

March 12 Sermon Notes

Guest Preacher: Rev. Michael Miller, Jr.

Title: "Listening to People"

Today's Scripture: John 3:1-21

(New Testament, p. 88)

One of the ways Jesus showed love to people was by listening not just to their words, but also to their hurts. He illustrates this most effectively in his conversation with Nicodemus.

Next Week

Lenten Teaching Series - Love Like Jesus

Sunday Worship Services, 9 am and 11:30 am:

Scripture: John 3:1-21

Title: Mark 2:13-17

All Christians have an important decision to make: do they wait for people to come to them and their churches, or do they go and engage with people where they are, and as they are? Jesus took the latter approach by spending time with those whom the religious leaders considered outcasts.

Listen to Sunday Sermons on the FPCE website or via the "First Presbyterian Church of Evanston" iTunes podcast. Sermons are usually uploaded by Tuesday evenings.

First Presbyterian Evanston

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www.firstpresevanston.org

Highlights

Join us as we gather Wednesday, March 15, for our Taizé Service at 7 pm in Walker Chapel. This is a service of meditative prayer and uncomplicated and repetitive songs uncluttered by too many words in the style of Taizé. All are welcome!

The 23rd annual FPCE Men's Retreat is March 17-18. The retreat speaker will be Dr. Gary Burge, professor of New Testament at Wheaton College and former First Pres member. Gary will lead us in "The Spiritual Disciplines of the Psalms." More information and registration forms at the reception desk or the Church website.

Are you a younger adult looking to do something on St. Patrick's Day? Join Pastor Henry at his apartment in Evanston for drinks, snacks, and fellowship. To RSVP for the 6:30 pm, Friday, March 17 event, shout out to Henry either by text at 609-529-3853 or by email at hcoates@firstpresevanston.org. Feel free to bring your kids!

Worth Noting

Rev. Michael W. Miller Jr, known as Pastor Mike, is our guest preacher this morning.

A member of the Chicago Presbytery, he is a former youth pastor here at FPCE. Mike is the pastor of Next Ministries, a church plant launching in Chicago this Fall. Pastor Mike's call to this new ministry is grounded in his dedication to seeing churches fulfill the Great Commission by discipling people in the Christian faith, equipping them to do the work of ministry, and sending them out to share their faith with others. Pastor Mike, a graduate of North Park Theological Seminary, has been serving in ministry for more than twenty years. He has been actively involved in social justice ministry for more than a decade, helping the underprivileged and homeless. Pastor Mike and his wife, Jalaimya, are the proud parents of Madison and Mason.

The Members' Closet and Lost and Found at the front desk are full of unclaimed items. If you have an item that needs to be picked up or if you have a lost item, please claim it at the front desk by March 30. On March 31, all unclaimed items will be donated or discarded.

School for Little Children, the oldest part-time preschool in Evanston, is now enrolling for the 2017-2018 school year! We offer preschool programs for children ages 2-5, summer camps for children ages 3-5 and parent/child classes for children ages 18-28 months. For more information visit our website at slcevanston.org or call Katie Kelly to schedule a tour at 847.864.3889.

FPCE invites you to join our "pop-up" Community Choir, to sing Sunday, April 2, at both services. All who love to sing to God are welcome: any ability, age 10 & up. We sing every communion Sunday during the offering at both services. Rehearsals: Sunday, March 26 from 10:30 to 11:15 am, Thursday, March 30 from 7:30 to 8:30 pm, and on Sunday, April 2 at 8:45 am. Childcare available with RSVP to Hannah. Questions? Contact Hannah McConnell at hmccconnell@firstpresevanston.org.



Missions

cweinberg@firstpresevanston.org

Pray for Our Mission Partner

Pray for our mission partner, “Professor Y” serving anonymously in China, from pages 64 and 65 of 52 Weeks of Prayer for Missions. Pray for those Christians in China experiencing persecution from the government as it seeks to restrict Christian activities. Pray for “Prof. Y” as he travels in China that he would not attract undue attention to himself or those believers he visits and ministers to.

First Friends

“First Friends” is a new FPCE ministry seeking to help, welcome and befriend refugee families. Volunteers will serve through hosting dinners, reaching out to new families, and assisting in other capacities to help area refugees thrive here in the USA. Volunteers will need to attend one of two training sessions: Thursday, March 16, 7-9 pm, or Saturday, March 18, 10 am-Noon. Contact Sally Ivaska at sallyivaska1@gmail.com or Caryl Weinberg at cweinberg@firstpresevanston.org. Visit <http://www.firstpresevanston.org/ministry/first-friends/> for details.

Spring Art Exhibit

All artists are invited to participate in the joy of new life this Spring by displaying a piece of original art that illustrates the theme of Spring and Rebirth. If you work in any 2-dimensional medium -- painting, drawing, photography, collage, needlework, etc. -- the Arts Ministry needs you. Pick up an information sheet and a registration form in the church office and sign up before April 9. The exhibit will run from April 30 through May 21.

<http://www.firstpresevanston.org/serve/in-the-world/>

Children and Families

kmuller@firstpresevanston.org

Church Camp registration is online and open! Students currently in grades 2-6 are invited to join us for a week of camp at Phantom Ranch in Mukwonago, WI, from June 18-23. Learn more and register online through our website at <http://www.firstpresevanston.org/learn/children/church-camp-2017/>.

Would you like to be a Church Camp counselor? Applications are now available and we encourage high school students, college students, and adults to apply! Counselors will spend the week of June 18-23 living in a cabin with a small group of children, sharing faith in Christ with children, discipling them and guiding them through each aspect of the day. Application packets are available at the front desk and at the Children’s Ministry table by the library.

Save the date for Vacation Bible School, where we will discover that we were created by God and built for a purpose at the Maker Fun Factory! Children age 3 through current 5th graders are invited to spend each morning with us at church during the week of July 24-28. If you’re looking for more information or would like to volunteer, contact Kristin Mueller.

Each year, Pastor Ray joins our children’s classes and teaches about the meaning of Communion. Our Communion Workshop will be held on March 19 & 26 in the 3rd & 4th grade Sunday School classroom (Room 33, below the chapel). Students of any age are welcome to join us, but we do request that at least one adult per family comes along with the children. Children will then commune with us on Sunday, April 2. For more information contact Kristin Mueller.

Fish banks are available for children who would like to save up money throughout Lent to give to the One Great Hour of Sharing offering on Palm Sunday. Banks and giving guides are available at the Children’s Ministry table.

<http://www.firstpresevanston.org/learn/children/>

Youth

lribeiro@firstpresevanston.org

NUBS (6th-8th Grade)

Meetings are 7-9 pm Fridays in the NUBS Lounge on the third floor.

PYGS (High School)

Meetings are 4-6 pm Sunday afternoons in the PYGS Lounge on the lower level. Dinner will be served.

NUBS and PYGS t-shirts are now available. First come, first served! See Liz Ribeiro.

The Annual Youth Sunday Worship Service will be held April 23, with a rehearsal the previous day. Parents of FPCE Youth 12th-graders should contact Liz Ribeiro at lribeiro@firstpresevanston.org ASAP if they have not yet received instructions about this year’s service.

Great Escape for 2017 will be July 10 through 15! This event is for rising 6th graders through graduating 8th graders! Great Escape is a sleepaway camp in Greenlake, Wisconsin for Middle Schoolers. More information coming soon!

The PYGS’ 2017 Mission Trip is set for July 29 through August 5. The team will be traveling to Wetumpka, Alabama, as part of an outreach by Youth Works. Throughout the week, we will facilitate a Kids Club at a local church, participate in work projects and serve with organizations seeking to meet the needs of the community. More details are available online.

PYGS and NUBS parents and students: Do you have great photos from this year’s events? Share them with Liz Ribeiro at lribeiro@firstpresevanston.org.

More details about Youth events can be found in our weekly email. Text YOUTHGROUP to 42828 to subscribe!

<http://www.firstpresevanston.org/learn/students/>

Young Adults/Families

hcoates@firstpresevanston.org

Young Adults Volunteer Program

Are you a young adult between the ages of 19 and 30? Know a young adult between the ages of 19 and 30? Tell them about the YAV Program! As Pastor Henry can attest, it changes lives!

Want to put your faith into action?

Want to grow as a leader in Christian service?

Want to see what God is doing in the world while serving a local community?

The Young Adult Volunteer program is a one-year service opportunity for young adults from 19 to 30 years. YAVs live in intentional Christian community, deepening and developing their faith while serving alongside partners in sites across the United States and around the world. YAVs serve for one academic year, August—July, as they explore God’s calling in their lives. The deadlines are April 1 and June 1, 2017.

Volunteers are placed in community agencies or local churches, with jobs depending on the needs of partners and the skills of the Young Adult Volunteer. YAVs are exposed to some of the hardest problems in the world—poverty, violence and reconciliation, and sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ—while living and reflecting with other volunteers on the meaning and motivation of their Christian faith.

What do YAVs do? Typically, they participate in the following:

- Serve for one year in communities of need in the United States and around the world.
- Meet regularly for prayer and Bible study.
- Work with mentors to explore and grow in their expression of their Christian faith.
- Build each other up as Disciples of Jesus Christ
- They are supported in their faith journey through orientation and an end-of-term debriefing event.

The YAV Program might be just for you... Ask Pastor Henry if you have any questions!

FPCE Communications Deadlines

The deadlines for placing items in the various forms of FPCE communications are as follows:

First Pres at a Glance (Sunday Announcements)

- Mondays at 10 am

This Week at First Pres (Weekly eNewsletter)

- Wednesdays at 9 am

Website updates

- 48-72 hours’ notice

HOLY WEEK ACTIVITIES
AT
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF EVANSTON

- April 13 - Maundy Thursday Seder Dinner*, 7-9 p.m., Roy Hall
- April 14 - Good Friday Family Workshop, 10 a.m. to Noon, Dining Room
- April 14 - Good Friday Service with Chancel Choir*, 7- 9 p.m., Sanctuary
- April 16 - Resurrection Sunday Services, 9 a.m. and 11:30 a.m., Sanctuary

**Childcare Available*

Lenten Season Wednesday Prayer

*Take time this season to grow as a disciple of Jesus
through conversations with Him.*

Communion will be celebrated at each of these events.

- **Every Wednesday, Parlor open from 8 am to 10 pm** as a space for prayer and reflection.
- **Prayer Gatherings**.** Parlor. Wednesdays March 8, March 22, and April 5.
- **Taizé Prayer**.** Walker Chapel. Wednesdays, March 15, March 29, and April 12. This is a service of meditative prayer and uncomplicated and repetitive songs uncluttered by too many words in the style of Taizé.
- **24/7 Week of Prayer.** Holy Week (April 9 - April 16) in the Parlor.



**Childcare available upon request at kmueller@firstpresevanston.org

Small Groups:

The Small Groups Ministry Team helps connect interested people with a small group and also trains group leaders. To be part of a Small Group, stop by the Small Groups Table in Roy Hall at Fellowship Hour or contact Katy Ingle at 847-724-8560 or katymi47@gmail.com.

Adults

Wednesday Prayer Gathering meets every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at 7pm in the Parlor. All are welcome.

Wednesday Night Dinners are every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at 6pm in the Dining Room. The cost is \$5 per person or \$12 per family, payable at the door. Reservations are appreciated and can be made on our website, at the front desk, or by calling 847-864-1472. All are welcome.

Mom's R Us meets each Thursday from 9:15 am to 11:15 pm. in Room 213. We are studying the "Do Not be Afraid" bible study book written by David Ivaska. Questions? Contact Patty Bastian at RWBastian@aol.com.

The Women's Bible Study meets Thursdays at 5:45 pm in Room 206. The group is studying "Encounters with Jesus: The Gospel According to Matthew." All are welcome! Contact Barbara Holm at 847-328-0049 for more information.

Friday in the "Loop" Bible Study

Fridays, 12-1 pm, Chicago's Loop. Study on Isaiah. Call Tracy at 312-726-1243 for details.

Friday/Saturday Knit, Eat, Laugh, Pray Noon-2 pm on the 1st Fridays and 3rd Saturdays in Room 206. Knit prayer shawls and scarves for those in need. All levels of experience are welcome! Contact Marge Oakley at margeoakley@gmail.com.

Saturday Men's Breakfast Saturday mornings, 8 am to 9 am in the Parlor. A guest speaker, refreshments and fellowship.

Resources for You

Our church offers three uniquely different types of support for all in need:

Friends In Christ (Bonnie Kath 847-507-4146) can provide short term, lay-person practical help, such as a ride to the doctor or a meal.

Stephen Ministry (RuthAnn Ostrowski 312-613-0644) offers trained lay-person support to those experiencing difficult times and needing someone to pray with them.

The Counseling Center (Charles Miyamoto 847-864-9133) provides professionally trained Christian counseling in our own facility.

Call Pastor Ray or our Parish Nurse Julie Ruchniewicz, 847-864-1472, for help discerning which ministry fills your needs.



This Month at First Presbyterian Church, Evanston - March 2017

1 - Wednesday

Prayer in the Parlor, 8 am, Parlor
Ash Wednesday Service, 7 pm, Sanctuary

2 - Thursday

Moms R Us Bible Study, 9:15 am, Room 213
Women's Bible Study, 5:45 pm, Room 206
Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 pm, Choir Room

3 - Friday

Souper Saturday Prep, 9 am, Kitchen
Community Play Date, 9:30 am, Room 21
Women's Knit, Eat, Laugh, Pray, Noon, Room 206
NUBS Junior High Youth Group, 7 pm, NUBS Lounge

4 - Saturday

Men's Breakfast, 8 am, Dining Room
Souper Saturday, 11:30 am, Dining Room

5 - Sunday

Blended Worship Service, 9 am, Sanctuary
Sunday Fellowship, 10:15 am, Roy Hall
Sunday Education gatherings, 10:30 am, *See back of Bulletin*
Contemporary Worship Service, 11:30 am, Sanctuary
PYGS High School Youth Group, 4 pm, PYGS Lounge
Jazz Vespers, 4 pm, Sanctuary

6 - Monday

Warming Center, 3:30 pm, Room 21

7 - Tuesday

Parish Nurse Book Club, 1:30 pm, Parlor

8 - Wednesday

Prayer in the Parlor, All Day, Parlor
Wednesday Night Dinner, 6 pm, Dining Room
Prayer Gathering, 7 pm, Parlor

9 - Thursday

Moms R Us Bible Study, 9:15 am, Room 213
Women's Bible Study 5:45 pm, Room 206
Youth Jam Band, 6 pm, Sanctuary

10 - Friday

Souper Saturday Prep 9 am, Kitchen
Community Play Date, 9:30 am, Room 21
PYGS Retreat, Bus leaves 3:45 pm
NUBS Junior High Youth Group 7 pm, NUBS Lounge

11 - Saturday

Men's Breakfast, 8 am, Dining Room
Souper Saturday, 11:30 am, Dining Room

12 - Sunday

Blended Worship Service, 9 am, Sanctuary
Sunday Fellowship, 10:15 am, Roy Hall
Sunday Education gatherings, 10:30 am, *See back of Bulletin*
Contemporary Worship Service, 11:30 am, Sanctuary
PYGS Retreat, Bus return approximately 2 pm

13 - Monday

Warming Center, 3:30 pm, Room 21

15 - Wednesday

Prayer in the Parlor, All Day, Parlor
Taizé Prayer Gathering, 7 pm, Walker Chapel

16 - Thursday

Moms R Us Bible Study, 9:15 am, Room 213
Women's Bible Study, 5:45 pm, Room 206
First Friends Training, 7 pm, Room 213
Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 pm, Choir Room

17 - Friday

Souper Saturday Prep, 9 am, Kitchen
Community Play Date, 9:30 am, Room 21
Men's Retreat 2017, 6 pm, Dining Room
St. Patrick's Day Young Adults, 6:30 pm, *Contact Henry Coats for details*
NUBS Junior High Youth Group 7 pm, NUBS Lounge

18 - Saturday

Men's Retreat 2017 8 am - 6 pm, TBA
Souper Saturday 11:30 am
First Friends Training 10 am - Noon
Women's Knit, Eat, Laugh, Pray, Noon, Room 206

19 - Sunday

Blended Worship Service, 9 am, Sanctuary
Sunday Fellowship, 10:15 am, Roy Hall
Sunday Education gatherings, 10:30 am, *See back of Bulletin*
Communion Workshop 10:30 am
Contemporary Worship Service, 11:30 am, Sanctuary
PYGS High School Youth Group, 4 pm, PYGS Lounge

22 - Wednesday

Prayer in the Parlor, All Day, Parlor
Wednesday Night Dinner, 6 pm, Dining Room
Prayer Gathering, 7 pm, Parlor

23 - Thursday

Moms R Us Bible Study, 9:15 am, Room 213
Women's Bible Study, 5:45 pm, Room 206
Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 pm, Choir Room
Community Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 pm, Choir Room

24 - Friday

Souper Saturday Prep, 9 am, Kitchen
NUBS Junior High Youth Group 7 pm, NUBS Lounge

25 - Saturday

Men's Breakfast 8 am
Souper Saturday 11:30 am

26 - Sunday

Blended Worship Service, 9 am, Sanctuary
Sunday Fellowship, 10:15 am, Roy Hall
Community Choir Rehearsal, 10:15 am, Choir Room
Sunday Education gatherings, 10:30 am, *See back of Bulletin*
Communion Workshop 10:30 am
Contemporary Worship Service, 11:30 am, Sanctuary
PYGS High School Youth Group, 4 pm, PYGS Lounge

29 - Wednesday

Prayer in the Parlor, All Day, Parlor
Taizé Prayer Gathering, 7 pm, Walker Chapel

30 - Thursday

Moms R Us Bible Study, 9:15 am, Room 213
Women's Bible Study, 5:45 pm, Room 206
Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 pm, Choir Room
Community Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 pm

31 - Friday

Souper Saturday Prep, 9 am, Kitchen
NUBS Junior High Youth Group 7 pm, NUBS Lounge

Upcoming dates to remember

PYGS High School Retreat, March 10-12

Taizé Prayer Gatherings, March 15 and 29

Men's Retreat, March 17-18

Communion Workshop, March 19

Community Choir Rehearsals, March 26 and 30

If your event is not listed even though it has been registered with the church office, is open to the public or looking for new members, contact communications@firstpresevanston.org with the date, time and location of your event.