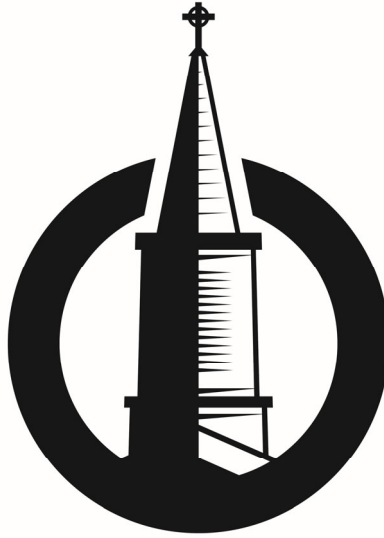


First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights

A congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

Organized in 1855



“I look to the future because that’s where I’m going to spend the rest of my life.”

— George Burns

SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY
FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
August 25, 2024
10:00 AM—Sanctuary

302 N. Dunton Ave. | Arlington Heights, IL 60004 | (847) 255-5900 | firstpresah.org

10:00 AM

PRELUDE

"Prelude in Classic Style"
"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

Gordon Young
Robert Hebble

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

WELCOME

Rev. Laura Sherwood

✠ CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Rejoice in the Lord always!

All: All thanks and praise to God!

One: Do not worry about anything.

All: We trust in God who provides for us.

One: Let the peace of God settle among you.

All: We will share God's peace with all.

✠ HYMN 260

"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"

HYFRYDOL

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of the ages, you have been faithful to us, but we have not always been faithful to you. You have established covenants with us, but we have not upheld our part. We have distorted your word for our own gain. We have claimed you as exclusively ours. We have focused on power more than discipleship. We seek your forgiveness. Reform us again and make us into the image of your true church...

SILENT CONFESSION

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

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

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

One: God knows who we were made to be and has been waiting to help restore us to ourselves, to each other, to community.

All: Thanks be to God! We are forgiven.

✠ GLORY TO GOD, WHOSE GOODNESS SHINES ON ME (Hymn 582)

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

✠ TIME OF GREETING AND SHARING SIGNS OF PEACE

COMMUNITY LIFE

Please sign the Friendship Pad and pass it along to those around you.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Elder Garrett Childs, Chair of Admin & Finance

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 25:1-9 (Pew Bible, p. 568)
The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM

"To Heaven's Almighty King We Kneel"

G. F. Handel

"To Heaven's almighty King we kneel, For blessings on this exemplary zeal. Bless him, Jehovah, bless him, and once more to thy Israel liberty restore. O liberty, thou choicest treasure, Seat of virtue, source of pleasure! Life, without thee, knows no blessing, No endearment worth caressing; Seal of virtue, source of pleasure!"

"Come, Ever Smiling Liberty"

*"Come, every smiling liberty, And with thee bring thy joyful train;
For thee we pant, and sigh for thee, With whom eternal pleasure reign!"*
Diana Richardson, soprano; Kathy Sobeski, soprano

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Philippians 4:1-9 (Pew Bible, p. 955) Rev. Laura Sherwood
The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

"Future Focus"

Rev. Laura Sherwood

✠ **HYMN 686**

"God of Our Life"

SANDON

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE 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.

OFFERTORY

"Give Me Jesus"

arr. Moses Hogan

*"In the morning when I rise, give me Jesus. Give me Jesus, you may have all this world, give me Jesus.
Dark midnight was my cry, give me Jesus. Oh, when I comes to die, give me Jesus.
You may have all of this world, give me Jesus."*

Kathy Sobeski, soprano

✠ **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: God of the harvest, you are continually planting the seeds of your love in our world and in our lives. As we bring our gifts to you, may they be seeds of your grace, peace and hope, planted deeply in our community.

All: **Amen.**✠ **HYMN 269**

"Lead On, O King Eternal!"

LANCASHIRE

✠ **BENEDICTION**

Rev. Laura Sherwood

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TO ELECT THE PNC**POSTLUDE**

"Trumpet Tune"

Douglas Wagner

"Blow up the trumpet in the new moon." Psalm 81:3

✠ Please stand as you are able.

Fellowship Hosts: Choir**Flowers:** From your Interim Pastors in honor of the PNC and with great hope for the future.**Sources:** Liturgies from Call to Worship Year B—PC(USA). Scriptures are from the New Revised Standard Updated Edition (NRSVUE).**Join Us for Worship Next Sunday, September 1**

Preacher: Rev. Barbara Gorsky | Scriptures: Psalm 15; Mark 7:1-8, 14-15 | "Hearts Close to God"

Music: Compass Praise Band

Church Life

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.

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE: ONE SERVICE AT 10:00 AM — *Through September 1* — We will have one worship service at **10:00 am**. Worship will be held in the Chapel on September 1. On **Sunday, September 8**, we will return to two services at 9:00 am in the Chapel and 10:30 am in the Sanctuary.

August 25—Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:45 am – 11:15 am — Child care (infants – 4 years) — Room 205/207 (Blue Room), Main Floor Christian Education (CE) Wing

10:00 am **Worship** — Sanctuary

11:00 am Fellowship Time — Parlor

4:00 pm Youth (MS & HS) Pool Party — Off-site

Upcoming Events

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING — *Today / 11:00 am / Sanctuary* — A special congregational meeting has been called by the Session for Sunday, August 25, at 11:00 am in the Sanctuary for the purpose of electing a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) for senior pastor/head of staff.

SUMMER BOOK CLUB — *Thursday, August 29 / 7:00 pm / Parlor* — The Mission Committee is sponsoring a discussion of *Searching for Savanna* by Mona Gable. A gripping and illuminating investigation into the disappearance of Savanna LaFontaine-Greywind when she was eight months pregnant, highlighting the shocking epidemic of violence against Native American women in America and the societal ramifications of government inaction. *Searching for Savanna* confronts this history of dehumanization toward Indigenous women and the government's complicity in the crisis. Featuring in-depth interviews, personal accounts and trial analysis, *Searching for Savanna* investigates these injustices and the decades-long struggle by Native American advocates for meaningful change.

CONCERT: BEATLES 60TH ANNIVERSARY — *Saturday, September 7 / 4:00 pm / West Parking Lot* — Join us for a concert celebrating the Beatles 60th anniversary of their concert on September 5, 1964, at the International Amphitheater in Chicago. Led by Adam Hendrickson and band, some of the music performed will include songs from the 1964 concert. Make sure you bring a lawn chair or comfortable seating. This is a kid-friendly event and the playground will be opened and supervised for children. In case of inclement weather, the concert will be cancelled.

SAVE THE DATE! FALL KICK-OFF — *Sunday, September 8 / 11:30 am* — Join us for this all-church celebration of the beginning of another program year. There will be food, fellowship and fun for all ages! Bring a friend. Mark your calendar now. Many volunteers will be needed to make this event a success. Opportunities include setting up/taking down, baking, serving and helping with the petting zoo. To volunteer, scan the QR code to the right.



Serving, Giving and Growing

PW BIBLE STUDY BOOK SALE — Sundays: Today and September 8 / Narthex — Presbyterian Women will be selling the 2024-25 Bible Study books, *Let Justice Roll Down*, today and September 8 in the Narthex following worship. The regular books are \$12 each, and large print versions are \$15. Cash or checks are accepted. If paying cash, singles are welcome.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HOST SUNDAY MORNING FELLOWSHIP TIME — Fellowship Time takes place after the worship service for about 30 minutes. Who can be a Fellowship Time host? Anyone can! Gather your family, a group of families, a group of friends, your book club, or your committee and scan the QR code to sign-up.



THE WEDNESDAY PRODUCE MARKET — The Wednesday Market will run through September 4. We'll distribute produce from the Loaves & Fishes Garden free to the community from 6:00-7:00 pm. If you are a gardener with spare produce, we'd love your donations! We are always looking for volunteers to help setup and distribute produce. The Wednesday Market will now also feature Summer Suppers, anyone is invited to join us for a free meal in the West parking lot. Contact Kim Hogan at k_hogan2003@yahoo.com for more information or to volunteer.

FOOD BARREL COLLECTION — The Mission Committee has voted to direct the donations for the next quarter (July-September) to the Village of Mount Prospect Food Pantry in support of the families displaced by the recent apartment fire. Please place items in the barrels located in the Narthex and outside the Chapel.

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*	\$1,086.00
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***CURRENT GIVING OPPORTUNITY: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) Tornado and Windstorm Fund** — Through September, Sunday morning bookmark donations will support *the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Tornado and Windstorm Fund*. In response to the recent outbreak of tornadoes resulting in widespread damage in the Midwest and elsewhere, the Mission Committee has voted to direct the bookmark funds to the PDA Tornado and Windstorm Fund. This fund supplements the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering to enable a significant response to tornadoes and windstorms. This might include immediate relief, long-term rebuilding and emotional/spiritual care.

Mary
AND
Martha's
LENDING CLOSET

MARY AND MARTHA'S LENDING CLOSET — If you have not checked out the Lending Closet yet, now is the time. What exactly is Mary and Martha's Lending Closet? It's a one-stop shop for all things entertaining, from tables and chairs to serving dishes, dishes, glassware, vases, centerpieces, outdoor games and even a giant movie screen and projector for that fun backyard movie viewing. It's the perfect place to borrow for your next book club, graduation party, shower, neighborhood gathering, casual or fancy dinner party. What are the fees? A donation to the closet goes towards programs that address food insecurity in the Chicagoland area. To make an appointment to reserve your items, email maryandmartha@firstpresah.org.

PASTORAL CARE — If you have a death in the family, an anticipated surgery, the birth of a baby, or if you or a loved one are struggling, your pastors and church family want to be there to support you. Contact Rev. Barbara Gorsky, at barbaragorsky@firstpresah.org, or call the church office to share your pastoral needs.

Looking Ahead

- August 25 Congregational Meeting
- August 29 Summer Book Club
- September 2 Labor Day - Office Closed
- September 5 Rehearsals resume for Chancel Choir, Men's Chorus and Chancel Handbell Choir
- September 7 Beatles 60th Anniversary Concert
- September 8 Two Worship Services & Education for Children & Youth Resumes
- September 8 Fall Kick-off Celebration
- September 11 Family Night Dinner & Programming Resumes
- September 15 Sunday Education for Adults Resumes

Prayer Requests

Healing & Comfort



First Pres Community

Mario Alberico
Carole Anderson
Don & Judy Ayers
Dawn Bruce
Lee Bruce
Laura Carlson
Jean Castles
Mary Clarbour

Nancy Conning
Marilyn Giacoppi
Marylyn Jirsa
Betty Launer
Patty Richard
Scott Sinclair
Amy Sonderegger
Bea Sonderegger

Friends & Family

Colton — Kathy Sobeski's neighbor's grandson
Cora Bigger — sister of Launa Ismail
Karl Gates — friend of Mary Kiepura
Don Gross — father of Suzanne Kowalski
Donna Hames — friend of Mary Halatek
Debbie & Peter Jung — friends of Jim & Ingrid
Kaufman
Monica Kotas — sister of Mario Alberico
Desa Peric — great-granddaughter of
Steve Smith

Phil Perillo — brother of Kristie Cerniglia
Jerry Shields — husband of Dianne Shields
Jood Singer — daughter-in-law of Jo Christian
Tom Spaeth — friend of Steve Smith
Claire Walsh — cousin of Mary Hebden
Dave Weiss — brother of Rev. Barbara Gorsky
Pamela Wilson — daughter-in-law of Al &
Karen Wilson
Carol Wyse — sister of Joyce Spohr

Congratulations to

Will and **Leah Lorenzo** on the birth of their son, Tyler Edward Lorenzo. Congratulations to grandparents, **Rick and Laura Liston**, and aunts and uncle, Mark & Katie Liston and **Becky Liston**.

Sympathy to

William Blocki, on the death of his mother, **Virginia Blocki**
The Slivovsky family, on the death of **Ed Slivovsky**

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

Staff Directory

Interim Pastor / Head of Staff:

Laura Sherwood | laurasherwood@firstpresah.org

Interim Associate Pastor:

Barbara Gorsky | barbaragorsky@firstpresah.org

Associate Pastor of Children, Youth & Families:

Rebekah Anderson | rebekahanderson@firstpresah.org

Director of Music and Worship:

Adam Hendrickson | adamhendrickson@firstpresah.org

Associate Director of Music and Organist:

Christopher Urban | chrisurban@firstpresah.org

Worship Technicians: Amy Senior, Jonah White

Nursery Coordinator: Beth Johnson

Business Administrator:

Debbie Walter | debbiewriter@firstpresah.org

Senior Administrative Assistant:

Mary Fino | maryfino@firstpresah.org

Administrative Assistant / Receptionist:

Carol Vega | carolvega@firstpresah.org

Director of First Pres PDO & Preschool:

Coleen Anzalone | coleenanzalone@firstpresah.org

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.

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 (9:45 am – 11:15 am).

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP ACTIVITY BAGS — Activity bags for children are available at the Sanctuary & Chapel entrances. Please place used bags in the basket after worship.

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.

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.

GET CONNECTED — Join the conversation on Facebook, at facebook.com/firstpresah; X, 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. We look forward to connecting with you!



QR CODE FOR THE ONLINE GIVING PORTAL — Please scan the QR code to access our online giving portal. Please select "General Fund" or other offering option. You may also text 11855 to 73256 to give. Thank you for your generous support!

PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE (PNC) CANDIDATES



John Goode — I was born and raised in Kansas. During my time with the American Management Association, my specialty was helping organizations develop long-range, strategic plans. I worked with approximately 100 organizations, including government, education, religious, non-profit and businesses. Throughout my life I have always tried to contribute to the community in which I lived. I have served as a Deacon, Boy Scout leader, food pantry worker, national officer of two professional organizations and national officer of my college fraternity. We have lived in Prospect Heights and attended First Pres for twenty years. Together we have five children and ten grandchildren living from coast to coast.



Mary Halatek — I've been a member of First Pres for 40-plus years, serving on Session, Deacons and Trustees throughout those years. My late husband and I sang in the choir for many years. I currently serve on WMS and the Hospitality Team, as well as ushering in the Sanctuary most Sunday mornings. I'm retired from the Property & Casualty insurance industry, and live in Palatine with two spoiled rescue pets. "Spare" time is spent gardening, park district aerobics classes and various social activities. I am honored and looking forward to this next critical and exciting chapter at First Pres.



Mary Larson — Brian and I were married at First Pres in 1986, and we served as senior high youth group advisers until about 1994. We have three grown children who are now off on their own adventures. However, as they were growing up I taught and created curriculum in the Kingdom Sunday School, Confirmation class and finally high school programs. As my children graduated high school, I decided to move to the Coffee Grounds group and became a member of that curriculum team. Brian and I are also members of the Bridge social group. I have been a member of Presbyterian Women's Circle 7 since about 1994 and have regularly served as the Bible Study leader. I am also now filling the role of co-moderator of Presbyterian Women. I have served on Session twice, and was chair of committees for four of the six years. I also served on Children's Ministries, WMS and Youth Ministries Committees. I recently joined the CLE committee and volunteered to teach an Adult Ed (Engage and Encounter) class on Wednesdays after dinner in October. I taught English classes at Elk Grove High School for 38 years until my retirement in June 2023.



Jeff Martinka — I have attended First Pres for 19 years and was introduced to the church through my wife, Carrie. We live in Arlington Heights and have three children who love participating in the Children's Ministries activities. I am a civil engineer and have worked for a geotechnical and materials testing company for the last 23 years. I enjoy cooking for my friends and family and working in the garden on the weekends.

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PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE (PNC) CANDIDATES (continued)



Kate McVay — I have lived in Arlington Heights all of my life and have been a member of First Pres for over 50 years. Jeff and I have been married for 28 years. I have served as an Elder, Trustee and on the Nominating Committee. I have been active in Presbyterian Woman and have served as church decorating co-chair for over 12 years. I look forward to serving First Pres with this important task and consider it a privilege.



Joan Morrone — I am a retired elementary music teacher and have been a member of First Pres for over 30 years. I am happy that I've been able to share my music abilities by being a member of the Chancel Choir, along with various instrumental groups and I look forward to serving the church as a member of the PNC.



Jim Nelson — I have been a member of First Presbyterian Church in Glen Ellyn since 1997 to 2024 when I transferred my membership to First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights. I have been attending this church since the summer of 2022. I taught Vacation Bible School (VBS) at our church last summer. My partner, Joe, who sings in the choir, and I were married in 2021. I have two adult daughters, Leah and Melissa. I retired June 30, 2024, from a career in public education including teaching Special Education. The last 14 years I have served as an Executive Director/Superintendent of numerous Special Educational Cooperatives in the Chicago suburban area.



Mike Noble — I've been a member at First Pres for around 25 years and have been on Session, Youth Ministry Committee, HS Leader, Chapel Renovation Committee along with two APNC's and one PNC. I am a Financial Advisor with RBC Wealth Management and have run my practice for 37 years. I've been married to Patti for 40 years and we have four adult children and four grandkids.



Kris Ward — I've been a member of First Pres since 1993. I'm a former Elder and currently the chairperson for the WMS Committee. I'm active in the church music program singing in the Chancel Choir and playing in the Chancel Handbell Choir plus I've performed multiple solo handbell programs in church and for Wednesdays@Noon. Professionally, I work for HSBC as a Senior Business Consultant focused on enterprise wide transformation program management. I'm honored to be a member of the PNC and to be a part of building our future as a church.