

Prayer Requests

Healing & Comfort

Mario Alberico
 Brian Aldrich
 Dave & Pat Almblad
 Don & Judy Ayers
 Barbara Berkow
 Wendy Blanck
 Danielle Christian — niece of Bill Christian
 Christopher Chuchna—grandson of Bob and Nancy Kret
 Mary Clarbour
 Nancy Conning
 Carol Dahn
 Alice Davitt — friend of Kris Ward
 Kenyatta Fletcher — friend of Dawn & Lee Bruce
 Richard Ford — friend of Dawn & Lee Bruce
 Bobbie Freres
 Karl Gates — friend of Mary Kieपुरa
 Dorita & Houston Godfrey
 Judy Hockenberry
 Mary Jessogne — Sister-in-law of Myrtle Jessogne
 Myrtle Jessogne
 Marylyn Jirsa

Nancy Johnson
 Marjorie Kalivoda
 Kim — friend of the Rasmussen Family
 Sean McClory — friend of Mario Alberico
 John McFayden
 Scott and Laura Morrison — friends of Mario & Claudia Alberico
 Gloria Oak
 Stu Olin
 Barrett Peterson
 Jim Richardson — brother of Jan Richardson
 Theresa Scola — friend of Meg Haddad
 Emma Scott — sister-in-law of Richard Scott
 Susan Scott
 Ed Slivovsky
 David Stratton — brother-in-law of Elaine Chen
 Janet Tanner
 Jaquan Thompson
 Dan Tsutsumi
 Wes Upton — friend of Ralph Larsen
 Mick Ward — friend of Kris Ward
 Jenell Wetzell
 Quintin White — friend of Dawn & Lee Bruce

Sympathy to

Bob Ahrens, on the death of his wife, **Nancy Ahrens**

Serving in the Armed Services

AMN Charles Arthur Brousseau, Air Force — son of Liz Moses and Bob Wendling
 Lt. Jack Carroll, Air Force — grandson of Tom and Susan Carroll
 MU3 Wesley Carroll, Navy — son of Kevin and Amy Carroll, grandson of JoAnn Thompson
 Maj. Michael B. Ford, US Army Reserves — stepson of Kris Ford
 Brandon Latuzek — nephew of Elaine Chen
 Geoffrey Martineau — brother of Lisa Martineau
 E5MM Marc Robert McGrath, Jr., Navy — grandson of Donald and Jacqueline Schultz
 Capt. John Olszewski, USMC — nephew of Steve and Lisa Olszewski
 Sergeant Benjamin David Schultz, Air Force — grandson of Donald and Jacqueline Schultz
 Colonel Gretchen Wiltse — sister of Vincent and Heidi Wiltse

About First Pres

STAFF

Pastor / Head of Staff: Alex Lang
Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care: Judy Hockenberry
Associate Pastor for Children, Youth, and Families: TC Anderson
Pastor Emeritus: Harry Thompson
Associate Pastor Emerita: Dianne Shields
Director of Children's Ministries: Katy Allen
Director of Music and Worship: Adam Hendrickson
Associate Director of Music and Organist: Christopher Urban
Worship Technicians: Amy Senior, Jonah White

Business Administrator: Debbie Walter
Senior Administrative Assistant: Mary Fino
Administrative Assistant / Receptionist: Carol Vega
Facilities Director: Tony Scheurich
Facilities Coordinator: Michele Holifield
Director of First Pres PDO & Preschool: Coleen Anzalone
Nursery Coordinator: Beth Johnson
Volunteer Librarians: Bob Hanlon, Mary Hebden, Barbara MacDowall, Matt Meisterheim

Save the Date

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|-----------------|--|
| Today | Cookie Walk |
| Today | All-Church Christmas Caroling |
| December 24 | Christmas Eve Worship at 4:00, 8:00 and 10:00 pm |
| December 26 | Worship Service at 10:30 am Only |
| January 5 | Wednesday@Noon |
| January 5 | Family Night Programming Returns |
| January 7 | Jan's Jam |
| January 8 | Undecorate the Church |
| January 16 & 17 | MLK, Jr. Annual Day of Service |
| January 18-25 | International Week of Prayer |
| January 23 | Taize Service |

LIVE WEBCAST & WORSHIP RECORDINGS — Services are webcast live at firstpresah.org/experience/livestream. To download or listen to a podcast of today's sermon, search Apple podcasts for **The Word @ First Pres**. Past sermons are available at firstpresah.org/experience/sermons. If you need help with technical problems, please send an e-mail to webcasting@firstpresah.org.

GET CONNECTED — Join the conversation on Facebook, at facebook.com/firstpresah; Twitter, at @FirstPresAH; and Instagram, at @firstpresah. Download the free ACS Church Life app or visit the website to access the church directory or manage your giving online. Simply set up a user account at firstpresah.org under the Member Login tab to get started. We look forward to connecting with you!



Choose bve .Be the light.Change the w orb .

First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights
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 847-255-5900 / www.firstpresah.org / mail@firstpresah.org



Church Life

December 19, 2021

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights! We are glad you are here! We know that you have a lot of choices about where and how to spend your time on Sunday. We are happy that you chose to spend it with us this morning. We are an open and inclusive congregation. Our hope is that as you worship with us, you will be inspired to choose love, be the light, and change the world. We invite you to participate in building the kingdom of God. Thank you for being here.

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING — We will be receiving the Christmas Joy Offering each Sunday in December and at the Christmas Eve services. This offering is divided so half is used to support mission and church workers who have retired with modest pensions or others who are experiencing emergency needs. The other portion is directed for support of Presbyterian-related schools and colleges in communities of color. Thank you for your support.

COOKIE WALK — *Today / Parlor* — Support Youth Ministries by participating in this delicious event. Stop in the Parlor after each service to select cookies for each \$5-per-box donation!



ALL-CHURCH CHRISTMAS CAROLING — *Today / 4:00 pm / Parlor* — Everyone is invited to help spread Christmas cheer at our All-Church Caroling event this afternoon. We will gather in the Parlor at 4:00 pm to meet one another and gather into groups. Everyone will return to church by 6:00 pm for a pizza dinner and fellowship. Contact Katy Allen at katyallen@firstpresah.org for more details.

SESSION SURVEY — If you have not yet done so, please complete the Session survey and drop it into a basket at the back as you leave. The survey is meant to be anonymous, so please do not include your name. The survey is designed to help Session better understand how the congregation views the Christian faith. This feedback will assist church leaders with the strategic goals in the coming year. Thank you for giving us your feedback! —Laura Carlson, Clerk of Session

Sunday, December 19 — Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:45 am – 11:45 am — Child care (infants – 4 years) — Room 205/207 (Blue Room), Main Floor Christian Education (CE) Wing
 9:00 am **Worship** — Sanctuary
 9:00 am Adult Education: Revisiting the New Testament — Boardroom
 10:00 am Adult Choir Rehearsal — Choir Auditorium
 10:30 am **Worship** — Sanctuary
 10:30 am Coffee: Grounds for Discussion & Service — Room 110/112
 10:30 am Preschool (3- & 4-year-old) Sunday School — Room 206 (Green Room), Main Floor CE Wing
 10:30 am K-5th Grade Gathering Time & Sunday School — Room 304, CE Wing
 10:30 am Y-Search (Grades 6 & 7) — Room 105/107, (Middle School Lounge)
 10:30 am Confirmation (Grade 8) — Room 109/111, Lower Level CE Wing
 10:30 am High School Sunday School (Grades 9-12) — Room 301/303, (High School Lounge)
 4:00 pm All-Church Caroling — Parlor, Fellowship Hall
 6:00 pm HSYG — HS Lounge, Gym

Upcoming Events

OFFICE CLOSURE & UPDATED WORSHIP SCHEDULE — The office will be closed at 12:30 pm on Friday, December 24 and all day Monday, December 27. There will be only one worship service at 10:30 am on Sunday, December 26.


SUNDAY ADULT EDUCATION CLASS — *Last Class Today / 9:00-10:00 am / Boardroom / Revisiting the New Testament* — **Dr. Donald Kaasch** — Join Don Kaasch for a historical return to the Christian canon and how it developed in the first through fourth century.


FAMILY NIGHT PROGRAMMING — Regular programming for Family Night is on break and will resume on January 5.

LOOKING AHEAD: ENGAGE & ENCOUNTER COMING IN JANUARY: *God Talk: How Other Faiths Talk About God* — *Wednesdays, January 5-January 26 / 7:00 pm / Sanctuary* — A complement to our January sermon series where we will look at how the Christian faith thinks about God, this class will look at how other faiths talk about God. Each week we will have a guest speaker from a different religion. January 5: Judaism, January 12: Hinduism, January 19: Mormonism, and January 26: Islam. Each session will include an interview of the faith leader, followed by a time of questions and deeper discussion from the audience. Come and learn how other faiths talk about God!

LOOKING AHEAD: SUNDAY ADULT ED COMING IN JANUARY: *Follow Me: Practice Spiritual Disciplines* — *Sundays, January 2-January 30 (no class January 16) / 9:00 am / Boardroom* — Join SarahBeth Speciale, First Pres member and chair for Community Life & Education, for a series of classes on Hope. Christian hope is found in the ever-present God, who is always with us. Our hope comes from and is Jesus Christ. SarahBeth will be using the *Follow Me* curriculum to explore what the Bible says about Hearing Hope, Seeing Hope, Offering and Receiving Hope, and Proclaiming Hope.

RESTAURANT WALK — *Sign-up throughout January* — Our popular Restaurant Walk returns for a second session. Sign-up throughout January with meals taking place in February. We'll gather in groups of eight and dine at Javier's (8 W. Miner, Arlington Heights). Come meet some new people and support a local businesses. Contact TC Anderson at tcanderson@firstpresah.org with questions.

 **WEDNESDAY@NOON RECITAL** — *Wednesday, January 5 / 12:10 pm / Sanctuary* — Join us for an afternoon recital featuring Andrew Orals, violin and Christopher Urban, organ, presenting music of the season.


 **INTERNATIONAL WEEK OF PRAYER** — *Tuesday, January 18-Tuesday, January 25* — Join Christians around the world in observing the International Week of Prayer. Submit prayer requests starting Sunday, January 2, and then come to the Sanctuary January 18-25 to pray over the submitted requests. Prayer Cards will be in the pews beginning January 2. Contact Chris Urban at chrisurban@firstpresah.org.

Serving, Giving, and Growing

COFFEE: GROUNDS FOR DISCUSSION AND SERVICE — *Sundays, through May 15 / 10:30-11:30 am / Room 110/112* — This Advent Season, Coffee Grounds will focus on service each Sunday with a different project. We'd love to have you with us in person or in-spirit. **December 19: ORGANIZE BREAKFAST FOR PASTORS AND CHURCH STAFF** — To say thank you for all they do, The Bridge will provide and serve a Christmas Breakfast. Sign up to provide items for the breakfast. Contact Kelly Dean at k_p_dean@hotmail.com.

THERMAL GLOVE AND SOCK DRIVE — *Through January* — Join The Bridge as they sponsor a glove and sock drive in the month of January. Donated items will be given to the Night Ministry in Chicago to provide warmth for the homeless. If you have any questions, please contact Michele Holifield at micheleholifield@firstpresah.org.

HELP UNDECORATE THE CHURCH — Thank you to the many volunteers who came out to decorate our church for Advent and Christmas. Many hands made light work! Enjoy the beauty of the season, but don't forget—we will meet, once again, on **January 8 at 9:30 am**, to take down and store all the decorations. Mark your calendar now!

 **KITCHEN KITS FOR REFUGEE ONE** — Today is the last day to donate your purchased items. You can drop them off at the table in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please contact Michele Holifield at micheleholifield@firstpresah.org.

As the largest resettlement agency in Illinois, RefugeeOne has welcomed more than 18,000 refugees since 1982. RefugeeOne walks alongside refugees from the moment they land at O'Hare International Airport—welcoming them to Chicago and providing furnished apartments, English classes, job search support, mental health care, youth programming, and mentors to help them adjust to life in the US. The kitchen kits are the beginning of what we hope will be a partnership between First Pres and RefugeeOne. Look for information in the new year on how to be involved in co-sponsoring a refugee family.

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE — On December 10, a series of tornados stormed through several states. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) immediately activated their response to aid areas devastated by these storms. Particularly devastated is the town of Mayfield, Kentucky. First Presbyterian Church of Mayfield's building was completely destroyed. You can donate to both Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and First Pres Mayfield by donating online or sending a check to our church office (designate tornado relief). The Mission Committee will send 75% of the donated money to PDA and 25% will be sent directly to the Session of First Pres Mayfield to aid in their rebuilding. If you have questions, please contact Kim Hogan at k_hogan2003@yahoo.com or Michele Holifield at micheleholifield@firstpresah.org.

FILL OUR FOOD BARRELS! — Please remember our food barrels, which are located in the Narthex and in the hallway toward Fellowship Hall. Donations of nonperishable food items benefit many families and individuals who are clients of several local organizations that we support. Please note that foods past their expiration dates will have to be thrown away. Let's see if we can fill the barrels!


Worship Next Sunday

December 26, 2021: First Sunday of Christmas

10:30 am — Worship (Sanctuary)
Music: Soloist

Preacher: Steve Howery
Scriptures: Daniel 7:9-14, Mark 10:41-45
Sermon Title: "The Human One"

NURSERY CARE RETURNS TO THE RED ROOM — Beginning Sunday, January 2, nursery and toddler childcare will return to the Red Room, located on the main level of the CE Wing. Childcare is offered from 8:45-11:45 am during worship.

 **HAVE YOU TURNED IN YOUR COMMITMENT CARD?** — If you have not yet had a chance to turn in your Commitment Card for 2022, you are invited to place it in the offering plate. Or, you can drop it off or mail it to the church office, to the attention of Debbie Walter, business administrator. You can also enter your commitment online. Thank you for your support!

PADS HELP NEEDED! — The First Pres PADS site re-opened on Tuesday, November 30. We are in need of food and monetary donations each week. You can support the PADS program by signing up to donate food or make a monetary donation. Interested in volunteering at the PADS site? We have shift openings each week. No experience necessary – a caring heart is all that is needed. If you have questions about the First Pres PADS program, send an email to pads@firstpresah.org. PADS coordinators for this year are Amy Hempleman, Cathy Mataloni, and Michele Holifield. Thank you for your continued support of this vital program in our community.

MARY AND MARTHA'S LENDING CLOSET — The Mary and Martha's Lending Closet is open for business! We have items for your next casual or elegant event. We even have the roaster for your turkey for those who need more oven space. Cost for borrowing is by donation, and all donations go towards programs that address food insecurity in the Chicagoland area. To reserve your items, send an email to maryandmartha@firstpresah.org. Reserve items now for your holiday gatherings.

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SCHEDULE

All Christmas Eve services will be webcast at firstpresah.org/experience/livestream/

Christmas Eve — Friday, December 24

4:00 pm: Christmas Pageant & Candlelight
Featuring children in preschool through fifth grade and the Children's Choir

8:00 pm: Lessons, Carols & Candlelight
Featuring the Chancel Choir

10:00 pm: Communion & Candlelight
Featuring High School & College Ensemble

