



**9:00 AM WORSHIP**

**GATHERING** "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

**WELCOME** Rev. Rebekah Anderson

**✦ CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: The way of Christ turns the world upside down.

**All: God's ways are not our ways.**

One: It moves us beyond retribution and cycles of violence.

**All: God's ways are not our ways.**

One: It leads us to enemy-love and scandalous forgiveness.

**All: God's ways are not our ways.**

One: It calls us beyond reciprocity into radical giving.

**All: God's ways are not our ways.**

One: So let us commit our way to the Lord together

**All: until our righteousness shines like the dawn and our justice like high noon.**

**✦ "CHANGE MY HEART, O GOD"**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND HOPEFULNESS**

O Christ, the economy of your love is beautiful, expending goodness and extending lines of forgiveness beyond our imagining. The economy of our love is stingy and crooked. We invest love where it can be repaid. We spend mercy where it yields gain. We advance blessing we can bank on. We hold grudges with interest. We do all of this with no recognition of how deeply indebted we are to you. Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors, we pray with our whole hearts.

**WORDS OF FORGIVENESS**

**✦ SUNG RESPONSE** "Amen" HYMN 600

**✦ TIME OF GREETING**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

**PSALM 37:1-11, 39-40** Rev. Rebekah Anderson

**MESSAGE** "Love and Mercy" Rev. Laura Sherwood  
Scripture: Luke 6:27-38

**✦ "WE ARE ONE IN THE SPIRIT"**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Rev. Barbara Gorsky

**SHARING OUR GIFTS** (See back for other giving options.)

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**✦ "HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL"**

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

✦ Please stand as you are able.

**Bruce Blanck Jazz Trio:** Bruce Blanck, piano; Dick Daugherty, reeds; Gordon Johnson, bass

**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, X, at @FirstPresAh, and Instagram, at @firstpresah. We look forward to connecting with you again. Please scan the QR code to visit our website for more information.



**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).

**CHILDREN'S WORSHIP ACTIVITY BAGS**

Activity bags for children are available at the Sanctuary and Chapel entrances. Please put used bags in the basket after worship.

**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 C*, PC(USA); scriptures are from the New Revised Standard Updated Edition (NRSVUE).

**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!



**First Presbyterian Church  
of Arlington Heights**

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



**"Darkness cannot drive out darkness;  
only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate;  
only love can do that."  
— Martin Luther King, Jr.**

**SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY  
SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY  
ANNUAL MEETING**

**FEBRUARY 23, 2025  
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 "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"  
Bruce Blanck Jazz Trio

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

WELCOME Rev. Laura Sherwood

### ✦ CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The way of Christ turns the world upside down.

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**All: God's ways are not our ways.**

One: It calls us beyond reciprocity into radical giving.

**All: God's ways are not our ways.**

One: So let us commit our way to the Lord together

**All: until our righteousness shines like the dawn and our justice like high noon.**

✦ HYMN 706 "Commit Your Way to God the Lord" GUILDSBOROUGH

### CALL TO CONFESSION

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O Christ, the economy of your love is beautiful, expending goodness and extending lines of forgiveness beyond our imagining. The economy of our love is stingy and crooked. We invest love where it can be repaid. We spend mercy where it yields gain. We advance blessing we can bank on. We hold grudges with interest. We do all of this with no recognition of how deeply indebted we are to you. Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors, we pray with our whole hearts...**

#### SILENT CONFESSION

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

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

#### WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

One: The waters of grace refresh our lives and bring forth a new creation. This is good news!

**All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. 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

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

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Rev. Barbara Gorsky

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40  
(Pew Bible, p. 443) Rev. Barbara Gorsky  
The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM "Fret Not Thyself" Gordon Young  
*"Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity. For they soon shall be cut down. Trust in the Lord, And do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, Fret not thyself because of evildoers."*  
Chancel Choir

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Luke 6:27-38  
(Pew Bible, p. 838) Rev. Laura Sherwood  
The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

SERMON "Love and Mercy" Rev. Laura Sherwood

✦ HYMN 300 "We Are One in the Spirit" WE ARE CHRISTIANS

## GIVING THANKS TO GOD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Rev. Barbara Gorsky

#### 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 (See back for other giving options.)

OFFERTORY "I Sing the Greatness of Our God" Fred Bock  
*"I sing the greatness of our God, that made the mountains rise; That spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies. I sing of the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day; The moon shines full at His command, and all the skies obey. I sing the greatness of our God that filled the earth with food; He formed all creatures with His word, and then pronounced them good. Lord, how Thy wonders are displayed, wherever I turn my eye; If I survey the ground I walk or look up to the sky! There is no plant or flower below, but make Thy glories known; The clouds arise, and tempests blow. By order from Thy throne; While all that borrows life from Thee is ever in Thy care, and everywhere that we can be, Lord, Thou art present there. I sing the greatness of our God."*  
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.

**All: Amen.**

## GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

✦ HYMN 819 "Be Still, My Soul" FINLANDIA

✦ CHARGE & BENEDICTION Rev. Laura Sherwood

POSTLUDE "Patriotic Medley"  
Bruce Blanck Jazz Trio

### ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION & CORPORATION

*Extended child care (Room 205) and additional activities for children will be available in Fellowship Hall during the annual meeting.*

✦ Please stand as you are able.

**Fellowship Hosts:** Opportunities are available to host Fellowship Hour

**Preaching:** Rev. Laura Sherwood

**Liturgists:** (9:00 am) Revs. Rebekah Anderson & Barbara Gorsky  
(10:30 am) Rev. Barbara Gorsky

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

**Bruce Blanck Jazz Trio:** Bruce Blanck, piano; Dick Daugherty, reeds; Gordon Johnson, bass

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

## WORSHIP NOTES



# Prayer Requests

## Healing & Comfort

### First Pres Community

Mario Alberico  
Carole Anderson  
Judy Ayers  
Denise Beihoffer  
Dave Berkow  
Carl Burklund  
Laura Carlson  
Elaine Chen  
Mary Clarbour  
Margie Conner  
Nancy Conning

Bill Dillon  
Cathy Dillon  
Don Johnson  
Nancy Johnson  
Susan Kogan  
Connie Leach  
Mollie Lumsden  
Stu Olin  
Patty Richard  
Bea Sonderegger  
Terry Wade

### Friends & Family

Colton — Kathy Sobeski's neighbor's grandson  
John Hayes — friend of Mary Kiepura  
Monica Kotas — sister of Mario Alberico  
Bradford Leach — brother of Jeff Leach  
Lisa — daughter-in-law of Launa Ismail  
Phil Perillo — brother of Kristie Cerniglia

Jim & Nancy Robinson — friends of Sheila Hall  
Betty Sanders — friend of the congregation  
Jerry Shields — husband of Dianne Shields  
James Vasiliades — brother-in-law of Carolyn Nunley  
Dave Weiss — brother of Rev. Barbara Gorsky  
Pamela Wilson — daughter-in-law of Al & Karen Wilson

### 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

# About First Pres

## STAFF

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

**Interim Associate Pastor:**  
Barbara Gorsky

**Associate Pastor of Children, Youth and Families:** Rebekah Anderson

**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

**Director of First Pres PDO & Preschool:** Coleen Anzalone

**Nursery Coordinator:** Beth Johnson

**Custodian/Facility Monitors:**  
Joe Webb (mornings)  
Iden Jajou (evenings)

## Save the Date

Today	Annual Meeting of the Congregation
March 2	New Member & Visitor Lunch
March 2	First Pres PDO & Preschool Registration Begins
March 5	Wednesdays@Noon
March 5	Ash Wednesday Dinner & Worship
March 7	World Day of Prayer
March 16	First Pres Talent Show

**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 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); 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!



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

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# Church Life

February 23, 2025

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.

**BRUCE BLANCK JAZZ TRIO IN WORSHIP** — We are excited to welcome the Bruce Blanck Jazz Trio to both worship services today: Bruce Blanck, piano; Dick Daugherty, reeds; and Gordon Johnson, bass.

**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION** — *Today / 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 and goals 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. **Extended child care (Room 205) and additional activities for children will be available in Fellowship Hall during the annual meeting.**

**NEW MEMBER & VISITOR LUNCH** — *Sunday, March 2 / 11:45 am / Boardroom* — Our next new members class will take place on Sunday, March 2, at 11:45 am in the Boardroom. All recent visitors are invited to attend. For more information or to join the class, contact Rev. Laura Sherwood at [laurasherwood@firstpresah.org](mailto:laurasherwood@firstpresah.org).

**WEDNESDAYS@NOON** — *Wednesday, March 5 / 12:10 pm / Sanctuary* — Join us for an afternoon recital featuring Bobby Nguyen, organ. Bobby is from First United Church in Oak Park.

**ASH WEDNESDAY DINNER AND WORSHIP** — *Wednesday, March 5 / 6:00 pm Dinner, 7:00 pm Worship* — Lent begins on **Wednesday, March 5**, and we will mark the start of the season with a simple dinner at 6:00 pm in Fellowship Hall followed by youth-led worship with Communion at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. We hope to see you there.

### February 23 — Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

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  
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 6-7 & 9-12) — Room 301/303  
10:30 am Confirmation (Grade 8) — Room 109/111  
10:30 am Coffee: Grounds for Discussion & Service — Room 110/112  
11:30 am Annual Meeting of the Congregation — Sanctuary  
11:30 am Fellowship Time — Parlor, Narthex  
1:00 pm Scout Troop 32 Eagle Court of Honor — Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall  
5:00 pm Youth Handbell Choir Rehearsal — Bell Choir Room  
5:45 pm Youth Handbell Choir/HSYG Dinner — Fellowship Hall  
6:00 pm HSYG — HS Lounge, Gym

## 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 6-8)

**ENGAGE & ENCOUNTER CLASS: BREAKING THE CODE** — *Wednesdays, through February 26 / 7:00-8:30 pm / Room 102-104* — As a follow-up to Mary Larson's *Reading the Bible with Joy* course, she is offering a small group style Bible study on the Book of Revelation. Please join us as we discuss *Breaking the Code (Revised Edition)* by Bruce Metzger. The study goes through the entire Book of Revelation. *Breaking the Code* provides a trustworthy guide to the rich symbolism of this important biblical book. We highly encourage you to buy the book and prepare for the class each week. However, if you just want to jump in, you will be welcomed with open arms.

 **RESTAURANT WALK IS RETURNING** — *Sunday, March 2 (12:00 pm), Tuesday, March 11 (6:00 pm), Tuesday, April 8 (6:00 pm) & Sunday, April 13 (6:00 pm) / Bistro Chen (10 E. Miner St, AH)* — Our popular Restaurant Walk fellowship program returns for another session! This is a great way to connect with other members of the congregation and support a local restaurant. Scan the QR code to sign up or contact the church office.

**EASTER FLOWERS** — *Sundays, March 2 & 9 / between worship services / Narthex* — It is still cold but Easter will be here before we know it. The first sign of Spring is the sign up for Easter flowers. Help our church put on a fresh new Spring look by supporting PW flower orders. PW Members will be ready to take your contributions before and after Sunday services on March 2 & 9. Suggested donation is \$35. Thank you for bringing some Spring beauty to our church. Contact Marty Kraybill at [marty1110k@gmail.com](mailto:marty1110k@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

**FIRST PRES PDO & PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION SUNDAY** — *Sunday, March 2* — At First Pres PDO & Preschool, we believe children learn best when exposed to age-appropriate educational and play-based activities. Early education is an opportunity to nurture children's creativity, offer enrichment and exploration. This year, PDO/Registration Sunday is March 2. All registration takes place online. We serve children ages 6 months – 5 years, by September 1. Please email our PDO Director, Coleen Anzalone, for tours and any questions at [coleenanzalone@firstpresah.org](mailto:coleenanzalone@firstpresah.org).

**FIRST PRES TALENT SHOW** — *Sunday, March 16 / 4:00 pm / Sanctuary* — If you sing, play an instrument, tell a good story, juggle, or even tell a good joke we have a spot for you! There are four categories of performers:


- K-5th grade
- 6th-12th grade
- adults (non-retired)
- adults (retired)

For vocalists or instrumentalists, we are happy to provide keyboard accompaniment. Contact Chris Urban for information or to sign-up. For **non-performers**, make sure you come out and clap your hands for the many talented members of First Pres and the broader community.

## Serving, Giving, and Growing

**COFFEE: GROUNDS FOR DISCUSSION & SERVICE** — *Sundays, through March 2 / 10:30-11:30 am / Room 110* — Coffee Grounds is a member-led study group open to ALL adults, of ALL ages. *Invitation to the New Testament* (An 8-week Disciple Bible Study) — Explore the writings of the New Testament using the story of Jesus as the starting point. This survey of the testament looks at how the early church took ownership of and was shaped by the story of Jesus and how the church learned how to develop as disciples and create communities of faith. Participants gain a deeper understanding and appreciation of the New Testament as an integral part of the Christian Bible and a renewed discovery of our identity in God and God's vision for all things.

**PW WORLD DAY OF PRAYER** — *Friday, March 7 / 9:30 am / Parlor* — This year's liturgy was prepared by the World Day of Prayer committee of the Cook Islands in the South Pacific who invite us to remember God's great attention and loving care in creating each one, that God guides us through difficult times and circumstances and has designed us with unique gifts and abilities to spread God's love. The theme "I Made You Wonderful" from Psalm 139 will be expressed in music and prayers of thanksgiving and intercession to our Creator asking God for wisdom, courage and healing, that our world would come to treat all people as "fearfully and wonderfully made". For further information see the World Day of Prayer website at [wdp-usa.org](http://wdp-usa.org).

 **FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH — BOOK STUDY:** *Sponsored by the Congregational Life and Education Committee (CLE)* — Discover the book *James*, a novel by author Percival Everett, published by Doubleday in 2024. The novel is a reimagining of *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain, but told from the perspective of Huckleberry's friend on his travels, Jim, who is an escaped slave. Scan the QR code for book discussion "Meet Up" group(s).

**BOOK DRIVE FOR BERNIE'S BOOK BANK** — *Sundays, March 2 & 9* — Aidan McLeod, of Scout Troop 32, will be holding a book collection as part of his Eagle Scout Project. Bernie's provides new and gently used children's books for newborn babies through children in 6<sup>th</sup> grade to promote literacy and learning in underserved communities throughout Chicagoland. Collection bins will be in the Lobby of the church starting on March 2. Bernie's accepts new and gently used fiction and non-fiction picture books, chapter books, graphic novels, mysteries, science fiction, sports, art, science and technology books. For more information about Bernie's, please visit: [www.berniesbookbank.org](http://www.berniesbookbank.org).

**BLANKET DRIVE SPECIAL OFFERING** — *Collection through the month of February* — PW will be 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 drop down menu. Questions? Contact Lois Meisterheim at [mlmeisterheim@gmail.com](mailto:mlmeisterheim@gmail.com). Thank you!

**PLEASE GIVE TO COVER YOUR PER CAPITA APPORTIONMENT** — In 2025, the apportionment is \$38.00 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. An Initial Offering Envelope for this purpose has been included with the 2025 weekly offering envelopes. If you do not receive envelopes, please use one of the Per Capita envelopes from the pew pockets in the Chapel and Sanctuary or donate online by selecting 'Per Capita' in the dropdown menu.

## Worship Next Sunday

**March 2, 2025: Eighth Sunday after Epiphany**

9:00 am — **Worship** (Chapel)

10:30 am — **Worship** (Sanctuary)

*Music:* Chancel Choir and First Pres Brass

*Preacher:* Rev. Laura Sherwood

*Scriptures:* Luke 9:28-36; 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2


*Sermon Title:* "Illumination"


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	\$991.00
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**NEW GIVING OPPORTUNITY: Dia Nuevo** — Our first quarter bookmarks will go to the support of Dia Nuevo, a Spanish speaking, new worshipping community of the Chicago Presbytery in Hanover Park. Dia Nuevo is comprised of first generation immigrants from Colombia, Venezuela and Guatemala.

**HAVE YOU TURNED IN YOUR 2025 COMMITMENT CARD?** — If you have not yet had a chance to turn in your Commitment Card for 2025, you are invited to place your card 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 at [firstpresah.org](http://firstpresah.org).

 **PADS NEEDS HELP! JUST ONE SHIFT!** — On January 14, we opened our doors to clients. Now we need your help! We are a church that has supported PADS for over 30 years, and we need volunteers to step up and sign up to work the various shifts. If everyone agreed to work just one shift, we would be set for the season. We need you! The QR code will direct you to the sign up page. Thanks! Pastor Barbara

 **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HOST SUNDAY MORNING FELLOWSHIP TIME** — Fellowship Time takes place after worship services for about 30 minutes. Anyone can host! 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.

**FAMILY NIGHT HELP WANTED** — There are many ways to help support this vital ministry to church and community members. Please consider ways you could help:

- **Sponsor** the full or partial cost of dinner for one night (*average cost is \$400 for 100 people*). Contact Debbie Walter in the Church office or choose "Family Night" from the dropdown on our Giving page.
- **Bring Dessert**
- **Wash Dishes & Cleanup**
- **Attend!** *Your presence is the best gift of all!!*

**FOOD BARREL COLLECTION** — The Mission Committee has voted to direct the donation of nonperishable food items to the Wheeling Township Food Pantry. Please place items in the barrels located in the Narthex and outside the Chapel. The next time you are at the grocery store, why not pick up a few healthy nonperishable items to donate? Thank you for your past and continued support!