

[illegible]

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
1100 CALVIN ROAD // ROCHELLE, IL 61068  
PHONE: 815-562-7053 WEB: PLACEFORGRACE.COM

# WELCOME

February 8, 2026 – 9:00am

Welcome and Announcements - Kathy Olson

Time of Preparation for Worship

Call to Worship

All: O gracious and holy God, give us diligence to seek you, wisdom to perceive you, and patience to wait for you. Grant us, O God, a mind to meditate on you, eyes to behold you, ears to listen for your Word, a heart to love you, and a life to proclaim you, through the power of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

Song: Yet Not I but Through Christ in Me

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

Too Busy? By Rev. Dr. John G Hamilton

Leader: Lord, I have been very busy this week.

All : ...Could it be I was too busy for You?

Leader: Lord, I have been distracted by many things.

All: ...Could it be I was distracted from you?

Leader: Lord, I have been doing many good deeds.

All: ...Could I have forgotten the One Good Deed You did for me?

Leader: Lord, my feet and hands have been working very hard for You.

All: ...Could I have left my heart behind? Forgive me for all the ways I have let my activities distract me from you. Help me to sit at Your feet, gaze into Your face, listen to Your words, And walk in Your way. Amen

Song: Sweet Jesus

Scripture: Psalm 91:1-2, John 15:5, 1 John 2:24-25

Sermon: “Abide”

Song: Be Thou My Vision

Prayers of the People/Pastoral Prayer

Offering and Doxology

Song: Goodness of God

Blessing: 1Thessalonians 5:23-24

---

Join us on Wednesday, February 18 at 6:30pm for the Ash Wednesday Service.

This service offers us the opportunity to begin the Lenten journey together as we look toward the Good Friday and Easter morning.

All those who desire to receive communion and/or the imposition of ashes will be able to do so.

Hello Church!

Here is a brief survey from the Pastor Nominating Committee. We need your help in finding the right person to be our next pastor. We know God has someone out there for us. Your help can steer us in the right direction.

So, thank you for taking a few minutes to share your thoughts as our church enters this season of pastoral transition. Your voice matters. This survey is an integral part of our Mission Study, helping the Session and the Pastor Nominating Committee understand who we are as a congregation, what we value, and where God may be leading us next.

Please answer prayerfully. There are no “right” answers—only your experiences, hopes, and insights. All responses are confidential and will be used only to support the discernment process.

We are grateful for your participation and for your love for our church. May God guide us together as we seek His will for the future.

In Christ,  
The Pastor Nominating Committee  
John Haselton, Kara Burke, Connie Dougherty, Brent Tracy, Sarah Chisamore,  
Mary Kay Merema, Brad Chapman

If you have a prayer request that you would like to be put on the "Prayer Chain", please send it to Mary Kay Merema. She sends the prayer requests to the texting threads.

Mary Kay's phone number is 815-761-3428.

# SCAN HERE

FOR CONGREGATIONAL SURVEY



## SUNDAY, February 8

9:00 a.m. Worship  
10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour, Adult Ed,  
Sunday School  
6:30 p.m. Chunko's Small Group  
6:30 p.m. High School Youth Group  
7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

## MONDAY, February 9

10:00 a.m. Bible Study with Connie  
Dougherty  
6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts  
6:30 p.m. Middle School Youth Group

## WEDNESDAY, February 11

11:00 a.m. Prayer Group  
6:00 p.m. Choir  
7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

## THURSDAY, February 12

7:00 a.m. Kiwanis Meeting

## SATURDAY, February 14

7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

## SUNDAY, February 15

9:00 a.m. Worship Service  
10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour, Adult Ed,  
Sunday School  
6:30 p.m. High School Youth Group  
6:30 p.m. Chunko's Small Group  
7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

For the months of January and February,  
Xav & Jeana Valdivieso will be our Pulpit  
Supply and Pastoral Care team!

If you would like to get ahold of them, their  
contact is:

Xav's Cell Phone: 815-761-2005  
Jeana's Cell Phone: 815-761-4010  
Xav's Email: xjvaldi@placeforgrace.com



NURSING HOME/ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENTS

Please keep our nursing home and rehab residents in your prayers. We list them here with their addresses - they would love to get a note or card!!

Franklin Grove Healthcare,  
502 N. State Street, Franklin Grove, IL 61031

Teddie Pohl  
Mildred Danekas  
Gary Williams  
Archie Jensen

Hawthorne Inn  
2201 Flagg Road, Rochelle, IL 61068

Shirley Villa  
Judy (Nelson) Messer  
David Guest  
Joanne Mayes

Liberty Village  
2203 E Flagg Road, Rochelle, IL 61068

Codelle Leonard  
Marjorie Hayes  
Nancy Detig  
Sandi Graber  
Jan Hann  
Clyda Lamb

The Meadows  
510 N State, #113, Franklin Grove, IL 61031

Larry Cleveland

Flagler Heath and Rehab Center  
300 Dr. Carter Blvd.

Burnnell, FL 32110  
Pearl Fromm

Brighton Gardens of St. Charles  
600 Dunham Road Room 326

St. Charles, IL 60174  
Bill Frederick

Sunday Greeters Needed!

The Deacons are looking for volunteers to serve as greeters prior to the 9:00 a.m. Sunday service. We hope to have two greeters (or more!) each Sunday—to assist people at the east entrance and to pass out bulletins as worshippers arrive.

Come at 8:30 a.m. and you are done by 9:00 a.m. to join worship. Easy!

For more information, or to volunteer, please contact Kathy Slattengren

Thank you!

---

Pulpit Supply/Pastoral Care—Xav Valdivieso  
Office Coordinator/DCE - Sara Slattengren  
Student Ministry Leader - Tessa Stouffer  
Secretary/Receptionist - Midge Berg  
Financial Secretary - Karen Hauck

Church Web Site: [www.placeforgrace.com](http://www.placeforgrace.com)

E-Mail Addresses:

Xav Valdivieso: [xjvaldi@placeforgrace.com](mailto:xjvaldi@placeforgrace.com)  
Sara Slattengren: [sara@placeforgrace.com](mailto:sara@placeforgrace.com)  
Tessa Stouffer : [tessa@placeforgrace.com](mailto:tessa@placeforgrace.com)  
Karen Hauck: [karen@placeforgrace.com](mailto:karen@placeforgrace.com)  
Midge Berg: [midge@placeforgrace.com](mailto:midge@placeforgrace.com)  
Church Office: [info@placeforgrace.com](mailto:info@placeforgrace.com)

Office Hours: M-Th 9a-4p  
Fri 9a-12Noon

Fellowship Commission Request

Are you a lover of baking cookies? Do you enjoy walking through the cookie aisle at the grocery store, trying to choose just the right kind? If so, Fellowship Commission could use your help! We are in need of cookies (storebought or homemade) for upcoming Sundays, and any amount you could provide would be greatly appreciated!

Feel free to drop them off at the church during the week and place them in the freezer and we will take it from there! Also, we are very grateful to those of you would have provided cookies thus far to enjoy with our coffee time!

Any questions, please reach out to us. Thank you so much!

The Fellowship Commission

Karen Cech, Rachel Thorson, Shay Good

---

New Adult Class Begins February 8: The Challenge of Acts

A fresh opportunity for learning and fellowship begins Sunday, February 8, as we launch a new adult class exploring N.T. Wright’s The Challenge of Acts. This short, engaging book invites readers to rediscover the power of the Holy Spirit, the bold witness of the early church, and the ongoing call for Christians to embody the gospel in today’s world. Wright’s accessible style makes the book ideal for group conversation, whether you’re new to Acts or returning with fresh eyes.

Each week, we’ll reflect on key themes from the book alongside the biblical text, considering how the story of the early church shapes our mission and imagination as a congregation. All are welcome—longtime participants and newcomers alike.

□ Books are available in the church office during the week or on the first day of class for \$12.

Come ready to learn, discuss, and be encouraged as we journey through Acts together.

## Fellowship Commission Request

Are you a lover of baking cookies? Do you enjoy walking through the cookie aisle at the grocery store, trying to choose just the right kind? If so, Fellowship Commission could use your help! We are in need of cookies (storebought or homemade) for upcoming Sundays, and any amount you could provide would be greatly appreciated!

Feel free to drop them off at the church during the week and place them in the freezer and we will take it from there! Also, we are very grateful to those of you would have provided cookies thus far to enjoy with our coffee time!

Any questions, please reach out to us. Thank you so much!

The Fellowship Commission

Karen Cech, Rachel Thorson, Shay Good

---

## New Adult Class Begins February 8: The Challenge of Acts

A fresh opportunity for learning and fellowship begins Sunday, February 8, as we launch a new adult class exploring N.T. Wright's The Challenge of Acts. This short, engaging book invites readers to rediscover the power of the Holy Spirit, the bold witness of the early church, and the ongoing call for Christians to embody the gospel in today's world. Wright's accessible style makes the book ideal for group conversation, whether you're new to Acts or returning with fresh eyes.

Each week, we'll reflect on key themes from the book alongside the biblical text, considering how the story of the early church shapes our mission and imagination as a congregation. All are welcome—longtime participants and newcomers alike.

□ Books are available in the church office during the week or on the first day of class for \$12.

Come ready to learn, discuss, and be encouraged as we journey through Acts together.

## NEW LIFE LIBRARY

NEW BOOKS: Some just ordered and thanks again to those who donated books.

Encyclopedia of Bible Difficulties Archer Gleason "Informed answers to your most troublesome questions."

Biggest Story Bible Storybook by Kevin DeYoung

Stories for Your Soul by Max Lucado

I Guess I Haven't Learned That Yet by Shauna Niequist

How Can I Run a Tight Ship When I'm Surrounded by Loose Cannons? by Kathi Macias Proverbs 31

Surviving an Unwanted Divorce by Lysa Terkeurst

A Jesus Shaped Life by Lisa Harper - A recent study in our church b

New Moody Atlas of the Bible by Barry Beitzel Reference book (More than just maps)  
Every Good Gift - #1 by Urcella Teixeira - Christian Suspense – New author in our library  
Every Good Plan - #2  
Every Good Work - #3

Prowl #2 Ambush by Colleen Coble – Book #1 recently added to library

Who Stirs Up the Sea by Deborah Raney Book #2 in "The God Who" series

If I Were You by Lynn Austin Romance during WW2 - Sequel in Christmas section ("The Wish Book Christmas)

Indivisible (One Marriage, One Family Under God) by Travis Thrasher Inspired by true events