

9 am and 11:30 am Worship Services

OUR TEACHING SERIES CONTINUES — Hope for Our Troubled Times: The prayers and songs of Revelation

Preacher: Rev. Raymond Hylton

Scripture: Revelation 15:1-4 (*New Testament p. 244*)

Title: The Victory of Christ

9 am and 11:30 am Worship Services - November 25

Preacher: Rev. Amanda Golbek

Scripture: Revelation 19:1-10 (*New Testament pp. 247-248*)

Title: Salvation, Glory and Honor Belong to God

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

1427 Chicago Avenue
Evanston, IL 60201
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www.firstprevevanston.org

Highlights

Explore Advent—an intergenerational Advent event—is taking place this morning from 10:15 to 11:30 am, in Roy Hall. This all-church activity will take the place of all education classes for this morning! Join us as we come together as a church family to explore the meaning of the Advent season, preparing our hearts for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ.

Our all-FPCE Potluck—Christmas Around the World—will take place Sunday, December 2 at 12:30 pm, following the Contemporary Service. Bring a Christmas dish to share from your country of origin or another country. We celebrate the season, honoring the birth of our Lord, Jesus, by embracing the diversity of our family in Christ and savoring bounteous Christmas flavors from around the globe. Visit firstprevevanston.org/potluck to sign up to bring a dish, and/or to help set-up or clean-up. For more information, contact Gina at ginachang888@gmail.com.

FPCE will host a Gingerbread House Decorating Party, Sunday, December 9, from 2-5 pm. This fun family event is a perfect way to gather all generations to take part in this creative, relaxed, and sometimes messy craft activity. Registration is required. Each gingerbread house kit is \$10. Visit firstprevevanston.org/gingerbread no later than December 2 to save a spot and order your gingerbread house kit.

Please be a part of helping to decorate our gingerbread houses (see above)! We’re asking the congregation to donate different candies for families to use as they decorate. Please bring store-bought, unopened candies of all kinds to the Children’s Ministry table on Sundays, or to the front desk during the week, now through December 9.

Thank you to all of you who have taken home Angel Tree “Angel” ornaments! This is one of FPCE’s favorite holiday traditions because it provides presents for children who have a parent in prison over the holidays. Be reminded that gifts need to be returned to the FPCE front desk, wrapped and labeled, no later than Sunday, December 2.

Worth Noting

The altar flowers for this morning have been placed by Sarah Pooler, to honor the life of her daughter, ElenaJane Rebekah Pooler. Born to life on April 25, 2004. Born to eternal life on November 20, 2015. Safe, Loved and Free!

We offer our heartfelt sympathy and prayers to the Harriff family for the passing of Jack’s mother, Jane Elizabeth Harriff, who passed away on November 6. Details for the service of remembrance are still to be determined.

We celebrate the birth of Abigail Elizabeth Collins to Jacob and Kristen Collins, which took place Monday, November 12.

The FPCE church building and offices will be closed November 22 and 23 in recognition of Thanksgiving.

The Parish Nurse Book Club will meet on Tuesday, December 11, 1:30-3 pm in room 102. We will be reading *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine* by Gail Honeyman. According to Goodreads, it is “the story of a quirky woman whose social misunderstandings, mental health issues, and unabashed wit make for an irresistible journey as she realizes that the only way to survive in the real world is to open her heart to friendship”. All are welcome to join us!



Missions

cweinberg@firstpresevanston.org

Pray for Our

Mission Partners

Pray for the issue of illiteracy and lack of education in the Middle East/North Africa(MENA) Region. Illiteracy is reaching 72% in some countries. Adults who have not been educated feel hopeless, frustrated and struggle with employment. We see that with our refugee families here as well. Pray for an openness to learning that is holistic, and pray, too, that families will have opportunities and access to good education. *(This month we are praying for the concerns facing the people of the Middle East/North Africa, with guidance from Voice of the Martyrs).*

Volunteers will be needed the nights of January 27-February 9, 2019, to serve at the overnight shelter at First Presbyterian. If you have never received training before and are interested, attend any of the following one-hour sessions on: November 6, 7, 12, or 15 at various locations in Evanston. Contact Charlene Parris for details at c.parris@comcast.net.

Do you know a disabled refugee?

If so encourage him/her to contact suzanne@syriancommunitynetwork.org for information on PRIDE, a UIC research study designed to assist disabled refugees find work. One need not be Syrian to apply.

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

Holy Land tour information available

June 3-14, 2019, Professor K.K. Yeo and FPCE Senior Pastor Ray Hylton will host a Study and Mission Tour of the Holy Land. The cost is \$3,398 per person. Those interested in learning more can pick up a brochure at the front desk, or visit firstpresevanston.org/holy-land, where online registration is also available.

Prayer in the Parlor

The Parlor on the second floor is open each Wednesday for prayer and meditation from 9 am to 9 pm. All are welcome to come and spend time in prayer and praise in the space set aside for a holy time with God.

Children and Families

bbolsen@firstpresevanston.org

Christmas Eve Pageant rehearsals begin Nov. 29. All children and youth 3 years old through high school are invited to participate in the 4:00 Christmas Eve pageant. Rehearsals will be Thursdays 5:15-6:00, Nov. 29-Dec. 20. Special dress rehearsal Sunday, Dec. 23. Contact Pastor Amanda or Bev Bolsen to let them know your child or youth is interested.

First Kids Choir meets each Thursday afternoon!

Children in 4-year-old pre-K through 5th grade meet to sing from 4 to 4:45 pm. From 4:45 to 5:15 pm, children in 2nd through 5th grades ring chimes. During the rehearsal, the Dining Room and Gym are open for parent-supervised activity for siblings.

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

Next Senior Varsity set for December 6

Come join us for the next Senior Varsity gathering, Thursday, December 6. The topic is: **"I shall see the bounty of the Lord in the Land of the Living"** presented by Lisa Fortini-Campbell. Lisa has just retired from Northwestern University where she has been a professor at the Medill School of Journalism and the Kellogg School of Management for the last 25 years. She converted to Catholicism ten years ago at the age of 53 and will tell us about how that transformation happened through the many people God brought into her life. In addition to speaking and writing about the Christian faith, Lisa has been a hospice volunteer at JourneyCare for the last 10 years and has written about those experiences recently in Notre Dame Magazine.

Registration will begin at 10:30 am, the presentation at 11, and lunch will be served at noon (cost: \$5 for lunch). Please register by December 4 at the front desk by calling (847) 864-1472. All are welcome, especially seniors.

Clothes Closet Seeks Cold Weather Items

The Deacons' Clothes Closet has need of your donations of cold weather items: Jeans (large sizes especially); winter shoes & boots; overcoats & jackets (larger sizes); warm socks; gloves & thick scarves; belts; towels; roller suitcases & duffel bags. Please find it in your heart to find a few of these gently-used winter "things" in your attic or closet this year. Drop-offs should be made by the front desk in the church office. Your Deacons thank you for looking and sharing.

Youth and Families

agolbek@firstpresevanston.org

High School Youth Group (PYGS) meets downstairs in the basement Youth Lounge from 4-6 pm on Sunday Afternoons. Today, we will be enjoying snacks, playing games and doing a devotion on thankfulness.

Middle School Youth Group (NUBS) meets each Friday, from 7-9 pm, on the top floor in the Middle School lounge. On Friday, November 23, there will not be Youth Group. Enjoy spending time with family!

Register for the Middle school Winter Retreat!

All 6th-8th grade youth are invited to come along Jan. 18-20 for a weekend of wintery activities and digging deep into faith at Camp Timber-lee. Cost: \$100 (scholarships are available) Registration forms can be found at the Youth Board near the front desk or contact Pastor Amanda.

Registration deadline: Dec. 16.

Register for the High school Winter Retreat!

All 9th-12th grade youth are invited to come along Jan. 25-27 for a weekend of hanging out with friends, enjoying outdoor activities and exploring God at Camp Timber-lee. Cost: \$100 (scholarships are available) Registration forms can be found at the Youth Board near the front desk or contact Pastor Amanda. **Registration deadline: Dec. 16.**

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

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

Interfaith Thanksgiving-Eve Service

On Wednesday, November 21, at 7 pm, First Congregational Church of Evanston, 1445 Hinman Avenue, will host the 20th Annual Evanston Interfaith Thanksgiving Eve Service.

Dino Robinson, founder of the Shorefront Legacy Center, will be the keynote speaker. The Shorefront Legacy Center is dedicated to recording, studying, and preserving the history of black communities in Chicago's northern suburbs. The event is sponsored by InterFaith Action of Evanston, and will include performances by the Interfaith Community Choir, led by David Lornson, music director of First Congregational Church. A freewill offering will be taken at the event to help support the work of InterFaith Action of Evanston.

Young Adults and Families

hcoates@firstpresevanston.org

The 20/30s Small Group meets at 6 pm TONIGHT at Pastor Henry's condo! Reach out to him in person or by email at hcoates@firstpresevanston.org for details.

Family Open Gym - Thursdays, 4-7 pm, Roy Hall

Open for parents and their children to come run around, shoot some baskets, play some games. No need to RSVP; just show up and have a great time!

A women's basketball pick-up game is held at 7:30 pm on the third Thursday of each month in Roy Hall. All skill levels and abilities are welcome! Reach out to Kathy Grant, kgrant@depaul.edu with any questions.

<http://www.firstpresevanston.org/learn/adults/young-adults/>

2018 Giving and 2019 Pledge updates

As of Wednesday, November 14, our 2018 giving totals are as follows:

Pledge Giving to date:	\$872,783
Pledge Goal 2018:	\$1,075,000.00
Needed to Reach Goal:	\$202,217

Faith Giving to date:	\$105,635
Faith Giving Goal 2018:	\$195,000.00
Needed to Reach Goal:	\$89,365

As of Sunday, November 4, our current 2019 pledge commitments are as follows:

Number of Pledges received	182
Pledges received	\$846,785
Pledge Goal	\$1,175,000
Needed to Meet Goal	\$328,215

Faith Giving Commitments Received: 29

If you haven't yet made a pledge for 2019, and wish to do so, please contact Melody Henrie at the church office, text AUTOMATIC to 847-565-2772 to set up automated giving, or fill out a pledge form at the FPCE front desk.