



**9:00 AM WORSHIP**

**WELCOME** Adam Hendrickson

**✦ CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Let us worship and sing praises to God,  
**All: for the Lord is gracious and worthy of praise!**  
One: God gathers the outcasts and heals the brokenhearted.  
**All: God gives the stars their names and makes grass grow on the hills.**  
One: Let us hope in God's steadfast love,  
**All: and worship God together!**

**✦ "EVERLASTING GOD"** *Brown & Riley*

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND HOPEFULNESS**

God of mercy, we confess that we have settled down and become satisfied with our place in life. We have gotten comfortable wearing the labels given to us, even if those labels discriminate against one another. We confess that we are comfortable living under systems of injustice and exploitation. We confess our discomfort in speaking truths that unmask idolatries. Make us ready to follow Jesus, ready to repent and eager to change our hearts and lives. Call to us again and show us your mercy. Let us hear your good news again. Amen.

**✦ SUNG RESPONSE** "Glory to God" HYMN 582

**✦ TIME OF GREETING**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** Rev. Laura Sherwood  
*Please sign the Friendship Pad and pass it along to those around you.*

**ISAIAH 40:21-31**

**MESSAGE** "A Deserted Place" Rev. Laura Sherwood  
Scripture: Mark 1:29-39

**SONG** "Always" *Jeremy Riddle*

**A MESSAGE FROM SCOUT TROOP 32**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER**  
Rev. Laura Sherwood

**SHARING OUR GIFTS** "Saturn" *Ryan O'Neal*

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**✦ "BUILD MY LIFE"** *Yunker, Martin, Kaple, Redman & Barrett*

**✦ CHARGE & BENEDICTION** Rev. Laura Sherwood

✦ Please stand as you are able.

**Compass:** Dan Berg, guitar; Amy Carroll, piano; Kevin Carroll, bass; Adam Hendrickson, guitar/vocals; Greg Schultz, saxophone; Todd Smith, drums; Katie Walsh, vocals

**WELCOME, GUESTS!**

**Thank you for worshipping with us this morning.**

Stop by the Welcome Center in the Narthex (lobby) to pick up information that will acquaint you with our church services and programs. You are also invited to join the conversation on Facebook, at facebook.com/firstpresah, Twitter, at @FirstPresAh, and Instagram, at @firstpresah. We look forward to connecting with you again.

**CHILD CARE**

Children of all ages are warmly welcomed and encouraged to participate in worship. Child care is available (infants through age four) in the Christian Education Wing (8:45 am – 11:45 am).

**CLASSES FOR ALL AGES**

From September through May, Sunday morning Christian education classes are held for all ages. These include classes for preschool, elementary, middle school, and high school students, as well as education and discussion groups for adults. To learn more, visit firstpresah.org or call the church office at 847-255-5900.

**SPECIAL ASSISTANCE**

For worship in the Sanctuary, large print bulletins, and hearing amplifiers (some with T-Coil lanyard adapters) are available from the ushers.

**IMPORTANT WORSHIP REMINDERS**

Please silence cell phones and refrain from taking photos or recording the worship service. 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.

**SOURCES FOR WORSHIP**

All liturgies are from *Call to Worship Year B* Presbyterian Publishing; scriptures are from the New Revised Standard Updated Edition (NRSVUE)

**First Presbyterian Church  
of Arlington Heights**

*A congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)  
Organized in 1855*



"May your trails be crooked, winding, lonesome,  
dangerous, leading to the most amazing view.  
May your mountains rise into and above the clouds."  
— Edward Abbey  
(Hiking Quotes for Scouts)

**SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY  
FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY  
SCOUT SUNDAY**

**FEBRUARY 4, 2024  
9:00 & 10:30 AM**

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

**First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights**  
302 N. Dunton Avenue • Arlington Heights, IL 60004  
847-255-5900 • firstpresah.org • mail@firstpresah.org



# 10:30 AM WORSHIP

## GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE "O Love That Will Not Let Me Go" *Mark Hayes*  
First Pres Brass and Piano

*The prelude is your invitation to quiet preparation  
for the worship of Almighty God.*

WELCOME Rev. Laura Sherwood

### ✦ CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Let us worship and sing praises to God,  
**All: for the Lord is gracious and worthy of praise!**  
One: God gathers the outcasts and heals the brokenhearted.  
**All: God gives the stars their names and makes grass grow on the hills.**  
One: Let us hope in God's steadfast love,  
**All: and worship God together!**

✦ HYMN 35 "Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty" LOBE DEN HERREN

### CALL TO CONFESSION

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O God you bring healing to our lives and comfort to our hearts. Forgive us, O Lord, when we contribute to the things that break your heart. You would have us share our gifts with the world, but we keep our resources close, and our minds closed. You would have us live in faithful community, but we isolate ourselves and eye our neighbors with mistrust. You would have us see all people as our siblings, but we try to separate ourselves from anyone whose existence challenges our comfort. Forgive us, O God, by your grace, and free us to be agents of your healing...**

#### SILENT CONFESSION

*(please pray a silent and personal prayer of confession during this time)*

...in Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

#### WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

One: Those who trust in the Lord will renew their strength. They will rise up to fly like eagles, they will run and not be weary, they will walk and not grow faint. (Isaiah 40:31) In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!  
**All: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

✦ GLORIA PATRI (Hymn 581)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.**

✦ TIME OF GREETING

COMMUNITY LIFE Rev. Laura Sherwood  
*Please sign the Friendship Pad and pass it along to those around you.*

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

### PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 40:21-31  
(Pew Bible, p. 582)  
The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM "Wings Like Eagles" *Allen Pote*  
*"They who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall rise up with wings like eagles. They shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. Have you not know nor heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint nor grow weary. His understating is unsearchable. He will give power to the faint, strength to the weak, for those whose trust is in the Lord. They who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength. They shall rise up with wings like eagles. They shall run and not be weary. They shall rise up with wings like eagles. Those who trust in the Lord their God."*  
Chancel Choir

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Mark 1:29-39  
(Pew Bible, p. 813) Rev. Laura Sherwood  
The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

SERMON "A Deserted Place" Rev. Laura Sherwood

✦ HYMN 795 "Healer of Our Every Ill" OUR EVERY ILL

## GIVING THANKS TO GOD

### A MESSAGE FROM SCOUT TROOP 32

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Rev. Laura Sherwood

#### LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

### CALL FOR OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Prayer for Healing" *Molly Ijames*  
*"Lord of this barren land swept by the flame, Here in my wilderness I call Your name. Refuge of wounded hearts bend low to hear. Binder of broken things, Father, draw near. Friend of the sorrowing, Knower of grief. Tenderly hovering, bringing relief. Be to my weary soul quiet repose, Be in my desert place, blossoming rose. Come like a gentle wind brining the rain; Come like a healing touch, and soothe my pain. Fill with Your presence this desolate waste; Lord of this barren land, make of these ashes, a beautiful place. Amen."*  
Chancel Choir

✦ DOXOLOGY (Hymn 607)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below; praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

### ✦ PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

One: We praise and thank you, Lord God, for the majesty of your work, the wisdom of your word, and the generosity of your grace. Let the gifts of our lives bear witness to your goodness and mercy, your faithfulness and justice, and your steadfast love for all. (Psalm 111)

**All: Amen.**

## GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

✦ HYMN 298 (vs 1, 2, 4, 5) ABBOT'S LEIGH  
"Lord, You Give the Great Commission"

✦ CHARGE & BENEDICTION Rev. Laura Sherwood

POSTLUDE "Praise the Lord" *Sigfrid Karg-Elert*  
First Pres Brass and Organ

✦ Please stand as you are able.

**Flowers: Bill and Liz Thompson**—In memory of Liz's mother, Ruth E. Huntley

#### Listing of Worship Leaders:

**Preaching:** Laura Sherwood

**Liturgists:** (9:00 & 10:30 am) Scout Troop 32

**Director of Music and Worship:** Adam Hendrickson

**Associate Director of Music and Organist:** Christopher Urban

**First Pres Brass:** Eric Allen and Jered Montgomery, trumpet; Joan Morrone, horn; Kevin Carroll, trombone

**Praise Band:** Compass (9:00 am service)

**Tech Support and Livestream:** Amy Senior and Jonah White

## WORSHIP NOTES



# Prayer Requests

## Healing & Comfort

### First Pres Community

Mario Alberico  
 Carole Anderson  
 Don & Judy Ayers  
 Wendy Blanck  
 Virginia Blocki  
 Dawn Bruce  
 Laura Carlson  
 Jean Castles

Mary Clabour  
 Roger Fick  
 Marilyn Giacoppi  
 Marylyn Jirsa  
 June Johnson  
 Sandy Naeher  
 Patty Richard  
 Susan Scott

### Friends & Family

Karl Gates — friend of Mary Kiepora  
 Donna Hames — friend of Mary Halatek  
 Tom Nemecek — friend of Kevin & Carol Kelley  
 Desa Peric — great-granddaughter of Steve Smith  
 Phil Perillo — brother of Kristie Cerniglia  
 Larry Pohlman — friend of Kevin & Carol Kelley

Jerry Shields — husband of Dianne Shields  
 Tom Spaeth — friend of Steve Smith  
 Dale VanEck — friend of Corinne Peterson  
 Claire Walsh — cousin of Mary Hebden  
 Dave Williams — father of Cathy Mataloni  
 Pamela Wilson — daughter-in-law of Al & Karen Wilson

### Sympathy to:

Bill and Arlene Borthwick on the death of Arlene's brother, Alan Coleen Anzalone, on the death of her father, Larry McKone

### Retirement congratulations to:

Col. Gretchen Wiltse, sister of Vincent and Heidi Wiltse

### Serving in the Armed Services

MU2 Wesley Carroll, Navy — son of Kevin and Amy Carroll, grandson of JoAnn Thompson  
 Lt. Col. Michael B. Ford, US Army Reserves — stepson of Kris Ford  
 Brandon Latuzek — nephew of Elaine Chen  
 Capt. John Olszewski, USMC — nephew of Steve and Lisa Olszewski

# About First Pres

## STAFF

**Interim Pastor / Head of Staff:**  
 Laura Sherwood

**Bridge Interim Associate Pastor:**  
 Barbara Gorsky

**Director of Children's & Youth Ministries:** Rebekah Anderson

**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

## Save the Date

February 7	Wednesday@Noon Recital
February 8	PDO Family Pizza Party and Open House
February 11	Youth Sunday / Souper Bowl of Caring
February 11	Annual Meeting of the Congregation
February 13	Shrove Tuesday at Hey Nonny
February 14	Ash Wednesday Service
February 18	39th Annual Organ Fest
March 3	PDO Sunday—Registration for First Pres Members

**PASTORAL CARE** — If you have a death in the family, an anticipated surgery, the birth of a new baby, or if you or a loved one are struggling, your pastors and church family want to be there to support you. Please contact Rev. Barbara Gorsky, at [barbaragorsky@firstpresah.org](mailto:barbaragorsky@firstpresah.org), or 847-255-5900, extension 225 or Rev. Laura Sherwood, at [laurasherwood@firstpresah.org](mailto:laurasherwood@firstpresah.org) or 847-255-5900, extension 229 or call the church office to share your pastoral needs.

**LIVE WEBCAST & WORSHIP RECORDINGS** — Services are webcast live at [firstpresah.org/experience/livestream](http://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](http://firstpresah.org/experience/sermons). If you need help with technical problems, please send an email to [webcasting@firstpresah.org](mailto:webcasting@firstpresah.org).

**GET CONNECTED** — Join the conversation on Facebook, at [facebook.com/firstpresah](https://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](http://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 orld .

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



# Church Life

February 4, 2024

We believe in building the kingdom of God in this world. We strive to be a welcoming and inclusive church that celebrates the diversity existing in our community. That means bringing good news to the poor, freedom to the oppressed, welcoming the stranger, and loving one another as Jesus loves us. We do this by choosing love and being the light that changes the world. Thank you for worshiping with us in this spirit.

**WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ARLINGTON HEIGHTS:** Please sign the Friendship Pad and pass it to those around you.



**HAVE YOU TURNED IN YOUR 2024 COMMITMENT CARD?** — If you have not yet had a chance to turn in your

Commitment Card for 2024, you are invited to place your

card in the offering plate today. 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 at [firstpresah.org](http://firstpresah.org).



**WEDNESDAY@NOON RECITAL** — *Wednesday, February 7 /*

*12:10 pm / Sanctuary* — As we approach Valentine's Day, the

music will be focused on love: our love of God's kingdom, God's love for us and our love for each other. Christopher Urban, organ.

**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION** — *Sunday, February 11 /*

*11:30 am / Sanctuary* — Please plan to attend in person. Your presence, your voice and your wisdom are all needed as we work together to look at our budgets, our goals and our dreams for our church. If you are not able to attend in person, we hope you will watch the Livestream or recording. Reports will also be available in print and electronically.

**YOUTH SUNDAY** — *Sunday, February 11* — Youth in grades 5-12 are

invited to take part in the music, liturgy and leadership of worship! It's also Super Bowl Sunday so youth will help with taking a collection for the Souper Bowl of Caring, a cause that collects money to help people experiencing food scarcity and hunger. If you're a youth who is interested in participating, please email Rebekah Anderson! **There will be no Sunday school for children or youth so all can gather for worship and support our youth!**

### February 4 — Fifth Sunday after Epiphany / Scout Sunday

8:45 am – 11:15 am — Child care (infants – 4 years) — Room 205/207 (Blue Room), Main Floor Christian Education (CE) Wing

9:00 am **Worship** — Chapel

9:00 am Adult Education — Boardroom

10:00 am Adult Choir Rehearsal — Choir Auditorium

10:00 am Fellowship Time — Parlor, Narthex

10:30 am **Worship** — Sanctuary

10:30 am Preschool Sunday School (3- & 4-year olds) — Room 206

10:30 am K-5 Sunday School — Room 304

10:30 am Sunday School (Grades 5-7 & 9-12) — Room 301/303

10:30 am Confirmation — Room 109/111

10:30 am Coffee: Grounds for Discussion & Service — Room 110

11:30 am Fellowship Time — Parlor, Narthex

11:30 am Youth Sunday Practice — Sanctuary

12:00 pm Session Meeting — Boardroom

5:00 pm Youth Handbell Choir — Bell Choir Room

5:45 pm Youth Handbell Choir/HSYG Dinner — Fellowship Hall

6:00 pm HSYG — HS Lounge, Gym, Fellowship Hall

## Upcoming Events



**FAMILY NIGHT PROGRAMMING** — *Wednesdays / 6:00-8:00 pm / September through May* — Come and share dinner and fellowship with families from First Pres and the broader community. This program includes dinner, adult education and programs for children and youth.

### Weekly Schedule:

- 6:00-7:00 pm: Drop-in dinner time for all ages
- 6:30-7:00 pm: Children's Choir (grades K-5)
- 7:00-8:00 pm: Classes and programs, including:
  - ENGAGE & ENCOUNTER adult Christian education
  - Kids Connect (grades K-5)
  - Middle School Youth Group (grades 5-8)

**ENGAGE & ENCOUNTER** — *Wednesdays, through February 7 / 7:00 pm / Chapel / Exodus: A Historical Approach / Dr. Donald Kaasch* — What does the historical record, outside of the Old Testament, tell us about the pivotal importance of the Exodus story? Who wrote Exodus? When? What does it set up for the rest of the OT? Who is Moses in the OT and what does history tell us about him? There's so much good stuff to learn, come and take part!

**PDO, PRESCHOOL & K-CLUB OPEN HOUSE AND PIZZA PARTY** — *Thursday, February 8 / 4:30-6:30 pm* — PDO will once again be hosting an open house for all currently enrolled students, their families and First Pres families interested in enrolling in the 2024 – 2025 school year. This event allows families an opportunity to view the school, meet the teachers and get to know the CE wing a little differently than on a Sunday morning. Pizza will also be served!! For more information, contact PDO Director, Coleen Anzalone, at [coleenanzalone@firstpresah.org](mailto:coleenanzalone@firstpresah.org).

**SUPER BOWL PARTY FOR THE SECOND HALF** — *Sunday, February 11 / 5:00 pm / Home of Bill & Sue Lyon* — Our social group for 55-75-year-olds is having a Super Bowl party. The hosts are Bill & Sue Lyon, 931 N Vail Ave, AH. Wear your favorite football jersey - there will be a prize for the most obscure! RSVP to [sbtalyon@comcast.net](mailto:sbtalyon@comcast.net) and let us know how many guests and the food item that you'll bring.

**SHROVE TUESDAY** — *Tuesday, February 13 / 6:30-9:30 pm / Hey Nonny* — 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. Free show! No ticket or reservation required. However, if you would like a dinner reservation, you will need to visit Hey Nonny's website to make that happen. Please visit [www.heynonny.com/food-drink/](http://www.heynonny.com/food-drink/) and make sure you make the dining reservation for the appropriate time on February 13.

**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE** — *Wednesday, February 14 / 6:00 pm Family Night dinner in Fellowship Hall; 7:00 pm service in the Sanctuary* — Begin the Lenten journey with dinner, followed by worship which includes Holy Communion and the Imposition of Ashes.



**THE 39TH ANNUAL ORGAN FEST** — *Sunday, February 18 / 4:00 pm / Sanctuary* — Join organists Michael Gagne, Brian Schoettler, Christopher Urban and Gary Wendt as they team up to provide another dynamic and inspiring organ concert.

## Serving, Giving, and Growing

**SOUPER BOWL OF CARING** — *Sunday, February 11* — Help our youth as they participate in the Souper Bowl of Caring by donating spare change or bills on Sunday, February 11. Souper Bowl of Caring supports local hunger relief charities across the nation and encourages neighbors to tackle hunger in their local communities. Our youth will be at the doors of the Sanctuary after worship collecting for this mission. Please give generously.

**BLANKET DRIVE SPECIAL OFFERING** — *Collection through February* — Not everyone is lucky to have warmth and comfort. PW is collecting for the Church World Services Blanket Drive. A \$10 donation will provide a blanket for someone needing a little support, warmth and encouragement. Please help by donating! Checks may be made out to First Presbyterian Church, indicate Blanket Drive in the memo, or you may donate online by selecting Blanket Drive in the dropdown menu. For questions, contact Lois Meisterheim at [mlmeisterheim@gmail.com](mailto:mlmeisterheim@gmail.com).

**COFFEE: GROUNDS FOR DISCUSSION & SERVICE** — *Sundays, through February 11 / 10:30 am / Room 110 / What's So Amazing About Grace?* — In *What's So Amazing About Grace?* award-winning author Philip Yancey explores grace at street level. If grace is God's love for the undeserving, he asks, then what does it look like in action? And if Christians are its sole dispensers, then how are we doing at lavishing grace on a world that knows far more of cruelty and unforgiveness than it does of mercy?

**SUNDAY EDUCATION FOR ADULTS** — *Sundays, through February 11 / 9:00 am / Boardroom / Rev. Rebekah Anderson / The Journey Inward: Embracing Vulnerability as a Spiritual Practice* — Over the past decade, the work of researcher Brené Brown has brought experiences of vulnerability and shame out of the darkness and into the light. In this class, we'll learn about what vulnerability looks like, the things that get in the way of living authentically, and why embracing a life of vulnerability is not only what we're called to do as followers of Jesus, but also a critical part of finding the capacity to withstand life's greatest challenges.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL RETREAT** — *Friday, March 1 - Sunday, March 3* — The Middle School Retreat for students in grades 5-8 will take place from Friday, March 1 through Sunday, March 3 at the Daycholah Center in Ripon, Wisconsin. We're so excited! We'll have more details regarding the retreat available soon, but let Rebekah know if you're planning to join us! We'll email you with more registration details. The all-inclusive cost of the retreat which includes lodging, meals and transportation is \$240. Scholarships are available. We do not want cost to prevent any person from joining us on this trip. If you have any questions, please contact Rebekah Anderson by email at [rebekahanderson@firstpresah.org](mailto:rebekahanderson@firstpresah.org).

**COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES** — As we continue our journey through this year, the Youth Ministries and Mission Committees are teaming up to support our First Pres college students on their journey. If you'd like to donate treats or other items to include in the packages, please look for the large backpack display in the lobby today or Sunday, February 11, or deliver them to the church office by February 18. Suggested items: \$5 Starbucks gift cards, prepackaged snacks such as cookies, candy bars, crackers, granola bars, gum, packets of hot chocolate or soup, or other small items. Monetary donations to help cover shipping are also appreciated and can be given online. We are also collecting current mailing addresses for the college students, as well as cell phone and email address. If you have college students in your family, please send us the info to Rebekah Anderson at [rebekahanderson@firstpresah.org](mailto:rebekahanderson@firstpresah.org) or Darl Pochert at [darl.pochert@icloud.com](mailto:darl.pochert@icloud.com).

## Worship Next Sunday

**February 11, 2024: Sixth Sunday after Epiphany / Youth Sunday**

9:00 am — **Worship** (Chapel)  
*Music:* Compass Praise Band

10:30 am — **Worship** (Sanctuary)  
*Music:* Children's Choir and Youth Handbell Choir

*Worship will be led by our children and youth—there will be NO Sunday school for children or youth.*

If you give electronically but would like to put something in the offering plate, we invite you to use the laminated bookmarks available in the pew rack in front of you. We will be keeping you abreast of your generosity.

Bookmarks*	\$448.00
------------	----------

**\*GIVING OPPORTUNITY:** PC (USA) Native American Church Property Fund — The Native American Church Property Fund assists with needed repairs of Native American churches and chapels in the Presbyterian Church, PC(USA). Repairing the infrastructure of Native American churches and chapels also supports the mission, ministry and presence of Native American congregations in the PC(USA). The need for funds to conduct urgent and immediate repairs and improvements, including health and safety repairs, will enable continued use of the facilities by congregations and the public who visit the churches. Currently, there are approximately ninety-five Native American PC(USA) congregations in the United States.

**NEW ONLINE GIVING PORTAL DELAYED** — We will be transitioning to a new online giving portal, Abundant Online Giving. The new portal will allow members to cover the processing fee for online credit card giving. These are fees that could be going to the mission and ministry of First Pres. More information will be coming as soon as it is available. If you have any questions, contact business administrator, Debbie Walter, at [debbiewalter@firstpresah.org](mailto:debbiewalter@firstpresah.org).

**PLEASE GIVE TO COVER YOUR PER CAPITA APPORTIONMENT** — Each year every Presbyterian church is apportioned a share of the ecclesiastical expenses of the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly. These are the activities that make us Presbyterian. This apportionment is based on church membership. In 2024, this apportionment is \$36.50 per member. Any funds you designate for the apportionment will be used for this purpose and will free up our General Fund dollars to be used in supporting the vision, overall ministry and missions of our congregation. Please consider contributing your share of the Per Capita Apportionment.

**PADS (PUBLIC ACTION TO DELIVER SHELTER)** — The First Pres PADS overnight shelter is open for the season. Each evening, we need twelve volunteers to fill our shifts. Training is provided for all volunteers. We also have many opportunities to donate food and other items for our guests. If you have any questions or would like more information, email [pads@firstpresah.org](mailto:pads@firstpresah.org).