



PRESBY PRESS

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

WWW.OTTAWAFIRSTPRES.ORG

VOLUME 45 No. 9

OCTOBER 2021

October

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

STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT SUNDAY - OCT. 10

On **Sunday October 10, 2021**, we will commit our resources to God's work through First Presbyterian Church of Ottawa by dedicating our pledges for the coming year. We hope you can join us at the 9:30 a.m. worship service to dedicate your yellow commitment card. If you cannot be present on Sunday, October 10, please mail it to the Church office, 114 E. Jefferson St., Ottawa, IL 61350, marked **STEWARDSHIP** and it will be given unopened to our Church treasurer, who will record it in her account book. Even if you are unable to make a financial commitment for 2022, please return your card so that we have a record that you responded. May God continue to watch over you in all that you do.

Very truly yours in Christ,
Administration Committee

*"Grace to you and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ"*

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

*Our Elders are
committed to serving.*

Jim Keely
(Administration)
433-0868

Joy Huebner
(Administration)
815-343-3379

Mike Farrell
(Deacon/Trustee)
434-2774

Gayle Schmitt
(Trustee)
815-667-4964

Brian Smithmeyer
(Discipleship)
815-313-5843

Lisa Mestelle
(Discipleship)
815-252-7462

Casey Clemens
(Fellowship & Outreach)
815-343-7245

Julie Angus
(Fellowship & Outreach)
815-252-3402

Kerry Gerding
(Missions)
343-6088

Allen Gibbs
(Worship)
(304) 633-1069

Lori Trolinger
(Worship)
815-795-6791

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



Are you feeling a tug from God to serve as an elder in our church? We ask that you will pray and listen to what God may be asking of you. We are meeting and praying for God to give us direction in asking people to serve as leaders. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to a member of the nominating committee or Pastor John. Thank you, Sue Brockman (343-1530) Brian Huebner (343-0534), Ron Koestler (343-6088), Gayle Schmitt (343-6147) or Mike Farrell, Chair (434-2774).



Our Discipleship elders ask for your prayers. As we restart our children's and youth ministries this month. We are still looking for volunteers for LOL4JC, our twice-monthly Sunday PM Jr. high ministry. Please continue to pray for:

1. Vision for ministry after many months of hiatus due to COVID.
2. Leaders who are passionate to help kids and youth grow in Christ
3. Space for the programs
4. Curriculum to engage hearts and minds

We praise God that he always meets our need! If you believe God is calling you to serve, please call or text Lisa Mestelle at 815-252-7462.

REGATHERING TEAM INFORMATION

The Regathering Team has been working towards the goal of a full reopening of its programs in September. Looking ahead:

Full Worship Service

We have recently restarted passing the offering and communion trays. We have added the additional parts of the service as of September 12. Cups for communion will remain the pews for those uncomfortable with using pieces on the passed trays.

Restoration of all Sunday School classes

We have resumed Sunday School classes as of September 19
We are currently looking for a new Jr. High Sunday School Teacher

Youth Group Meetings

TBD Sr. High Youth has been meeting monthly since last spring. They will continue meeting weekly at their discretion.

LOL4JC is looking for leaders and hopes to restart in October.

Community Meals

The Fellowship Team will start discussing how to move forward safely with the Community Meals.

Fellowship Hour will begin on October 3 and
continue each week after with coffee, tea, and treats.

Please be in prayer as we move towards these goals.

UPDATE FROM REGATHERING TEAM

The Regathering Team met on Monday, September 27,

After much discussion we arrived at the following:

1. "Based on the recent rise in COVID cases we recommend the temporary return to masks for all" (regardless of vaccination status) will continue until further notice

The committee will plan to continue to meet biweekly to review the need to make any changes and communicate to both session and the congregation.

Ladies' Night 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



OCTOBER

Larry Schmitt	2
Hannah Walker	2
Shirley Davey	4
Arla Severson	5
Caleb Burkey	6
Mary Lou Smith	12
Rob Angus	14
Joe Schmidt	20
Dan Mestelle	22
Samantha Ehret	24
Ken Damron	26

NOVEMBER

Brad Armstrong	1
Julie Angus	1
Carol Zimmerman	6
Jean Zeilmann	6
Brian Smithmeyer	6
Chris Keely	8
Nolan Zarwell	12
Susanne Gibbs	15
Griffin Clemens	15
Laura Zarwell	15
Kevin Arjes	16
Gayle Schmitt	17
Pat Gerding	18
Kyle Zarwell	22

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>9:30 a.m.— In person and remote worship</p> <p>11:15 a.m.-Adult Sunday School via Zoom</p> <p>4:30 pm - TBD-FPC's Sr. High Ministry</p>			<p>9:00 a.m.— Wednesday Prayer Team by Zoom</p>			
					1.	2.
3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.
10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.
<p>STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY</p>	<p>Regathering Team Meets</p>	<p>7pm-Committee Meetings</p>				
17.	18.	19.	20.	21.	22.	23.
<p>9:25am– Outdoor Worship Service</p> <p>NOON– Community Meal</p>		<p>7 pm- Session</p>				
24.	25.	26.	27.	28.	29.	30.
	<p>Regathering Team Meets</p>					
31.						



First Presbyterian Church
114 East Jefferson Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

Return Service Requested

OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICE ON OCTOBER 17 AT 9:25 am

The last Outdoor Worship Service of Summer will be on *Sunday, October 17!*
Please join us as we enjoy the music of Soul Shine and the beautiful weather.
Don't forget to come to worship at **9:25 am** for the *Prelude of Praise*. Bring a chair and invite your family and friends to join us. Stay after worship and enjoy the Community Meal with our friends and neighbors.

NOTE: In The event of inclement weather, worship will move into the sanctuary.

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