically deliver their babies on a dirt floor and that children often die because of lack of medical attention—this mission trip is for you!!

If your heart breaks knowing that water used daily is infested by microscopic parasites—this mission trip is for you!!

If you want to be the hands and feet of Jesus in a very concrete, personal way— this mission trip is for you!!

The list goes on and on but because you can help change all the above, you can be part of the solution!! Going, Giving, Praying!!! We are in the early stages of forming teams and making plans for BIUG 2020. Please contact me for more information!

Debbie Damron-home 1-815-434-3606; cell 1-815-260-4619



UGANDA!

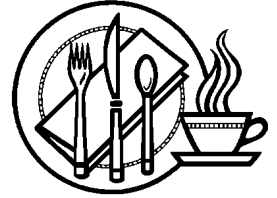
LOVE, WIN, GROW, GO: SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

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 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 (433-5477) for questions or to sign up.

LADIES' NITE OUT

Tuesday, November 5th

At Sunfield's at 6:00 p.m.

Contact Darlene Halm

(815) 228-5722

for reservations or questions

KUM JOIN US

Will meet on November 3rd

**Immediately after worship in
the Library**

Lunch will follow at Halftime



FOOD, FELLOWSHIP & FAMILY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

NOVEMBER

Brad Armstrong	1
Julie Angus	1
Carol Zimmerman .	6
Jean Zeilmann	6
Brian Smithmeyer	6
Chris Keely	8
Nolan Zarwell	12
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

Sandy Finnegan	4
Lori Olson	4
Ben Dial	6
Bruce Smith	6
Karen Mikkelsen	6
Helen Tammen	11
Sawyer Booras	11
John Gibbs	12
Betty Angus	18
Holly Hess	22
Jax & Marek Zarwell	24
Anna Schmidt	26
Olivia Trolinger	28

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<u>Every Sunday</u> 8:45 am Prayer 9:30 am WORSHIP 10:45 am Fellowship 10:45 am-ZONE 10:45-Jr. & Sr. High Sunday School 11 am-Adult Bible Study		<u>Every Tuesday</u> 7 pm- Hand Bell Choir Practice	<u>Every Wed.</u> 9 am -Prayer Time 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. TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR!
3. 11 am-Kum Join Us	4.	5. 7 pm-Ladies' Nite Out	6.	7.	8.	9.
10. Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Collections 5 pm- LOL4JC & TBD	11.	12. 7 pm-Committee Meetings	13.	14.	15.	16.
17. NOON- Thanksgiving Community Meal	18.	19. 7 pm- Session	20.	21.	22.	23.
24. 5 pm- LOL4JC & TBD	25.	26.	27.	28. THANKSGIVING DAY Office Closed	29.	30.



November 2019

First Presbyterian Church
114 East Jefferson Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

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

Return Service Requested

Thanksgiving Jubilee!!

Sunday, November 17 at Noon

There will be turkey and dressing, mashed potatoes, gravy and rolls, along with coffee, tea and milk. We ask you to please bring a dish to share.

If your last name begins with:

A-G Salads

H-Q Vegetables

R-Z Desserts

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