



PRESBY PRESS

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
114 EAST JEFFERSON STREET † OTTAWA, IL 61350
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DECEMBER 2020



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

WHAT'S COMING UP FOR WORSHIP THIS

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS?

Our Advent Theme: The People Walking In Darkness Have Seen a Great Light (Isaiah 9:2)

First Sunday of Advent (Nov. 29): Daniel 4

Second Sunday of Advent (Dec. 6): Daniel 5, communion

Third Sunday of Advent (Dec. 13): Daniel 6, Soul Shine

Fourth Sunday of Advent (Dec. 20): Daniel 7, Christmas Music Sunday

Christmas Eve: As of this printing many ideas are under consideration. Watch for coming details as the worship committee works to craft a special worship celebration of Christ's holy birth.

First Sunday of Christmas (Dec. 27): What a year! Let's gather to share stories of God's grace that have gotten us through this year of Covid.

Join us for worship safely in-person at 9:30 a.m. or remotely for livestream on YouTube at "FPC Ottawa".



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 9 am, at FPC

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT
FROM THE TRUSTEES

The trustees are seeking special donations to repair the leaking educational wing roof. Place donations in the Sunday offering plates or mail in to the office/Attn: Building Fund. It is hoped work will begin and be completed before December. The estimated cost is \$26,000. Thank you that you have always responded generously for all past major repair projects so that we might continue to meet the needs of the church's building where so much good ministry and mission take place.



Christmas Poinsettias

The worship committee will offer poinsettias for purchase for the Advent and Christmas season. The price is \$8 for a small plant and \$15 for a large plant. If you would like to purchase one please contact the office (433-1045) or Nathalie Schmidt (433-0175) by Dec. 2.

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*Our Elders are
committed to serving.*

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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 is an opportunity each week to be a part of this important and special work of the church; **Wednesday mornings from 9-10 am**, by Zoom. 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 4.



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>

Thank you!

Thank you for a beautiful surprise gift. What an awesome day it was when I received it!

God Bless You All, Mary Lou Smith

The Very First Christmas Day

By Brenda Thompson Davis

His parents had no money, although He was a King—
An angel came to Joseph one night as he dreamed.

"Don't be afraid to marry her, this child is God's own Son
And with these words from God's messenger, their journey had begun.

They traveled to the city, their taxes to be paid—
But when Christ was born they found no place for the baby to be laid.
So they wrapped Him up and used a lowly manger for His bed,
With nothing else but straw to place beneath the Christ-child's head.

The shepherds came to worship Him, the wise men traveled too—
Led by a star up in the sky, they found the baby new.
They gave him gifts so wondrous, their incense, myrrh and gold,
Thus completes the greatest story of a birth 'twas ever told.

He was just a tiny baby, born in a stable far away—
They had no reservations, and nowhere else to stay.
But His birth was so majestic, in a simple sort of way,
A baby born in Bethlehem on a very special day.

It was the Savior born in Bethlehem, on the very first Christmas Day.

LADIES' NITE OUT

Will resume when we are able
to meet safely

KUM JOIN US

Will resume when we are able
to meet safely



FOOD, FELLOWSHIP & FAMILY



DECEMBER

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

JANUARY

Jodi Martin	5
Keith Stevenson	5
Betty Ehret	12
Cathy Peters	21
Nathalie Schmidt	26
Debbie Walker,	27
Diane Kennedy	28
Winona Bartlett	31



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9:30 a.m.— In person and remote worship (on YouTube at FPC Ottawa)			9:00 a.m.— Wednesday Prayer Team by Zoom			
		1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.
	7 pm-Regathering Sub. Committee	7 pm- Committee Meetings				
13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.
Soul Shine 9:25 am—Prelude of Praise		7 pm- Session				
20.	21.	22.	23.	24.	25.	26.
Christmas Music Sunday	7 pm- Regathering Sub. Committee			7 pm- Christmas Eve Service		
27.	28.	29.	30.	31.		

December

2020

First Presbyterian Church
114 East Jefferson Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

Return Service Requested

Christmas Holiday Schedule

December 13—Soul Shine leads in music of worship

- Join worship early at 9:25 a.m. for the Prelude of Praise

December 20—Our Christmas music Sunday

- Come in person or remotely to share the JOY!

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