

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 Koeppel (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

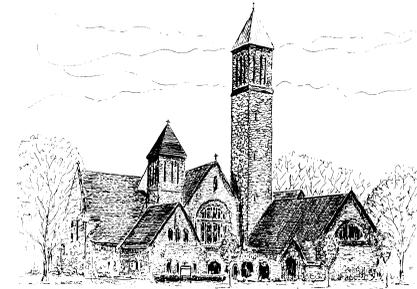
Class of 2014
Pat Brown (1)
Russell Carlson (2)
Mary Field (2)
Karen Frieder (2)
Olga Rico-Armesto (1)
Lou Ann Luther Riegler (1)

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.



First Presbyterian Church

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“Like” us Facebook: “First Presbyterian Church of Buffalo, NY”
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The mission of historic First Church is to bring diverse people of metropolitan Buffalo together to follow Jesus Christ through worshiping God, fostering spiritual growth, and serving the community.

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME MARCH 2, 2014

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

PRELUDE Variations on *Adoro te devote* Gerald Near

♦CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*)

The Lord said to Moses:

Come up to the mountain, and the glory of the Lord shone all around.

Let us worship the Lord our God.

Jesus led his disciples up a high mountain, and he was transfigured, shining like the sun.

Let us worship the Lord our God.

♦PRAYER OF THE DAY (*responsive*)

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

God of majesty and might, you have blessed us with revelations of your glory. Give us the gift of faith, that we may hear your voice for ourselves and see Jesus Christ revealed to us that we may stand on our own without fear. **Amen.**

♦HYMN 142 “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name!” Coronation

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

God of glory, we confess that we have not sought your face. Your light shines all around us and yet we fail to see it. Your voice calls to us from heaven and yet we fail to listen. Forgive us; give us grace. Let us be witnesses to your glory; make it our mission, each day, 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

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Exodus 24:12-18

OT page 70

ANTHEM

How Shall I Sing that Majesty?

John R. Daniels

How shall I sing that majesty which angels do admire? Let dust in dust and silence lie; Sing, sing, ye heav’nly choir. Thousands of thousands stand around Thy throne, O God most high; Ten thousand times ten thousand sound Thy praise; but who am I? Thy brightness unto them appears; whilst I thy footsteps trace, a sound of God comes to my ears, but they behold thy face. They sing because thou art their sun; Lord, send a beam on me; for where heav’n is but once begun, there alleluias be. Enlighten with faith’s light my heart, inflame it with love’s fire; then shall I sing and bear a part with that celestial choir. I shall, I fear be dark and cold, with all my fire and light; Yet, when thou dost accept their gold, Lord, treasure up my mite. How great a being, Lord, is thine, which doth all beings keep! Thy knowledge is the only line to sound so vast a deep. Thou art a sea without a shore, a sun without a sphere; Thy time is now and evermore, Thy place is ev’rywhere.

—John Mason

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 17:1-9

NT pages 18-19

SERMON

“The Glory that Transfigures You and Me”

Rev. Dr. Philip S. Gittings

◇HYMN 165

“The Glory of These Forty Days”

Erhalt uns, Herr

THE EUCHARIST

OFFERTORY

Consider

Roland Martin

Consider the lilies of the field whose bloom is brief: we are as they; like them we fade away, as doth a leaf. Consider the sparrows of the air of small account: our God doth view whether they fall or mount, He guards us too. Consider the lilies that do neither spin nor toil, yet are most fair: what profits all this care and all this toil? Consider the birds that have no barn nor harvest weeks; God gives them food: much more our Father seeks to do us good.

—Christina Rossetti

◇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 (*responsive*)

Yours, O Lord, are grandeur and power, majesty, splendor, and glory.

All in the heavens and on the earth is Yours, and of Your own we give You. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING (*responsive*)

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, March 2

9:30 a.m.

11:15 a.m.

12:15 p.m.

Food Pantry Sunday

Adult Christian Education — Pastor’s Study

Worship & Communion,

Rev. Dr. Philip S. Gittings preaching — Sanctuary

Fellowship Hour — Chapel

Monday, March 3

Building Closed

Tuesday, March 4

10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

12:30 p.m.

4:30 p.m.

5:30 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

Staff Meeting — Pastor’s Study

Food Bag Assistance — Historical Hall

Literacy Tutoring — Chapel

Worship & Music Committee Meeting — Pastor’s Study

Lands & Buildings Committee Meeting — Historical Hall

Wednesday, March 5

1:00 p.m.

6:00 p.m.

Bible Study — Pastor’s Study

Ash Wednesday Service — Chapel

Thursday, March 6

No events

Friday, March 7

No events

Saturday, March 8

1:00 p.m.

Explore Buffalo Speakers’ Series — Chapel

Sunday, March 9

9:30 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

11:15 a.m.

11:30 a.m.

12:15 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

Daylight Savings Time Begins (spring ahead 1 hour)

New Members Received during worship

Adult Christian Education — Pastor’s Study

Special Session Meeting — West transept

Worship, Rev. Dr. Philip S. Gittings preaching — Sanctuary

Sunday school — CE Wing

Fellowship Hour — Chapel

Lenten Small Group Discussion — Pastor’s Study

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FOR LENT

Do you wonder what you would say if an acquaintance ever asks you what you believe? Many people go through their entire lives and never talk deeply about their faith. Have you ever had someone ask you if you're saved and you haven't quite known what to say, or even if you believe that you are saved? These and other questions will be addressed head on during Lent of 2014 in our Adult Education classes. How about making a special effort to learn and grow in this Lenten season? Here's the line up.

Sunday Mornings: "What Does it Mean to be Saved?"

In the Bible a man comes to Jesus and asks, "What must I do to be saved?" This is just one of the many questions about salvation and being saved that have arisen over the centuries. You might also have heard some of these: "What am I saved from?" "Who saves?" "What are we saved for?" "How do I know if I'm saved?" These and many other questions will be discussed from the Biblical, theological, and practical perspectives during the Sundays of Lent in the class "What does it mean to be saved?"

Lent is a time when all of us can stop to reflect on our faith, and we hope you will do just that in Lent of 2014 by joining this unique class on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in Phil's study.

Sunday Evening Small Group: *Testimony: Talking Ourselves Into Being Christian*

Thomas G. Long's wonderful book Testimony: Talking Ourselves Into Being Christian inspires and instructs Christians on the terrifying, fascinating, and ultimately enjoyable task of learning how to talk about what we believe in front of others. Furthermore, he does so without making us feel guilty, shallow, phony, or ostracized. This is not just a shallow "tips for what to say" kind of book, though there are lots of tips here. Mostly, this is a book that helps us clarify our faith to ourselves as well as to others. It's a delightful guide for everyone on a spiritual journey. Even if you don't have the book this small group will provide plenty of wonderful discussion opportunities to help you grow in your faith and practice.

The brand new Sunday Evening Small Group will meet every Sunday in Lent beginning on March 9th at 7:00 p.m. and continuing for six weeks. Our first meeting will be in Phil's office, but we do hope to meet in homes at times as well. You do not have to buy or read the book to come to the small group. Those wishing to buy the book may do so by contacting the church so we can place an order for you, or by contacting your own bookseller of choice. We really hope we'll see you there on Sunday nights!

Wednesday Afternoon Bible Study: *Romans and Then?*

The Wednesday afternoon Bible study meets in Phil's office on Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. This group has been studying the Letter of Paul to the Romans. The group will soon be discussing what to do after Romans, so if you join soon you can have a say in what the group studies next. The group also focuses on prayer for concerns of others as well as for our church and the world God has created. Refreshments are usually available. We hope you'll try to join us during Lent

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give God our thanks and praise.**

The Minister continues and then says:

Therefore we lift our hearts in joyful praise, joining our voices with choirs of angels and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - - - ly. Lord.
God of pow'r & might. Hea-ven and earth are full of your
glo- ry. Ho - san - - - na in the high - est!
Bless - ed is he who comes in - the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est!

The Minister continues and says:

Great is the mystery of faith: **Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

The Minister continues and says:

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are Yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

And now, with the confidence of the children of God, let us pray:

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS & COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (*unison*)

Gracious God, You have made us one with all Your people in heaven and on earth.

