



PRESBY PRESS

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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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

Scarecrow Fest Kid's Carnival 2022

Needs Your Help!

Needed are 4-5 people to help set up games at 8:30 am.

Also needed are 7 to 9 people to help the kids play games from 10am-12pm and 7 to 9 people from 12pm-2pm.

We need 4-5 people to help with clean up at 2:15pm.

Please sign up to help with these on the board at the back of the sanctuary.

Also needed are donations of 10 pumpkins, 15 straw bales and two pop-up tents. Please sign up for to provide these items on the board at the back of the sanctuary.

**If you have any questions please contact
Lisa Mestelle at 815-252-7462**

Let's Go Into the World and Demonstrate FAITH!

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

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 in the church library or by Zoom (ask Pastor John for the link). Come and see what great work God is waiting to do, as we thank, seek & ask Him in a weekly season of prayer together.

Heavenly Father, Thank you, that we can come before you, our loving, powerful Father and ask for your 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 your 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>

It's time for Sunday School!

The Bible ZONE is FPC's Sunday School ministry for kids Pre-K to eighth grade. The word ZONE stands for “**Z**eal for God, **O**neeness in Relationships, **N**urture in God's Word, and **E**xercising our Faith, all of which are our goals. We have two groups, the younger ages (Pre-K to fifth grade), and sixth to eighth grade.

The younger group meets Sunday mornings from 8:15 – 9 am in the East Room (big playroom downstairs). We will be going through the New Testament using a giant felt board with very elaborate and colorful felt pieces to build each Bible lesson. We also spend some time memorizing scripture and catechism. There's usually time for snack, plenty of paper and crayons/colored pencils for those who love to draw, and time to play. The curriculum is published by Veritas Press and “Through the Bible in Felt” by Betty Lukens.

The older kids up through 8th grade meet after church, from 10:45 – 11:30 am in an upstairs Sunday School room. We will continue to go through scripture in chronologic order. Our conversations are insightful, and it's such a joy to watch our young people grow up and learn about God's Word. The curriculum is by Veritas Press and includes reading scripture and talking about the concepts/ events that took place. It's always so much fun to hear everyone's perspective at such a formative age. If you have any questions, ask or call Susanne Gibbs at 304-633-7172



WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP CHILDREN IN UGANDA? OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE!

- Adopt Glory primary school \$3000/year (teaching and learning supplies, meals, etc.)
- Adopt a Village savings and loan association (VSLA) \$2000/year
- Save a mother, purchase a mama kit at \$6 per mother
- Keep a girl child in school, purchase re-usable sanitary pad at \$2 per pack
(3 in a pack and underpants)
- Sponsor a family at \$75/month OR Sponsor a child in school at \$75 per term, 3 times a year (\$225/year)
- Provide safe water supply system for 500 people with clean drinking water at \$3000 OR family water kit at \$50-80
- Support our office staff with used or new laptops, cameras and motorcycles to facilitate field activities
- Partner: Need at least 2 acres of land, new building, sustainable water supply and equipment for MEDICAL Center
- Transform an African farmer by providing equipment i.e. maize shellerse
- Purchase and give one time support to a needy family a pair of pigs (\$120) pair of goats (\$120) pair of chickens (\$15)



Mike & Erin Koestlers' Last Missionary Letter from Turkey

Dear friends and family,

It is hard to believe that we have now been back in the states for three months! After the emotional rollercoaster and chaos that was getting ready to move across the world, this summer we've been so thankful for the opportunity to slow down, enjoy time together, and have a steady adjustment for our family. Mike has been interviewing for jobs, so hopefully in the near future we will be able to start settling into a new home and community. We are anxious to begin our next chapter as a family, but are working on trusting the Lord in this process and taking advantage of the flexibility we have right now. We appreciate your prayers for us as we continue the waiting process to fully get re-settled.

One great thing about our slow summer has been having time to reflect on our last eight years in Turkey. There were definitely some really challenging times. We worked through some difficult team dynamics, experienced personal hardships, and really struggled raising our kids while managing through the pandemic with such strictly enforced lockdowns. But most importantly we were able to learn more about God's goodness, patience, and sovereignty in the midst of it. We were able to see individuals who had hardly heard of Christ come to faith, see reconciliation in tough relationships, and work alongside some incredibly faithful and courageous individuals. We had the joy of raising our kids in a foreign culture that they consider home, became a part of a community in our neighborhood, and experienced an incredible amount of growth personally and as a family.

you to Güneş, and if you have any interest in getting to know more about her ministry or how you could partner with her, please don't hesitate to contact us and we can get you in touch.

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Cont. from pg. 7

During our time overseas it was incredible to get to know local believers who want to see their own people come to faith and boldly proclaim the Gospel even though it may cost them personally. We wanted to take this opportunity to introduce you to one individual we have had the privilege of getting to know, Güneş (pronounced Gunesh). Güneş has served on Mike's operations team for the past two years in a salaried capacity, but this summer has taken the huge step to join our organization full-time. She is now raising her financial support to continue her ministry both in an operations role and also in reaching out to university students and outreach through her local church. We've attached a letter further introducing you to Güneş, and if you have any interest in getting to know more about her ministry or how you could partner with her, please don't hesitate to contact us and we can get you in touch.

Finally we just wanted to thank you all one last time for all the ways you have partnered with us over the last eight years. We've said it before, but we honestly could not have done this without all of you. It has been a privilege to partner with you and we can't describe how fortunate we feel to have been a part of the Lord's work in Turkey. We know that his work will continue on, and we are so thankful to have been a part of it. For those of you that have been partnered with us financially, please be sure to end your giving as we are nearing the time when any additional gifts to our account will be directed into a general fund. If you have any questions about this please let us know. Please stay in touch, and continue to let us know how we can be praying for you!

With love,

Mike, Erin, Marty, and Sam

P.S. Please be sure to use our personal email addresses now as our company ones will be closing shortly. Thanks!

mrkoestler@gmail.com

**7:00 pm Committee Meetings-
2nd Tuesday of Each Month**

As Covid restrictions lift and masks are now optional at FPC, we have resumed our pre-Covid practice on committee night-We will start with all committees and their members gathering at 7:00 pm in Scott Hall to briefly check in together and pray with one another before moving to our separate committee meeting spaces.

**SEE YOU ALL IN SCOTT HALL,
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13!**

OTTAWA COMMUNITY FOOD BASKET

“The Food Helpers”

Free food is available to a 1-person household with a monthly income of \$1,986 or less or a 2-person household with a monthly income of \$2,686 or less. The monthly income base is adjusted by the number of persons living in the household. An example: a 4-person household with a monthly income of \$4,086 or less qualifies for free food. Contact the Community Food Basket at 815-431-0155 or ottawafoodbasket.org/need help for hours of operation and to have your questions answered. Your household may be eligible for free food

Thank you,
Shelley Threadgill

Pastor

John W. Walker

jwalker@ottawafirstpres.org

Church Secretary

Cindy Arjes

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Treasurer

Joy Huebner

**Westminster
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Organist

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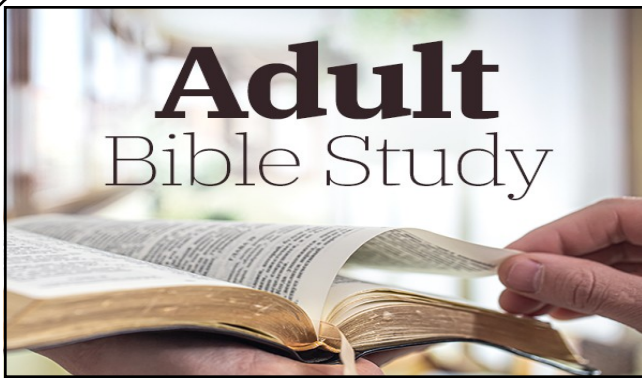
Youth Christian Education

Youth Education begins
September 18!

Younger children (pre-K to 5th grade) will meet at 8:15 am. in the East Room (basement level)

Older children and senior highs will meet in various rooms at 10:45 am.

- 6th to 8th grade (top floor class room)
- 9th to 12th grade (main floor senior high room)



Adult Bible Study meets in the library on Sunday, mornings at 11:00 am after worship. This will be a hybrid class that also has a ZOOM connection for those who wish to participate remotely. Please contact Allen Gibbs, teacher (304-633-1069), for the Zoom link.

Education & Fellowship



SEPTEMBER

Forest Stuedemann	3
Cindy Arjes	4
Kash & Kenleigh Fowler	12
Jon Woodyer	14
Mark Brockman	15
Dan Duggan	16
Joan Damron	22
Katie Duggan	26
David Farrell	28

OCTOBER

Larry Schmitt	2
Hannah Walker	2
Shirley Davey	4
Arla Severson	5
Caleb Burkey	6
Rob Angus	14
Joe Schmidt	20
Dan Mestelle	22
Samantha Ehret	24

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8:30 a.m.-Bible Zone 9:30 a.m.—In person and remote worship 10:45 a.m.-Jr. & Sr.High Sun. School 11:00 a.m.-Adult Sunday School in person or via Zoom 4:30 pm - Sr. High Ministry			<u>EACH WEDNESDAY</u> 9:00 a.m.— Wednesday Prayer Team in person and by Zoom 7 pm-Choir Practice			
				1.	2.	3.
4.	5. LABOR DAY	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
11. SUNDAE SUNDAY 8 am- Stewardship Kick Off 10:45 am– Sundaes Sunday in Scott Hall	12.	13. 7 pm –Committee Meetings (Start in Scott Hall)	14.	15.	16.	17.
18. 8:15 am—ZONE 10:45 –Jr. & Sr. High Sunday School 11am-Adult Sunday School Noon –Community Meal	19.	20. 7 pm-Session	21.	22.	23.	24. 8:30 am-Setup 10am-2pm- Scarecrow Fest Carnival 2 pm– Take Down
25.	26.	27.	28.	29.	30.	



September

First Presbyterian Church
114 East Jefferson Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

Return Service Requested

SIGN UP FOR THE LABOR OF LOVE!

The Ottawa Labor of Love will be held on Saturday, October 1. Look for a sign up sheet at the back of the sanctuary soon! Please sign up early to join the FPC work crew on home repairs for someone who needs the help. Sign up sheets are at the back of the sanctuary and on the table outside of the church office. Please contact Betsy Feagans (433-5480) for further information!

GO Into the World and Demonstrate FAITH!

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