

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**410 Second Ave, Box 441
Sterling, IL 61081**



**First Presbyterian Church
410 Second Ave.
P.O. Box 441
Sterling, IL 61081
(815) 625-0452**

A heart for God in the heart of Sterling.

**FirstPresbyterianSterling@live.com
www.firstpresbyteriansterling.org**

Look for us on Facebook!



First Presbyterian Church

STERLING ILLINOIS

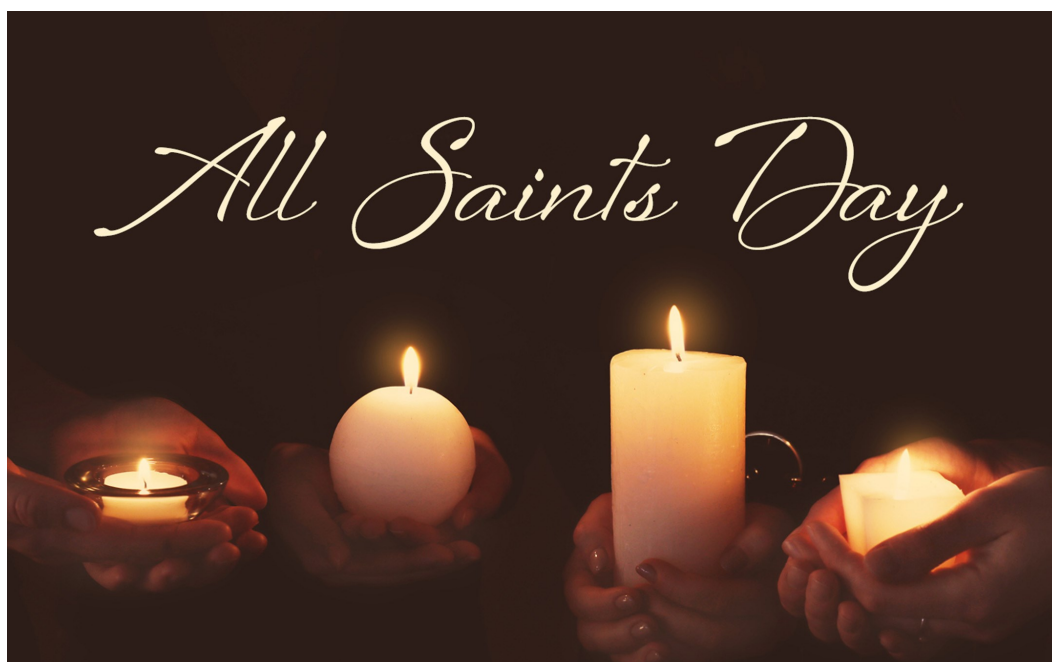
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Please enjoy this month's newsletter. Don't forget to check us out on Facebook. There is a lot of information on there that is regularly updated!

Please call the office anytime with any questions.
Office hours have recently changed.
Mon-Friday 9a-1p



Listed below are the leaders who have generously offered their time and talent to lead our weekly worship. Please help welcome them while we are in a current state of transition.

Al Connelly
Dr. Reverend James Camp
Dr. Reverend David Spaulding
Nan Pashon



Monday, November 04, 2024:

[Psalm 18:20-30; Ruth 2:15-23; Romans](#)

[12:17-21; 13:8-10](#)

Monday, November 11, 2024:

[Psalm 113; Genesis 24:1-10; 1 Timothy 5:1-8](#)

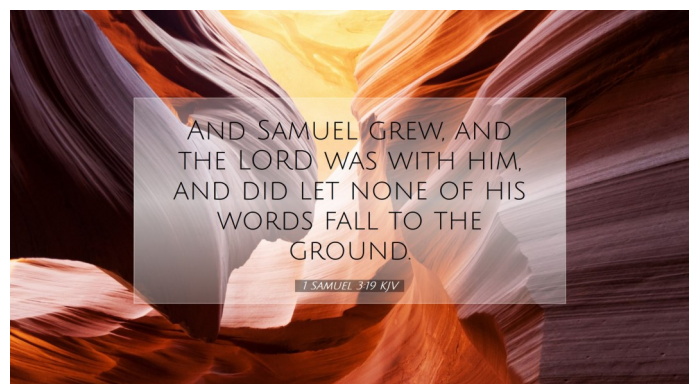
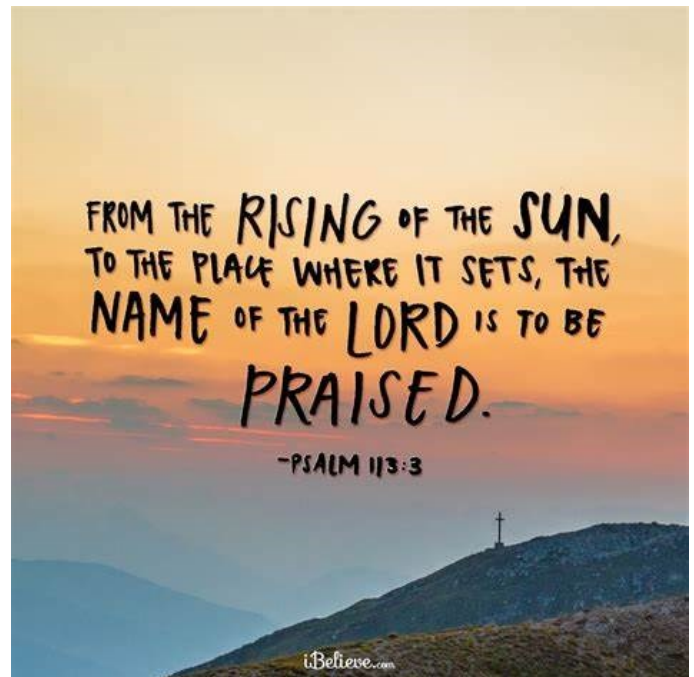
Monday, November 18, 2024:

[Psalm 3; 1 Samuel 3:19-4:2; Hebrews 10:26-31](#)

Monday, November 25, 2024:

[Psalm 63; 2 Kings 23:15-25; Revelation](#)

[11:1-14](#)



Session's Corner



We hope you enjoy reading the Session's Corner each month! Our goal is to keep you informed about your church.

Session met on Tuesday, October 15th and began with a word of prayer.

Mission Committee informed us that they have packed 80 Church World Service School Kits, which is 10 more than last year. Thank you to all who donated items! They also provided AED/CPR training with Mark Stach from CGH Medical Center. He did a wonderful job.

Worship and Music Committee will continue to sign people up for Liturgy. We are looking forward to Advent, which begins Sunday, December 1st.

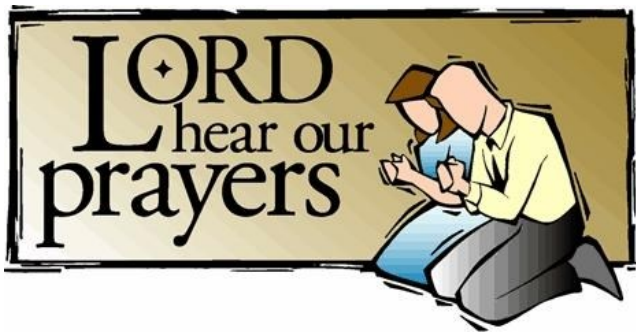
PNC (Pastor Nominating Committee) has set up a flowchart of the steps they are following in our search for a new pastor. Please stop in the Narthex near the Library to look at what they've accomplished and where they are heading.

We've had a problem with the fencing around the trash cans and will have to have that replaced. The Property Committee has estimates and will hire for that to be done. The Property Committee also replaced the locks on the Youth Outlook room in our lower level. For security reasons, that room will now remain locked unless Youth Outlook is meeting.

We will begin our Stewardship season in November so please be on the lookout for new pledge cards. It is our hope that each of you will be generous in your giving of time, talent and treasure.

November 24th, we'll hold a special Congregation meeting for elections. Please plan to attend to have a say in who your new church leaders are.

Our Session meeting ended in prayer and our next meeting was set for November 19th, at 6pm.



Please pray for:

At Resthave - Ann Musgrove

In the service- Ben Boze

Prayers for - Marlene Jennings, Mary-Terrie Snavely, Ron & Jackie Williams, Judy Aggen, Guy Edge, Lee Wright, Tim Weir, Mike Nesbitt



**Can you help?
PADS Volunteers Needed**

PADS is the local agency that provides temporary housing for the homeless of the Sauk Valley. First Presbyterian Church staffs the shelter on one weekend a month. Volunteers serve the meal and do the dishes. There is a sign-up sheet in the Church narthex. For more information, contact First Presbyterian PADS Coordinator- Bryan Etter

Men's Prayer Breakfast

Thursday, November 21, 2024 8:00 AM
Red Apple Restaurant, Sterling

Men's Prayer Breakfast is the third Thursday of each month. The food is good, the people are friendly and the formula is as easy as ABC:

Attend
Be trustworthy
Commit to Prayer
See you there!



11/01	Benjamin Boze
11/02	Jonathan Nesbitt
11/03	Daniel Osborn
11/04	Stephanie (Conklen) Porter
11/06	Morgan Penwarden
11/07	Jennifer Jones
11/12	Jack McConnell
11/13	Barry Cox
	Stephanie (Etter) Brall
11/14	Kayla Hemminger
11/15	David & Jillian Pease (A)
11/17	Parker Dir
11/21	Judy Lowe
11/22	Nicole Oberg
11/25	Mary Jo Edge
	Allison (Yemm) Repass
11/27	Cayla Harvey
	Hart DuBois
11/28	Nan Pashon
11/30	Jeff & Diane Conklen (A)





Rock River Hospice Festival of Trees is in November.

We have committed to 30 dozen cookies. There is a **sign up sheet** on the table by the Giving Box. If you are able to donate 2-3 dozen cookies, we will collect them on Sunday November 17th and deliver them on Tuesday November 19th between 9-9:45.



Just a reminder that November is stewardship month for the church. What better way to express your love for the church and its members through stewardship. The costs to maintain the church continues to increase yearly. We are grateful for the pledges and offerings in the past. As you consider your pledge, remember each gift is appreciated and matter. Watch for the Stewardship letter and cards to fill out and return to us. You will find them in the mail and in the bulletin.

Thank You

Mission September 2024

The mission committee was very busy in September! They collected and put together CWS school kits. We packed 80 of them which was up 10 more from last year. We also have set up and have trained some church members in AED/CPR. We were also able to provide some needed items for the Mom's group.

More volunteer opportunities



Help us out—it's easy:

Like providing snacks? Want to show off your baking skills? Sign up for Fellowship! Think Flowers provide a beauty to our worship? Sign up for Flowers!

Flowers, Fellowship, & Liturgist sign-up sheets are in the narthex.

Or, call the office (815-625-0452) and we can sign you up!

DID YOU KNOW??? The Buddy Bags program provides weekly food bags for over 125 students. The bags include items for two breakfasts and two lunches, so that food is always available on weekends. We've made donations to disaster assistance to help with cleanup after disasters, and we've given direct assistance in Breathitt County, Kentucky after the floods. We've helped individuals and local services, including Rock River Hospice, the YWCA, Feed the Children summer lunch program, and Loaves and Fishes free breakfast. Not only do we help financially, our members also volunteer their time and talent, serving meals, packing bags, serving on boards, and supporting local events.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Blackhawk Presbytery



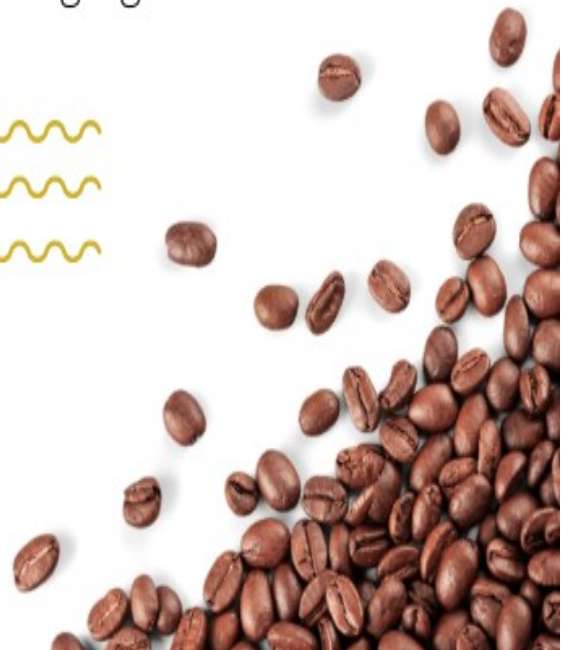
Coffee in Your Corner

Your Presbytery Staff (Eric + Loreen) is coming to YOUR corner of the Presbytery to have coffee with you!

Join us Tuesday, November 26 at 2:00 pm in Morrison,
at The Bread Lady, 203 W. Main Street. We will be available to answer questions, guide you through our website and resources for your congregation, or just catch up on what's happening. We would love to meet with pastors or leaders of your congregation.



"Everyone should believe in something. I believe I will have a cup of coffee."

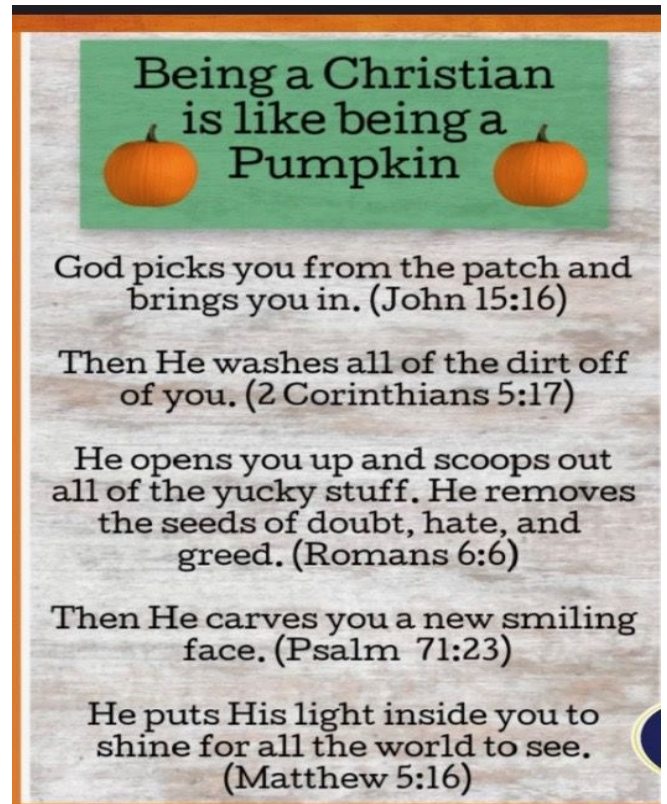


KID'S SPACE

Can you believe it's almost time for **Thanksgiving**? It can be a challenge to teach children the art of gratitude. Even as adults, we need reminders to **focus more on God's blessings** than all of the negativity in the world.



Children are often reminded to use polite manners and say "thank you," but it's important to also encourage them to live with grateful hearts. We often think about gratitude as we prepare for the Thanksgiving holiday, but quickly pass through to the eager greed of Christmas wishes and celebrations. This message can serve as a positive reminder in any season to be mindful and thankful for all God blesses us with. God has given us blessings in all things, positive and negative, challenging and joyful. The most wonderful gift we are given is Christ. The Gospel of salvation is a blessing that we should remember with thanksgiving every day of the year.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES...

Parents, grandparents, siblings, church friends, etc. (and please share with others), we could use some volunteers at CLS again, as we help our children grow in their faith

and in the knowledge of God's world around us. Please check these out and let us know if you are available to help.

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**Lunch Helpers:** Prepare and serve fruit and milk to students. Clean tables after lunch. (11:45am-1:15pm - Daily but you may do once a week or whatever works for you)

**Early-In or Late-Out Assistant:** Help supervise the children before or after school. (7:30-8:15am or 3:30-4:30pm - Daily but you may do once a week or whatever works for you)

**Extra-curricular club leaders/coaches**---For example: Chess club, Basketball, Pickleball, Instrumental Music, etc.

**Librarian:** Read a story to each class. Help them check out and return their books. (Thursday or Friday afternoons)

**Recess Supervision:** Help the teacher keep an eye on the different corners of the playground. (Daily during lunch recess 11:45pm - 12:15pm)

**Classroom Assistant:** Read to struggling students. Help teachers as needed.

Contact the office if you'd like to learn more about how you can help in any of these ways or others. And again, please share with others you know who might be interested.

[Marcy Shank](#)

Secretary

Christ Lutheran School

2000 18th Ave.

Sterling, IL 61081

815-625-3800



| Sun                                                                                                     | Mon | Tue                             | Wed                           | Thu                                                       | Fri                                                     | Sat                                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                         |     |                                 |                               |                                                           | 1<br>All Saints Day<br>9:00-<br>Woodlawn<br>12:45p-LSSI | 2<br>12:30p-LSSI                    |
| 3<br>9:30a-Worship led by Nan Pashon Fellowship after Worship                                           | 4   | 5<br>6:00p-AA                   | 6<br>9:00a-PNC<br>3:30p-LSSI  | 7<br>6:00p-Youth Outlook                                  | 8<br>12:45p-LSSI                                        | 9<br>10:00a-Woodlawn<br>12:30p-LSSI |
| 10<br>9:30a-Worship led by Reverend Dr. David Spaulding Fellowship after Worship<br>2:00p-Girl Scouts   | 11  | 12<br>6:00p-AA                  | 13<br>9:00a-PNC<br>3:30p-LSSI | 14<br>6:00p-Youth Outlook                                 | 15<br>12:45p-LSSI                                       | 16<br>12:30p-LSSI                   |
| 17<br>9:30a-Worship led by Nan Pashon Fellowship after Worship                                          | 18  | 19<br>6:00p-AA<br>6:00p-Session | 20<br>9:00a-PNC<br>3:30p-LSSI | 21<br>8:00a-Men's Prayer Breakfast<br>6:00p-Youth Outlook | 22<br>12:45p-LSSI                                       | 23<br>12:30p-LSSI                   |
| 24<br>9:30a-Worship led by Reverend Dr. David Spaulding Congregational meeting Fellowship after Worship | 25  | 26<br>6:00p-AA                  | 27<br>9:00a-PNC<br>3:30p-LSSI | 28<br>6:00p-Youth Outlook                                 | 29<br>12:45p-LSSI                                       | 30<br><br>11                        |