

Welcome

We are an inclusive, Christ-centered community of faith, passionately committed to sharing the love of Jesus Christ in practical ways. Please let us know of your interests and concerns.

Pastors:

Chuck Carlson
Eric Corbin

chuck@firstpres.church
eric@firstpres.church



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN

We want to get to know you!

- Fill in the Friendship Pads; please use a name tag.
- Introduce yourself to one of the pastors.
- Join us for coffee and conversation in Westminster Hall.
- Trouble hearing? Try a hearing device at the back of the Sanctuary.
- Large-print hymnals are on the back table.
- Wheelchairs are available for in-church use.
- Printed sermons are available; audio can be found early the following week on the church website.

March 26, 2017
8 and 9 AM

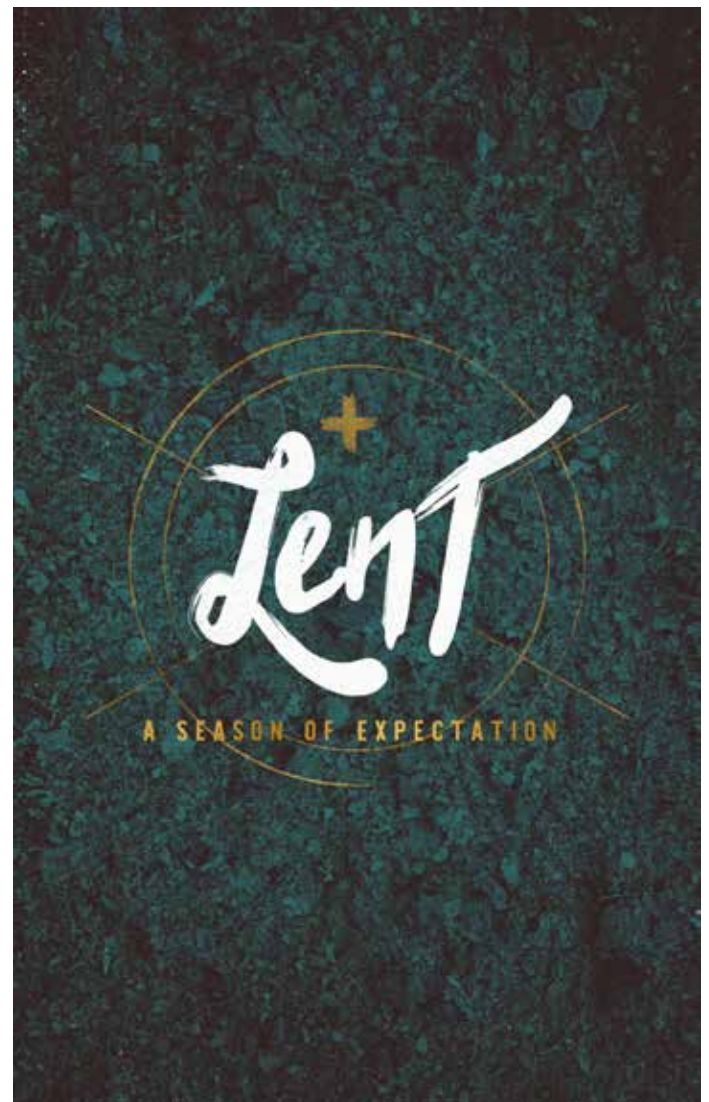
Children, Youth & Families

Please sign in your child in the Education Building. There you will receive a nametag for your child and a matching identification label to be used by the parent during pick up. Classes for Preschool-8th grade begin at 9 AM. High School Youth Sunday School begins at 10:30 AM after worship. All classes are held in the Christian Education Building. Children will be served a snack in their class. Our Nursery and Toddler Rooms (birth – 2 years) are open from 8:45 – 10:30 AM each Sunday.

Schedule

8:50-9:00	Students check-in
9:00-10:00	Sunday School for Preschool – 8 th Grade
10:00	Parents may pick up Preschool children
10-10:30	Children's Choir practice or Mission project option (K-8)
10:30	Parents pick up students in the Chapel or Café in the Christian Education Building.
10:30-11:30	High School and recent grad group in the Christian Education Building

Contact our Director of Children, Youth, and Families, **Mindy Watts-Ellis** (mindy@firstpres.church) for more information about children and youth education and family events.



Welcome to First Presbyterian Church
Bienvenue à La Première Eglise Presbytérienne de Champaign
Bienvenidos a La Primera Iglesia Presbiteriana

삼페인 제일 장로교회에 오신것을 환영합니다.

Pour nos amis de langue française et les membres,
nous avons des copies du sermon d'aujourd'hui en français
à l'arrière de l'église

Service for the Lord's Day

A special welcome to those at our church for the first time.

Prelude

Richard Rossi

Preparation for Worship – Tower Bell Greeting and Announcements

9Introit *Come, Let Us Praise the Lord*

Byrd/Hopson

Call to Worship

Leader Beneath the cross of Jesus,

People We have come to take our stand.

Leader Beneath the cross of Jesus,

People His love makes us able to stand.

Leader Able to stand free of condemnation;

People Able to stand for justice and compassion.

Leader Come, O Lord, and make us strong.

All Beneath the cross of Jesus. Amen.

♦Hymn 92 *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

♦Prayer of Confession

Lord, we acknowledge your sovereignty over all things. As our Creator you refuse to stand aloof from us, whom you have created in your image. In Jesus Christ you have entered our world and shown us your face and heart. Grant us the courage to open our lives to your searching, challenging love, a love which never allows us to stay within our securities and complacency. We need your healing light to shine into the darkness of our hearts. Only within your grasp can we face our struggles and our frantic pursuit of busyness which too often masks the lack of meaning in our lives. Too easily we tolerate the troubles and inequities of our divided society. How quickly we accept bottom-line thinking as the final word in decision making. Out of self-protection we stand off from others we fear and don't understand which obscures our ability to listen and receive from them. Lord, keep us close to the cross and let us experience your transforming love that turned a Good Friday into an Easter hope ... (continue to pray in silence)

♦Assurance of Pardon

Leader Listen my friends to this good news: God loves us no matter what.

People "But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us"
(Romans 5:8)

Leader Take heart in the knowledge that God's grace is ours.

All We will live into the truth and reality that we are forgiven of our shortcomings and granted new life in Christ our Lord. Amen.

♦Passing of the Peace

Leader The peace of Christ be with you.

People And also with you.

Leader Please greet one another in the peace of Christ.

Response #576 *Gloria, Gloria*

Act of Friendship

Ordination/Installation of Officers

Distribution of Third Grade Bibles

Offering of Gifts and Tithes

My Shepherd (Psalm 23)

Alan Petker

#592 Doxology; Prayer of Dedication

9♦Hymn 2103 *We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding*
(from *Sing the Faith* hymnal)

9Call to Prayer *Hear Us, O Lord*

Atwood/Hopson

9Prayers for Ourselves and Others *The Lord's Prayer*

Scripture *Psalm 23* (OT pg)

Anthem *Psalm 67*

John Ness Beck

Scripture *John 9:1-12; 18-23; 30-37 and 40-41* (NT pg)

Message *What Finally Matters*
Pastor Chuck Carlson

8Prayers for Ourselves and Others *The Lord's Prayer*

♦Hymn 83 *The Glory of These Forty Days*

♦Extinguishing the Fourth Lenten Candle

♦Benediction

8♦Benediction Response

May the Lord, Mighty God, bless and keep you forever. Grant you peace, perfect peace, courage in every endeavor. Lift your eyes and see His face, and His grace forever. May the Lord, Mighty God, bless and keep you forever.

9♦Choral Benediction *Forth in the Name of Christ We Go*
Schutz/Hopson

♦Postlude

Richard Rossi

♦Please stand if able.

This Week

Sunday, March 26

- 8:00 AM Contemplative Worship/Sanctuary
- 9:00 AM Worship/Sanctuary
- 9:00 AM Sunday School (K-8th)/Chapel
- 10:00 AM Youth Choir/Chapel
- 10:30 AM God's Abundant Table Study/Centennial Hall
- 10:30 AM Genesis Study (French/Lingala)/Parlor
- 10:30 AM High School Sunday School/Room 205
- 12:00 PM Pastor Nominating Committee/Chapel

Monday, March 27

- 9:00 AM ESL Class/Room 204 & 207
- 11:00 AM GROW/Chapel
- 1:00 PM Knifty Knitters/Parlor
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall
- 5:30 PM 150 Celebration Committee/Westminster Hall

Tuesday, March 28

- 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study/Centennial Hall
- 9:00 AM ESL Class/Room 204 & 207
- 10:30 AM Staff Meeting/Parlor
- 12:00 PM Classic Book Study/2nd Floor Atkins Bldg.
- 1:30 PM SAFE House Class/Westminster Hall
- 5:30 PM Fear of the Other Study/Library
- 6:30 PM Community Mission Deacons/Westminster Hall

Wednesday, March 29

- 9:00 AM ESL Class/Room 204 & 207
- 9:30 AM Women's Bible Study/Library at Windsor Court
- 10:00 AM Path to Peace/Parlor
- 5:30 PM Spiritual Formation Study/Library
- 6:00 PM Bell Choir/Bell Room
- 7:00 PM Contemporary Rehearsal/Centennial Hall
- 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir/Choir Room

Thursday, March 30

- 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast/Hardees on South Neil
- 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study/Parlor
- 9:00 AM ESL Class/Room 204 & 207

Friday, March 31

- 8:30 AM Men's Prayer/Chapel

Saturday, April 1

- 3:00 PM Worship Prep/Centennial Hall
- 6:00 PM Praise & Prayer/Centennial Hall

Worship

•Liturgist this morning is **Lori Schaap** at the 8 AM service and **Ginny Waaler** at the 9 AM service.

•**Easter lilies and flowers** will adorn our Sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 16. Plants, \$13 each, may be given in memory or honor of someone. Either mail your check to the church office or drop in the offering plate on Sunday mornings. Be sure to include a note for who the plant is in memory or honor of.

Connect

•In this season of Lent, we invite you to visit the **Spirituality Center** located in the State Street entryway to the sanctuary. The center consists of five self-guided stations for contemplation, reflection, and prayer. You will find a prayer wall, a fountain, a crown of thorns, artwork, and a cross. Each station invites you to interact in a tangible way.

•We extend an invitation to you to join one of our **adult education classes** as we learn and grow in Christ together. **Lenten Study: God's Abundant Table** by Cynthia Campbell 10:30 AM Centennial Hall Sundays March 5- April 9 led by **Pastor Chuck Carlson** and **Judi Geistlinger**. **Fear of the Other** by William H. Willimon 5:30 PM Parlor Tuesdays March 7- 28 led by **Judi Geistlinger**.

Serve

•The **Men's Emergency Winter Shelter** has found a permanent location at New Covenant Fellowship which means that we will no longer be the temporary shelter Sunday-Thursday evenings. Thank you to all who helped us to reach out to provide overnight accommodations during this interim period. Good luck to their staff and volunteers in their new location!

•We are looking for a **part-time CYF Assistant Director**. A complete job description can be found on our website.

•We would like to **serve coffee at Easter** services this year but need two people for making coffee and two for clean-up. Please let the Spirit move you and contact **Nancy Brombaugh** (356-2817) or **Leland Andrews** (352-1023) soon! This year Easter services will be held at 8 and 9:30 AM.

•We are collecting **school supplies** during Lent **for our sister Cuban church**. Suggested donations are: 1 pair of blunt scissors removed from the package (rounded tip, only); 3 70-count bound notebooks or notebooks totaling 200-210 pages (no loose-leaf or filler paper); 1 30-centimeter / 12" ruler; 1 hand-held pencil sharpener removed from the package; 1 large eraser (no pencil cap erasers); 6 new, unsharpened pencils with erasers removed from the package; 1 box of 24 crayons (only 24).