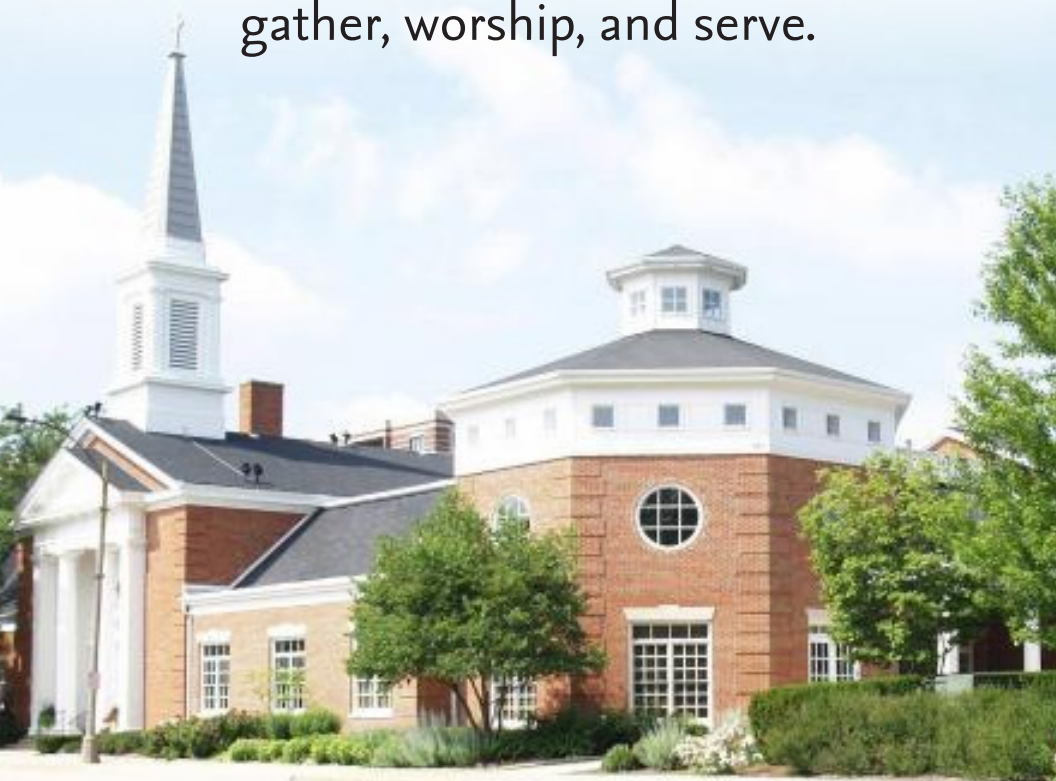


# Winter & Spring Events at First Pres

Discover more opportunities to  
gather, worship, and serve.



## First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights

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### Sunday Morning Schedule

9:00am | Modern Worship & Adult Education

10:30am | Traditional Worship & Children's and Youth Education



*Top 5: What Every Christian Should Know About God*



The premise of this series is something we will come back to over and over again, which is *what are the top 5 things you should know about a certain topic in the Christian faith?* In our first iteration we are going to talk about common misconceptions about God. These misconceptions cause people to leave the church because God doesn't make sense to them. Furthermore, these misconceptions prevent us from experiencing the fullness of what it means to be a Christian and the fullness of what it means to experience God.

**January 2 | #5 God is Love**

Scriptures: Luke 15:11-24; 1 John 4:7-12

**January 9 | #4: God Does not Cause Our Suffering**

Scriptures: Matthew 19:16-30; 2 Samuel 21:1-6, 14  
Holy Communion

**January 16 | #3: God's Plan is Redemption**

Scriptures: Genesis 41:1-16, 25-40;  
39:1-4, 6b-7, 10-15, 19-20

**January 23 | #2: Prayer Doesn't Change God**

Scriptures: Genesis 18:20-33; Mark 5:24b-34

**January 30 | #1: God is Everything**

Scriptures: Exodus 3:13-15, Psalm 33:6-9



Beginning January 2, submit prayer requests during worship and then join us in the Sanctuary starting January 18 to take a quiet moment to reflect and pray for our world, our church, our loved ones, and all who need to be lifted in prayer.

# Event Highlights



## Family Night Returns

Wednesday, January 5, 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Family Night returns for our Winter/Spring session. This free program includes dinner, adult education, mentoring classes, and programs for youth & children. *Contact: Katy Allen*



## Thermal Glove and Sock Drive

Donate throughout 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.

*Contact: Michele Holifield*



## Restaurant Walk

Sign-up throughout January

Our popular Restaurant Walk program returns for a second session, meeting at Javier's. Sign-up throughout January with meals taking place in February. Come to meet some new faces and support a local restaurant. *Contact: TC Anderson*



## Martin Luther King, Jr. Annual Day of Service

Sunday, January 16 – Monday, January 17

Stone Catchers will be collecting nonperishable food to donate to local food pantries in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. You may drop donations off on Sunday during regular church hours or on Monday by pulling up to Door 1 on Dunton Avenue. *Contact: Michele Holifield*



## 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.

*Contact: Chris Urban*



## Taize Service

Sunday, January 23, 5:00 pm

Experience a service of prayer, contemplation, and candlelight as we observe the International Week of Prayer.

*Contact: Chris Urban*



*How Children and Youth  
Can Change the World*



Throughout the month of February, we will focus on our greatest assets – our children and youth. Whether in worship or in our educational offerings or our activities, children and youth will be center stage. We hope you enjoy the energy and insight that our youth will share with the congregation on Youth Sunday as they lead all aspects of worship. Confirmation Sunday is a special day for our church family as we recognize our 10th and 11th graders becoming new members. Join us in February and experience for yourself the power of our children and youth to change the world!

**February 6 | Rev. Steve Howery**  
Scriptures: Isaiah 6:1-8; 1 Corinthians 15: 1-11

**February 13 | Youth Sunday**  
Children and youth leading Worship

**February 20 | Rev. Ken Hockenberry**  
Scriptures: Genesis 45:3-11, 15; 1  
Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50  
Annual Meeting, 11:30 am

**February 27 | Confirmation Sunday**  
Welcome our 10th and 11th graders into church membership



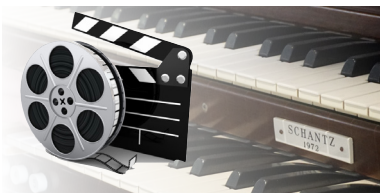
**Sunday, February 20, 11:30 am**  
Mark your calendars for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation immediately following the 10:30 am worship service.



# Event Highlights



# BOOK DRIVE



## Parenting Class

Wednesdays, February 2 - 23, 7:00 – 8:00 pm  
Children's Ministries and First Pres PDO & Preschool invite you to a series of parenting classes. Two sessions will be geared towards newborn to toddler and two sessions will be geared towards children/youth. [Contact: Katy Allen](#)

## Congregational Book and Discussion Throughout February

Join us as we read NY Times Bestseller *Stamped*. The book looks at race in the United States and inspires hope for the future. There are versions of the book for children, youth, and adults that will provide an opportunity for everyone to join in the discussion. [Contact: Michele Holifield](#)

## Children's and Youth Book Drive

Throughout February  
Children's Ministries will host a book drive of NEW books for Children and Youth that we will donate to Bernie's Book Bank on our Service Saturday on February 26. [Contact: Katy Allen](#)

## Valentine's Day Out

Sunday, February 13, 2:00 – 4:00 pm  
Children's Ministries will host a fun afternoon for preschoolers – 5th graders. Drop your kids at church for fun and crafts and enjoy some time to yourselves. [Contact: Katy Allen](#)

## 37th Annual Organ Fest

Sunday, February 13, 4:00 pm  
Organ Fest goes to the movies! A dynamic program of film and theater music transcribed for the organ. Selections include *Star Wars*, *Indiana Jones*, *Sound of Music*, and *Phantom of the Opera*. [Contact: Adam Hendrickson](#)

## Service Saturday: Bernie's Book Bank

Saturday, February 26  
Join us for a service project at First Pres or travel to Bernie's Book Bank for sorting, stickering, and packing books. Bernie's Book Bank sources, processes, and distributes quality new and gently used children's books to increase book ownership among under-served infants, toddler, and school age-children throughout Chicagoland. [Contact: Michele Holifield](#)



Our lives are often driven by a back and forth between our thoughts, feelings and emotions. Below this interplay is another layer of self, which is our spirit. Our spirit is the part of us which is most in touch with God. The goal of our Lenten sermon series is to break the cycle of getting stuck in the upper echelon of thoughts and feelings so that we can more fully experience our spiritual nature.

**Ash Wednesday, March 2, 7:00 pm | *The Pinball Machine***

Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes  
 Scriptures: Matthew 4:1-11; Exodus 16:4-7

**March 6 | *The Spirit in the Shell***

First Sunday in Lent  
 Scriptures: John 6:32-40; Genesis 25:29-34

**March 13 | *Suprise***

Second Sunday in Lent  
 Mark 5:1-20; Genesis 11:1-9

**March 20 | *Sadness***

Third Sunday in Lent  
 Matthew 11:28-30; Leviticus 4:27-31

**March 27 | *Joy***

Fourth Sunday in Lent  
 Luke 2:8-15; 1 Samuel 18:6-9



During Lent, we will be taking a special offering for One Great Hour of Sharing. Please consider giving generously.

## Event Highlights



### Shrove Tuesday

March 1, 6:30 – 9:30 pm

Join *Bruce Blanck and Friends* at Hey Nonny in downtown Arlington Heights for an evening of jazz and celebration before we begin our Lenten journey.

Contact: *Adam Hendrickson*



### Ash Wednesday

March 2, 6:00 pm dinner; 7:00 pm service

Begin the Lenten journey with dinner at 6:00 pm, followed by worship at 7:00 pm that includes Holy Communion and the Imposition of Ashes. We will also start our Lenten sermon series *Breaking the Cycle: Discovering Our Spiritual Roots*.

Contact: *Alex Lang*



### Faith in Action

Throughout Lent

Each week during Lent as we reflect on our spiritual roots, we will have small personal growth opportunities and tasks that can deepen our spiritual roots. Contact: *Alex Lang*



### One Great Hour of Sharing

Throughout Lent

Join with Presbyterians worldwide in sharing God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed. This Lenten season, please give generously to One Great Hour of Sharing.

Contact: *Michele Holifield*



### First Presbyterian Talent Show

Sunday, March 13, 4:00 pm

Come and clap your hands for many of the talented members of First Presbyterian Church and the broader community. There will be four categories of performers: K-5th grade, 6th-12th grade, adults (non-retired), and adults (retired). Contact: *Adam Hendrickson*





## Breaking the Cycle: Discovering Our Spiritual Roots (continued)



Our lives are often driven by a back and forth between our thoughts, feelings and emotions. Below this interplay is another layer of self, which is our spirit. Our spirit is the part of us which is most in touch with God. The goal of our Lenten sermon series is to break the cycle of getting stuck in the upper echelon of thoughts and feelings so that we can more fully experience our spiritual nature.

### April 3 | *Fear*

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Matthew 6:25-34; 1 Chronicles 13:14-17

### April 10 | *Anger*

Palm Sunday

Scriptures: Matthew 21:1-11; Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

### Thursday, April 14, 7:00 pm | *Communion*

Maundy Thursday

Holy Communion

Scriptures: Matthew 26:14-25; 26:26-30

### Friday, April 15, 7:00 pm | *Complicity*

Good Friday

Scriptures: Matthew 26:36-75; 27:11-56

### April 17 | *Love*

Easter

Scriptures: Matthew 28:1-10; 16-20

## Easter Worship

6:30 am

Sunrise Worship in  
North School Park

8:00 am

Modern Worship  
in the Chapel

9:30 & 11:00

Traditional Worship  
with Chancel Choir and  
First Pres Brass in  
the Sanctuary



## Event Highlights



### Restaurant Walk

#### Sign-up throughout April

Our popular Restaurant walk program returns for a third session. Sign-up throughout April with meals taking place in May. Come to meet some new faces and support a local restaurant. **Contact:** *TC Anderson*



### Procession of the Palms

#### April 10, Morning Worship Services

We begin Holy Week with the distribution of palm branches to mark the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem.



### Easter Brunch and Easter Egg Hunt

#### Saturday, April 16, 9:00 am

Children's Ministries and First Pres PDO & Preschool sponsored family brunch followed by an Easter Egg hunt. Join us for fun and fellowship. **Contact:** *Katy Allen*



### Easter Sunrise Breakfast

#### Sunday, April 17, 7:30 am

Join us for an Easter Breakfast in Fellowship Hall after our 6:30 am Sunrise Service or before our 8:00 am Modern Worship Service. **Contact:** *Michele Holifield*



### Service Saturday: Earth Day Celebration

#### Saturday, April 23, 9:00 am – 11:00 am

Join us for a morning celebrating God's Creation through service and learning. Discover ways that you can make a commitment to care for the earth in new ways. **Contact:** *Michele Holifield*



### Spring Choral Concert

#### Sunday, April 24, 4:00 pm

Taking place mere days after Earth Day, come celebrate our planet and existence itself with First Pres. This closing concert of the series will feature music to honor the renewal of spirit and the poetry of Earth.

**Contact:** *Adam Hendrickson*





May is a month of celebration at First Pres. We celebrate our eighth-grade confirmation class finishing the first step in their journey towards becoming members. We celebrate the important role mothers play in our lives. We celebrate graduations from high school and college. Through this celebration we reflect on what we've accomplished and the sacrifices of those who came before us on Memorial Day to make those accomplishments possible.

### **May 1 | *Removing the Mask***

Celebration Sunday – Recognizing our  
8th Grader's Faith Journey  
Holy Communion  
Scriptures: Matthew 23:25-28; Genesis 6:11-22

### **May 8 | *Lessons from a Southern Mother***

Celebrate Mothers  
Scriptures: John 15:12-15; Romans 12:4-13

### **May 15 | *While I'm Gone...***

Celebrate our Volunteers  
Scriptures: Matthew 14:19-23; Genesis 2:1-3

### **May 22 | *Baccalaureate Sunday***

Celebrate our Graduates

### **May 29 | *Memorial Day***

Honor Those Who Died Serving our Country

## Event Highlights



### Collection for Veterans

Throughout May

We will collect new household items for Veterans Exiting Homelessness. VEH seeks to provide Move-In-Essentials to veterans as they transition to permanent housing. A list of recommended Move-In-Essentials to donate will be provided. *Contact: Michele Holifield*



### God's Honest Truth

Wednesday, May 4, 7:00 pm

*Music that Changed My Life.* Share a story about how a song or piece of music had a significant impact on your life. *Contact: Alex Lang*



### Volunteer Recognition

Sunday, May 15, after both worship services

Join us for cake and fellowship as we say thank you to all the volunteers who make our ministry possible.

*Contact: Michele Holifield*



### Family Night Celebration

Wednesday, May 18, 6:00 pm

Our year end celebration of Family Night. Enjoy dinner and fellowship as we say goodbye to another program year. *Contact: Katy Allen*



### Baccalaureate Sunday

Sunday, May 22

Celebrate and honor the academic achievement of our graduates and hear what their plans are post-graduation.

*Contact: TC Anderson*



### Memorial Day Exhibition

May 29 and May 30

First Pres will present an exhibit in our Parlor to the fifty-eight community members who have died fighting for our country in conflicts since the Civil War.

*Contact: Christopher Urban*

# Staff Directory

## PASTORAL STAFF

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**Laurie Ruhlin** – Graphic Design  
**Chris Urban** – Coordinator

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