



# PRESBY PRESS

114 East Jefferson Street \* Ottawa, IL 61350 \* (815) 433-1045 \* [www.ottawafirstpres.org](http://www.ottawafirstpres.org)

## WORSHIP *Service*

Sermon Series: **Our Father**  
Pastor John Walker

9:30 - 10:30 Sunday Mornings  
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

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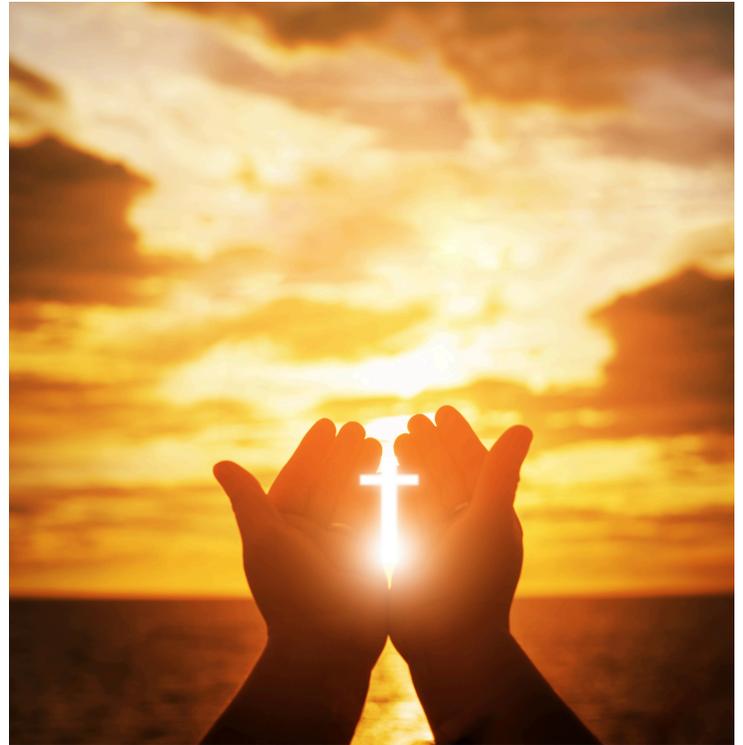


Our Father: A Sermon Series on Prayer and the Lord's Prayer has begun! Some content has been taken from the book, *Where Prayer Becomes Real*, by Kyle Strobel and John Coe. All of us think about prayer, and a lot of us try to engage in it at some level. Jesus gave his disciples the pattern of the Lord's Prayer when they asked him to teach them how to pray in Luke 11:1. But what if the Lord's Prayer is more than merely instruction on how to pray? Come each Sunday to explore the depths and mysteries of this rhythm of our life in Christ and with Our Father that's truly like oxygen to our faith.

Do you have input about prayer for this new sermon series? Please share your questions, observations, insight, etc. about prayer with Pastor John as he prepares sermons for this sermon series, "Our Father". Write to him at his FPC email: [jwalker@ottawafirstpres.org](mailto:jwalker@ottawafirstpres.org).

# The Lord's Prayer

OUR FATHER,  
 WHO ART IN HEAVEN  
 HALLOWED BY THY NAME.  
 THY KINGDOM COME.  
 THY WILL BE DONE,  
 ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN.  
 GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD.  
 AND FORGIVE US OUR DEBTS,  
 AS WE FORGIVE OUR DEBTORS.  
 AND LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION  
 BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL  
 FOR THINE IS THE KINGDOM AND THE POWER AND  
 THE GLORY FOREVER.  
 AMEN.



## 3rd Annual Harvest HAND UP

**Saturday,  
 September 13, 2025**

Please join us from **SUN UP to SUN DOWN!**  
 Come be a part of the fun and learn all about TUF.

**Featuring:**

- Breakfast on the Farm
- Food Trucks and Beverages
- Heads 'n Tails Contest
- Bourbon Pull
- Drop Ticket Raffle
- Live Auction
- 50/50 Raffle
- Ugandan Crafts for Sale
- TUF Update



# TRANSFORMING UGANDAN FARMERS



In 2020, Joe and Nathalie Schmidt, LaSalle County farmers, began a project to assist and educate farmers in Uganda after witnessing poor crop conditions and their struggle to keep their families fed. At its roots, TUF provides agronomy education, improved seeds, and agricultural inputs that grow to a harvest of healthy maize and bushels of hope, transforming the lives of these farm families.



In 2024, Milton learned all about the evolution of American Ag.

In 2024, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Harvest Hand Up raised over \$26,000 from generous guests and donors. This support funded the TUF Education and Training Program for adults and extended to two schools of secondary age students so they are learning these farming practices at a younger age. Funds raised also provided for the salary of the TUF Agronomist, farming inputs like improved seed, DAP fertilizer, tarps, bags, plastic grain silos, and purchased an all-terrain motorcycle making access to all TUF farmers easier. Looking ahead, we are working towards adding 60 more TUF Farmers, multiple community-based storage facilities and grain transport vehicles. A 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual "Meet the Buyer" event is also on the calendar!

[www.tufproject.org](http://www.tufproject.org)

**As the project grows, TUF needs your help to continue to transform even more lives.**

**Join us for the  
3rd Annual**

*Harvest*  
**HAND UP**

*A Benefit for Ugandan Farmers*

**Saturday, Sept 13, 2025**

**Sunnybrook Farm/Joe & Nathalie Schmidt, 3131 East 18th Road, Ottawa, IL**

**7-10 a.m. Breakfast on the Farm** ♦ Pancakes, Sausage, & Beverages  
50/50, Drop Ticket Raffle, & Merchandise sales begins.  
\$10 (per person) Kids (10 and under) FREE

**10 a.m. - 4 p.m.** Visit the popular Rusty Halo (1½ miles north)  
3277 East 18th Road, Ottawa

**4 p.m. Barn Doors Open**

Harvest Hand Up Entry/Meal Tickets  
\$25 (age 14 and older)  
\$15 (age 5 - 13)

Includes Food, Beverage, and Heads 'n Tails (1) contest entry

\$20 Heads'n Tails ♦ 3 additional entries (limit 1 set)  
\$50 Bourbon Pull ♦ every ticket wins a bottle of popular  
or rare Bourbon

**4 - 6 p.m. Food Trucks** (Tony's Tacos JP, Serena FFA Grill, Sisler's Ice Cream),  
Beverages, and Fellowshiping

**6 - 8 p.m. TUF Presentation**, Heads'n Tails Contest (Cash Prize of \$500),  
Live Auction, Bourbon Pull/Drop Ticket Raffle/50/50 Winner pulled

**For complete event information**, go to:  
<https://srccf.org/event/tuf-hhu-2025/>

**Register by September 8, 2025** (seating is limited)  
Contact the Schmidts at (815) 433-0175 or [TUF.farmers@gmail.com](mailto:TUF.farmers@gmail.com)



*The Schmidts look forward to welcoming you to a day all about TUF at Sunnybrook Farm.*



# RETURNING IN SEPTEMBER

Our ministries and programs are returning next month! After taking the summer off for our volunteers to refresh and renew, we will be welcoming back our Christian Education Program, the Fellowship Hour, and our vocal choir team. More to come about each ministry in the September Newsletter.



Our Christian Education Hour is right after our Worship Service and will have classes for all age groups.

Our Fellowship Hour is a great time to gather together as a church family and have coffee and some yummy treats!



Our vocal choir will return in September! If you are interested in joining it this year, please contact Lloyd Chapman at 815-488-8114 to speak with him about how you can be a part of this special group.

# The Smith Family Visit



We were thrilled to have had a short visit with Sean and Sarah Smith, and their little girl Lydia, at Jeremiah Joe’s last month. They continue to serve students in the Czech Republic in their Josiah Venture Ministry.

## JOSIAH VENTURE MISSION



The United Way of Eastern LaSalle County’s Labor of Love program provides free home repairs and modifications for people in need. The program brings together volunteers for a one-day home repair blitz across the service area. The program aims to help seniors, people with disabilities, veterans, and homeowners with fixed incomes, as well as low-income homeowners and military families of deployed personnel.

We are currently looking for a **new captain** or **co-captains** to head up our First Pres Team this year. If you are interested in leading our volunteers, please contact Cheryl Stohr on our Mission Committee at 815-313-9779.

**OTTAWA LABOR OF LOVE IS  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4TH**





# Birthdays

## AUGUST

Carol Engberg	2
Miles Thompson	2
Tobias Burkey	9
Ralph Bean	12
Carter Chiaventone	14
Dwight Klaassen	15
Addison Duggan	22
Ellie Clemens	22
Diane Chapman	25
Stacey Fowler	27
Char Bragg	31
Ashley McGrath	31

## SEPTEMBER

Cindy Arjes	4
Cash Fowler	12
Kenleigh Fowler	12
Jon Woodyer	14
Mark Brockman	15
Dan Duggan	16
Joey Hammer	16
Joan Damron	22
Katie Duggan	26
David Farrell	28



## Ottawa Mobile Food Pantry



The Mobile Food Pantry distributes FREE food every month. Our Mission Committee served during the month of June. If you are interested in serving in the future, or would like to take advantage of this fantastic program yourselves, here are the upcoming distribution dates.

**AUGUST 9**  
**SEPTEMBER 13**  
**OCTOBER 4**



## FLASHBACK CORNER

Who Do You See?



2013

# SCOTT HALL

It was just two years ago that we were putting the finishing touches on the updated Scott Hall. Crews worked tirelessly for three months to get that room updated before Fellowship and Sunday School resumed. We found a photo of Scott Hall shortly after the paneling was installed back in the '70s. What a fun look-back at the stages of this great hall where so much ministry happens today and over the past 50 years!



## FPC STAFF and ELDERS

**John Walker**  
PASTOR

**David Farrell**  
ADMINISTRATION

**Lisa Smithmeyer**  
DISCIPLESHIP

**Lori Trolinger**  
CHURCH SECRETARY

**Pete Trolinger**  
ADMINISTRATION

**Amanda Brockman**  
FELLOWSHIP

**Kerry Gerding**  
CLERK of SESSION

**Brian Huebner**  
TRUSTEE

**Peg Kramer**  
FELLOWSHIP

**Joy Huebner**  
TREASURER

**Mike Farrell**  
TRUSTEE

**Allen Gibbs**  
WORSHIP

**Lloyd Chapman**  
MUSIC DIRECTOR

**Dan Mestelle**  
TRUSTEE

**Ron Koestler**  
WORSHIP

**Diane Chapman**  
ORGANIST

**Cheryl Stohr**  
MISSION

## UPDATED DIRECTORY

If you are not in our directory, or have had a change of address, email, or phone number, please contact the church office. We hope to have an updated directory out in September.



## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee has begun its work to nominate a new 3-year class of elders and a trustee to serve on FPC's Session, the body of people chosen to lead our congregation. The Nominating Committee's work is vitally important to the life and future of our *Loving Community of Jesus Christ*, and your help is also very important! Please help in two simple ways:

First and foremost... **PRAY**. Pray for the work of this 5-member committee as they seek God's guidance to select this next class of officers to lead your church.

Second .... **NOMINATE** any person you believe would serve well to lead as a maturing disciple of Jesus Christ, someone who is an FPC member and is active in our community life. You may even choose to nominate yourself!

Please share your encouragement and any nominations with the committee members: Mike Farrell (chairman), Cheryl Stohr, Julie Angus, Diane Farrell, Gayle Schmitt.

## NEW CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The church office will have new office hours during the school year.

(September-May)

Office hours are:

**MONDAY 10-1pm**

**WEDNESDAY 10-1pm**

**THURSDAY 3-5pm**



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 9-10am (**NOTE: from January through March we meet by ZOOM**). Please come join us in the church library or by ZOOM. You can ask Pastor John for the link. Come and see what great work God is waiting to do, as we thank, seek, and 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' mighty name. Amen.

**Want more help with HOW to pray and for WHAT?  
See the daily calendar for PRAYER on the next page.**

<p><b>1</b> Pray for our Restoration and Revival  Psalm 80:19</p>	<p><b>2</b> Pastor John and his family  Galatians 6:9</p>	<p><b>3</b> FPC Staff  1 Corinthians 16:4</p>	<p><b>4</b> Our Hurting World  John 3:16</p>	<p><b>5</b> Public Schools and Opportunity School  Proverbs 22:6</p>	<p><b>6</b> Shut-ins  James 1:27</p>
<p><b>7</b> Community Meals  Matthew 25:37-40</p>	<p><b>8</b> Worship  Psalm 86:9-10</p>	<p><b>9</b> Hearts of Hurting People  Psalm 34:18</p>	<p><b>10</b> Session  Isaiah 41:10</p>	<p><b>11</b> PADS Shelter and Homeless  Matthew 25:35-40</p>	<p><b>12</b> Protection of the Congregation  Ephesians 6:10-18</p>
<p><b>13</b> Invite and Welcome the Holy Spirit  Titus 3:4-7</p>	<p><b>14</b> Choir and Music Team  Psalm 92:1</p>	<p><b>15</b> Youth Group Ministry  Proverbs 22:6</p>	<p><b>16</b> Our Children  Matthew 19:14</p>	<p><b>17</b> Pray for our Missionaries <small>strength and protection</small>  Acts 1:8</p>	<p><b>18</b> Food Pantry  Luke 21:18-19</p>
<p><b>19</b> Health of the Congregation  James 5:14</p>	<p><b>20</b> Small Groups and Missional Communities  Hebrews 10:25</p>	<p><b>21</b> Nation, State, and Government  1 Timothy 2:1-4</p>	<p><b>22</b> Bible ZONE and all Sunday School Programs  Matthew 19:14</p>	<p><b>23</b> Our Seniors  Psalm 90:14</p>	<p><b>24</b> Churches of Ottawa  Hebrews 10:24-25</p>
<p><b>25</b> Ottawa Mayor and City Counsel  1 Timothy 2:1-4</p>	<p><b>26</b> Leaders of Ministries  Hebrews 13:17-18</p>	<p><b>27</b> Ottawa Community  Jeremiah 29:7</p>	<p><b>28</b> Pray for those who are far from God  Luke 10:2</p>	<p><b>29</b> Servant's Heart  Matthew 25:37-40</p>	<p><b>30</b> Under His Wings Ministry  Jeremiah 29:7</p>

PLEASE PRAY EACH DAY WITH US  
FOR OUR COMMUNITY AND CHURCH



# August

2025



SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

Communion 9:30am  3	4	5	Prayer Meeting 9am by ZOOM  6	7	1 8	2 9 Mobile Food Pantry 9:30-12
10	11	Committee Meetings 7pm  12	Prayer Meeting 9am by ZOOM  13	14	15	16
SOUL SHINE in Worship 9:25am  Community Meal 12pm  17	18	YMCA Summer Program ends  Session 7pm 19	Prayer Meeting 9am by ZOOM  20	21	22	23
24	25	26	Prayer Meeting 9am by ZOOM  27	28	29	30
31						