



# PRESBY PRESS

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

WWW.OTTAWAFIRSTPRES.ORG

VOLUME 467 NO. 04

APRIL 2023



## 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 DEMON-  
STRATE FAITH

## AOK SUNDAY IS COMING MAY 7!

We will once again celebrate Acts of Kindness (AOK) Sunday. This year's **AOK Sunday will be on May 7th**. For those of you new to this event, **AOK Sunday is a time when we worship God thru service to our community.**

AOK Sunday will go like this. We will gather as the Church for a continental breakfast and a time of prayer between 7:45 and 9:00 am. We will then break out into service teams that will work on one of a handful of projects throughout the community. Signup sheets will be posted in the weeks leading up to May 7th, where you can choose the project you would like to participate in. Projects will include sorting the pantry and clothing closets at PADS, landscaping homes for Friendship Village, and a few other projects that are still being planned. We are planning projects for all age groups and physical abilities. All project teams will return to church for a time of communion followed by lunch together. Don't forget to wear your First Pres Crew T-shirts.

More details about projects and project signups will be shared in the coming weeks. Please pray for AOK Sunday and the projects we will take on. We look forward to worshipping together with you as we bless our community thru Acts of Kindness and share the spirit of our loving community of Jesus Christ with others.

**Watch for further details in the bulletin!**

### 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 9:00 a.m. and Wednesday mornings at 9:00 a.m. at FPC

*Our Elders are  
committed to serv-  
ing.*

**Ron Koestler**  
(Administration)

**Joy Huebner**  
(Administration)

**Mike Farrell**  
(Deacon/Trustee)

**Dan Duggan**  
(Trustee)

**Dan Mestelle**  
(Trustee)

**Gayle Schmitt**  
(Discipleship)

**Lisa Smithmeyer**  
(Discipleship)

**Casey Clemens**  
(Fellowship & Outreach)

**Julie Angus**  
(Fellowship & Outreach)

**Kerry Gerding**  
(Missions)

**Allen Gibbs**  
(Worship)

**Lori Trolinger**  
(Worship)

**Diane Farrell**  
(Clerk of Session)

## **Easter Breakfast Sunday on Sunday, April 9**

Please join us Easter morning at 8:30 a.m. in Scott Hall for hot cross buns, fruit, assorted juices and coffee. Let's start the day by celebrating the Lord's resurrection together.

## **FPC's Annual Easter Egg Hunt**

Our annual First Pres Easter Egg Hunt is only days away! Children will meet at the playground at 10:45 a.m. following the Easter service. Come enjoy the fun!

## **Go Into the Community and Demonstrate Faith**

The Fellowship & Outreach Committee needs a few more families, small groups, or other organizations to volunteer to help serve a meal on the third Sunday of the month. We still have the months of May, July, and August available. If anyone is interested in serving the community and helping spread the Lord's love to those in need, please let us know. Contact Julie Angus (815-252-3402) or Casey Clemens (815-343-7245), and we will sign you up!

## **A OK SUNDAY IS COMING!**

AOK Sunday is set for May 7th, 2023. Be sure to mark your calendars. A light breakfast and lunch will be provided. Plenty of opportunities to serve our church and community. Details and sign-up sheets will be coming in April

## **PRAYER IS POWERFUL. LET'S PRAY TOGETHER!**

**NOW is a great time to join this vital ministry by Zoom, Jan. to March!**

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 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 Hurt- ing 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 Congrega- tion <i>Ephesians 6:10-18</i>
13. Invite & Wel- come 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>

# Victory

Poet: Jennie Harrison

Out of the shadow of death and the grave,  
Jesus our Saviour hath come,  
Bright in His glory, and mighty to save,  
Free from the taint of the tomb!  
Robes of humanity, sanctified so,  
Worn in His pitying love.  
Drop all their weight of earth-weakness and woe,  
Jesus ascendeth above.

Victory! Victory! won for us all!  
Let the glad tidings resound;  
Jesus is risen! His trumpet shall call.  
Life and salvation are found.

Out of the shadow of winter's long night.  
Earth comes in gladness to-day!  
Clad in the garments of spring-time and light,  
Scattering doubt and dismay.  
Beautiful story, that never grows old,  
Pledge from our conquering Lord,  
Earth is redeemed from its darkness and cold,  
Easter hath come at His word.

Out of the shadow of weakness and fear,  
Let us arise, then, to-day!  
Jesus hath called us; our Easter is here!  
Why should we doubt and delay?  
Here is the path that our Conqueror trod,  
Bright with His blessing of peace;  
These are His blossoms that spring from the sod,  
Telling of hope and release.

## **Pastor**

*John W. Walker*  
jwalker@ottawafirstpres.org

## **Church Secretary**

*Cindy Arjes*  
fpcone@ottawafirstpres.org

## **Treasurer**

*Joy Huebner*

## **Westminster Choir Director**

*Lloyd Chapman*  
Lloyd@udnet.net

## **Organist**

*Diane Chapman*

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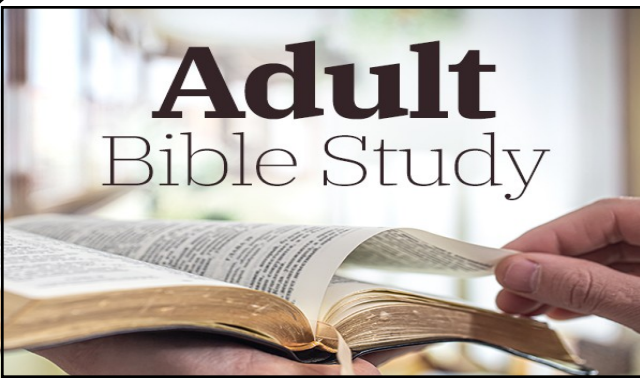
## Youth Christian Education

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 classroom)

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



Rob McGrath	1
Sue Koestler	3
Mike Farrell	8
Amanda Brockman	10
Diane Farrell	11
Brian Huebner	12
Karla Armstrong	18
Tyler Angus	19
Brad Angus	20
Hannah Duggan	21
Danielle Ehret	23
Rhonda Love	26
Pete Trolinger	27

### MAY

Addilyn Woodyer	3
Lisa Mestelle	10
Sue Paul	10
Dave Noble	10
Tucker Clemens	11
Steve West	13
Don Morehead	15
James Burkey	15
Jackie Stevenson	19
John Bean	23
Casey Clemens	25
Betsy Feagans	25
Jack Marvel	27
Linda Hoadley	28



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			9:00 a.m.—Wednesday Prayer Team by Zoom			1.
2. Palm Sunday	3.	4.	5. 7:15 pm-Choir Practice	6. 7 p.m.—Maundy Thursday Service	7.	8.
9. Easter Sunday 8:30 am– Easter Breakfast 10:45 am– Easter Egg Hunt	10.	11. 7 pm– Committee Meetings	12.	13.	14.	15.
16.	17.	18. 7 pm– Session	19.	20.	21.	22.
23.	24.	25.	26.	27.	28.	29.
30.						



**First Presbyterian Church**  
114 East Jefferson Street  
Ottawa, Illinois 61350  
Return Service Requested



HE IS RISEN  
HAPPY EASTER

## **Easter Sunday is April 9!**

- Easter Breakfast will be served at 8:30 a.m. in Scott Hall
- Easter Worship at 9:30 a.m.
- Easter Egg Hunt will be at 10:45 a.m. in the playground if weather permits

**Come worship the Resurrected Savior!**

<i>* A O K Sunday</i>	<i>pg. 1</i>	<i>* Easter Poem</i>	<i>pg. 5</i>
<i>* Announcements</i>	<i>pg. 2</i>	<i>* Education &amp; Fellowship</i>	<i>pg. 6</i>
<i>* Prayer is Powerful</i>	<i>pg. 3</i>	<i>* April Calendar</i>	<i>pg. 7</i>
<i>* Prayer Calendar</i>	<i>Pg. 4</i>	<i>* Highlights of the Month</i>	<i>pg. 8</i>

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