



# The CHIMES

The Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights

October 2021

♥ Choose love. 🏰 Be the light. 🌍 Change the world.

## From the Pastor **Are you ALL IN?**

by Rev. Alex Lang, Head of Staff

Our church year got off to a great start with wonderful worship in the month of September! In spite of the pandemic forcing us to mask during our gatherings, I feel as though our community is beginning to rebound from the last 18 months. The pandemic may have sucked the wind out of our sails, but we are doing everything in our power to get you back in the doors of our church and reengaged with our programming. You can feel an energy and momentum. People are excited to be back!

Indeed, as much as my life as a pastor is consumed with preparing sermons, engaging with administrative tasks as the head of staff and serving members of our community, I have been working closely with the Session to deal with a huge problem that we are facing as Christians. Prior to the pandemic, attendance in churches across the United States was declining. However, the pandemic accelerated this decline in ways no one could have anticipated.

Although well resourced, large churches like ours were able to weather the storm, many smaller churches that were already struggling are now on life support and many are preparing to shut their doors. The elders at First Pres are very concerned by this trend and want to make sure that the precipitous decline induced by the pandemic does not become a long-term problem in our community.

The elders have developed a plan that will help reverse this trend in our community. If you were in worship on September 19, you received an informational brochure that outlined the problem and the plan we are utilizing to reengage members and draw in visitors to our community. If you have not already read that brochure, just turn the page and you can read it on the inside of this edition of The Chimes.

The most important thing I need to reiterate from that brochure is if you are not already involved in serving our community in some capacity, we are asking you to get

involved now! Don't wait. Look over all the various ways you can serve with your time and talents. Once you find a few things that pique your interest, visit our website at [firstpresah.org/allin](http://firstpresah.org/allin)

to learn more and contact us to let us know how you plan to make a contribution to our community so that we can make sure our church not only survives, but is truly making a difference for God in Arlington Heights.

I am, by nature, a very trusting person. I will give you the benefit of the doubt until you prove me wrong. 🙏



Read about the ALL IN! initiative on the following pages.

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# Introduction

The Session of First Pres is concerned about the future viability of our congregation. With so many churches shutting down because of lack of participation, we find ourselves at an important crossroads: we still have strength in numbers and resources, but the pandemic has severely impacted our participation, which threatens to cause a precipitous decline. Below we outline the issues we face as a church and a denomination, as well as our proposed solutions to remain a vital and growing community.

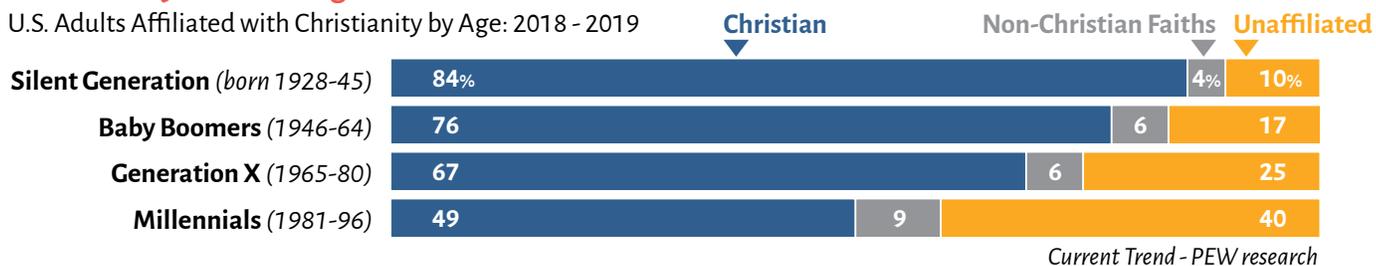
The Challenge...  
**MEMBERSHIP & PARTICIPATION**



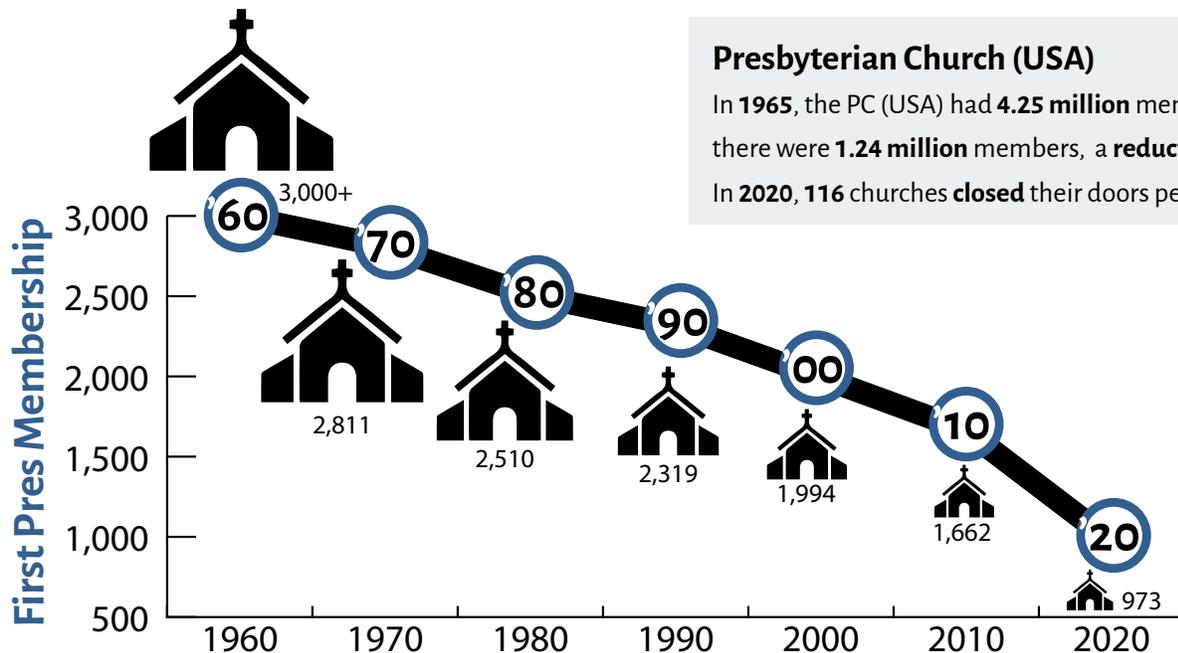
## 21<sup>st</sup> Century Christianity

### Christianity is declining in the U.S.

U.S. Adults Affiliated with Christianity by Age: 2018 - 2019



As a result of the decline in Christianity, the PC (USA) and our own congregation mirror this decline



### First Pres Membership by Age: 2020



## The KEY to Growth at First Pres

- Strong vibrant programs that draw in members from our community
- The GOOD NEWS: we have many excellent programs

**KIDS**  
Connect

Service  
Saturday

Loaves & Fishes  
Garden

Stone  
Catchers

Concert  
Series

Family  
NIGHT

- We need YOUR help to keep these programs vibrant!

## HOW will we Address the CHALLENGE?

*Welcome Back!*  
Discover opportunities to gather, worship, and serve.



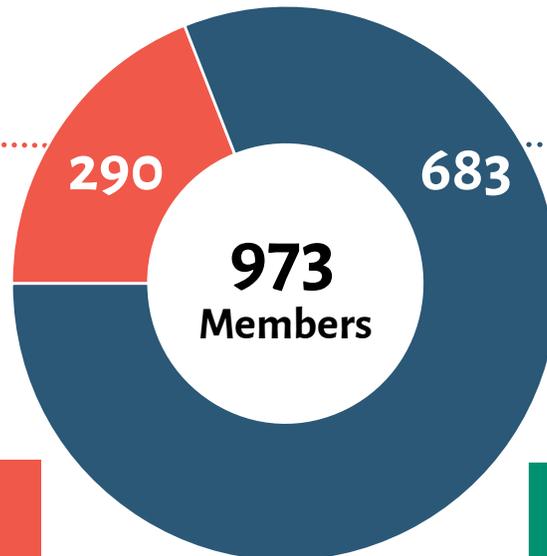
*Fall 2021 Program Highlights*

First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights  
Sunday Morning Schedule  
9:00am | Modern Worship & Adult Education  
10:30am | Traditional Worship & Children's and Youth Education

Fall Programming guide sent out to members and the community.

## We need more participation

Church Members who volunteer outside of Sunday worship



Church Members who do not participate beyond Sunday worship

Currently only  
**30%**  
of  
Members give  
time & talent



Our  
**GOAL**  
**60%**  
of  
Members giving  
time & talent

## Take Action NOW!

## HOW YOU can get INVOLVED

### Church Outreach and Support

- Invite Others to Church
- Welcome People During Worship
- Greeters and Ushers
- Teach: Children, Youth or Adults
- Helping Individual Members of our Congregation
- Stephen Ministry (*listening and helping people in need*)
- Connections (*repairing the church building*)
- Gardening

### Committee and Board\* Involvement

- Leadership Role
- Committee member
- Volunteer for specific committee and /or committee event / program
- Hands On support
- Attend/participate in committee events

### Community Outreach

- Service Saturday
- Missions Events
- Christopher House
- Kenneth Young Center (*behavioral health services*)
- PADS (*homeless ministry*)
- Family Night Dinners
- Social Justice Events

I want  
to Learn  
more  
ABOUT...

### Music Ministry

- Chancel Choir
- Bells
- Kids' choir
- Compass Band
- Special Music: Piano, Solos, Instrumental

### Share Ideas

- Give feedback when surveys are provided
- Share Ideas with Committees, Boards, Pastors and Elders
- Focus Groups
- Tell us how YOU can use your unique talents and interests to get involved

### Be Part of the Visioning Teams

- Join a team of people who are dedicated to enhancing the community and culture of our church

### \*Committees and Boards

- Worship, Music and Sacraments
- Community Life and Education
- Children's Ministries
- Communications
- Covid-19 Task Force
- Mission
- New Business Task Force
- Endowment
- Youth Ministries
- Trustees and Deacons Ministries
- Administration & Finance
- Personnel
- All-Church Nominating

#### To learn more:

-  [firstpresah.org/allin](http://firstpresah.org/allin)
-  [allin@firstpresah.org](mailto:allin@firstpresah.org)
-  Mary Fino (847)255-5900

**Read and understand the membership and volunteer trends**

September 2021

**Learn about various opportunities to serve & Pray about where your talents can be used**

October 2021

**Make a commitment for the next year to participate with your talents**

November 2021

**Become actively involved**

January 2022

**Draw in new members from the community at large**

2022



**Congregation is actively involved in GROWING THE CHURCH and REVERSING the membership decline**

**To learn more:**

 [firstpresah.org/allin](http://firstpresah.org/allin)

 [allin@firstpresah.org](mailto:allin@firstpresah.org)

 **Mary Fino (847)255-5900**

# October Worship Theme



We all face challenges, but the pandemic created hurdles we've never faced before. During October we will discuss how our faith helps us to navigate and cope with those challenges.



## October 10 | *Breaking Bad Habits*

Scriptures: Matthew 6:25-34; Luke 17:1-4

🎵 9:00 am – Compass

🎵 10:30 am – Chancel Choir, Chancel Handbell Choir

## October 17 | *The Education Gap*

Scriptures: Proverbs 2:6-15; Matthew 7:1-5

Teacher Commissioning

Bible Sunday for 3rd and 8th Graders

🎵 9:00 am – Compass

🎵 10:30 am – Chancel Choir, Children's Choir, Harp

## October 24 | *Caring for Multi-Generations*

Scriptures: Matthew 25:31-40; Luke 5:17-26

Intergenerational Breakfast and Worship

🎵 9:00 am – Compass    10:30 am – Men's Chorus

## October 31 | *Loss of Loved Ones*

Scriptures: Luke 7:11-17; 1 Corinthians 15:20-28

Celebration of Holy Communion

Recognition of Members Lost

🎵 9:00 am – Compass    10:30 am – Chancel Choir

# Worship Highlights

## OCTOBER 3

### Worldwide Communion

October 3 is World Communion Sunday. This special day gives us the opportunity to celebrate our oneness in Christ with all of our brothers and sisters around the world. Please join us in worship as we set the communion table with articles from different countries and hear special music that will bring us to other parts of the world. Ven a celebrar con nosotros! Come celebrate with us!

## OCTOBER 17

### Bible Sunday – B.Y.O.B.

Whether it's well worn, new and exciting or passed down from generation to generation, our Bibles are special in so many ways. On October 17 we will commission our Sunday School teachers at the 9am service and our 3rd & 8th graders will be receiving new Bibles at the 10:30am service. We invite you to celebrate with them by bringing your own Bible on this special day. From reading the morning scriptures to sharing with fellow worshipers, it will be exciting to see the Bibles that we hold so dear. Please remember to B.Y.O.B. (Bring Your Own Bible) on October 17!

## OCTOBER 24

### Intergenerational Worship and Breakfast

Invite your extended family to join us for worship, breakfast, and an inspirational message. We will focus on how the bible calls us to care for our loved ones. This was especially difficult during the pandemic as many of the organizations we depend on to provide care were shut down. Breakfast will be sponsored by Children's Ministries and served from 8:00-11:00 am. Free will offering to support PCUSA Peacemaking offering.

## OCTOBER 31

### Service of Remembrance

Please join us October 31 as we remember, honor, and recognize those who we've lost. Each pew will have pieces of black ribbon and you're encouraged to tie a ribbon around your wrist if you've lost someone who you would like to remember. In addition, there will be a table with unlit candles in the front of the Sanctuary and you're invited to light a candle in recognition of those we've lost this year. Please join us for this very special time of worship.

# Join a Music Ensemble

Even though rehearsals have begun, it is never too late to join an ensemble. Contact Adam Hendrickson for more information.

## HIGH SCHOOL AND OLDER:

**Chancel Choir** – Rehearses every Thursday at 7:00 pm;  
Sings weekly at 10:30 am service

**Men's Chorus** – Rehearses first and third Thursday at 6:30 pm;  
Sings about 8 times a year

**Chancel Handbell Choir** – Rehearses every Thursday at 5:30 pm;  
Rings about 6 times a year

**Compass (Praise Band)** – Rehearses every Sunday at 8:00 am;  
Plays weekly at 9:00 am service

**Instrumental** – Brass, strings, woodwinds, percussion and more.  
If you play it, we can use it.

## CHILDREN (K-5):

**Children's Choir** – Rehearse every Wednesday at 6:30 pm;  
Sings about 6 times a year

# Chris Urban in Concert at Fourth Presbyterian

Our organist, Chris Urban, is presenting a recital on Friday, October 8 at noon. The organ at Fourth Presbyterian is the largest in Chicago with 5 keyboards and 142 ranks. The hour-long program can be attended in person or on livestream at the church's website [fourthchurch.org](http://fourthchurch.org)



## CONCERT HIGHLIGHTS

### Eternal Light: A Requiem

Wednesday, November 3, 7:00 pm

On Wednesday, November 3, the Music Ministry at First Pres will present Howard Goodall's *Eternal Light: A Requiem* as part of a community-wide All Saints Service of Remembrance, following Family Night dinner. Goodall's Requiem is a balm for the living. It provides a template with which to work through one's grief. Its delicate and sensitive music, scored for strings, harp, organ, piano, soloists, and choir, was originally premiered with dance. Since its premiere, it is seldom offered in this manner, but First Pres will be honoring its origins, presenting the work with dance. We



invite you to come experience the community-wide All Saints Service of Remembrance and encourage you to invite a friend. We will search for the kindly light together and find the healing grace that "one step" forward has to offer. The service will also be livestreamed at [firstpresah.org](http://firstpresah.org) and our free will offering during the service will go to support JourneyCare.

### Chris Urban, organ

Wednesday, November 3,  
12:10 pm -12:45 pm

An organ recital featuring music of the Reformation.  
Concert will also be livestreamed at [firstpresah.org](http://firstpresah.org)



## BITE-SIZED MUSIC OPPORTUNITY

In November, we are pleased to offer a short-term singing opportunity for those who can't make a long-term commitment. Rehearse four Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:00 pm November 10, 17 and December 1, 8 and sing in the choir for the 4:00 pm Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 12.

Contact: Adam Hendrickson - [adamhendrickson@firstpresah.org](mailto:adamhendrickson@firstpresah.org)

# Upcoming Events



Wednesdays  
@ Noon



Service  
Saturday



Wednesdays  
@ Noon



**Sunday, October 3 4:00 pm**

## **Concert Series: Crossing Borders Music**

String Ensemble and oud (like a lute) present Reflections from the Arab World.

**October 6 12:10 pm**

## **Wednesdays @ Noon Recital**

Chris Urban and Chuck Beech present a recital of favorite hymns for piano and organ.

**Sunday, October 10 7:00 pm**

## **Annual Speaker: Stephen B Bright**

The theme will be Finding Life on Death Row. Hear stories from Mr. Bright about defendants he has represented and how many have gone on to become productive members of society.

**Saturday, October 16 11:00 am**

## **Service Saturday**

Help us host a block party with our neighbors from Parkview Apartments and make bookmarks for Liberation Library.

**Sunday, October 24 8:00 - 11:00 am**

## **Intergenerational Breakfast**

Bring your extended family for breakfast before worship sponsored by Children's Ministries. Free will offering to support PCUSA Peacemaking offering.

**Wednesday, October 27 7:00 pm**

## **God's Honest Truth**

The theme for the evening is **Back in My Day: Grandchildren and Grandparents Share Their Perspective on the Same Story.** Join us for dinner at 6:00 pm.

**Saturday, October 30 2:00 - 4:00 pm**

## **Halloween Trunk of Treat**

Join us in the West Parking Lot as we invite children in our community to trick or treat from the decorated trunks of our cars.

**Wednesday, November 3 12:10 pm**

## **Wednesday @ Noon Recital**

Chris Urban presents an organ recital of music of the reformation.

**Sunday, November 3 7:00 pm**

## **All Saint's Day Service**

Chancel Choir, orchestra and dancers present Howard Goodall's 'Eternal Light' in a community All Saint's Day service. Join us for dinner at 6:00 pm.

# Season Of Peace and the Peace and Global Witness Offering

On October 3 First Pres will celebrate World Communion Sunday. Celebrated around the world since 1940 – World Communion Sunday is an ecumenical celebration of our oneness with Christian communities around the world. On this day we will also receive the PCUSA Peace and Global Witness Offering.

This year the theme is Peace - At All Times - In All Ways. Through our commitment to this special offering, we work to draw closer to God's peace, and shine God's light at this time and in all time. Ministries who receive support from the offering work to provide healing and reconciliation across our



community and the world. Our congregation will use 25% of the offering to support peacemaking programs within our congregation as directed by the Mission Committee.

25% supports mid-council level work to promote peacemaking activities across congregations, and 50% supports peacemaking efforts of the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program and their partners across the globe.

Please consider giving generously to the Peace and Global Witness Offering as we seek to be a light in our community and world. We join these monetary gifts with our prayers for peace and justice throughout the world. 

## A Prayer for Peace

Break forth in us,  
Light of peace,  
Light of the World.  
May your peace extend  
from our mouths,  
from our hearts and  
from our hands until it exists  
At all times, in all ways.

*Amen*



## Intergenerational Breakfast

For many years, Children's Ministries has hosted a themed breakfast for First Pres and Sunday school friends and family. We've invited neighbors, peers, teachers, parents – all in the name of welcome and hospitality.

This year, we're thrilled to host an Intergenerational Breakfast. First Pres members and friends are invited to join us for a delicious breakfast on Sunday, October 24 in the Parlor from 8:00 – 11:00 am.



Plan to stop by before worship or relax after worship and enjoy a delicious meal with cherished family and friends, while meeting new people and making new connections.

A free will offering will be collected to support PC(USA)'s Peace & Global Witness Offering.

Mark your calendars now and join us for a time of breaking bread and fellowship with your church family. Please contact Katy Allen at [katyallen@firstpresah.org](mailto:katyallen@firstpresah.org) or by calling the church office. 

## Restaurant Walk

We're starting our new Restaurant Walk program in October! This month we've chosen Armand's as our local restaurant to dine. To sign up, point your mobile device camera at the QR code to the right or sign up at the table on Sunday morning. There are many different dates and times to fit your schedule. The idea is that groups of 8 congregants will meet up at the designated restaurant and



have a delicious meal together and good company to boot! Hopefully through the online sign up process people will be able to sign up with a few people they may know, but also those who they don't and may like to get to know better. As much as you might want to, please don't sign up for more than 1 date and time so that there's plenty of room for everyone who may want to participate.

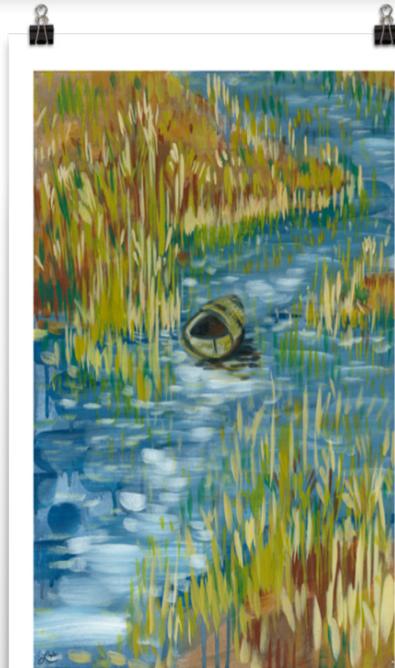


Every other month or once a quarter we will be choosing a new restaurant and starting the sign up process over again. So, if you don't get to join us in October look for the next one, most likely in January. 🗓️

## Enjoy the New Art Gallery Behind the Sanctuary

Come and experience the new art in the hallway behind the Sanctuary that connects the gym to the north building.

The art was painted by artists from *A Sanctified Art*. Founded by Presbyterian Pastor Lisle Gwynn Garrity, *A Sanctified Art* seeks to embrace the promise that our scriptures are God's living Word. To bring our whole selves to God in worship, we must allow the scriptures to come to life through color, movement, poetry, song, and image. You will find images inspired by the story of the prodigal son, Ruth & Naomi, Moses and the Christmas Star. 🗓️



## God's Honest Truth

**Back in My Day: Grandchildren and Grandparents Share Their Perspective on the Same Story**

**Wednesday, October 27, 7:00 pm**

Three years ago, we began a story telling night at our church called *God's Honest Truth*.

Inspired by *The Moth*, a live story telling hour broadcast on the radio, every *God's Honest Truth* revolves around a theme. The themes vary in their scope, but they are always designed to elicit stories that range from lighthearted anecdotes to deep personal challenges and triumphs. The goal of these evenings is to hear 5-10 minute stories from members of our congregation that will make you laugh, cry and learn a little bit more about the lives of the people who you worship with every week at First Pres.

Our next *God's Honest Truth* will be on **Wednesday, October 27 at 7:00 pm in our Sanctuary**. The theme for the evening is **Back in My Day: Grandchildren and Grandparents Share Their Perspective on the Same Story**. For this storytelling evening, we want to have two speakers, a grandparent and a grandchild, tell the same story, each from their own perspective. There are no age requirements, just that they are connected by a shared event. If you are interested in sharing your story, please submit your story to Pastor Alex Lang and he will help you get the story ready for our evening. Come and join us for what will certainly be a great evening! 🗓️

# Fall Kick-Off

## Reclaiming Community

On Sunday September 12, we celebrated the re-start of many of our programs and heard the first sermon in the fall series *'Making Peace with the Pandemic'* where Pastor Alex challenged us to reclaim our church community. Our 9:00 am modern worship service returned with music from praise band Compass. At 10:30 am we welcomed back the Chancel Choir, First Pres Brass and had a special treat with Dave Johnston playing the bagpipes.

After worship, we moved to the east parking lot for a time of food, fellowship, music, and games. It was great to see so many faces young and old and to spend time reclaiming the community at First Pres. 🇺🇸



Photo Credit: Larry Martin

## 9/11 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Remembrance

On Saturday September 11, our congregation hosted a community service honoring the 330 Illinois Fallen Heroes and the sacrifices of Gold Star families who died serving our country in the war on terror. The service included remarks from Arlington Heights Mayor Tom Hayes and former Governor Pat Quinn. Pastor Judy provided the invocation and Adam Hendrickson and Chris Urban provided music along with the 484<sup>th</sup> Army Brass Band.

Immediately following the ceremony, the Arlington Heights Memorial Library opened an exhibition titled Portrait of a Soldier. The exhibit featured hand-drawn portraits of the over 300 Illinois men and women killed in Iraq and Afghanistan and other countries around the globe since 9/11. 🇺🇸



# Family NIGHT

Family Night has returned for our sixth year. We are excited for this important community event! Our first gathering was Wednesday, September 15, with a free of charge dinner and fellowship time from 6:00-7:00 pm. We are always in need of volunteers to prepare, serve, and clean-up our meal. If you are interested in helping, please contact [Michele Holifield](#).

On September 22, from 7:00-8:00 pm, we began our full programming for all ages

- Adult Education classes
- Bite-sized Music for Adults
- Engage & Encounter Adult Education
- Middle School Youth Group grades 6 - 8
- Kids Connect grades K - 5
- Free nursery care

## NEW OPPORTUNITIES THIS FALL:

- Pastor Alex teaches the 7:00 pm **adult education** rotation with a class on the connection between spirituality and our emotions in *Mind, Body, Spirit: The Trinity of Connecting with God*, runs through October 20.
- Our **Children's Choir** (K-5<sup>th</sup> grade) rehearses from 6:30-7:00 pm on Wednesday night. Kids will begin with dinner at 6:00 pm and move to choir at 6:30 pm.
- In November, we are pleased to offer a short-term singing opportunity for those who can't make a long-term commitment. Rehearse four Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:00 pm November 10, 17 and December 1, 8 and sing in the choir for the 4:00 pm Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 12.



## CAREER PLANNING COURSE

This five-week **Career Planning Course** from our **Career Transition Resources Team** covers the most important cornerstones of your job search or career journey, including



self-assessment, budgeting, resume building, marketing, networking, interview preparation, and negotiations.

Classes will be held from 7:00 - 8:00 pm in room 102/104 during Family Night programming.

- Fall - Wednesdays, October 6, 13, 27, November 3, 10
  - Winter - Wednesdays, February 2, 9, 16, 23, and March 9
- Whether you're on the hunt for a new job or seeking a change in your career path, you don't have to face these challenges alone. *Contact: [CTR@firstpresah.org](mailto:CTR@firstpresah.org)*



## Family Night is BACK!

*We can't wait to see you.*

Dinner	6:00 - 7:00 pm
Children's Choir	6:30 - 7:00 pm
Programs for all ages	7:00 - 8:00 pm





## Next Service Saturday Event October 16 at 11:00 am

Join us as we gather on **Saturday, October 16 from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm** for our second Service Saturday. We will host a block party for our neighbors at Parkview Place and make bookmarks for Liberation Library. Watch you Weekly Highlights and Church Life for more information on this event. These events are an opportunity for all ages to come together as a community and give back.

### Our first Service Saturday on September 18 was a big success with about sixty members and friends participating on the day of the event.

The work for Service Saturday began weeks prior to September 18 when church members began donating school supplies and cloth tote bags for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) Gifts from the Heart School Kits. With the generous donations of the congregation, we packed 150 school kits on Saturday. In order to pack the 150 kits, we collected 450 spiral notebooks, 150 packs of crayons, 150 rulers, 150 pencil sharpeners, 900 pencils, 150 erasers, 150 scissors, and over 100 brightly colored tote bags sewn by congregation members. Thank you to all who generously donated. The kits will be shipped to PDA and distributed throughout the world.

The second project on Service Saturday was the creation and assembly of over 100 pinwheels that were displayed on the church grounds for the worldwide observance of International Day of Peace on Tuesday, September 21 as part of the PCUSA's Season of Peace. This year the day recognizes our continued healing from the Covid-19 pandemic and calls for all to think creatively and collectively about how to help everyone recover. If you

were not able to participate this year in the pinwheel creation you can still be involved with our ongoing peacemaking efforts by donating to this year's Global Witness and Peacemaking Offering on Sunday, October 3.

**Mark your calendars to join us on Saturday, October 16 for our next Service Saturday.**



## Mary and Martha's Lending Closet

“Helping You Practice Hospitality in an Earth Friendly Way”

Mary and Martha's Lending Closet is open for business. We have a wide variety of items for your next indoor or outdoor gathering. Tables, chairs, tents, lights, dishes, serving pieces, beverage dispensers, glassware – if you need it for your next gathering we probably have it. For further entertaining, we also have bags sets and a large outdoor movie screen with projector. Borrow from the lending closet and avoid having to find a place to store unneeded items.

Over the past months, community members have borrowed for showers, engagement parties, memorial receptions, graduation parties, and just fun in the backyard.

Email [maryandmartha@firstpresah.org](mailto:maryandmartha@firstpresah.org) today for an appointment to reserve your fall and holiday celebration items. Stop by the Open House on Sunday, October 23, from 10:15 – 11:45am. The Lending Closet is located on the lower level of the CE Wing in Rooms 106/108.

Cost is by donation. Since June 2021, donations to the lending closet have exceeded \$1,000.00. Donations are distributed to area organizations seeking to address food insecurity in the Chicago area. Watch The Chimes next month for more information on the organizations Mary and Martha's Lending Closet supports. For more information contact [Michele Holifield](#) or [Amy Hempleman](#). 🗺️

Mary AND Martha's LENDING CLOSET

## Stone Catchers on the Move

“Together, we must continue our efforts to turn our hopes into reality. The long walk continues.”

—Nelson Mandela

This phrase meets you as you enter *Mandela: The Struggle for Freedom* exhibit at the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center. On Sunday August 29, 45 members and friends traveled to the museum to tour the Mandela exhibit and other moving museum exhibits.

Each exhibit at the museum strives to look at difficult issues throughout history with a goal to make each of us take a

stand for what is right and to see the hope for tomorrow. Those who attended the event described the exhibit as moving, inspirational, a must-see for all.

Stone Catchers will continue to offer opportunities to gather and learn through book studies, trips, and advocacy opportunities. We actively take on the hard issues like the environment, racism, immigration, affordable housing, poverty, and education while seeking ways to change the world. Watch your Church Life for more information on how you can get involved. If you would like to subscribe to the Stone Catcher's newsletter, [click here](#) or go to <https://firstpresah.org/outreach/stone-catchers/>. For more information, contact [Michele Holifield](#) or [Katy Allen](#).

Stone Catchers



There is so much to borrow at Mary and Martha's Lending Closet

# PADS Shelter will re-open, we need your help!

On October 5, 2021, First Pres will re-open our Tuesday evening PADS site, and we need your help. Here are some ways that you can get involved.

## VOLUNTEER FOR A SHIFT

Volunteer to work a shift once a week, once a month, or once a quarter. There are three shifts available (6:00 – 11:00 pm, 11:00 pm – 3:00 am, and 3:00 – 7:00 am) from October through April. We also have a clean-up crew that arrives around 5:00 am each Wednesday morning. Volunteers welcome guests, serve meals, and are a welcoming presence for guests staying at the shelter. Training will be provided. This year, proof of COVID-19 vaccination will be required.

## DONATE FOOD ITEMS

Dinner, breakfast, and a sack lunch to go is provided each week. We need donations of many items in order to provide these meals.

## DONATE MONETARILY

Over the years, and especially during the pandemic, First Pres members and friends have been incredibly generous with monetary donations. We hope this will continue as we re-open our site. Monetary donations can be made by sending a check to the church or online through the church's giving portal.

## PRAY

The PADS team always welcomes your prayers for the safety and well-being of our guests and volunteers.

## EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY

Make a point of learning about homelessness in our area. Speak-up about programs and services that are basic human rights for all people.

## HOW TO SIGN UP

Links to sign up are available in Weekly Highlights and Church Life. If you have questions or would like more information, please contact the PADS team at [pads@firstpresah.org](mailto:pads@firstpresah.org). You can also call Michele Holifield at 847-243-7195, Amy Hempleman at 847-312-5211, or Cathy Mataloni at 847-682-4806 to talk with us about PADS and how you can be a part of the team. 📞



## Building Update

## Work on our Church Facility Continues

The Facilities team has been busy throughout the building. We continue to work on securing contractors for the installation of the lift. We have been presented with some challenges during the bidding process as the construction business is dealing with high demand, difficulty securing materials, and the high cost of materials. Watch your Church Life and Chimes for continued updates on this exciting project.

If you have been in the area of the chapel, you will notice that some of the walls have been removed as we begin work on opening up the Chapel to provide more seating and the construction of a permanent platform. We have started work with JNKA Architects on the design of the space and anticipate beginning the construction in the coming months.

On September 19 we welcomed Jack Wisner and Joey Jester to the facilities team as facility assistants. Jack and Joey

are juniors at Fremd High School. They will be present on Sunday mornings to ensure the building is ready to welcome all to worship and education. They will also assist during the week with event and meeting set-ups, and special projects. If you see Joey or Jack in the building please extend a warm welcome.

Do you have a special set-up need, or do you have group/committee members who need keycards? Please contact Michele Holifield. As a reminder the building is locked in the evenings and those who are participating in committee meetings, choir practices, or group gatherings should have a keycard to enter the building. If you have any questions about the project, please contact [Michele Holifield](#) or [Tony Scheurich](#). 📞

# September Session Notes

By Laura Carlson, Clerk of Session

Session Action Items and Highlights from the Unapproved Minutes from the Meeting of Session on September 13.\*

## ACTION ITEMS

Motion passed to approve the election of Deacon’s Task Force for the purpose of reviewing the mission, structure and effectiveness of the Deacon Board. Members are Laura Ryerson, Courtney Childs, Therese Haines, and Doug Hiskes with Judy Hockenberry ex officio.

## HIGHLIGHTS

The Session Strategic Planning Subcommittee summarized the updated Communication-to-Congregation plan to Session. The primary goals of the communication plan are to increase membership participation and improve communication flow. These updates included:

- ALL IN website is scheduled to go live Sunday September 19, 2021
- ALL IN table in the Narthex begins September 19, 2021 thru November. Two elders will host the table after each service. The idea is to provide opportunities for members to learn about ways to get involved, talk with elders, and ask questions.
- A video will be shown at both services on September 19, 2021
- Edits were made to the ALL IN brochure that reflect input from Session and the focus group comprised of at-large members.
- The ALL IN brochure will be distributed at the end of services on September 19, 2021



Session reviewed the 17 priorities that were identified by the congregation in the CAT survey of January 2020. Attention was focused on the top 3 CAT priorities along with a discussion on transforming these top priorities into SMART goals (Specific, Measurable, Attainable/Achievable, Relevant, Timely).

The next meeting of Session will be held on Sunday October 3, 2021. Session will continue discussions on strategic planning, initial goal setting, and next steps moving forward.

The Administration & Finance committee shared that we are on track and that the operating budget is in good shape.



Also reminded everyone that budgets are due by next Session Administration Meeting on Monday October 11, 2021.

A New Members class will be held soon and Session will meet with prospective new members at the October 11, 2021 Session meeting.

Called for Congregational meeting on September 26, immediately following the 10:30 am worship service to elect Elders, Deacons and Trustees.

Respectfully Submitted, Laura Carlson, Clerk of Session

\*A copy of the Unapproved Minutes is available upon request at [lauracarlson2011@hotmail.com](mailto:lauracarlson2011@hotmail.com)

## Your Session

	Class
<b>Mario Alberico</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>Laura Carlson</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Tom Carroll</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>Robert Churchill</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>Gary Gehm</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Marilynn Graves</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Laura Grochocki</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Cynthia Hiskes</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Marjorie Lock</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Tom Pardo</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Kristen Walter</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Marc Washco</b>	<b>2023</b>

# Defining our Decade

Build. Serve. Transform.

## Financial Update

We would like to thank you for your continued support to First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights and all who have contributed to the Defining our Decade Campaign.

**We have received a total of \$391,735 gifts and commitments - a total of 166 giving units.**

We are blessed to see this great support from our faith community. We are in Phase 1 of the project expanding accessibility for everyone throughout most of the church.

If you have not yet contributed to the campaign and can help us cross the finish line to our \$400,000 goal that would be awesome – we are just \$8,265 away! We offer a heartfelt thanks for your generous donations. 



## How to Give Online or by Check

**To Donate Online** – on the church’s website:

1. Go to [www.firstpresah.org](http://www.firstpresah.org).
2. Click on CONTRIBUTE at the top, then GIVE
3. Click on the blue Give Now button.
4. Enter the amount, select the fund, type an optional memo and enter your email address.
5. If you’re not logged in, it will ask you to log in, or continue as a guest. If you log in, your payment info will be saved to make it easier to give next time.
6. After you have entered your giving details and payment information, click on Give to initiate your contribution.
7. Log off the system when complete.



**To Donate by Check** – send a check to the Church Office made out to FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH and write the name of the fund to which you are donating in the memo.

**Mail your check to:**

First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights,  
302 North Dunton Ave., Arlington Heights, IL 60004

## First Presbyterian Church Financial Update

Below is a summary of the church’s income for the month of August and Year-to-Date. We encourage everyone to give regularly and generously. Thank you for your good stewardship!

### GIVING FOR AUGUST 2021

	Actual	Budget	Difference
Receipts	\$ 93,145	\$ 105,500	\$ (12,355)
Expenses	\$ 109,878	\$ 116,536	\$ 6,658
Balance	\$ (16,732)	\$ (11,036)	\$ (5,697)

### GIVING YEAR-TO DATE FOR AUGUST 2021

	Actual	Budget	Difference
Receipts	\$ 812,676	\$ 844,000	(\$ 31,324.00)
Expenses	\$ 822,207	\$ 932,290	\$ 110,083.00
Balance	\$ (9,531)	\$ (88,290)	\$ 78,759.00

## Children's Ministries

### LOAVES & FISHES GARDEN

The Loaves & Fishes Garden overflowed with goodness this summer and fall! Beans, peppers, and tomatoes grew and grew and grew! We also welcomed a hearty harvest of zucchinis, cucumbers, and watermelon.

We were thrilled to share our bounty with members of the community through our second annual free produce market. Those who came appreciated the opportunity to help themselves to fresh produce and enjoy the fellowship the market provided. We appreciate the generosity of First Pres's gardeners who donated extra produce from their home gardens to help round out the market offerings. We also appreciate the volunteers who helped staff the market each week.

The Loaves & Fishes Garden also allows us to provide a hands-on summer Sunday school experience for our preschoolers – 5th graders. From planting seeds and starts to weeding and watering to harvesting, our kids learned what it takes to care for a garden from its first days to its final days. We enjoyed using our tomatoes, peppers, and cilantro to make homemade salsa to share with our families and the produce market. We also loved weighing what we picked and watching the scales tip to about 300 pounds of produce.

While we may not have fed 5,000, we're doing our part to give back to our community in healthy and nourishing ways!



### TEACHER APPRECIATION & BIBLE SUNDAY

October 17th will be a special day in both worship services as we honor teachers and continue our tradition of giving Bibles to our 3rd and 8th graders. During the 9:00 am worship service, Sunday school teachers (preschool – high school) will be commissioned through prayer and liturgy. We will also invite all teachers to stand and be recognized for the incredible job they do day in and day out. At the 10:30 am worship service, 3rd and 8th graders will receive their Bibles. Teachers in the congregation will also be invited to stand for recognition.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

We were thrilled to welcome 25+ children to the nursery, Preschool Sunday school, and K-5th Sunday school on Kick-Off Sunday! After 18 long months apart, it was a true joy to see so many happy faces coming through our doors!

Preschool Sunday school is looking forward to a great year of learning and playing together in the Green Room. Our 3 and 4 year-olds love showing their love for Jesus while learning what it means to be a child of God. Along the way, they learn what it means to be a friend and how to love each other. Preschool Sunday school meets in the Green Room, on the main floor of the CE wing from 10:30-11:30 am.

Kindergartners – 5th graders are anticipating a year of Practicing. Through scripture and story, they will be introduced to the many ways the Bible offers examples of practicing the love and kindness of Jesus. Our hands-on curriculum offers a variety of ways to learn and grow, while seeing how important it is to share our heart's gifts with the world. K-5th grade Sunday school meets in Room 304 and classrooms on the top floor of the CE wing from 10:30-11:30 am.

Contact: [Katy Allen](mailto:Katy.Allen@firstpres.org) 



### SECOND ANNUAL TRUNK OR TREAT

Children's Ministries, Youth Ministries, and PDO are teaming up to host our second annual Trunk or Treat event on Saturday, October 30 from 2:00-4:00 pm. Children of all ages are welcome to put on their Halloween costumes and visit the decorated car trunks in our West Parking Lot. This event is free and open to the community. If you would like to participate in the event by decorating your trunk and passing out candy to all the ghosts and goblins who happen by, please contact Katy Allen at [katyallen@firstpres.org](mailto:katyallen@firstpres.org).

# Youth Ministries

## SUNDAY SCHOOL RECAP

Sunday School has kicked off and we are starting to feel slightly more normalcy in the CE Wing. **Y-search** (our 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade youth) will be working their way through the New Testament this year, learning about Jesus' life and lessons and what happened after his death and resurrection.

**Confirmation Class** is going to be taking the year to have each youth dive deeply into their own faith, pick it apart, put it back together, and ask not only, "what do I believe," but, "why do I believe that." Due to the continual unknown of this pandemic we are not sure if we will be able to take the treks and trips that we normally do with the Confirmation Class, but hopefully we will.

**High School Sunday School** has gone through a bit of an overhaul, adding not only new lessons, but also new mission experiences to our regular routine. Once a month our high school youth will be taking the Sunday School hour to walk over to Jewel, shop for our brothers and sisters experiencing homelessness, and then bring that food back here to church for the PADS program. When they are not doing this or some other mission we have dreamed up, they will be going through a curriculum called, Holy Emotional Bible, where we explore emotions that they might have been feeling throughout the past 18 months, what the Bible says about those, and how we can deal with them. 🕊

## Nursery help needed

I'd like you to think and pray about being a caregiver with the babies and toddlers this year. It involves a 90 minute timeframe once a month at either the 9:00 or 10:30 am service. Usually there are between 4 or 6 children. There are also substitute positions available. Please contact Beth Johnson at [bj0914@hotmail.com](mailto:bj0914@hotmail.com) or (847) 253-3667. 🕊



October 2021

# PDO Preschool Staffing Highlight

This year at First Pres PDO and Preschool we currently have 27 members on staff. Our staff consists of a combination of Head Teachers, Teaching Assistants (TAs), Creative Coordinators to assist with all crafting requests, Floater Teachers that assist staff and students with anything and everything, and our Director, Coleen Anzalone.

We are lucky enough to have four staff members that are also members at First Pres. We wanted to recognize them and show our appreciation for the dedication to our program.

## BETH JOHNSON

- Church member since 1983.
- PDO Head Teacher since 1990 in the 2 and 3-year-old preschool room.
- Flower chair, Nursery Care Director, Family Night, Youth and Children's Ministries.



## CLAUDIA ALBERICO

- Baptized at First Pres, became a church member in 1975.
- Placed a "time-capsule" somewhere in the church when attended Sunday School here in 1970!
- Helped with Sunday morning childcare, VBS, various youth and adult activities and served as a Deacon.
- Started at PDO in 2005 in the 3 and 4-year-old preschool classrooms as Head and Co-Lead Teacher.
- Head Teacher in our new kindergarten enrichment program, K-Club!



## TONYA GRIFFIN

- Church member since 2006.
- Started with PDO in 2012 and now Head Teacher in our 4 and 5-year-old preschool program.
- Former nursery care volunteer and First Pres Deacon.



## JANE TREPPA

- Church member since 2000.
- Head Teacher at PDO since 2003 and currently teaching 3 and 4-year-old preschool children.
- Served on Children's Ministries, teaches Sunday School.



## KATIE WASHCO

- Church member since 2009.
- Preschool TA since 2018.
- Served as a church Elder and Chair for Children's Ministries.



**Our PDO and Preschool is so lucky to have these talented members serving our church and our school!**

## Annual Speaker - Stephen B. Bright, October 10, 7:00 pm

As with everything that happened during the pandemic, last year we were forced to postpone our Annual Speaker event. This year we are picking up where we left off. We are



very fortunate to welcome Stephen B. Bright, the Harvey L. Karp Visiting Lecturer in Law at Yale Law School, to First Pres on Sunday, October 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. Mr. Bright has been critical force in the criminal justice system and has dedicated his legal

career to helping those facing the death penalty.

Mr. Bright has successfully argued before the Supreme Court three times with the justices finding in his favor on each occasion. However, Mr. Bright's most enduring legacy is as the founder and director the Southern Center for Human Rights in Atlanta from 1982 to 2005, and as its president and senior counsel from 2006 to 2016. The Center's legal work includes representing prisoners in challenges to unconstitutional conditions and practices in prisons and jails; challenging systemic failures in the legal representation

of poor people in the criminal courts; and representing people facing the death penalty who otherwise would have no representation.

The theme for our evening is *Finding Life on Death Row*. You will hear stories from Mr. Bright about defendants he has represented and how many have gone on to become productive members of society. Mr. Bright will also discuss how race and poverty play an important role in how capital punishment cases are investigated and prosecuted. A vivid storyteller and scholar of Civil Rights history, Mr. Bright will illuminate the humanity of one of darkest corners of our criminal justice system.

This is an evening you won't want to miss! Make sure to RSVP on our website as space will be limited. Also, in preparation for the evening, you may want to read Bryan Stevenson's *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption* (2014), Anthony Ray Hinton's *The Sun Does Shine: How I Found Life and Freedom on Death Row* (2018) or Marc Bookman's *A Descending Spiral: Exposing the Death Penalty in 12 Essays* (2021). Even if you can't get to the reading list, we hope you can make time for what will certainly be an amazing discussion. 🗣️

### Engage & ENCOUNTER

## Sunday Morning Adult Education Class

### LOSS AND GRIEF

Sundays, September 12 – October 31

9:00 am / Boardroom / Rev. Judy Hockenberry

Together we will explore our experiences of loss and the grief that is connected to that loss. As we go through the eight weeks, we will develop a better understanding of healthy grief that will be grounded in biblical principles and our understanding of God.

## Wednesday Evening Adult Education Class

### MIND, BODY, SPIRIT: THE TRINITY OF CONNECTING WITH GOD

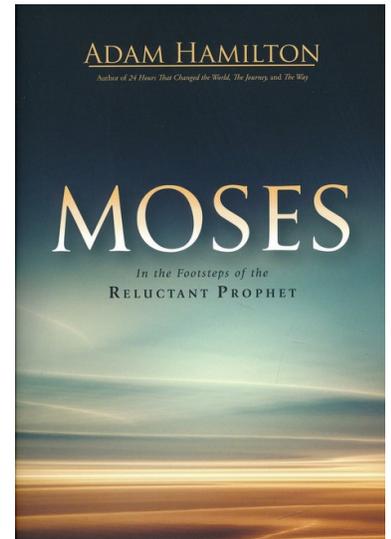
Wednesdays, September 22 – October 20

7:00 pm / Sanctuary / Rev. Alex Lang

Spirituality is an essential aspect of being a Christian, and yet, we each experience spirituality in a unique way. In this class, Rev. Lang will examine the various methods employed by Christians to form their spiritual connection with God and how our spirituality is expressed through our mind, body, and spirit.

# Coffee: Grounds For Discussion And Service

*Sundays / 10:30-11:30 am / Room 110/112* — Join us for our first study this fall. We will utilize study materials by Adam Hamilton, Pastor of Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas, entitled *Moses, In the Footsteps of the Reluctant Prophet*. Coffee: Grounds for Discussion and Service is a member lead Sunday morning group that meets on the lower level of the Education Wing at 10:30 am. Bring your own coffee and your mask. We are set up to social distance in our classroom. Whether you can make it for all discussions or not, we would love to see you there!



# Monday Morning Men's Bible Study

Join the **Monday Morning Men's Bible Study Group!** We meet every Monday at 8:00 am via Zoom and in person in the Parlor. If you are interested in joining the group or if you have questions, contact Bill Dillon at [crdillon@sbcglobal.net](mailto:crdillon@sbcglobal.net) or Dave Berkow at [dwberkow@att.net](mailto:dwberkow@att.net). *Proverbs 27:17 As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.*

## Presbyterian Women

### Presbyterian Women News

#### October Circles 1, 2, 3

Circles for Presbyterian Women began meeting on Wednesday, September 15, in the church Parlor and the new Bible Study is *What My Grandmothers Taught Me*. It was fun to see all the pictures of our grandmas and hear a little about them. On October 20, Circles 1, 2, and 3 will be meeting again at 9:00 am in the Parlor to learn about Tamar, Er's wife. Er was the son of Judah. Learn and discuss the beginning of the lineage of Jesus. How are some of the same issues facing women then still facing us now? Please join us for an interesting discussion and learn a little history of Jesus. Bring a friend. All are welcome!

#### November Circles 1, 2, 3

Circles 1, 2, and 3 will be meeting on November 17 for fellowship and Bible Study. "Rahab" will be the subject of our discussion. Rahab was the wife of Solomon, her son was Boaz. Learn how a strong, intelligent, marginalized woman like Rahab could rise above fear and have the presence of mind to allow God's plans to come to fruition. How do we judge women in questionable positions and who make questionable choices? Join our discussion at 9:00 am in the Parlor. All are welcome!

### News from Circle 7

#### October Circle 7

As long as weather permits, Circle 7 will meet on Tuesday evening, October 19, at 5:00 pm in Mary Larson's backyard. Please bring your own chair! The study and discussion is *Almost Everything: Notes of Hope*, Chapter 11, "Food". It should be a delicious topic for all to enjoy! Please come and join us!

#### November Circle 7

Circle 7 will meet on Tuesday, November 16, at 7:00 pm in the church Parlor. We'll continue with the book *Almost Everything: Notes of Hope*, Chapter 12, "Families". Come and find out what that means and join in a great discussion!



## New Member Class

Our next New Member Class will take place October 24 at 11:30 am in the Boardroom. Please join us! For more information and to register, contact *TC Anderson*.

## Food Drive For Firman and Christopher Houses

Most of us are most fortunate that we do not have to worry about where our next meal comes from. Many people served by Firman House and Christopher House are not as fortunate. This year, our food drive will collect monetary donations from October 1-November 7. These communities are in need more than ever so please be generous. You can donate in one of two ways:

### Online:

- Go to [www.firstpresah.org](http://www.firstpresah.org)
- Click on “Give” which is the top line of the website.
- Click on the GIVE NOW link in blue
- Select “C House Firman House Food” from the drop-down menu.

### By check:

Send a check, made out to First Presbyterian Church. On the memo line, indicate C House Firman H Food Drive. Donations will be split equally between the two organizations. Deadline for donations is Sunday, November 7. Any questions, contact Gladys Holtz at [gladysholtz@comcast.net](mailto:gladysholtz@comcast.net) or Kathy Doering at [doering.kathy.m@gmail.com](mailto:doering.kathy.m@gmail.com).

## Welcome New Facilities Team Members

On September 19 we welcomed Jack Wiser and Joey Jester to the facilities team as facility assistants. Jack and Joey are juniors at Fremd High School. They will be present on Sunday mornings to ensure the building is ready to welcome all to worship and education. They will also assist during the week with event and meeting set-ups, and special projects. If you see Joey or Jack in the building please extend a warm welcome.

## Flowers For Worship

The holidays are coming and we will once again enjoy Christmas and all the decorations in our church in person! On October 17 and October 24, Presbyterian Women will be collecting for Christmas flower donations in the Narthex. Suggested donation is \$20. Help add a little Christmas spirit and beauty!



## Help Decorate for Christmas

Help transform our church for the Christmas season on Saturday, November 27, at 9:30 am. This is a HUGE UNDERTAKING and needs the help of EVERYONE! Anyone over the age of 12 are welcome for some fun getting ready for Christmas and dressing the church up for all to enjoy! Lots of hands make more fun and work easier! Don't miss out getting into the holiday spirit!



## Chris Urban Takes on Additional Responsibilities

In addition to his role as Associate Director of Music and Organist, Chris Urban will take on the role of Communications Coordinator. In this role, he will work with staff and members to oversee and coordinate our communications: website, social media, The Chimes, email and new member outreach. His contributions so far have included the Fall Programming Guide, a revamped Chimes, the 2021-2022 Concert Series Brochure and a mailing to people new to the immediate area in the past 18 months. If you are interested in helping out with communications please contact Chris [chrisurban@firstpresah.org](mailto:chrisurban@firstpresah.org)

# Thank you

## DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

On behalf of Liz Armstrong's family, we would like to thank everyone for their love, prayers and endless support during Mom's illness and recent passing. It was good to join you as we celebrated her life and her talents on August 21. After her memorial service, we received dozens of the sweetest, dearest notes of sympathy and memories. We are so grateful that she was able to live and serve her last years in such a wonderful place.



We would like to thank those who came to remember and those who watched her memorial service from home. Thank you to Barbara Martin, Deb Artman and the army of volunteers who made time out of their day on Saturday to make sure that family and friends were basked in warmth and comfort. Thank you to Chris Urban, for helping lift our spirits with his gift of music. Many thanks as well to Pastors Judy and Alex for their unwavering support, providing Mom with the perfect send-off!

We would like to officially donate all of her Welcome Center banners and two 150th anniversary quilts that she created, to First Pres, to live on with her church. We hope that memorials given will help new banner makers create works of art in the years to come.

Please continue to glorify God in all that you do and in the many ways you serve. That is what she would want you to do in her memory.

The Family of Liz Armstrong

# 90th Birthday Celebrations

On August 22 we celebrated with eleven members who turned 90 in 2021.



Ron Baker  
Al Barboro  
Jerry Bolin  
Carl Burklund  
Jeanne Dacy  
Lois Hartung

Edie Jolly  
Betty Lash  
Bob Mamoyac  
Gordon Palmer  
John Sonderegger

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## CELEBRATIONS:



Shannon Bennett & Brittany Winslow who were married in our Sanctuary on August 27

Kevin Okonta & Leslie Martin who were married in our Sanctuary on September 18

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## SYMPATHY TO:

Ann Knapp, on the death of her husband,  
Dick Knapp

The *Bukowski, Lincoln, and Martinka* families on the death of *Betty Lou Bukowski*

The Sievertsen family of the death of *Dee Sievertsen*

The Tegeder family on the death of *Betty Carole Tegeder*

*Dick and Elise Reeves*, on the death of Dick's mother, *Fran Reeves*

*Steve Smith*, on the death of his mother, Mary Alice Smith

*Francie, Nora and Gabe Taylor* on the death of husband and father *Andy Taylor*

# The CHIMES

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

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## October 2021

## Staff Directory

### PASTORAL STAFF

**Alex Lang**  
Pastor/Head of Staff  
[alexlang@firstpresah.org](mailto:alexlang@firstpresah.org)

**Judy Hockenberry**  
Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care  
[judyhockenberry@firstpresah.org](mailto:judyhockenberry@firstpresah.org)

**TC Anderson**  
Associate Pastor for Children, Youth  
and Families  
[tcanderson@firstpresah.org](mailto:tcanderson@firstpresah.org)

### MUSIC AND WORSHIP

**Adam Hendrickson**  
Director of Music and Worship  
[adamhendrickson@firstpresah.org](mailto:adamhendrickson@firstpresah.org)

**Christopher Urban**  
Associate Director of Music & Organist  
[chrisurban@firstpresah.org](mailto:chrisurban@firstpresah.org)

**Nick Pulikowski**  
Director of Children's & Handbell Choirs  
[nickpulikowski@gmail.com](mailto:nickpulikowski@gmail.com)

### CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

**Katy Allen**  
Director of Children's Ministries  
[katyallen@firstpresah.org](mailto:katyallen@firstpresah.org)

**Coleen Anzalone**  
Director of PDO & Preschool  
[coleenanzalone@firstpresah.org](mailto:coleenanzalone@firstpresah.org)

**Beth Johnson**  
Nursery Coordinator  
[bethjohnson@firstpresah.org](mailto:bethjohnson@firstpresah.org)

### OFFICE ADMINISTRATION

**Debbie Walter**  
Business Administrator  
[debbiewalter@firstpresah.org](mailto:debbiewalter@firstpresah.org)

**Mary Fino**  
Senior Administrative Assistant  
[maryfino@firstpresah.org](mailto:maryfino@firstpresah.org)

**Carol Vega**  
Administrative Assistant/Receptionist  
[carolvega@firstpresah.org](mailto:carolvega@firstpresah.org)

### FACILITIES

**Tony Scheurich**  
Facilities Director  
[tonyscheurich@firstpresah.org](mailto:tonyscheurich@firstpresah.org)

**Michele Holifield**  
Facilities Coordinator  
[micheleholifield@firstpresah.org](mailto:micheleholifield@firstpresah.org)

### CHURCH LEADERSHIP

**Laura Carlson**  
Clerk of Session  
[sessionclerk@firstpresah.org](mailto:sessionclerk@firstpresah.org)

**Pam Miller & Lynn Stoike**  
Co-Chairs Deacons  
[deacons@firstpresah.org](mailto:deacons@firstpresah.org)

**Barrett Peterson**  
President of Trustees  
[trustees@firstpresah.org](mailto:trustees@firstpresah.org)