

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. ~ Amen.

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

As directed by the ushers, please come forward, take a piece of bread, dip it in the cup and partake. Servers are available to bring Communion to those who wish to remain in their seats. Gluten-free crackers are available in each basket.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

All: God of all ages, God of new beginnings, we give thanks for this meal, ever old and ever new. Through bread and wine we meet with You and our souls are refreshed. May this meal grant us peace as we remember the love of which it speaks. Let that love inspire us as we begin this new year. And let the power of Your grace enable us to be Your faithful followers through all the days that lie ahead. ~ Amen

GOING FORTH TO MINISTER

*CLOSING HYMN

"As with Gladness Men of Old" [63]

*BENEDICTION

*SUNG BLESSING

**Go, my children with my blessing, never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.
In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.**

POSTLUDE

Alejandro Alumbros

**Please stand as you are able.*

[Bold type] indicates text to be spoken or song to be sung by the congregation.



*First
Presbyterian
Church*

January 7, 2018

9:30 a.m.

A NOTE FROM DORIS—

*If you haven't done so already, please pick up
your offering envelopes, located in the
back of the church. Thank you!*

GATHERING WITH PRAISE

PRELUDE

Alejandro Alumbros

FIRST THOUGHT

“It’s not what you look at that matters, it’s what you see.”

Henry David Thoreau

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Our God has been our help in ages past,

All: And in God we place our hope for what is yet to be.

One: Through the storms and through sunshine, God is with us,

All: And in God we find our home where we are surrounded by love.

One: Time passes and circumstances change,

All: But God’s love is from everlasting to everlasting.

One: Let us worship the eternal God.

OPENING HYMN

“Our God, Our Help in Ages Past” [210]

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

WELCOME

Welcome! Whoever you are, wherever you come from and whatever you have done or failed to do, welcome to this place where we celebrate the love of God and are inspired by the hospitality of Jesus Christ. May you find God’s love, peace and grace as we worship together.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Steven Fringer

God of all eternity, we pause to remember and to give thanks. You have safely led us through ages past and offer us the hope of a future filled with joy. Forgive us when we fail to trust You and let worries overwhelm us. Let us begin this new year with a renewal of our faith and with the confidence that comes from knowing that You are with us. Forgive all that is wrong in our lives, wipe the slate clean and let us begin again. Show us the path You would have us walk and let us do so with faith and courage, trusting in Jesus Christ, our Lord. ~ Amen

(Let us continue to pray in silence.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Friends, hear the good news of the Gospel.

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*ACT OF PRAISE

[276 v. 3]

**Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine with ten thousand beside.
Great is Thy faithfulness, great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning new mercies I see.
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.**

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

TIME FOR ALL AGES

CHANCEL CHOIR

**“Come Follow That Star”
by Don Besig**

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 2:1-12 [N.T. p. 2]

SERMON

**“The Star is the Star”
Rev. Gillian Weighton**

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

OFFERING/OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. ~ Amen

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

The Table at First Presbyterian is open to all. Friends from other traditions are welcome to share in the Lord’s Supper because Christ is our host. Children who are being nurtured in the faith are also welcome. We invite all to share in this meal in order to be renewed and assured of God’s love and grace.

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE FOR THE FOOD PANTRY:

WED., JAN. 10TH — *John & Linnea Brooke, Maria Hansen, Nancy Reeser*
THURS., JAN. 11TH — *Mary Jane Johnston, Steve & Pam Simpson, Deb Yale*

(If you cannot make your shift, please find a sub and let Karin, LuAnn or Tony know.)

IMPORTANT NOTICE: It has come to our attention that food pantry volunteers are to participate in the civil rights training on a yearly basis. In order to avoid having everyone attend a training session at Church, Shelley has graciously agreed to put the information into a pdf and email it to all the volunteers (on Mon. Jan. 8th). If Shelley does not have your current email address, please put it in her mail bin today. Once you receive the **2018 Training PowerPoint**, read it thoroughly, then sign the **Confirmation Form** and return the form to the food pantry, as soon as possible.

Thanks,
Karin, LuAnn and Tony

Mmmmm, stew!



Along with hearty soups, stews and canned pasta dishes, we could also use mac & cheese, pork 'n' beans and tuna. Thank you!

thank you!

Thank you for supporting our Cuban Partnership by purchasing photo cards of our Cuba trip. You have purchased \$180 in card sales and this money has been donated to the Cuba Fund. After the first of the year you will see a card rack with cards for continued support of this mission.

WANTED

A youth or adult volunteer is needed to help find historical images and / or articles to be placed on the First Presbyterian Church website. Research as much of the information as desired. Please contact Pam Wortley wortley_pj@icloud.com / 262.498.3566) or Nancy Reeser (maui71@att.net / 262.632.7807) for more information.
THANK YOU!

Welcome

Welcome to this sanctuary.
Welcome to this time of worship and wonder.
Welcome to this family of faith.

**WELCOME TO
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

We're glad you're here today and pray that your experience with us in worship is both challenging and uplifting!

9:30^{AM}—Worship and Communion
10:15^{AM}—Sunday School

Fellowship to follow
in Ihrman Hall.

*Nursery care is available during
worship service in Room 205.*

Senior Pastor
Rev. Gillian Weighton
PastorGillian@FirstPresRacine.org

Visitation Pastor
Rev. Steve Fringer
SCFringer@Hotmail.com

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Office@FirstPresRacine.org

GET THE WEEKLY "E-VOTIONAL"

To receive our mid-week E-votional along with news about what's going on in the church, call/email the office and ask to be added to the list!

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN STAFF — JOYFULLY SERVING

ALL OF US - Ministers
REV. GILLIAN WEIGHTON - Senior Pastor
REV. STEVE FRINGER - Visitation Pastor
ALEJANDRO ALUMBREROS - Organist & Choir Director
NANCY BUCK - Handbell Choir Director
DORIS DESCHLER - Financial Secretary
DODIE KERKMAN - Sexton
SHELLEY MAURER - Church Secretary
MARK PAFFRATH - Music Leader
PEGGY TAYLOR - Parish Nurse



January 7, 2018

GREETERS: *Mac & Marilyn MacCaughey*
USHERS: *Steve Simpson, Bruce Armstrong,*
Steve & Mary Bernstein, Zach Vollman
PERK-N-POUR: *Ken Schacht, Todd & Jen Seversen*
LITURGIST: *Steven Fringer*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 7, 2018

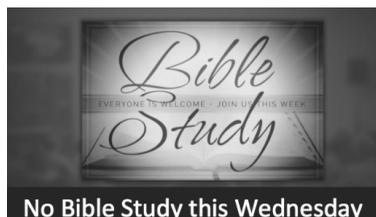
Sun., Jan. 7	9:30 ^{AM}	Worship and Communion
Mon., Jan. 8		<i>Office will be open</i>
Tue., Jan. 9	7:00 ^{PM}	Deacons Meeting
Wed., Jan. 10		<i>No Bible Study</i>
	5:00 ^{PM} to 7:00 ^{PM}	Food Pantry
Thu., Jan. 11	2:00 ^{PM} to 4:00 ^{PM}	Food Pantry
Fri., Jan. 12		

Please join us January 14th at 9:30^{AM} for Worship.

NOTICE: PASTOR GILLIAN WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE FROM MON., JAN. 8 THRU SAT., JAN. 20, AS SHE WILL BE DOING HER CONTINUING EDUCATION OUT OF STATE.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, PLEASE CONTACT PASTOR STEVE.

THERE WILL BE NO BIBLE STUDY ON JANUARY 10TH OR 17TH.



Prayers for our church family—including Larry and Ellen Cardwell, Marlene Wilson, Don and Nancy Tobias, David Perkins, Darrell Sutton, Maggie Seater, Ollie Hopkins, Beth Elzinga, and Annette Anderson. Please keep Adam Reiss—son of Ellen Cardwell, Stephen Goodall—grandson of Ollie and Sandy Hopkins, Hannah Yale and Kevin Liszewski—daughter & son-in-law of Debbie Yale, Mary Larscheidt—sister of Carrie Massey, Mary Jensen—sister of Elaine Jacobson, Lucille Von Rotz—mother of Diane Lehmann, and the mother of Nicole Higgs in your prayers.

Prayers for our military—Scott Pence, Lt. Col Jay Brooke, Nicholas Hansen, Jordan Smith, Chad Lawrence, Kyle Sondergaard.

Prayers for our friends— Lt. Col. Matt Brooke—Army, Retired, Ben and Ethan. And healing prayers for those who are going through rough times—whether emotionally, physically or spiritually.

And a special prayer for all those who lend a helping hand to make the world a brighter place for others.



faith hope & love
SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN IN CRISIS

The items for the **Faith Hope & Love “Duffels for Kids”** should be turned in no later than **SUNDAY, JANUARY 14, 2018.**

The contents of each bag are age-specific and go to children from newborn to seventeen years of age.

Items needed for the Duffels For Kids are fleece blankets, stuffed animals, story books, flashlights, coloring books with crayons. Additionally, there are hygiene items: toothpaste, toothbrush, hair brush, shampoo/conditioner and lotion (ages 3-17) deodorant (ages 10-17), baby wipes, powder, shampoo, wash, and lotion (ages 0-2)