



# First Presbyterian Church

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*The mission of historic First Church is to bring diverse people of metropolitan Buffalo together to follow Jesus Christ through worshipping God, fostering spiritual growth, and serving the community.*

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## THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY JANUARY 26, 2014

*Wherever ♦ appears, you are asked to stand if you are able to do so.  
Text in **bold print** indicates congregational responses.*

PRELUDE

Pastorale

*Louis Vierne*

♦CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*)

Jesus said: Repent, for the realm of heaven has come near.

**The Lord is my light and salvation; whom shall I fear?**

Jesus said: Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.

**My heart says: Go, and seek the face of God.**

♦PRAYER OF THE DAY (*responsive*)

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray:

God, our light and our salvation, Jesus announced the nearness of your kingdom and called his disciples to be fishers of women and men. Give us courage to follow in the way of Jesus, that our lives may bear witness to the good news of the kingdom at hand and our vocation serve to draw people to your salvation; through your Son, Jesus Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

♦HYMN 115

“Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain”

*St. Kevin*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

**God of glory, we confess that we have not sought your face. You call us to follow Jesus, but we are afraid to walk in faith. You call us to be one in Christ, but we continue to quarrel and fight. Forgive us; give us grace. As you have sent a Savior to us, send us out as witnesses: to show the wonder of your love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (*responsive*)

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn?

**Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us,**

**Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.**

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun.

Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. **Amen.**

◇CANTICLE

“Glory to the Father”

Richard Wetzel

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,  
as in the beginning, so now, and forever. Amen.**

◇PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:1-4

*OT page 638*

ANTHEM

Sicut Cervus

*Palestrina*

*Like as the heart desireth the waterbrooks, so longeth my soul after Thee, O God.*

SECOND READING: Matthew 4:12-23

*NT pages 3-4*

SERMON

“Get A Line on the Water”

*Rev. Dr. Philip S. Gittings*

◇HYMN 377

“Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore”

*Pescador de hombres*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (*responsive*)

*Response to the intercessions:* Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

LORD’S PRAYER (*unison*)

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

OFFERTORY

Wake Me Up, Lord

*Uzee Brown, Jr.*

*Wake me up, Lord, when it’s over; When the shouting is done and the course is run, wake me up,  
Lord, when it’s over. When Your promise is fulfilled, and your Child has come home, wake me up,  
Lord, when it’s over.* —Ja Jahannes

◇DOXOLOGY 591

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

*Old Hundredth*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

◇PRAYER OF DEDICATION

◇HYMN 432

“May the God of Hope Go With Us”

*Argentina*

*(Sing twice)*

◇CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Prelude on *Richmond*

*Healey Willan*

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OFFICERS



### SESSION AND TRUSTEES BY CLASS AND TERM

#### **Clerk of Session**

Janet Hill

#### **Class of 2014**

Mark Armesto (T) (1)  
John Darby (T) (2)  
Lauren Hill (T) (2)  
Marv Riegler (2)  
Erica Wichtowski (1)

#### **Class of 2015**

Jean Hess (2)  
Tim Hess (1)  
Janet Hill (2)  
Don Houck (T) (2)  
Susan Koeppl (1)  
Virginia McIntyre (1)

#### **Class of 2016**

Ian Bradford (T) (2)  
Mike Henry (T) (2)  
Stephanie Smith (1)  
Ryan Nadbrzuch (T) (1)  
Maria Oakley (1)

### BOARD OF DEACONS BY CLASS AND TERM

#### **Class of 2014**

Pat Brown (1)  
Russell Carlson (2)  
Mary Field (2)  
Karen Frieder (2)  
Olga Rico-Armesto (1)  
Lou Ann Luther Riegler (1)

#### **Class of 2015**

Liz Kamke (1)  
Tina Osei (1)  
Judith Paradzai (2)  
Phil Sims (2)  
Denis Wettlaufer (2)

#### **Class of 2016**

Jackie Addo (1)  
Cleo Alexander (2)  
Mark Juan Armesto (2)  
José Gomez (2)  
Gifty Koramoah (1)  
Ken Madell (2)



*(T) indicates that the Elder has also been nominated or elected to serve as a Trustee while on Session.*

# CHURCH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, January 26

9:30 a.m. Adult Christian Education — Pastor's Study  
 11:00 a.m. Worship, Rev. Dr. Philip S. Gittings preaching — Sanctuary  
 11:15 a.m. Sunday school — CE Wing  
 12:00 p.m. Fellowship Hour — Narthex  
 12:15 p.m. Young Adult Lunch Club Brunch — Blue Room Kitchen & Historical Hall  
 12:15 p.m. Nominating Committee Meeting — Pastor's Study

Monday, January 27

Building Closed

Tuesday, January 28

10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Staff Meeting — Pastor's Study  
 12:30 p.m. Food Bag Assistance — Historical Hall  
 3:00 - 6:00 p.m. Membership Committee Meeting — Pastor's Study  
 4:30 p.m. Literacy Tutoring — Chapel

Wednesday, January 29

8:30 a.m. Houghton College Breakfast — Houghton Wing  
 1:00 p.m. Bible Study — Pastor's Study  
 4:30 p.m. Literacy Tutoring — Chapel  
 4:30 p.m. Gather for Friends of Night People — Historical Hall

Thursday, January 30

No events

Friday, January 31

No events

Saturday, February 1

No events

Sunday, February 2

**Happy 202<sup>nd</sup> birthday, First Church!**  
 9:30 a.m. Adult Christian Education — Pastor's Study  
**\*11:15 a.m. Worship & Communion,**  
**Rev. Dr. Philip S. Gittings preaching — Sanctuary**  
 11:30 a.m. Sunday school — CE Wing  
 12:15 p.m. Annual Meetings — Sanctuary  
 1:15 p.m. Fellowship Hour — Chapel

**\*Please note new start time for worship.**

## WINTER WORSHIP AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Each week we gather together to listen for God's Word, to praise God for another week full of blessings, and to ask God to continue to bless and guide us. During January and February of 2014 we will share in some delightful experiences of worship together as we seek the warmth of God's love during the cold months of winter.

February 2<sup>nd</sup> — We will celebrate the 202<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of our founding by welcoming Village Church to our building and moving our worship service to 11:15 a.m. in order to accommodate their earlier service and give them all time to get out of the building and parking lot. Sharing our space with another congregation is a truly Christ-like way to celebrate our own anniversary, and we know that God will bless us all as we open ourselves to other Christians who journey together in mission.

**THE ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE CONGREGATION AND CORPORATION** of the First Presbyterian Society of the Town of Buffalo will take place next Sunday, February 2, 2014 immediately following worship in the Sanctuary. The purpose of the meetings is to receive reports of the staff, boards, committees and organizations of the Church; to elect a church Nominating Committee, to receive the Session's budget for the year 2014; and to transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

## FIRST CHURCH STAFF LIST

**The Reverend Dr. Philip S. Gittings, Interim Pastor**  
 RevPhil@firstchurchbuffalo.org  
 Voicemail extension 13 / Cell: 548-0466

**Christina Banas, Business Manager**  
 CBanas@firstchurchbuffalo.org  
 Voicemail extension 11

**The Reverend John Long, D.D.,**  
 Parish Associate for Community Outreach  
 johnrlong17@verizon.net

**Quinton Meyer, Volunteer Assoc. for Pastoral Care**  
 meyer405@aol.com / Cell:909-2259

**Liz Kamke, Outreach Assistant**

**Dr. David Bond, Organist/Choirmaster, Bookkeeper**  
 DBond@firstchurchbuffalo.org  
 Voicemail extension 17

**Tom Hollfelder, Custodian/Security Guard**  
 Church Office Voicemail extension 10  
 email@firstchurchbuffalo.org

Weddings Voicemail extension 15  
 weddings@firstchurchbuffalo.org

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2014

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Today's Liturgist is Nanayaw Osei.

**Welcome to all visitors— you have a friend at First Church!** If you would like to learn more about our diverse, welcoming faith community, please speak to a Deacon after worship.

**If you have a prayer request** to include during Prayers of the People, please use one of the blue prayer cards available in the Narthex or by asking a Deacon. Please write neatly and give your card to a Deacon.

### 2014 CHURCH DIRECTORY

A new church directory will be published for the annual meeting next Sunday. Last chance to get contact information changes to Christina Banas in the church office. Email them to [cbanas@firstchurchbuffalo.org](mailto:cbanas@firstchurchbuffalo.org) or leave a voicemail at 884-7250, ext. 11.

### 2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Annual Reports will be available for pickup in the Narthex after worship. Consider it a "homework assignment" to prepare for next Sunday's Annual Meeting.

### NEW MEMBERS CLASSES

New Members classes will be held after worship on Sundays, February 9, 16, & 23 in the Pastor's Study. If you are interested in attending, contact Phil Gittings at [revphil@firstchurchbuffalo.org](mailto:revphil@firstchurchbuffalo.org) or 884-7250, x13.

### APARTMENT WANTED

A friend of First Church is looking for a one bedroom apartment in Elmwood Village. If you know of any available, please let Phil Gittings know.

### FRUITCAKES

The Women's Association still have some famous Claxton fruitcakes for sale in the Church Office. The price is \$4.50 each, and checks made payable to Women's Association may be left in Christina Banas' mailbox in the church office.

### YOUNG ADULT LUNCH CLUB CONTINUES...

...with pancakes! TODAY the young adults will be cooking brunch together right at the church. New parents, this includes you - children are welcome!

### HELP FEED THE HUNGRY

Join us on **Wednesday, January 29 at 4:30 p.m.** to serve meals to the hungry at Friends of Night People (corner of Wadsworth and Hudson). Wear First Church gear if you have it! Sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Sponsored by the CMO Committee.

### ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**"From Resurrection Community  
to Christian Church!"  
Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM  
in the Pastor's Study**

How did the early Christian movement, a loose knit group of disciples sent into a hostile world, become the Christian church as we have come to know it? From twelve disciples scattering with gospel to share, the message of Christ became an institution accepted by Emperor Constantine within just a few centuries. The books of the Bible were picked, doctrines were developed and church hierarchies evolved. How did all this happen, and what lessons should we learn that can help us in our faith journeys today?

### WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY

Every Wednesday a wonderful group gathers in Phil's office to study the Scriptures together. The group is studying the Letter of Paul to the Romans. This unique letter lays out a number of things about our Christian faith that we all should grapple with if we are going to be faithful disciples of Jesus together. We hope you'll join us on Wednesdays to share in this delightful group. We meet at 1:00, and there's always coffee and tea for those who join us.

### WINTER GLOVES & HATS

Donations of new and gently used hats and gloves are being collected for our food pantry patrons. Donations may be left in the basket on the stairs in the chancel. Thank you!

### NURSERY CARE

Nursery care is provided Sundays during worship at First Church and is designed to serve infants and toddlers ages birth through 4 years old, their parents and the church as a whole. After the Children's Message, little ones are invited to the nursery where there are many stimulating toys to explore and other children the same age to socialize with. Our nursery caretakers will provide your child with quality care and teach them about God's love.

Children of Sunday School age, who are 3 and older, are invited to join us for Sunday School in the CE classrooms. For the first fifteen minutes, children will stay with their parents in worship. After the Children's Sermon, we will walk as a group up to the Sunday School classrooms. Parents are asked to come to the CE Wing at the close of worship to pick up their children and go together to fellowship hour.

By providing loving care for the children, we are helping them form the impression that church is a pleasant place to be where people love them!