

First Presbyterian Church of Valparaiso

3401 North Valparaiso Street
Valparaiso, IN 46383
Phone: (219) 464-4985

Mission Statement: Building Disciples; Growing in Faith; Serving in Christ's Name



Dear Beloved Community,

In August, we both began and concluded our worship series, *The Justice Jukebox*, exploring God's call to justice through scripture, song, and story. We also launched a new members class that will wrap up on September 7. With school back in session and gardens yielding their harvest, the seasons are shifting—and so is the cadence of our shared life together.

Back in June, Jeff and I had the joy of traveling with several members of our congregation to the Worship and Music Conference at Montreat. This year's theme, "Clothed in Love," was inspired by Colossians 3:12–17 (NRSVue):

"As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

Throughout the week, we experienced these words come alive, not just in the beauty of music and worship, but in the stories of scripture. We revisited familiar ones, like the Good Samaritan and Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, and discovered new depths in lesser-known stories of Abigail, Naaman, and the persistent unnamed widow from one of Jesus' parables. Together, we explored what it means to "try on" compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, and then "pack them in our bags" to bring home. Montreat is a rich experience for all ages, and if you are interested in joining us next year, we'd love to have you. There is truly something for everyone, and it's a beautiful way to connect with Christians from across the country and creation.

As we move into September, our shared calendar is full of opportunities for worship, fellowship, learning, and service. On Sunday, September 7, we hope to welcome new members during worship. That day is also Rally Day and our church picnic—please bring a dish to share! It will be a wonderful time to reconnect after the summer and hear about the upcoming year of Sunday morning Faith Formation for all ages.

On Saturday, September 13, from 10:00 AM—4:00 PM, Women at the Well will host their second all day retreat in the Friendship Room called Pathway to Prayer where the participants will explore different ways to pray. Participants can register to TLawason@fpcvalpo.org by September 5.

On Sunday, September 14, we will celebrate Creation Care Sunday in worship, followed by a light lunch and a viewing of the film *Plastic Wars*, with discussion to follow. The Mission Team is eager to deepen our commitment to environmental ministry. Last year we celebrated the installation of solar panels; this year, we turn our attention to how we might reduce our use of plastics as part of our stewardship of creation.

If music stirs your heart, keep an eye out for opportunities to join our music ministry in the months ahead. Whether in song, service, or study, there is a place for you here.

As we begin this new program year, may you be clothed in love, filled with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. May the peace of Christ dwell richly in you, binding us together in the love of God and neighbor.

In God's Grip,
Pastor Kim

STEWARDSHIP TEAM NEWS



“For Good.” Two words put together that can present two meanings.

“For Good” – as in forever.

“For Good” – as in doing things that are beneficial or helpful to others.

Both meanings can be seen in the logo created by the Stewardship Team for our 2026 Stewardship campaign entitled “For Good.”

We have the symbol for infinity (∞) indicating forever. God’s love for us is unbounded and will never end.

We have two hands grasped in a handshake – indicating working together.

Micah 6:8 says “He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to have mercy and to walk humbly with your God.”

At FPCV, our mission statement is “Building Disciples, Growing in Faith, Serving in Christ’s Name.” We aim to fulfill what we were made for – for good!

Later this month you will receive a mailing containing an invitation and response card for our Celebration Sunday service on Sunday, October 19, 2025, a letter from the Stewardship Team, and a card on which to indicate your intent to give to our shared mission.

Please prayerfully consider your financial commitment as we work together creating ties that bind us to each other based on the tie that can never be severed – God’s love for us!

FAITH FORMATION NEWS



HOUSING INSECURITY IN PORTER COUNTY SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2025 9:00 A.M. IN ROOM 154/155

Join us for a special presentation led by Bonnie and Susan Swarner with special guest Karen Kinsey. Bonnie and Susan have been the representatives from our church in We Make Indiana, a non-profit promoting attainable housing in Porter County. They have been active with that group meeting with various legislators for Porter County and its cities. Karen holds a BA in Sociology and has worked as a social worker with 21 years of experience as a home/school advisor for Portage Township Schools.

Bonnie, Susan, and Karen will share some truths about the Housing Insecurity plaguing Porter County and will help us explore the possibility of how we can help this mission...What would Jesus want us to do?

We will also discuss the relationship between the cost of childcare and housing and what if any resources does the church have to help.

Open to the public, all are welcome

RALLY DAY CHURCH PICNIC

***September 7, 2025
From 11:15 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.***

***EVERYONE IS WELCOME
to join us at our pavilion!***

***Potluck Picnic. Mr. Glen and Mr. Jim will be cooking
burgers on the grill. If you wish, please bring a side or
dessert to share.***

LOTS OF FUN PLANNED!!

***Bounce house, face painting, games and Mr. Harry
playing his guitar and singing some of our favorite
songs.***

***Please RSVP to Miss Leila at leilabuford@yahoo.com
or (219)405-2458. We want to be sure to have enough***

PRESBYS SCHEDULE

September 10: 5:30-8pm (Dinner included) FPC

September 17: 5:30-8pm (Dinner included) FPC

September 24: 5:30-8pm (Dinner included) FPC

October 1: 5:30-8pm (Dinner included) FPC

October 8: 5:30-8pm (Dinner included) FPC

October 15: 5:30-8pm (Dinner included) FPC

October 19: Breakfast @ 8 AM – FPC

October 29: 5:30-8pm (Dinner included)

FAITH FORMATION & MISSION TEAMS COLLABORATION



Faith Formation and the Mission ministry teams invite you to a special showing of **PLASTIC WARS** a FRONTLINE documentary Sunday, Sept. 14, 2025* 11:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary

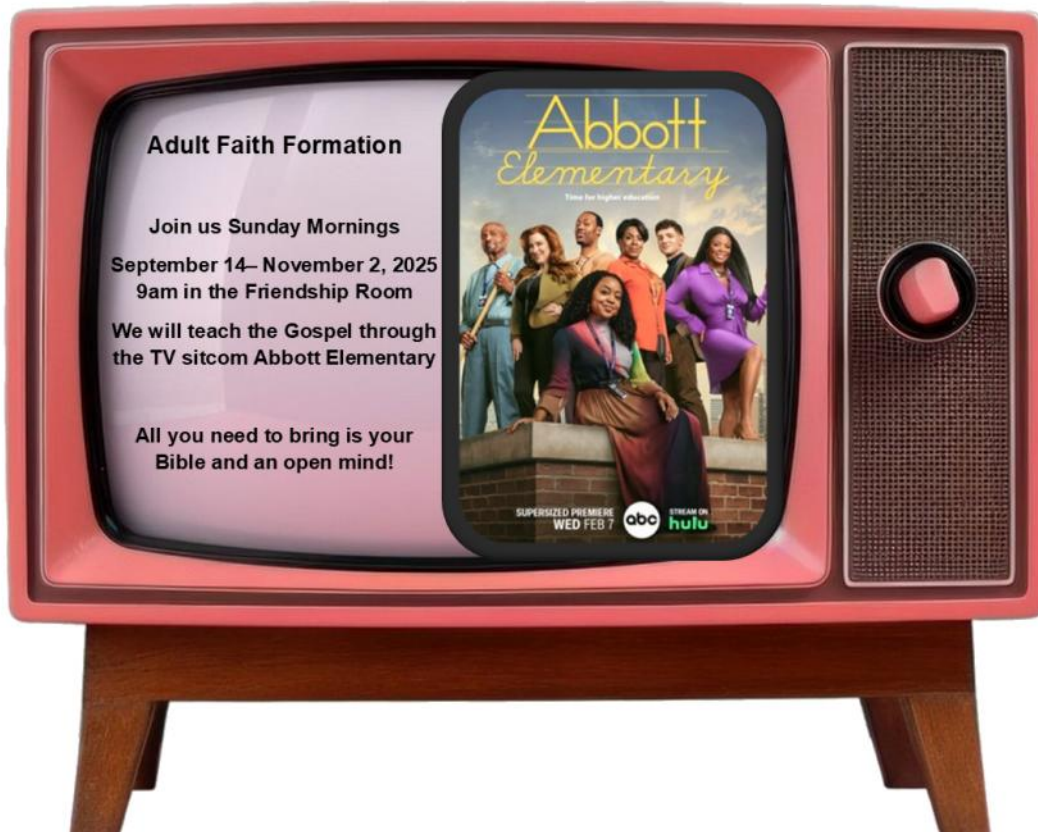
A light lunch will be served.
Please RSVP **NO LATER than September 2, 2025** to:
Trish Lawson at tlawson@fpcvalpo.org
Beth Germann at bcgermann@gmail.com

**This is an extension of our special Environmental Sunday Worship service.*

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Sitcom Study





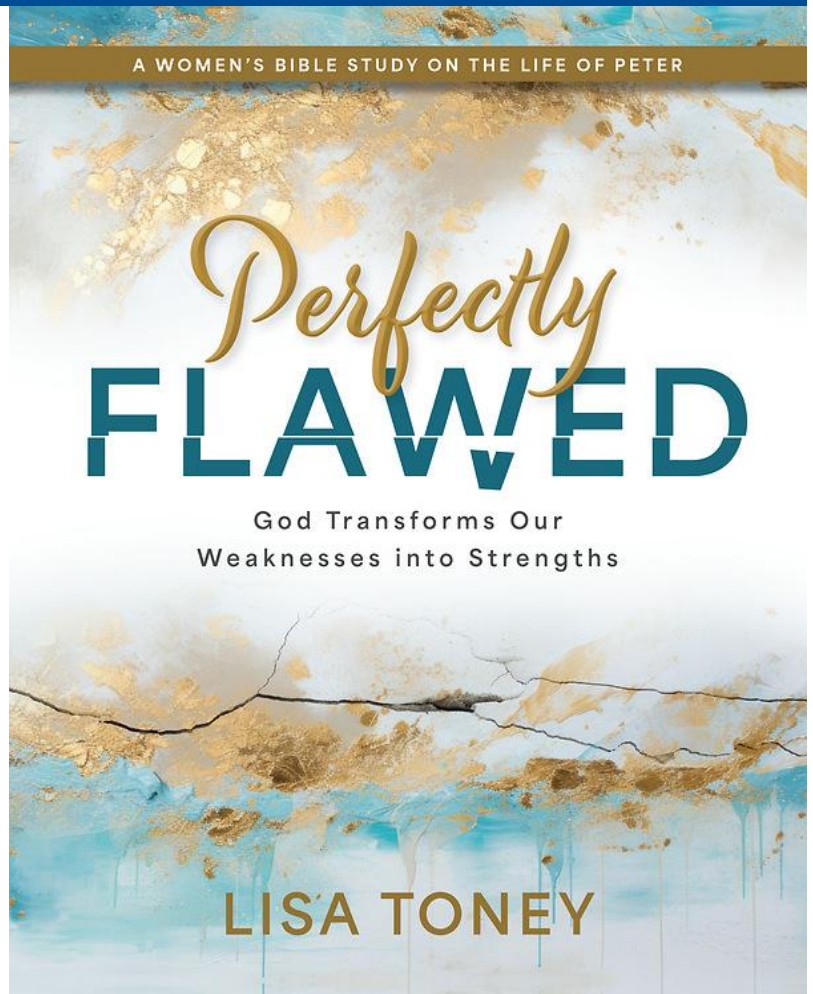
Bible Study Group

INVITES YOU TO JOIN US AS WE START A
NEW STUDY THIS FALL!

WEDNESDAY MORNINGS
AT
10:00 A.M. IN ROOM 101

We will begin meeting on Wednesday
September 10, 2025.

If you'd like to join us, please contact
Sharon Kinsey at
gommie1@comcast.net or
Trish Lawson at tlawson@fpcvalpo.org



WOMEN AT THE WELL NEWS



Saturday , September 13, 2025
10am-4pm (enter at door C)
3401 N Valparaiso St
Valparaiso, IN 46383

RSVP by September 2, 2025
Trish Lawson tlawson@fpcvalpo.org
(Lunch will be served)

WOMEN AT THE WELL

The Women at the Well invite you to
spend the day with us on the

Pathway to Prayer

A day retreat dedicated to the many
ways to pray, further deepening your
connection with God



*Nurturing the Spiritual Growth of the Women
of First Presbyterian Church of Valparaiso*



*** CELEBRATE GENEVA CENTER ***

Saturday, September 6, 2025

10:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

60-year ministry



Join us at the Geneva Center Pavillion

Calling all past and present campers, summer staff, permanent staff, directors, volunteers, counselors, shepherds, retreat leaders, grounds & maintenance keepers, financial supporters, GC event attendees, & Rochester community supporters.

We hope you'll join us to meet old & new friends, share stories & celebrate!

- No registration required
- Breakfast yummys upon arrival
- Good 'ole GC meet & greet!
- Share memories & fun stories!
- Meet & celebrate some GC icons!
- Lunch provided
- Songs & worship the GC Way!
- Bring & share any GC stuff you have (pictures, t-shirts, etc.)
- GC swag available for a donation
- Take home a cool souvenir from the day!

Bring your lawn chairs & a happy heart
to share with friends from days gone by
& with new friends from today

***If you met your spouse or best friend at GC, please contact Anne Chenoweth-Ruble, the Administrative Director of the Presbytery of Wabash Valley at ad@ourpresbytery.org and let her know because THAT'S COOL!**



First Presbyterian Church of Valparaiso's
**5th Annual
Holiday Craft & Vendor Fair**

Saturday November 8, 2025

9am-2pm

3401 N. Valparaiso St.
Valparaiso, In 46383

Contact: Trish Lawson tlawson@fpcvalpo.org

**Vendor Applications
being accepted now
through October 1st!**

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PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH RESALE SHOP NEWS

After 20+ years at 7 Lincolnway the Presbyterian Church Resale Shop is moving! In September, the Shop will be closed while work is done on our new home. We are very excited to be relocating to 65 Franklin and will be anxious to get back to the business of serving people.

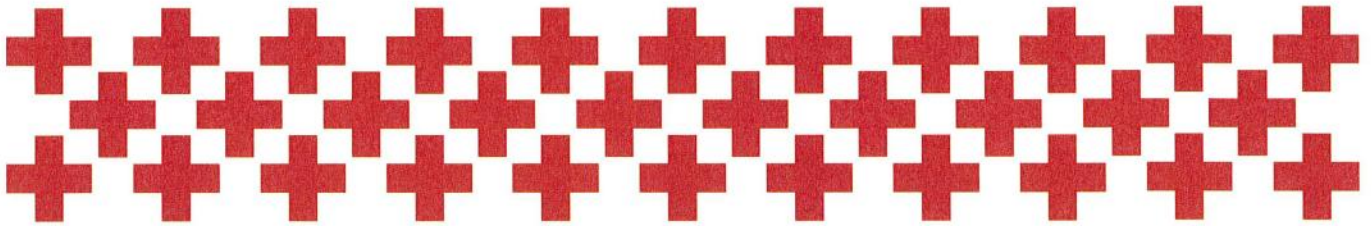
With a new building and new prospects, now would be a great time to get involved! Contact us for more information.



Mary Linda Scott, Co-Moderator
Presbyterian Church Resale Shop Management Team
nana6987@hotmail.com
231-590-5799

American Red Cross

Give blood. Help save lives.



Blood Drive **First Presbyterian Church**

Gym
3401 N. Valparaiso Street
Valparaiso

Monday, September 22
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit
RedCrossBlood.org and enter: FPCValpo to schedule an appointment.



Scan to be directed to
RapidPass®

**Come to give blood Sept. 22-Oct. 19 for a \$10
Amazon.com Gift Card by email! See rcblood.org/fall**



Scan to schedule
an appointment.

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

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CALENDAR

September 1, 2025 - Church Office Closed

Tuesday, September 2, 2025

12:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
12:00 PM	PCPS Board Meeting	Friendship Room
1:30 PM	Bulletin Notes Meeting	FPC
6:00 PM	Sweet Adelines	Fellowship Hall
6:30 PM	Planned Giving	101

Wednesday, September 3, 2025

10:00 AM	Faithful Friends Bible Study	101
1:00 PM	Building and Grounds Team	154/155
2:00 PM	Disciples Bible Study	101
5:30 PM	Faith Formation Team	145
6:30 PM	Worship Team Meeting	154/155

Thursday, September 4, 2025

10:00 AM	Comfort Stitchers	154/155
5:00 PM	Bell Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
6:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:30 PM	Worship Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary

Friday, September 5, 2025

Saturday, September 6, 2025

Sunday, September 7, 2025

9:00 AM	Exploring Membership Class	Friendship Room
9:00 AM	Housing Insecurity	154/155
10:00 AM	Worship	Sanctuary
11:00 AM	Congregational Life	Friendship Room
11:30 AM	Rally Day	Pavilion

Monday, September 8, 2025

6:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
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Tuesday, September 9, 2025

12:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
1:30 PM	Bulletin Notes Meeting	FPC
4:00 PM	Preschool Team Meeting	100
4:30 PM	Membership Team	101
6:00 PM	Sweet Adelines	Fellowship Hall
6:30 PM	Mission Team	154/155

Wednesday, September 10, 2025

10:00 AM	Faithful Friends Bible Study	101
2:00 PM	Disciples Bible Study	101
5:30 PM	Presbys Youth Group	100
6:00 PM	iEngage Team	Online

Thursday, September 11, 2025

9:00 AM	MT Meeting	Friendship Room
10:00 AM	Comfort Stitchers	154/155
5:00 PM	Bell Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
6:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:30 PM	Worship Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary

Friday, September 12, 2025

Saturday, September 13, 2025

10:00 AM	Women at the Well	Friendship Room
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CALENDAR

Sunday, September 14, 2025		
9:00 AM	Faith Formation	FPC
10:00 AM	Worship	Sanctuary
11:30 AM	Plastic Wars Documentary & Light Lunch	Sanctuary
Monday, September 15, 2025		
6:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
Tuesday, September 16, 2025		
12:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
1:30 PM	Bulletin Notes Meeting	FPC
6:00 PM	Sweet Adelines	Fellowship Hall
Wednesday, September 17, 2025		
10:00 AM	Faithful Friends Bible Study	101
11:00 AM	Agenda Meeting	FPC
2:00 PM	Disciples Bible Study	101
5:30 PM	Presbys Youth Group	100
7:00 PM	Finance Team	154/155
Thursday, September 18, 2025		
10:00 AM	Comfort Stitchers	154/155
5:00 PM	Bell Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
6:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:30 PM	Worship Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Friday, September 19, 2025		
5:00 PM	Sweet Adelines/GLS	FH/FR
Saturday, September 20, 2025		
8:00 AM	Sweet Adelines/GLS	FH/FR
Sunday, September 21, 2025		
9:00 AM	Faith Formation	FPC
10:00 AM	Worship	Sanctuary
Monday, September 22, 2025		
1:00 PM	Red Cross Blood Drive (until	Fellowship Hall
6:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
Tuesday, September 23, 2025		
12:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
1:30 PM	Bulletin Notes Meeting	FPC
6:00 PM	Sweet Adelines	Fellowship Hall
Wednesday, September 24, 2025		
10:00 AM	Faithful Friends Bible Study	101
2:00 PM	Disciples Bible Study	101
5:30 PM	Presbys Youth Group	100
6:30 PM	Session Meeting	
Thursday, September 25, 2025		
10:00 AM	Comfort Stitchers	154/155
5:00 PM	Bell Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
6:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:30 PM	Worship Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Friday, September 26, 2025		
Saturday, September 27, 2025		

CALENDAR

Sunday, September 28, 2025

9:00 AM

Faith Formation

FPC

10:00 AM

Worship

Sanctuary

Monday, September 29, 2025

6:00 PM

Men's Bible Study

101

Tuesday, September 30, 2025

12:00 PM

Men's Bible Study

101

1:30 PM

Bulletin Notes Meeting

FPC

6:00 PM

Sweet Adelines

Fellowship Hall

WORSHIP IN THE PAVILION SCHEDULE

Join us in the pavilion for worship at 10:00 a.m. on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month, pending weather, through the end of September. Join us in the sanctuary for worship at 10:00 a.m. on the 2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays of the month. All are welcome!

** on calendar denotes in-person and streamed online: Facebook, fpcvalpo.org, FPC YouTube Channel:*

www.fpcvalpo.org/worship-livestream,

www.youtube.com/channel/UC8Za9RpS1LFHAmVd6XW_pTQ, or

www.facebook.com/1stPresChurchValpo

MISSION NEWS

HILLTOP FOOD PANTRY NEEDS DONATIONS

Please find the following items that are needed through September 2025:

- Pasta and Spaghetti
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Cereal
- Peanut Butter and Jelly
- Hearty Soups

Please put any donations in the foyer in or by the grocery cart, marked Hilltop.

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DAYBREAK/PADS OPPORTUNITIES

Daybreak Homeless Shelter is in need of volunteers!!

Visit: <https://daybreakvalpo.org/volunteer>

They really need volunteers to provide and cook meals for around 30 people starting at 5:00 PM each night. To help with the overnight, Shifts run from 7:00pm - 11:00pm, 11:00pm - 3:00am, and 3:00am - 7:00am.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

September 1
Bonnie Swarner

September 2
Owen Hebert
Ray Miller

September 3
Della Hutton

September 4
Evelyn Crews
Justin Giles

September 7
Darlane Lorz

September 8
Garry Anderson
Kyla Deible
Bridgett Kinsey

September 9
Dan Higgins

September 10
Ansen Andrews

September 12
Gary Germann
Jerry Valdivia

September 13
Suzan Von Her

September 14
Tracy Campbell

September 15
Cathy Greenawald
Robbie Greenawald

September 19
Sylvia Graham

September 22
Jerry Seegers

September 23
Anne Henriksen

September 24
Sheya Bennett

September 25
Steve Heckard

September 27
Kathy Welter

September 29
Emily Coffin
Becky Gordon
Ann Klipstine

September 30
Christine McAloon

*If we inadvertently
missed your birthday,
please contact the
church office.*



MINISTRY ROSTER

SEXTON

Open: Doug Hollar
Close: Zane Cole

ELDER ON CALL SCHEDULE

September 7 Harry Karabel
September 21 Kathyne Penninga

DEACON ON CALL SCHEDULE

September 14 TBD
September 21 TBD

LITURGIST SCHEDULE

September 7 Jason Adams
September 14 Madison Keller
September 21 Ron Scott
September 28 Presbys

USHER SCHEDULE

September 7 Doug Hollar
Judy Hollar
Rose Ross

September 14 Connie Knauff
Paul Knauff
Trent Olling

September 21 Kathy Joseph
Jerry Kahrs
Molly

September 28 Jim Gray
Denise Walker
Mike Walker

COMMUNION SERVERS

September 7 Harry Karabel
Madison Keller
Michael McKee
Steve Scarborough

COMMUNION SET UP / CLEAN UP

September 7 Jason Gordon

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHURCH STAFF

E-MAIL ADDRESS

Rev. Kim Adams	kadams@fpcvalpo.org
Rev. Nancy Becker, Parish Associate.....	churchoffice@fpcvalpo.org
Dr. John Bernthal, Organist.....	churchoffice@fpcvalpo.org
Rhonda Clark, Handbell Choir Director.....	churchoffice@fpcvalpo.org
Sue Davis, Business Manager	sdavis@fpcvalpo.org
Dan Higgins, Custodian	
Valarie Smart-Higgins, Custodian	
Judy Hollar, Clerk of Session.....	churchoffice@fpcvalpo.org
Stephen Howell, Seminary Pastoral Intern.....	SCHowell@fpcvalpo.org
Trish Lawson, Director of Faith Formation.....	tlawson@fpcvalpo.org
Dawn Scarborough, Church Administrator.....	dscarborough@fpcvalpo.org
John Stocks, Custodian	
Jeff Whitney, Director of Worship Music & Digital Technology	jwhitney@fpcvalpo.org

In case of a pastoral emergency, please contact the church office at 219-464-4985.

<u>Elders of Session</u>	<u>Ministry Team</u>
Matthew Byerly.....	iEngage Team* Worship Team* Nominating Committee **
Rhonda Coffin.....	Stewardship Team
Jim Gray	Mission Team
Madison Keller.....	Faith Formation Team* Membership Team*
Sharon Kinsey	Faith Formation Team Stewardship Team*
Jerry Kahrs	Finance Team Building and Grounds Team*
Harry Karabel.....	iEngage Team
Johnny Lawson.....	iEngage Team*
Kathryne Penninga	Worship Team Nominating Committee **
Rose Ross	Congregational Life Team
Chip Wilkes.....	Personnel Team* Finance Team*

*denotes Elder Rep.

**denotes Vice Moderator

Building and Grounds Team

Vic Klancer, Moderator

Moderator of Session

Pastor Kim Adams

Membership Clerk & Moderator of Membership

Elizabeth Monroe

Board of Deacons

Beth Germann, Moderator

Personnel Team

Jim Hubbard, Moderator

Clerk of Session Pro Tem

Jim Hubbard

Planned Giving Committee

Kathy Joseph, Moderator

Treasurer

Jerry Kahrs

MISSION STATEMENT: BUILDING DISCIPLES; GROWING IN FAITH; SERVING IN CHRIST'S NAME



First Presbyterian Church Valparaiso (public) and
FPCVALPO (closed)