

We *INSPIRE* heart, soul, and mind  
through the life we share in Jesus Christ.

First Presbyterian Church of Libertyville



## **Mission Statement**

We *Gather* beneath our steeple and *Grow* in the love of God, then are *Sent* by the power of the Holy Spirit to **INSPIRE** with joy.

## **Worship Hours**

### Sunday Worship:

in Sanctuary at 10:00 a.m.  
in Chapel at 9:45 a.m.

Church School: 10:00 a.m.

Adult Education: 11:10 a.m.

## **Broadcast Hours**

**Wednesday 5:30 p.m.**  
Channel 4, Vernon Hills

**Wednesday 5:00 p.m.**  
Channel 17  
Libertyville, Waukegan, Zion

Sermons also found on website each week. (See web address below.)

## **Church Office**

219 West Maple Avenue  
Libertyville, IL 60048

Phone: (847) 362-2174  
Fax: (847) 362-7691  
E-mail: [office@boxp.net](mailto:office@boxp.net)  
Website: [FirstPresLibertyville.org](http://FirstPresLibertyville.org)

## **Inside Word**

Parish News	2
One Verse Photo Share	2
PADS Clothing Drive	3
PCS/YA Schedule	3
Treasurer's Report	5
First Formation Children	6
Baptism Schedule	6
First Formation Youth	7
First Formation Adults	8
Flower Order	10
Trivia Night	10
Prayer and Praise	11
Worship Schedule	12



## **New Year Spiritual Renewal, January 7**

Don't miss worship at the start of the year. Celebrate the Baptism of the Lord and renew your commitment to Christ for the New Year. See page 4.

## **Next Generation Fellowship, January 19**

Build friendships and faith with a new generation of adults in our community. Learn about the activities and fellowship. See page 6.

## **Mom's Time Out, January 12**

Join this fellowship of friends who support one another on a shared path through life. See page 7.

## **Lunch Bunch and Olive Oil, January 16**

Learn everything you ever wanted to know about olive oil at this fun gathering of friends! Learn more page 3.

## **Alzheimer's Support, January 16**

Explore the dimensions of "Normal versus Complicated Grief" with an insightful speaker. See page 10.

## **APNC Elected by Congregation**

On December 10<sup>th</sup> the congregation elected a committee for the purpose of seeking installed leadership for Christian Education. See page 5.

## **Christian Education Staffing and Approach**

Read a pastoral letter from a team of our leaders about our commitment, the status and the design of Christian Education for the year ahead. See page 4.

## **The Pastor's Study**

Reflect with our Pastor on the opportunities to grow in faith and character during the month of January. See page 2.



*There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. ~Galatians 3:28*

As the New Year begins I have one powerful resolution to recommend: Find your identity in Jesus Christ.

The month of January in the church begins with a celebration of the Baptism of the Lord. This is our chance to renew our baptismal vows. Christians believe we have died with Christ in our baptism so that a new self might rise with him in resurrection hope. My prayer for you this year is that you may discover a new hope rising within your spirit.

When I went through my confirmation class as a youth, we took a field trip to the ocean. The whole class was charged to enter the surf holding each other's hands. We learned the strength of withstanding every wave as we stood together in faith. Some years later, I was working as a youth director at the beach when a young man was about to tumble beneath a huge wave. I reached my hand through the wave and pulled him up on the other side. Gasping for air and wide eyed, he said to me, "Dude, you saved my life!" That was a little melodramatic. But I do know one thing for sure. Jesus has saved all our lives. This is what we remember by claiming our baptism. But that act of baptism is something we remember together. Paul writes that all of us are one in Jesus Christ. That means that our ethnicity, our gender, our identity in every other form is secondary to our primary identity in Christ. Dr. Martin Luther King echoed this sensibility for our nation when he dreamed of a day when we would be judged not by the color of our skin, but by the content of our character.

Friends, character is what we build at our church. We claim our baptism and work to inspire our community with our life in Christ. Make that our resolution for the new year.

*Brian Paulson*



## PARISH NEWS

### One Verse e-Devotion Photos —



We hope you've been enjoying our weekly online devotion in conjunction with our "One Verse" Sunday worship theme. As you, no doubt, have noticed, a photograph is included in each eDevotion.

Have you taken a photograph you find inspiring? If so, we'd love to share it in one of our weekly devotions, if possible.

There are three ways to decide which photo to send. Any you choose will be appreciated!

1. Choose one of the most inspiring photographs you have ever taken.
2. Choose a photograph that relates to a particular "One Verse" we are considering this year (see list of verses below)
3. Choose a photograph that connects to a verse of scripture that has great meaning for your own life.

Submit your digital photo to Juli Dunsing at: JDunsing@boxp.net. If you are unable to send your photo digitally, you may stop in the church office and we can scan the photo for you or help you download it. Please give us one or two sentences that describe the photo you submit. If you are connecting your photograph to a verse of scripture, be sure to tell us what verse you have chosen.

*Thank you for helping to make our eDevotions such a powerful gift for faith!*

#### List of Upcoming Verses--

1/7/18: **1 John 4:19** - We love because he first loved us.

1/14/18: **Philippians 4:13** - I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

1/21/18: **Isaiah 41:10a** - Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be afraid, for I am your God.

2/11/18: **2 Corinthians 4:6a** - For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', who has shone in our hearts...

2/18/18: **Mark 1:15** - The kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.

3/4/18: **Exodus 20:2a** - I am the Lord your God.

3/11/18: **John 3:16** - For God so love the world that He gave His only Son, so that who believes in him may not perish, but may have eternal life.

3/18/18: **Romans 8:34b** - It is with Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. I am the Lord your God.

## Fill Our Drawers with Your Drawers!



From Sunday, January 21, through Sunday, January 28, the Board of Deacons will be collecting new underwear, gently used blue jeans and selected toiletries for the guests of PADS. Please note: We are now housing men, women and families at our overnight shelter. In addition to the items listed below, we are asking for **gift cards** in any amount from Jewel, Mariano's, Target or Wal-Mart. **Cash** or **checks** made out to First Presbyterian Church (with PADS written on the memo line) also would be appreciated. These donations will be used to purchase food and other supplies needed to support the work of our PADS shelter.

### This year's needs are:

#### Men's clothing:

- White and colored crew-neck t-shirts — sizes M- XXL
- Thermal undershirt, sizes L-XXL
- Boxers, boxer briefs and thermal bottoms: medium, large and extra large
- Men's heeled crew-length athletic socks
- Gently used men's blue jeans, any size

#### Women's clothing:

- Sports bras: any size
- Women's underpants: sizes 6-8
- Women's thermal underwear: tops & bottoms — sizes M-XL
- Women's heeled athletic socks
- Women's gently used jeans, any size

#### Kid's clothing:

- Kid's underwear and socks: Sizes for kids ages 2 to 15

#### Toiletries:

- Men's deodorant
- Women's deodorant
- Toothpaste (personal size)
- Dental floss
- Disposable razors & personal-size shaving cream

No hotel toiletries, please.

Your donations are **greatly appreciated**. Let's fill up the chest of drawers in the Sanctuary Narthex with needed items!

## Un-Hanging of the Greens

**Saturday, January 6 — 9 a.m.**



**VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!** Hanging of the Greens Co-Chairs Judy Beinlich and Anita Nali need a team of volunteers to assist with **TAKING DOWN** the beautiful decorations we have enjoyed throughout Advent. Many hands make light work so please mark your calendar and join in this annual event. Come to the Narthex any time between 9 a.m. and noon.

## Parents of College Students/Young Adults (PCS/YA) 2018 Calendar of Events

PCS/YA is a group for parents of children age 18 and older who are either in college or out in the work force who want to spend time together in fellowship, mission work and support their college students and young adults. PCS/YA is a great way to get to know other parents and support our young adults (and ourselves) in the process!



**Game Night** — 7:30 p.m. Saturday, January 13

Home of Deb & Kirk Townander

*Join us for games, desserts and a great time!*

**Valentine's Day Care Packages** — 11:15 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 28

First Pres, Room 207

*Assemble a care package to send to your college student.*

**Mobile Food Pantry** — 9-11 a.m. Saturday, March 17

First Pres Social Hall and/or parking lot

*Volunteering followed by lunch 11:30 a.m.-1 pm at O'Toole's.*

**Bernie's Book Bank** — 2:30-4:30 p.m. Saturday, April 23

*Volunteer at Bernie's followed by dinner at The Silo.*

**Northshore Distillery Tour** — Time TBA, April 28

Northshore Distillery, Libertyville

Tastings, food & fun.



Join the First Pres Parents of College Students Facebook Group! <https://www.facebook.com/>

## Lunch Bunch



Lunch Bunch meets in Fellowship Hall on the third Tuesday of each month (September-May).

The cost is \$8 for a catered, casual lunch. Call the church office at 847-362-2174 by

Friday, January 12 to reserve your spot! Everyone is welcome to join in the fun and fellowship!

### January 16

## *Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Olive Oil*

*with Sandy Washburn of Oh, Olive!* Host: Deb Curren

Why do olive oil prices vary so greatly? How can you identify quality olive oil? What are the health benefits of replacing some of the fats in your diet with quality olive oil? In addition to learning about olive oil production and characteristics, you will have the opportunity to sample a variety of quality olive oils.

## A Word about Christian Education Staffing and Approach

We are working to strengthen our ministry with children and their families. We want to share a word with you about the loving, creative, and powerful ministry of Christian Education that we envision for the years ahead. It is important for you to hear our commitment, because we are living through a longer period of transition than we wished.

In our search for an Associate Pastor for Christian Education, we are looking for a pastor who will be more intensively and directly engaged with our children and their parents. Our aim is to hire a “dynamic duo” of minister and coordinator who will help us strengthen our Sunday School and expand our connections with families throughout the week. Beyond the staff we are seeking, we want our congregation more intensively involved as volunteers in our ministry with families. The interim period is engaging and training our members for this joyful gift in ways that we hope to continue.

The new skills in staff that we seek will help us implement a wider vision of the way we build faith in children and parents alike. We are placing a greater emphasis on current educational trends so that both children and parents will receive information through familiar methods consonant with teaching and communication from schools throughout the week. We want to target knowledge of childhood development into the way we deliver the gospel message through our traditional Sunday School, but also through electronic media, and intergenerational family events. Our aim is to be constantly engaged with parents supplying them with fun ways to keep the conversation in homes centered on the ways God grows us in love. Beyond this increased emphasis on children and families, our new Associate Pastor will serve as staff resource for our superb and evolving ministries of Adult Education which we share for all stations of life.

Our hope was to hire a coordinator in the summer and an Interim Associate Pastor in autumn. We are being diligent with our search in order to make the best match for our vision. In the meantime, we realize that it may seem our ministry with children and parents is without a rudder. We want to assure you this is not the case. Our Sunday School is tremendously blessed by the volunteer effort over the summer and autumn months given by Betsy Davison, a seasoned educator and member of our Session. She has been a consistent face alongside so many of you to continue our Sunday School sharing the faith with love and joy. In the interim months ahead, we will rely on a team of volunteers to continue this effort. All of this creative energy will pay dividends for the new staff team when they arrive. We will give them a seasoned team of committed and experienced volunteers.

To recap, we are working toward a bright future of loving and innovative ministry with children and their families. That future will build on a strong Sunday School and expand into new ways of reaching and retaining families in the important work of building disciples. We will implement that vision with a talented team of professionals and a highly involved cadre

of committed volunteers.

Thank you for the prayers, patience, and perseverance you are demonstrating as we work toward this future. We are expanding our search beyond the concept of an “Interim Associate” to a fully installed associate pastor so that we can search through a wider pool of talented candidates. Our time of transition is taking longer than we originally planned. But we are confident that God is in our work and a very bright future lies ahead.

One final word as a request. As you bear our future vision in mind, would you please pray and consider your friends and neighbors? Especially any teachers you have known in recent years. We suspect that our final candidate for the Coordinator for Christian Education position will arrive through the network of contacts in our congregation. The position descriptions for all our people are available through an “Employment” link in the upper right-hand corner of our website’s homepage. Please share this opportunity with capable people you know. Thank you for your prayers and commitment!

Gratefully,

Pastor Brian Paulson, Head of Staff  
Session Elder Brigitte Davis, Chair of Personnel  
Elder Gail Starr, Chair of Christian Education

---

## New Year Spiritual Renewal in Worship

### January 7 Baptism of the Lord Sunday



January 7 is a day to renew your spiritual commitment for the year ahead. Our annual celebration of the Baptism of the Lord will take place in a **combined service of worship at 10 a.m. on that Sunday in the Sanctuary**. During this service the congregation is invited into a “Renewal of Baptism” experience.

The purpose of this “Renewal of Baptism” is to remember the grace God shared in Jesus Christ and to commit ourselves anew to profess and live the faith day by day. Together we turn from sin and return to God in this personal yet shared act of commitment.

This year we will emphasize the biblical reminder: “We love, because God first loved us.” During worship, each participant will have the opportunity to receive a small heart shaped token that can be kept in the pocket or pocketbook throughout the year. This token will be a reminder of the One Verse for our Renewal of Baptism – “We love, because God first loved us.”

There will be few other opportunities to start your new year with spiritual vigor as meaningful as the worship we share on January 7. Be sure to attend and bring a friend.



**Financial Summary – November 30, 2017**

OPERATING FUND	Jan-Nov Budget	Jan-Nov Actual	Jan-Nov Actual Last Year	Dec Budget
Pledge Revenue	1,088,121	1,039,752	998,818,	165,883
Total Revenues	1,269,278	1,212,609	1,241,285	223,565
Total Expenses	1,318,991	1,272,233	1,263,787	139,302
Net Over/(Under)	(49,713)	(59,624)	(22,502)	(16,013)
* A year-end deficit is projected as shown *				

*The Session and staff extend heartfelt gratitude* to those who have responded with financial gifts throughout the year and to those who have committed a financial pledge for 2018! Pledged gifts are the primary source of financial income for the church (85%). The commitment and giving of *all households* creates for a healthy and more stable financial environment for the church, and we are grateful to those who have responded in this way!

At the time of this writing nearly 250 households have made a financial pledge for 2017, leaving over 400 who have yet to commit. It’s never too late to submit a financial pledge—contact the Treasurer with questions.

Calendar year 2017 contribution statements which can be used for tax purposes will be mailed in January.

Gifts to the church can be made with transfer of stock, Electronic Funds Transfer, check, or cash. Contact the Treasurer with questions – pvente@boxp.net / 847.362.2174

**ExtraWord** (from the Congregation)

FirstWord would like to add your words to news of the congregation. If you have significant life events you’d like to share in our newsletter, please send a note to our editor. Our common life is enriched when we learn of each other’s joys and challenges. Make the time to share a word and to pray for the life we share in Christ!

**You may call the church office or send an email to [publicity@boxp.net](mailto:publicity@boxp.net).**

**Associate Pastor Nominating Committee Elected by Congregation on December 10**

After the Session completed its search with limited results for an Interim Associate Pastor for Christian Education, the congregation elected a committee to seek and call an installed Associate Pastor for Christian Education. At a meeting on December 10, Elder Gail Starr, chair of our Christian Education committee and also chair of the Interim Associate Pastor Search committee explained why a recommendation was brought to the congregation to search for an installed position instead of an interim.

Elder Dave Semmelman, chair of the congregation’s Nominating Committee, presented a slate for election that

was approved by the congregation. Gail Starr, Matt Kunz, Betsy Davison, Melinda Sutter, Brigitte Davis, and Rosemary Monahan from the former Interim Associate Pastor Search committee were elected along with new additions Jonathan Summers and Martin Frey.

The Session believed a wider net needed to be cast to call the most appropriate candidate for our Christian Education ministry. An interim associate pastor would have been called by the Session and a limited pool of largely regional candidates was available. The new constituted committee now serves as a committee of the congregation and will be able to draw candidates with the assurance of a position whose future can be long and fruitful. This position fills a vacancy caused by the retirement of the Rev. Roberta Dodds Ingersoll. The position description has been amended to emphasize greater involvement with children and their families.

# FIRSTFORMATION — CHILDREN

BETSY DAVISON ~ VOLUNTEER SUNDAY SCHOOL COORDINATOR

## Sunday School at First Pres Libertyville



Thank you to all of the many teachers, shepherds, event leaders, and musicians who made the season of Christmas joyful and meaningful to our children! We now wish all of our families a Happy New Year filled with God's many blessings.

In this New Year, the children's lessons move on to Jesus' ministry including his baptism, his visit to the synagogue in Nazareth, his selection of his disciples, and his conversation with the woman at the well. God's love as demonstrated through Jesus is the message we strive to convey to our children.

On January 7, part of the children's lesson (Gr. 1 and up) will include returning to the Sanctuary from their classrooms to experience the affirmation that we are all children of God.

## Sunday School Supports Heifer International



Using our Sunday School children's offerings and the monies collected from our can recycling program, we are in the process of saving to purchase a cow from Heifer International! The cow will be donated to a family to provide milk and potential income.

*Heifer International's mission is to work with communities to end world hunger and poverty and to care for the Earth. Through this mission, animals are selected and purchased*

*with the children's offerings. "Giving an animal is like giving someone a small business, providing wool, milk, eggs and more. Animal donations can provide families a hand up, increasing access to medicine, school, food and a sustainable livelihood."*



Visit the Sunday School hall from time to time to watch our ark fill from the generosity of our children who put coins and bills in mini-milk pails each week and families who donate cans! Traditional offering envelopes are available in children's worship bags (available as you enter worship), if preferred.



**CAN** you save your **CANS** and help us recycle? Bring them to the Sunday School hall and place them in or by the can receptacle across from Room 105/6. Donated funds will help our Heifer International initiative and other Children's Ministries activities. Thanks to Mark and Sara Esquivel for managing this ministry.

## Next Generation Fellowship (NGF)

The mission of NGF is to create fellowship that is authentic and relevant. We do this by engaging in our community through serving in and with the community, studying the word of God, and strengthening our bonds of faith. Our mission crosses intergenerational boundaries, and looks to those in their 20's and 30's to share their time and talents.



## White Elephant Gift Exchange

**Friday, January 19**

**6 p.m.**

**O'Toole's in Libertyville**

*We all have that one item in the house that we don't use, so why not get rid of it!? Bring a wrapped item from your house (literally, anything) as we gather for dinner and drinks at O'Toole's Libertyville for a gift swap like you've never seen before.*

RSVP to Laurel Draper at [laurel.devries@gmail.com](mailto:laurel.devries@gmail.com).



Customarily baptisms are conducted on the 3rd Sunday of each month in either the Sanctuary or the Chapel.

Upcoming baptism dates for 2018

February 18, March 11, April 15,  
May 27, June 10, July 15, August 19, September 16,  
October 14, November 18, December 30

# FIRSTFORMATION — YOUTH

REV. KARA SMITH-LAUBENSTEIN, ASSOC. PASTOR FOR YOUTH MINISTRY  
 KSMITH-LAUBENSTEIN@BOXP.NET



**January Fun Fact:** The Romans named it January after Janus, the God of gateways. Janus had two heads so he could look in both directions, back at the old year and forward towards the new year, at the same time.



**Senior High Fellowship (9th-12th grades):**  
 SHF is having a time change! SHF will meet on Sundays from 7-8:30 p.m. in the Youth Lounge. A half-hour of casual fellowship will be available from 8:30-9:00 p.m. We will meet January 7, 14, 21, & 28.

**Junior High Fellowship (6th-8th grades):**  
 JHF meets on January 7, 14, 21, & 28 from 4-5:30 p.m. in the Youth Lounge. We're planning some *brand new* games, quality lessons, and awesome music. We hope you'll join us!

**Confirmation in 2018**  
 Many exciting things are happening this month! Make sure these dates are on your calendars:

- January 7 – Baptism (Baptism of our Lord Sunday—required worship service!)
- January 14 – Living Grateful Lives (Stewardship)
- January 21 – Confirmation Covenant Partner Breakfast
- January 26 – Worship Service at Congregation Or Shalom in Vernon Hills
- January 28 – The Apostle's Creed

## Youth Group Winter Special Events Calendar:

- January 3 – All-Church **Feed My Starving Children** Packing Event (6–7:30 p.m.)
- February 16-18 – SHF Stronghold Retreat (Oregon, IL)
- February 23-25 – JHF WinterXtreme Retreat (Camp Timberlee, East Troy, WI)

Please join us for our

## Annual All-Church Feed My Starving Children Food Packing Event

**Wednesday, January 3 • 6-7:30 p.m.**



We've reserved all 140 spots at Feed My Starving Children on Wednesday, Jan. 3. It will be a way to kick off 2018!

Contact Michelle Groenke at [mgroenke@boxp.net](mailto:mgroenke@boxp.net) or 847-362-2174 to sign up!



## Mom's Time Out

**January 12  
 9:30-11:00 a.m.  
 Conference Room**

Bring your kids to play in our free childcare while you enjoy some adult conversation about faith and parenting. Each month we gather for informal fellowship followed by the viewing of a short TED Talk. Come and join the conversation providing support and encouragement for those traveling the same path called "motherhood."

Mom's Time Out is a place for women to connect with other moms, make new friends and explore how faith can be a strong resource through parenthood. Childcare is provided!



*Children are a gift from the Lord.* ~Psalm 127:3

## FIRSTFORMATION — ADULTS

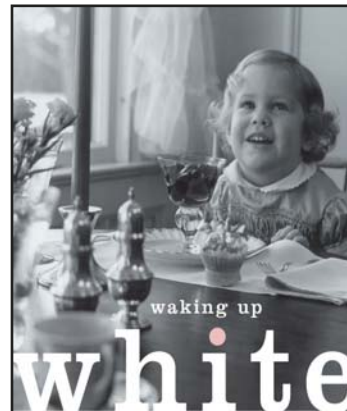
SUNDAY MORNING OFFERINGS — 11:15 AM — Conference Room

*Child care & Children's After Church Club available*

### Waking Up White and Finding Myself in the Story of Race *with Juli Dunsing*

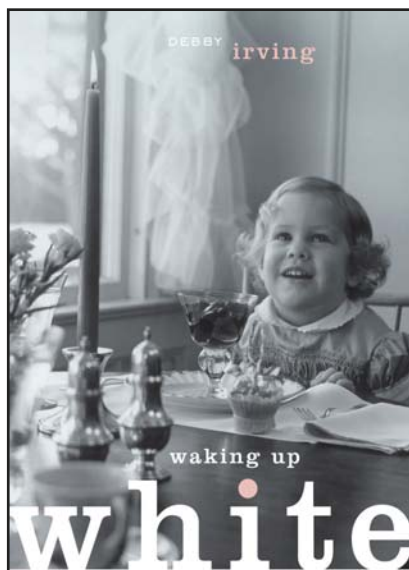
**Jan 14-21-28**

*Waking Up White* is the book Debby Irving wishes someone had handed her decades ago. By sharing her sometimes cringe-worthy struggle to understand racism and racial tensions, she offers a fresh perspective on bias, stereotypes, manners, and tolerance. As Irving unpacks her own long-held beliefs about colorblindness, being a good person, and wanting to help people of color, she reveals how each of these well-intentioned mindsets actually perpetuated her ill-conceived ideas about race. She also explains why and how she's changed the way she talks about racism, works in racially mixed groups, and understands the antiracism movement as a whole.



*Juli Dunsing will facilitate this book discussion group. Juli has been a First Pres member for 41 years and has been a "church lady" in the church office for the past 10. She lives in Libertyville with her husband, Jamie, and her three early-20's kids (when they're not away at college). Juli has always been interested in social justice issues, but became very involved in issues surrounding race and privilege when she and Jamie decided to become transracially adoptive parents. Juli was a support group facilitator for the Adoptive Families Today and Crossing the Colorline groups in Lake County for over 10 years.*

## January Book Read 2018



The Rev. Denise Anderson and the Rev. Jan Edmiston, Co-Moderators of the 222nd General Assembly (2016) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), have invited the church to read and discuss the book, *Waking Up White and Finding Myself in the Story of Race*, by Debby Irving.

During the month of January, the Sunday Adult Education class will offer an opportunity for reflection and discussion.

Several LIFT classes will also be offered to help us dive even deeper into related topics.

*Participants will order their own books.* It is available at Barnes and Noble, at Amazon.com (<https://www.amazon.com/Waking-Up-White-Finding-Myself-ebook/dp/B00HZZ1JD0>) and also at Cook Memorial Library in Libertyville.

**One Book — One Church**



# FIRSTFORMATION — ADULTS

## WEDNESDAY EVENING OFFERINGS

Learning In Fellowship Together (LIFT)

Gathering 7 to 7:15 p.m. • Program 7:15 to 8:45 p.m. • Conference Room

*Light refreshments served • No child care available*



### Jan 17 & 24 • Justice, Community Building & Racism (2-part series)

with Barbara Wilson

#### Jan 17 • Valuing Diversity & Difference: Envisioning a New Way of Life Together

We will consider foundational values based upon who we are in Christ, broaden our understanding of justice, and expand our vision of community.

#### Jan 24 • Race: The Work of Antiracism

We will examine the roots of racism in our culture, white privilege, and consider through the lens of our faith practices that enhance dignity, respect, equity, and inclusion.

*Barbara Wilson serves as the Director of Collaboration & Community Partnership for the Presbytery of Chicago. With a background in the federal criminal justice system, she is ordained as an Itinerant Elder in the African Methodist Episcopal Church (AMEC).*



### Jan 31 & Feb 7 • The Reinhold Niebuhr Story

Reinhold Niebuhr was one of the most influential theologians of the 20th century, and perhaps the most influential American theologian of the post-World War II era. The past decade has seen a "Niebuhr Revival," as his work has come to the attention of a new generation.

**Jan 31** • Movie Night: We will view the new documentary *An American Conscience: The Reinhold Niebuhr Story*.

**Feb 7** • Scott Paeth, DePaul professor and Niebuhr scholar, will be speaking on Niebuhr's legacy and influence, and commenting on the new film.



*Scott Paeth is Associate Professor of Religious Studies at DePaul University. He teaches in the areas of public theology, Christian ethics, and applied ethics. He is the author or editor of several books, including *The Niebuhr Brothers for Armchair Theologians*.*

Bring yourself, your friend  
or a team of the best  
trivia minds you know to...

# TRIVIA Night

Saturday,  
January 27, 2018  
6-10 p.m.  
at the Libertyville Civic Center  
135 West Church St., Libertyville

- **Exciting Trivia Contest**  
hosted by Mark Friese
  - **Live Auction:**  
Exclusive travel, dining, sports tickets & more!
  - **Delicious Meal**  
from Pizzeria DeVille, Libertyville
- Cash Bar

Limited Seating! So save the date now!



**Tickets:**  
www.Events.org  
\$40 per person  
\$350 per Table of 10  
(until January 1, 2018)  
\$50 per person  
\$400 per Table of 10  
(January 1-27)

*Proceeds support local nonprofit organizations helping those in need: Feed My Starving Children, Food Pantries, PADS, Waukegan 2 College & more!*

## Alzheimer's & Dementia Caregivers Support Group

**Sunday, January 14, 2018**  
**Second & Fourth Sundays of each month**  
**11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. in Room 202**

Does your parent, spouse or loved one suffer from Alzheimer's disease or another form of dementia? Are you struggling with your role and responsibility as a caregiver? You are not alone! Join members of our church for support, prayer and compassionate conversation, facilitated by Rosemary Monahan, a professional facilitator and vice president of the board for CareSmart Illinois, which provides support and education for those caring for loved ones with Alzheimer's.



## Alzheimer's / Dementia Awareness Group

**Tuesday, January 16, 2018**  
**7-8:30 p.m. in Social Hall**

**Topic: Normal vs. Complicated Grief**

with Laura Anderson, licensed clinical social worker of Barrington Behavioral Health and Wellness

Given the universality of the experience of grief, the uniqueness of each individual's personal grief journey and the impact on one's functioning, it is important to understand the difference between "normal" or uncomplicated grief and complicated grief. Learn how these two differ, and how they can exist even while our loved one is still with us.

For more information, contact Katie Monahan or Rosemary Monahan (rmmredrose@aol.com)

### The 2018 Flower Chart

Would you like to remember a special relative, friend or event and beautify the Sanctuary at the same time? Three families may sign up for each date with a cost of \$40 per arrangement.

**Commemorative donations are the only source of revenue for our Sanctuary flowers, so please sign up and reserve your special date today.**



The flower chart is located in the First Pres main office. Please fill out a flower card when you sign up.

You may also call the church office (847-362-2174) or email Kristin at KMarsden@boxp.net with your request.


## S.A.L.T. Outing to La Boheme

**Saturday, February 24**  
**11:30 a.m.**

*La Boheme*  
 by Giacomo Puccini  
 Live HD presentation  
 at the Gurnee Mills Cinema

Join the women of S.A.L.T. at the Gurnee Mills Cinema on Saturday, February 24 for a "Live in HD" simulcast of Puccini's famous opera, *La Boheme*, transmitted live via satellite from New York's famous Metropolitan Opera House in Lincoln Center. This is a unique opportunity to experience a world-class opera in our own community. If you've never had the pleasure of attending a live opera performance before, this is the perfect opportunity to see why this magical art form has captured audiences' imaginations for generations.





**Member Pastoral Emergency Line:** A pastor of the church is available to members for emergencies 24 hours a day. Call 847-367-6460.


*FirstWord* is a publication of First Presbyterian Church of Libertyville.

Our Mission Statement: To inform and build up the Community of faith which is First Presbyterian Church of Libertyville.

**Editorial Staff:**  
 Scott Holland  
 Lennie Blair

**Publisher:**  
 Juli Dunsing

**Contributors:**  
 The staff and congregation of First Pres.



Printed on recycled paper.

## Women's Winter Retreat

**February 3-4, 2018**

**The Ridge Hotel & Spa, Lake Geneva, WI**



*Winds of the Spirit: The Reforming, Transforming Power of God*

with **The Rev. Melanie Hammond Clark**

For 500 years, the Church has been shaped and reshaped. How is God working in our lives?

The women of First Pres will come together for a weekend of encouragement, inspiration and transformation as we explore how God speaks to us through art, music, and movement.

Contact Michelle Groenke [mgroenke@boxp.net](mailto:mgroenke@boxp.net) for details.



### We celebrate the baptism of

**Clary Maxine Pinter**, daughter of Steven and Lindsey Pinter, on December 17, 2017.



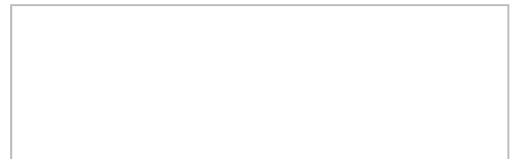
### We offer sympathy to those experiencing loss:

- Steve & Barb Sesterhenn on the loss of his father, Cletus Sesterhenn
- Bill & Sue Ellen Skeens on the loss of their friend and colleague, Jim Gaughan
- Rich & Rosemary Monahan on the loss of her cousin, Jillian
- James Swab on the loss of his wife, Jinni Swab
- Roy & Sue Bogseth on the loss of his father, Ollie Bogseth
- Donna Erickson and family on the loss of her husband, Bob Erickson

**Monday, at noon, January 9**



**Email all articles to: [lblair@boxp.net](mailto:lblair@boxp.net)**



**Sunday, January 7 – Baptism of the Lord Sunday**

**10:00 a.m. Combined Worship – Sanctuary**

1 John 4:7-19

**God's Initiative**— The Rev. Dr. Brian R. Paulson

Chancel Choir and The Chapel Music Team

**Sunday, January 14**

Philippians 4:8-13; Proverbs 3:3-8

**Strength For All Things**

**9:45 a.m. Worship – Chapel**

The Rev. Amy Heinrich

The Chapel Music Team

**10:00 a.m. Worship – Sanctuary**

The Rev. Dr. Brian R. Paulson

Chancel Choir

**Sunday, January 21**

Isaiah 41:1-10; Mark 6:45-51

***I Am With You*** – The Rev. Dr. Brian R. Paulson

**9:45 a.m. Worship – Chapel**

The Chapel Music Team

**10:00 a.m. Worship – Sanctuary**

Motet Choir

**Sunday, January 28**

The Rev. Kara Smith-Laubenstein

**9:45 a.m. Worship – Chapel**

The Chapel Music Team

**10:00 a.m. Worship – Sanctuary**

Chancel Choir