



# The CHIMES

The Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights

November / December 2019

*Choose love. Be the light. Change the world.*

## From the Pastor Blessings of Generosity

by Rev. Alex Lang

When I was a young boy, my main method of making money was mowing lawns. At first I only mowed one lawn—my own. Being only 9 years old, I was barely strong enough to start the mower and push it across the lawn. What should have taken me about 30 minutes required an hour and a half of painstaking labor. Moreover, even after all that time, my dad would often have to take out the mower a second time and do touchups because I inevitably missed a few spots.



A year later, after I had gained some much-needed experience, a friend of my parents took a chance on me and hired me to mow her lawn. Again, I was far from perfect, but my work was good enough that she paid me \$10 per mow. By the end of that first summer, I was able to mow her yard perfectly and I had amassed \$150, a huge sum for a 10-year-old boy.

Word got around that I was a capable mower and, the following summer, I began to get job offers from people all around town. By the time the summer was over, I had earned nearly \$800. What I remember most about that money is how I spent it. I loved having my friends come over to my house. We would do sleepovers every weekend. My favorite thing to do would be to take them down to the corner market and buy them lunch.

This particular corner market made amazing subs, so I would buy them a sandwich, a drink, chips and a candy bar. Afterwards, we would ride our bikes to Blockbuster Video (remember when that was a thing!) and we would rent a movie. They loved coming over to my house and I loved

being able to treat them. I learned very young that generosity is a wonderful blessing. When you share of your hard earned money to lift up others, you not only bring joy and happiness to others, but you can change the world in significant ways.

Our church is a place where you have an opportunity to live into Jesus' teachings on generosity. That is why our stewardship theme this year is **Blessings of Generosity**. By giving to the church, you are not only helping to pay the salaries of the staff and maintenance of the building, your contributions help to sustain the mission and the programs of the church that touch hundreds of people in need every year. By making a commitment to the church, your generosity creates a web of blessings for those inside and outside of this building.

What does that web look like? Well, every year we do outreach to our community through our Family Night program. That program has made real and meaningful connections with people from all across the racial and socio-economic divide. Our PADS night continues to serve the homeless, providing them with a warm meal and roof over their heads. Your dollars also help us to go beyond our community through our youth mission trips. Our youth become ambassadors for our church, making real tangible change all around the world.

But your dollars also fund change through the programs we run in this building. Thanks to your donations, we are offering God's love to the members of this community by growing their faith and walking alongside you through times



*“Generosity is giving more than you can, and pride is taking less than you need.”*  
Khalil Gibran

# Blessings of Generosity

Continued from page 1



of joy and sadness. We cry with you through deaths. We rejoice with you through weddings and births. We counsel you through difficult times with your marriages and your children. The blessings of your generosity touch so many people, some of whom you know and many who you will never meet. That is the very definition of Jesus' generosity and I cannot thank you enough!

Last year, you committed nearly \$1,150,000 towards the programs, mission and operations of our church. Thanks to this giving, we were able to fund our ministries, help people in need and pay for repairs to the building. Your generosity is incredible and, if you are able, I would like to see us repeat that achievement. If you can afford to give what you gave last year, please do so. If you can afford to give a little

more, even if it's a few hundred dollars, that can make huge difference.

If you've never made a commitment before, and need a guide to help you decide what to contribute to the church this year, a great starting point is \$35 a week. That comes out to \$1,820 for the year for an individual, and \$3,640 for a couple. Of course, if you can give more, every dollar helps.

On November 10, Commitment Sunday, you will be asked to write down on your commitment card what you plan to give to the church in 2020. My prayer for you is that you would be part of our efforts to live into Jesus' teachings on generosity. Together, we are going to serve God by sharing of our previous resources to make sure that everyone has enough. 🕊

## The Chosen One

by Rev. Alex Lang

I know it's hard to believe, but I am now in my seventh year of ministry at First Pres. Recently, I was reflecting on all the various sermon series I have preached over the last six years (I've done 21 of them) and it dawned on me that there is one thing missing from my repertoire: I have not done an Advent sermon series that follows the traditional lectionary scripture readings. This Advent I plan to rectify this one blight on my record.

For those of you who did not grow up in the church, the lectionary is a book or listing that contains a collection of scripture readings appointed for Christian or Judaic worship on a given day or occasion. Although we do sermon series in this church, many churches around the world follow the lectionary, which are prescribed scriptures for a given Sunday. The lectionary in the Presbyterian Church (also known as the Revised Common Lectionary) will determine our scriptures for our Advent series.

Perhaps one of the most interesting aspects of the lectionary is how it sets up Jesus' birth in the form of an epic. There are prophecies and messengers; angels and family drama. The trajectory of the Christian epic is such that we are moving towards the birth of The Chosen One, which is the name of our sermon series during Advent. Each Sunday the action builds, drawing us closer to the fulfillment of the prophecy that is foretold in the first week.

The sermons in this series are structured with a split emphasis. The first half of the sermon will focus on the characters in the story and the role they play in the fulfillment of the prophecy. The second half will focus on how these characters speak to the ways that God works through us. The ways that God works through these people in the biblical story is similar to the ways that God can work through us. The hope of this sermon series is to understand how the path to Jesus' arrival is also the path we can take to better understand God's purpose for our lives. 🕊

## Going Deeper: Sermon Discussion Group

**Second Sunday of the month / 10:00-11:00 am in Room 101/103**

If you attend the 9:00 am Chapel service, join our sermon discussion group where you can reflect on the issues, topics, and themes from Pastor Alex's sermon of the day. Pastor Alex will provide the content and the group will be

moderated by members of the congregation. We will meet on the second Sunday of each month, following the 9:00 am worship service, in Room 101/103.

# The Saga of Fellowship Hall

by Brian Larson, Director of Operations and Technology

Fellowship Hall is finally back open. In total, the hall was out of commission for a little more than 10 weeks. Many members are justifiably curious about what happened between a late July flood and our nice new vinyl plank floor. This article will summarize the events, challenges, and preventative measures.

Anyone that's been around the church more than a few years, knows that Fellowship Hall does not have a good history with flooding. If that's news to you, read the sidebar Fellowship Hall Flooding History (see page 5).

Despite steps in 2011 to reduce flooding, it became evident since then that more needed to be done. After researching options, Trustees and Facilities devised a plan to line the cracked drain pipes and install check valves to stop the backflow from city sewer lines into the church. In late 2018, we secured \$35,000 to complete the work. Because that plumbing work would break up concrete subfloor, we'd require new flooring in just those two small areas.

The original hope was to complete the work around New Years, but the project clearly would have impacted PADS and Family Night for a couple of weeks in January and Trustees and Staff agreed to defer work until the program year ended. Fortunately, during that waiting period in the spring, a donor came forward to donate vinyl plank flooring to replace all of the aging carpet in Fellowship Hall.

After some June scheduling delays, work was slated to start Monday, July 22. But a heavy, quick downpour on the previous Wednesday evening caused flooding. Water seeped outward from the kitchen across the hall, also causing a floor electrical outlet to spark. Staff called the Fire Department and fire risk was eliminated.

Facilities hired ServiceMaster the next morning to start remediating the flood, sanitize the kitchen and spray to prevent mold. There was about a 50-50 chance of saving the carpet. With the planned flooring installation of donated material coming up on the heels of the plumbing phase, we opted to have ServiceMaster do additional removal of carpet rather than save it.

That's where things really started to go awry. Because the carpet was glued to the tile floor, that residual glue had to be removed for the vinyl plank. When the floor prep contractor saw the floor materials and mastic ("tile glue") they immediately became concerned about asbestos. Tests revealed three different asbestos issues to be addressed: tile, mastic, and leveling compound. We contracted for removal of all tile throughout the space in order to have a clean, smooth finish for our new floor.

Work started after the State of Illinois EPA mandated two-week waiting period – right before Labor Day. The space was sealed and after removal of tile and smoothing of the floor throughout the hall and PADS areas, contractors reported concerns that the subfloor in Fellowship Hall itself was too soft for the floor and also of unknown (read:

*Continued on page 4*



▲ The challenges start – a mess with glue-covered tile



Sewer lines lined and ready for check valves >



“suspicious”) origin. We believe this red and black material was the original floor of Fellowship Hall. It was tested and discovered to contain asbestos as well. With the remediation crew on site, we had them continue on to remove this additional material.

### Removal of additional asbestos material revealed three more issues:

1. The moisture content of the concrete base was so high that the vinyl plank installation would have failed. A moisture barrier would be needed to keep the new floor from failing.
2. One area of the concrete base in the northwest corner was so thin that dirt was coming up. We needed to cut out and replace an 8' x 15' area of concrete.
3. The work that was done to install the drain tile after 2011 left a concrete base around the perimeter of the room and pillars that were anywhere from ½ to 1 inch taller than the remaining base below the red/black material.

Several options were considered. Though it was tempting by this point, giving up was not one of them! The best solution was costly, but we needed epoxy coating for moisture sealing and then we brought some heavy equipment into the lot to mix up a small truckload of leveling material. This very thin liquid cement-like material was poured across the floor, seeking its own level, then it dried overnight.

Within four days, the remaining vinyl plank was in place and the hall was ready for use on October 1. There were some issues with baseboards not adhering to the soft plaster walls and we needed cabinetry and painting work around the pump in the PADS area, and some walls will soon be

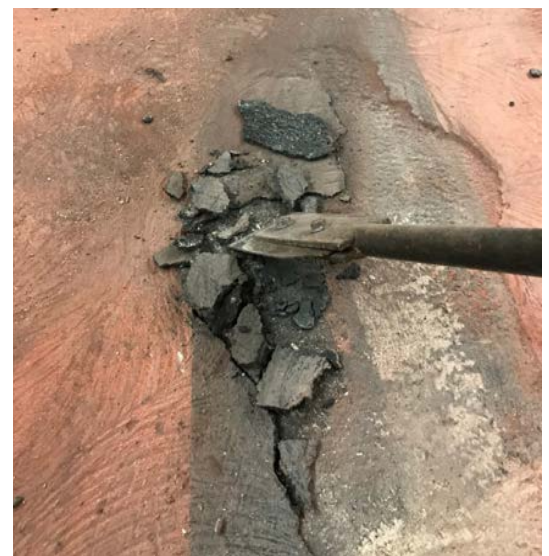
patched and painted. For now, we have usable Hall with a floor that should serve our needs for many years to come.

In all, it was a costly, unplanned project, but with a beautiful ending. It would not have gone well without a few individuals and companies who went the extra mile to help our facility be safe and updated. In particular:

- Trustee VP **Jim Hempleman**'s expertise helped us find resolution to many of our project challenges quickly.
- **Michele Holifield** worked tirelessly as a staff member to coordinate custodial staff and others to clear the space as well as relocate the Family Night food service as a volunteer.
- **Larry Olson** of Connections built the protective frame around the pump in the PADS area.
- **Terry Plumbing, Korsgard Flooring, S. Haines, and Valor Technologies** were the hired contractors – all of whom put in extra effort and provided considerations to help our church.

### Summary of Changes/Enhancements:

- Two sewer lines going out to Dunton have been lined. This adds about 50 years to the life of the pipe.
- Check valves have been added to those lines to prevent backflow into the church and bypass pumps were added to ensure we can keep using the space during rainstorms.
- Two downspouts from the gym roof that used to flow under Fellowship Hall have been rerouted.
- Two double cooler fountains added in CE wing – one on basement level (with a bottle filler) and one on PDO/Main level.
- Floor outlet in Fellowship Hall was saved by adding a GFI box in kitchen to cut the circuit if issues arise. Ⓢ



↗ Soft black flooring

↖ Epoxy sealed sub-floor, ready for leveling compound





# Fellowship Hall Flooding History

**Fellowship Hall has a spotty history with flooding.**

The costliest flooding incident in Fellowship Hall in recent history was in 2011. A bad sewer backup and the subsequent decision to do some desired enhancements during restoration resulted in the loss of the hall for about a year. The overall cost for restoration and enhancements in kitchen and beverage service areas was \$172,000. At this time, drain pipe was installed in the interior perimeter of the hall.

There was a smaller, but similar type of flood to the one we just experienced in July of 2014. The insurance claim was \$14,000 to dry the carpet and walls in the kitchen area.

With heavy rains, we've had puddling around the communion closet in the kitchen. Typically, this was just mop cleanup on the kitchen floor. We addressed this leak at the outer wall and foundation as part of the digging for the playground. Membranes and sealing compound were added and we have not had issues since.

A small flood event in 2017 barely got to the carpet, but confirmed that we still had issues to address.

The water supply to the dishwasher typically would freeze a couple of times each winter, but it finally burst during the record cold last January. Fortunately, the water stayed in the kitchen and ran down the floor drains so that Facilities Staff could handle recovery from this flood. We had the water supply rerouted and shutoff valves added to prevent recurrence and ensure that the dishwasher is always available.



Top: **Manual removal of concrete base**

Middle: **A truckload of compound, ready for mixing**

Bottom: **A small production setup mixing leveling compound**



# Mary and Martha's Lending Closet

by Michele Holifield

We officially opened the door on Sunday, September 22. Thanks to all who stopped by the open house. If you did not get the opportunity to stop in and see what we are all about, come to one of our fall open houses:

**Sunday, November 3 — 10:00 am – 12:00 pm**

**Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, November 12, 13, 14 — 9:30 am-10:00 am**

We are always open by appointment – just email [maryandmartha@firstpresah.org](mailto:maryandmartha@firstpresah.org).

Are you still wondering what we are all about? We created the lending closet to encourage hospitality and earth-friendly practices. We are stocked with items that are the perfect solution for your next family party, graduation celebration, holiday gathering, book club night, or committee meeting. You can pick out the items you need to borrow, and then return them after your event. Your donation to the Lending Closet helps further our outreach and hospitality ministry. Currently we are working with local school districts to help fund school lunch programs. Stop by one of our open houses or email us for an appointment. 📍



# Youth Ministries

by TC Anderson, Associate Pastor for Children, Youth, & Families

## What have the Youth been up to?

Throughout the beginning of the program year, we have had several fun events that the youth have taken part in. We had the Confirmation Fun Night, where the Confirmation Class came on a Friday night and participated in team building activities, getting to know each other games, and archery tag! It was an awesome night, full of food, fun, and fellowship. We've also had the Middle School Lock In, where over 20 middle school youth got to run around the church and play gym games, whole church games, add their names to the Y-Search wall, and much more! On November 8, the High School Youth will be having their annual Fall Retreat to Covenant Harbor where we will worship, learn, grow, and have tons of fun together! All of these events are on top of our weekly programs like Sunday School and Youth Groups that have been running since September!! Lots going on and lots being enjoyed!

## Wise and Sage Dinner Coming!

Make sure to save the date for the Wise and Sage Thanksgiving Dinner! On Sunday, November 24, the High School youth will once again host the wise and sage (65+ years of age) of the church for a delicious Thanksgiving Dinner! Come and enjoy the wonderful food and atmosphere!



## Keep an eye out for the Cookie Walk

With Thanksgiving coming up, you know Christmas is right around the corner and with that comes the much enjoyed Cookie Walk! Emails and announcements will come out soon, but save the date as the Cookie Walk is on Sunday, December 22. 📍

# Session Highlights September and October Meetings

by Barbara MacDowall, Clerk of Session

## From the September 9, 2019 Meeting:

- Fellowship Hall restoration is continuing. The flooring is being removed and replaced.
- The Memorial Prayer Garden is being reconditioned.
- The Fall Kick-Off went well, despite the rain. Many thanks to everyone involved for all they did to make the event successful. Additionally, many thanks to TC and Michele Holifield for all they did to organize the event.
- Session approved a request from Scout Troop 32 to sell Christmas wreaths at First Pres.
- A new carillon has been ordered, and fundraising has begun. It is hoped that the carillon will be working by Stewardship Sunday.
- The next God's Honest Trust is scheduled for Wednesday, October 16. The topic will be "Outsiders: Stories of People on the Outside Looking In."
- Beginning Sunday, September 8, from 9:00-10:00 a.m., and running until November 24, Don Kaasch will be leading a study entitled "Biblical Literacy: The Often High Price of Knowing Your Bible."
- Because the Women's Retreat was such a success, Adult Education has decided to sponsor another retreat in 2020.
- The Adult Education Committee welcomes suggestions for potential speakers.
- Children's Ministries reported that during the week of July 8, they hosted 15 preschoolers, 90+ elementary kids, and 62 tweens for Vacation Bible School (VBS) and MissionFactory. They also hosted 6 children from Faith Community Homes for Extended Day VBS, which included lunch and activities each afternoon at the conclusion of VBS.
- Children's Ministries' 1-mile FUNdraising walk was a huge success. The kids raised money for Camp One Step, a camp for children who have been diagnosed with cancer. The goal was to raise \$1000, enough to send one child to camp for a week in the summer. They received \$1,700, just shy of enough to send TWO kids to camp.
- The Children's Ministries garden was bursting with a bountiful harvest this summer, thanks in large part to the spacious garden boxes, which were built by the hard work of Eagle Scout Alex Schuffler. Many thanks to Alex.

- This year, the preschool class will use a curriculum called "Growing in Grace and Gratitude." The elementary classrooms will focus on "Modern Day Beatitudes."
- Youth Ministries hosted a youth parents BBQ on September 15. They also are organizing this year's Wise and Sage dinner in November.
- The Youth Ministries Committee is extremely proud of the high schoolers who went to Montreat this year. When all of the attending groups had the opportunity to choose between fun or mission work on a free day, our youth were the only ones to choose mission work. This reflects positively on FPCAH, the youth and the parents involved in supporting the program.

## From the October 14, 2019 Meeting:

- Session welcomed eight people into church membership.
- The Deacons continue to search for volunteers to be Communion servers.
- Over 400 people attended our annual speaking event, "Conversation with Derek Black on His Journey Out of White Supremacy," on Sunday, October 6. Pastor Alex Lang interviewed Derek, asking him questions that ranged from his family background and significant involvement as a white nationalist to his subsequent transformation.
- PADS needs volunteers to help them continue doing their good work providing for those in need. Help is needed on Tuesday nights. Food donations are also needed.
- TC reported that our high schoolers made meat loaves and other food for PADS.
- The Friendship Pad covers will be replaced.
- The Chapel soundboard will be replaced.
- A portion of the Peace and Global Witness offering that First Pres receives is being donated to Salute, Inc., an organization that assists veterans.
- First Pres will once again deliver Meals on Wheels during the month of December. Signups will be held in the Narthex on November 10 and November 17.
- The Christmas Joy Offering will be collected from December 1 to December 24.
- Congregational and Community Life reminded everyone to participate in the local CROP Hunger Walk on Sunday, October 20. The walk raises money to fight hunger throughout the world. 🌍

# Family Night Program

## Weekly Wednesday Evening Schedule

### September through May

**Dinner 6:00-7:00 pm**

Drop-in dinner time for all ages, in Fellowship Hall

**Classes and Programs 7:00-8:00 pm**

- Adult education and mentoring
- Conversation Classes
- Engage & Encounter adult Christian education
- Middle School Youth Group (grades 6-8)
- Kids Connect (grades K-5)
- Free nursery care

## Engage and Encounter

Adult Christian education on Wednesday nights

### Schedule of Classes

**What and Why We Sing** (see page 10)

**November 6 — December 11, 2019**

*Presenter: Rev. Ken Hockenberry*

**The American Experience: Religion in the New World**

**January 8 — March 18, 2020**

*Presenters: Dr. Donald Kaasch & Rev. Alex Lang*

**Unoffendable: How Just One Change Can Make Your Life Better**

**April 1 — May 6, 2020**

*Presenter: Dr. Bob Gorsky*

## God's Honest Truth – Do you have a story to tell?



Hal Stern



Kim Hogan



Laura Puckett

## God's Honest Truth

**February 5, 2020** **Hanging On by a Thread: Stories of Survival**

**May 6, 2020** **Child's Play: Stories of How Children Change Our Lives**



## Youth Programs

Children and middle school youth are invited to take part in fun and educational activities from 7:00 to 8:00 pm. Grades 6-8 are invited to **MSYG** (Middle School Youth Group), a time to build relationships and faith and have fun. Contact Rev. TC Anderson to register (no fee). Grades K-5 are encouraged to attend **Kids Connect** for gym time, hands-on and creative/learning activities. Children must be accompanied by their parent(s) for dinner. No registration is required for **Kids Connect**, and children may attend any or all portions of the program.

**ACT & SAT Math Preparation for High School Students will be offered again this spring**  
**March 4, 11, 18, and April 1 — Cost \$50**

Call the church office to register for the spring session!



# TROOP



## 3 2

Arlington Heights, IL



## 77 Summers at Troop 32

### What did the troop do to celebrate this summer?

Summer is the perfect time to get together with boys, girls and their families to celebrate and enjoy the great outdoors.

Founded in 1942, Troop 32 of Arlington Heights celebrated 77 years this summer with a trip to Camp Napowan and an outdoor potluck style Court of Honor celebrating boys, girls, families, and friends from the troop.

Camp Napowan is nestled between two beautiful lakes in the pinewoods of Central Wisconsin and is one of the most exemplary summer camps in the Midwest. The scouts participated in hands-on outdoor education and fun activities earning over 77+ merit badges.

Troop 32 participated in various programs including aquatics, handicraft, shooting sports, and Scoutcraft all taking on new meaning while celebrating at camp.

The celebration of history came to life during the outdoor Court of Honor at Frontier Park where both boy and girl scouts earned over 260 Merit Badges. Twenty-two boys and girls ranked up and two received Eagle and Palm. It truly was a celebration.

*At Troop 32 we always say:*

*Troop 32 is a #FUNtastic Boy+Girl Led Active Troop = Family Fun!*

Participate in high adventure, monthly campouts and inspirational service projects. Stop by on any Monday @ 7:15pm in Fellowship Hall. 🕒



# What's going on at First Pres?

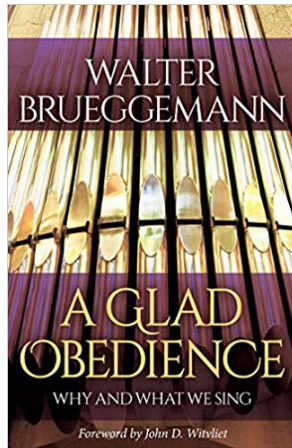
## NEW Engage & Encounter Class

Wednesday Evening Adult Christian Education

Wednesdays, November 6 - December 11 - 7:00 pm / in the Chapel

What and Why We Sing — Led by Ken Hockenberry, Pastor, Carter-Westminster United Presbyterian Church in Skokie; Stated Clerk of Chicago Presbytery; and singer of hymns

old and new — Author Walter Brueggemann believes that though most church folks sing old hymns with gusto, and new hymns with a sense of “can we please get this over with,” we usually do not pay much attention to the words we are singing. Many hymns in our hymnals contain incredible poetic jewels of theology and faith, which can fuel our journeys of faith, if only we focused more on what we are singing. Our class will focus on several hymns - old and new, which we will sing - and then discuss. Come, sing, and find some fuel for your journey of faith. The book, *A Glad Obedience, What and Why We Sing*, is available on Amazon.



## Meals On Wheels Signups Coming Soon!

Have you ever signed up to deliver **Meals on Wheels**? In past years, our congregation has delivered meals for the Wheeling Township Meals on Wheels program during the month of December – and we are going to do it again this year. It is easy and is definitely a rewarding experience, too!

If you have never done this before, it only takes about an hour or so. You will be given a “route”, map included, with about six to eight homes and you will deliver meals to homebound individuals. Meals are picked up at Lutheran Home in Arlington Heights, ready and waiting for you to deliver. You can do this with your family, friends, or anyone who wishes to share the joy of helping others.

Signups will be in the Narthex on Sundays, November 10 and November 17. Hurry, dates and slots go quickly!

## Greg Athnos at The Moorings

December 3 – Edvard Grieg, The Norwegian Nationalist

December 17 – 19th Century Russian Musical Nationalists

The programs are at 7:00 pm in the Chapel at the Moorings.

## Christopher House Family To Family

It is that special time of year when we remember the families of Christopher House. Your gifts will meet some of the needs of a family and help ensure that they have a special holiday season. Please consider participating as an individual, a family, a club or as a group of friends. You may sign up Sundays in November in the Forum after the 9:00 am service or in the Narthex after the 10:30 am service. Gifts should be dropped off at the church at 9:00 am on Saturday, December 7. Volunteers will load them on a truck and deliver them to Christopher House. Questions? Contact Fran Spencer at [fran109spencer@yahoo.com](mailto:fran109spencer@yahoo.com) or 847-767-2334.

## Men's Christmas Breakfast

Saturday, December 7 - 7:30-10:30 am / in Fellowship Hall

Men, mark your calendars and plan to attend this great celebration, featuring breakfast prepared and served by Scout Troop 32.

## Thank You!

A big thanks to all who helped raise money for Christopher House Auxiliary projects by participating in our two fundraisers last month at the California Pizza Kitchen in Deer Park and McAlister's Deli at Randhurst. We raised a total of \$484.85 between the two events.

## Thanksgiving Baskets

Please donate healthy, nonperishable foods for the families served by **Christopher House** and **Firman Community Services**, two local organizations that serve families in need. Lighter boxed items (not expired) are easier for our clients to carry on public transportation. Containers will be located in the Narthex on the first three Sundays of November. Thank you for helping those families have a joyful holiday! Questions: Jody Stanhope at 847-259-8054

## Christmas Caroling

Join This Wonderful First Pres Tradition!

Bundle up the family and come out for the all-church Christmas Caroling event on **Sunday, December 22**. We will gather in Fellowship Hall at 4:00 pm to organize into caroling groups, and then we'll hit the road, spreading Christmas cheer to church members and friends who are in nursing homes, assisted-living facilities, and those who need their spirits lifted during the Christmas season. Everyone is invited to participate in this special event! No singing experience is necessary!





# A Note from Parents' Day Out (PDO)

By Coleen Anzalone, Director of Parents' Day Out

PDO is going strong in our 41<sup>st</sup> year and looking forward to the holiday season ahead. The children in the 3-, 4-, and 5-year-old classrooms learn about the importance of giving to their neighbor during these fall and winter months. PDO partners with Faith Community Homes to prepare Thanksgiving baskets. Winter socks, hats, mittens, and pajamas are collected during our December Giving Tree Project, and later this winter a Necessities Drive will be held. We are so happy to have this wonderful charity close to us and that it gives us this opportunity to not only teach education to the children in our care, but to teach kindness and giving as well. Have a wonderful holiday season from the PDO Staff. 🕊



## First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights

**Address:** 302 N. Dunton Ave.  
Arlington Heights, IL 60004

**Phone:** 847-255-5900

**Email:** [mail@firstpresah.org](mailto:mail@firstpresah.org)

**Website:** <http://firstpresah.org>



[facebook.com/firstpresah](https://www.facebook.com/firstpresah)



[twitter.com/FirstPresAH](https://twitter.com/FirstPresAH)

Connect with us on Facebook or Twitter to be in the know and keep up with everything going on!



[vimeo.com/firstpresah](https://vimeo.com/firstpresah)

We post many videos on Vimeo. Watch the morning announcements, sermons and other special events.



## Upcoming Events

### November & December 2019

#### NOVEMBER

- 3 Christmas Flower Signup
- 6 Wednesday @ Noon Concert
- 6 New Engage & Encounter Class begins at Family Night
- 10 Concert Series: Martin Jones, pianist – 4:00 pm
- 24 Wise & Sage Dinner – 5:30 pm
- 27 Office closes at 12:30 pm
- 28-29 Thanksgiving holiday, office closed
- 30 Church decorating for Advent & Christmas

#### DECEMBER

- 1 Concert Series: Messiah Sing-along – 4:00 pm
- 4 Wednesday @ Noon Concert
- 7 Men's Breakfast – 7:30-10:30 am
- 11 PW Christmas Gathering
- 15 Concert Series: Glory of Christmas – 4:00 pm
- 17 PW Circle 7 Christmas Gathering
- 18 PW Circles 1, 2, 3 Christmas Gathering various locations
- 18 Family Night Christmas Party (no programming)  
Family Night returns January 8
- 22 Cookie Walk (no Sunday School)
- 22 Christmas Caroling – 4:00 pm
- 24 Office closes at 12:30 pm, Christmas Eve  
Worship at 4:00, 8:00, 10:00 pm
- 25 Christmas Day, office closed through  
December 27
- 29 10:00 am worship only & no Sunday School
- 31 Office closes at 12:30 pm

#### JANUARY

- 1 New Year's Day, office closed
- 3 Jan's Jam (youth event)
- 8 Family Night returns with full programming
- 11 Undecorating the church
- 15 PW Circles 1, 2, 3 meeting
- 20 Martin Luther King Day of Service  
& Office closed
- 21 PW Circle 7 meeting

# Presbyterian Women (PW)

## Church Women United

All women are invited to attend the first meeting of **Christian Women United**, a northwestern Illinois division of the national organization benefiting women in need around the world. The theme is “**World Community Day**,” to be observed by many members of the ecumenical organizations. This event is hosted by **First United Methodist Church (1903 E. Euclid Avenue, Arlington Heights) on Friday, November 1, at 1:00 pm**. Fr. Corey Brost, our speaker, founded the local chapter of The Children of Abraham Coalition, an ecumenical group which works for the understanding and harmony among all religious organizations in our community. Please join us for this special event!

## Winter Items Collection

Thank you for your generous donations of winter weather items last year for the children of Firman House. The hats, gloves, and scarves kept many children warm and were greatly appreciated. Please keep these young children in mind this year as you are shopping and seeing winter items.

Once again, we will have the collection boxes in the Narthex for **new** winter items (hats, gloves, scarves, etc.) These much needed items will be donated to the families of Firman House during the Firman House Christmas Party. Thank you for your generosity! Questions: Kathy Doering, Firman House Chairperson, doering.kathy.m@gmail.com or 847-255-4364

## Thank You from Christopher House

After seeing the progress made and hearing the report of success of this last building addition to the Christopher House Charter School, we are reminded to again thank you for your support! Because of your generosity, we supplied 130 backpacks for third and fourth graders, 50 Trappers for seventh graders, and enough leftovers to fill them with needed supplies for the year! The smiling faces of these children, with their new backpacks, said it all. Your generous donations far exceeded our goal! Again, **THANK YOU** for investing in the lives and education of low income children and ensuring a great start for this school year. 🙏

---

## Morning PW Circles and Christmas Celebrations

Our **Wednesday morning Circles** will meet on **November 20th at 9:00 am in the Parlor**. All women are invited to attend and enjoy the discussion on Lesson 3 “**Words of Love: Keep Sabbath**” from our study *Love Carved in Stone*. Join us for refreshments, fellowship and learn something new.

In December, all Morning Circles will be hosting their **December Holiday Celebrations on December 18 with a brunch at 9:30 am** at the following locations:

Circle ❶: Fellowship Hall at church Host: Jan Niemeyer

Circle ❷: Bonnie Schaap’s home

Circle ❸: Nancy Lincoln’s home

Join in the holiday fellowship and a fun celebration. Look

for our December Gathering information for December

11th Christmas Tea and “Christmas In The Holy Land”

Questions: Gladys Holtz, gladysholtz@comcast.net



## Circle 7

Join Circle 7 on **November 19 at 7:00 pm** for fellowship, discussion, and Bible Study.

Our study will continue with Psalm Lesson 7, “Celebrate Forgiveness.” Hostess is Jan Cikra, 430 S. Beverly Lane, Arlington Heights and co-hostess is Karen Wilson.

In December, it is time to celebrate! On **December 17 at 6:30**, we will be going to a restaurant in the area. Please RSVP to or contact Karen Wilson for more information at 847-669-2677 or karenw814@comcast.net





## Decorating the Church for Christmas

**Saturday, November 30 at 9:30 am** will be the magical time to come and join in the fun of making our church a very special place for Christmas! We are looking for lots of willing hands to join in the wonderful tradition of transforming our church home so it is ready for the Advent and Christmas season. Meet in the Narthex at 9:30 am for refreshments and assignments. All are welcome for the variety of tasks for all ages. The more the merrier! Questions: Contact Marty Kraybill at [marty1110k@gmail.com](mailto:marty1110k@gmail.com)

## Undecorating the Church

**Saturday, January 11 / 9:00 am**

What goes UP must come DOWN! There is another opportunity to be involved, as help is needed to put the decorations away. You are invited to come at 9:00 am on Saturday, January 11. Share whatever time you have; putting it away is faster than putting it up.



## Presbyterian Women (PW) Christmas Gathering

**Wednesday, December 11 / 1:00 pm in the Parlor**

Join the Presbyterian Women for a Christmas Gathering! We will welcome world traveler, **Bill Helmuth**, former *Director of International Sales for Time Life Books*, who has traveled to over 111 countries. Bill will take us on a stunning visual journey to Nazareth, Bethlehem, and Jerusalem. Join us as we learn about these regions and the relation to the story of Jesus' birth. Celebrate a Christmas Tea with Presbyterian Women in the Parlor, followed by a "trip" to the Holy Land in the Sanctuary. All women are welcome to enjoy this time of celebration, fellowship, and the perfect Christmas program. Bring a friend! For more information and reservations, contact Gladys Holtz at [gladysholtz@comcast.net](mailto:gladysholtz@comcast.net).





# Remembering The Saints

On All Saints' Day, Sunday, November 3, we remembered all who have gone on ahead to join the Church Triumphant over the past year, since November 1, 2018. The following list includes saints departed through October 31, 2019.

Walter Halatek	November 7, 2018
Patricia Giovannini	November 21, 2018
Mark Thomas	December 18, 2018
Barbara Slivovsky	December 24, 2018
Ruth Byrne	January 28, 2019
Michelle Behm	January 29, 2019
Jay Putzier	February 19, 2019
Lawrence Roovaart	March 18, 2019
Celia Ginnodo	March 27, 2019
Anna May Fritz	March 29, 2019
Isabelle Blackwood	March 31, 2019
Frank Jirsa	May 13, 2019
Virginia Burklund	May 22, 2019
George Allen	June 1, 2019
Barbara Scalet	June 5, 2019
Deaneann Bonthron	June 12, 2019
Harold Richardson	August 2, 2019
Bernie Roser	August 9, 2019
David Ohlson	August 19, 2019
Michael Lattof	September 2, 2019
Jama Bickford	September 12, 2019
Ruthann Normann	September 19, 2019
Gary Cubbison	September 26, 2019
Robert Scheibel	September 30, 2019
Juanita Reinhard	October 11, 2019
Loretta (Laury) Allen	October 31, 2019
Eric David Holifield Campbell	October 31, 2019

*“Light perpetual shine upon them,  
O Lord, and rest eternal grant to them.”*

**We are praying for these and many other members in our congregation.**

## SYMPATHY TO:

*Bob and Nancy Ahrens*, on the death of their son, Phil Ahrens

*Mark Allen* and family, on the death of his mother, *Laury Allen*

The family of *Jama Bickford*

*Kelly Holifield Campbell* and family, on the death of her son, Eric David Holifield Campbell

*Nancy Cubbison*, on the death of her husband, *Gary Cubbison*

*Jim and Kathy Doering*, Jo Anne and *Steven Doering*, Andrew and *Amy Tanner* and their families, on the death of Kathy's mother, Virginia Stone

*Charlotte Lattof*, on the death of her son, Michael Lattof

The family of *Ruthann Normann*

*Gordon and Vivian Palmer*, on the death of Gordon's brother, Robert Palmer

The family of *Juanita Reinhard*

*Marilyn Scheibel*, on the death of her husband, *Robert Scheibel*

*Kathy Sobeski*, on the death of her sister, Betty Link

---

## CONGRATULATIONS TO:

*Barrett and Corinne Peterson*, on the birth of their grandson, August Wallace VanEck, on July 30

*Kevin and Carol Kelley*, on the birth of their grandson, Grant Philip Kelley, on September 6

Chip Hussey and *Cindy Koerner*, on their marriage, October 5





Music fills the Soul...

## Which choir will be at worship?

**9:00 am Worship** Music led by Compass

**10:30 am Worship Ensembles**  
For November / December

- November 3** First Pres Children's Choir, First Pres Brass, and Combined Adult Choirs
- November 10** Chancel Choir
- November 17** Chancel Choir and Chancel Handbell Choir
- November 24** Bruce Blanck Jazz
- December 1** Chancel Choir
- December 8** Men's Chorus and Chancel Handbell Choir
- December 15** Chamber Singers and Chancel Choir
- December 22** First Pres Children's Choir, First Pres Brass, and Chancel Choir
- December 29** Soloist(s)

## Christmas Joy Offering

Looking for the perfect gift? Trying to find a gift that communicates how well you know or love someone? Family? Friend? Boss? We all want to find the perfect gift to express our feelings toward others.

God gave the perfect gift to us. Jesus came to live among us, bringing light and love into our world. Jesus was the greatest leader teaching us to love and give.

Leaders impact our lives, our lives of faith, and are role models for our own journeys of faith. During Advent, we celebrate the gift of leaders through the Christmas Joy offering.

Well-equipped future leaders are needed for the church and our world. The Christmas Joy offering supports leaders from Presbyterian-



## Concert Series

by Adam Hendrickson, Director of Music and Worship

### Concert Series Schedule

#### Sundays at 4pm

- November 10** Martin Jones, pianist
- December 1** Messiah Sing-Along!
- December 15** The Glory of Christmas
- February 9** The 35th Annual OrganFest
- March 15** First Pres Community Talent Show
- April 5** Spring Choral Concert: Festival of Psalms!

#### Wednesdays @ Noon

Our **Wednesdays @ Noon Recital Series** are presented on the first Wednesday of the month from 12:10 pm to 12:45 pm in the Sanctuary.

- November 6, 2019** Marianne Kim, organ
- December 4, 2019** Carol Frieburg, piano; Kris Ward, handbells
- February 5, 2020** Megan Hendrickson, soprano; Sarah Jenks, piano
- March 4, 2020** Michael Hawes, trumpet; Christopher Urban, organ
- April 1, 2020** Chuck Beech, piano; Christopher Urban, organ

related schools and colleges educating communities of color, to reflect the wideness of God's intended diversity. The offering also supports church leaders and their families dealing with critical financial needs.

The offering is evenly distributed with 50% going to Providing Opportunities for Communities of Color (Leadership Development) and 50% for Giving Back (Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions).

This year, from December 1 through December 24, think of the leaders that have impacted your life. Please give generously to the Christmas Joy offering so that great leaders can be developed for future generations and to also provide financial assistance to past leaders. 🙏

# The CHIMES

First Presbyterian Church  
of Arlington Heights  
302 N. Dunton Ave.  
Arlington Heights, IL 60004-5993  
Phone: 847-255-5900  
Fax: 847-255-3475  
www.firstpresah.org / mail@firstpresah.org



## *Holiday Worship Schedule*

### CHRISTMAS EVE



#### **Tuesday, December 24**

4:00 pm – Family Service with Pageant

8:00 pm – Worship

10:00 pm – Worship with Communion

#### **Sunday, December 29**

10:00 am – Combined Worship Service

### HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

Wednesday, November 27 office closes at 12:30 pm

Thursday & Friday, November 28 & 29 office closed all day

Tuesday, December 24 office closes at 12:30 pm

Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday, December 25, 26, 27  
office closed all day

Tuesday, December 31 office closes at 12:30 pm

Wednesday, January 1 office closed all day

