

First Presbyterian Church of Valparaiso

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

Engaged locally and globally for Christ!



SESSION MEETING SYNOPSIS OF OCTOBER 21, 2020

You as a Congregation certainly elected a fantastic group of officers to help lead us into 2021! Nine of the ten newly elected Elders and Deacons were welcomed to this Session meeting and shared condensed versions of their faith stories. These were meaningful and inspiring glimpses into the varied ways each of them came to faith and expressed the love of God in their lives. Thanks and appreciation were expressed for the important caring ministry of the Deacons, truly the heart of the church, and for the leadership strengths of the Elders, who continue to strive for ongoing faithful commitment to the authority and guidance of the Book of Order and the Confessions. What it means to be a Presbyterian at FPC Valpo was clearly reflected in the many faces on the Zoom screen, your leaders and a faithful community of believers. This was the informal “examination” of these new officers as prescribed by the Book of Order; they were enthusiastically welcomed and will be ordained and installed on January 10, 2021.

The **Community Task Force** gave a brief update on the Soft Opening of the Sanctuary which took place October 18. Although only six elders and three family members attended, all went well. The new Sanctuary computer worked very effectively for which all are thankful! One obvious disadvantage, however, was that Pastor Kim had to wear a face mask (which was less than ideal). The Task Force is looking into options to avoid this, such as perhaps the installation of portable Plexiglas shields when speaking from the pulpit and the communion table. Next steps in the further opening of the Sanctuary are being considered but as yet unknown. *The Task Force wants to stress that they are committed to following the science of the virus problem; they are listening to the advice of Presbyterian Pastors and IU scientists Dr. Dan and Dr. Karen Watts; and they are heeding the recommendations of health officials. With COVID numbers currently increasing, they plan to move slowly.*

It was also reported that Small Group usage of the building has increased greatly, but so has the very real phenomenon of COVID Fatigue! *The primary concern is for the safety of our church community!* As a result, the Task Force members have spent countless hours over the past six months conscientiously reading and researching and trying to do the right thing for our congregation. This has resulted in a request from some of the members of the Task Force to be relieved of their positions so that other Elders **and** members of the congregation might be added. This would not only provide some relief to those who are currently working so hard, but also give voice to others who might have additional insights and recommendations. If *you* are interested in perhaps joining the Community Task Force, please contact chair Ken McAloon or Pastor Kim.

Several important actions were also approved:

- **A Zoom Congregational Meeting** has been called for November 15, 2020, following morning Worship for the purpose of electing an **Associate Pastor Nominating Committee**;
- Permission has been given to move forward in hiring a part-time **Director of Worship & Music**;
- Permission has been given to move forward in hiring a part-time **Director of Digital Technology**;
- **2021 Terms of Call** for Pastor Kim were approved to be presented to the Congregation at the Annual Congregational Meeting in January;

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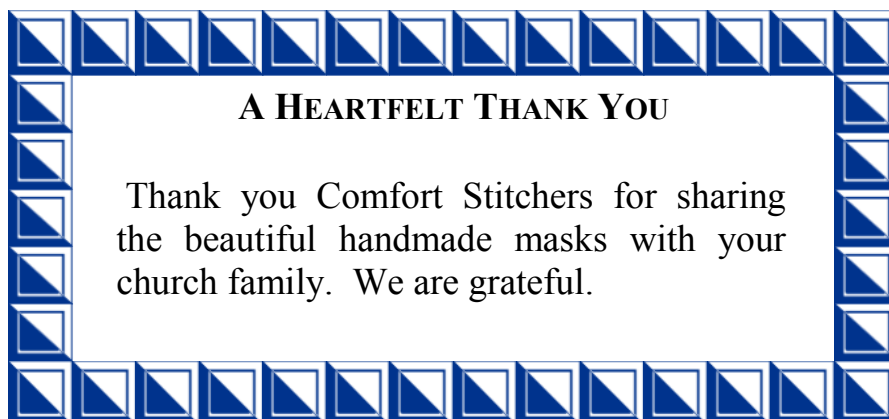
- Pay increases have been approved for all non-ordained staff for 2021;
- New Finance Policy #F8: *The threshold requiring permission and three bids for repair projects will be raised from \$2,000 to \$4,000, but the threshold requiring permission and three bids for new capital projects will remain at \$2,000;*
- **Worship Team** has recommended having only one **Christmas Eve Worship Service** to be scheduled at 7:00 p.m.;
- Required **Annual Roll Review of Members** will be postponed for the foreseeable future.

In addition, Pastor Kim expressed sincere thanks for the energizing week of study leave she was able to participate in as she was able to write Christian Education curriculum while spending the week at Geneva Center. She also assigned Ministry Team Moderators for 2021, requesting that current outgoing moderators contact their new counterparts to pass along important information.

If you would like more information, please read the detailed minutes which will be *posted in the glass-enclosed announcement board* in the Hospitality Center once they are approved (and we are allowed back into the church!). **In the meantime**, please contact any of the Elders and/or the Clerk if you have questions or are interested in further details.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Hollar, Clerk



ALL ARE WELCOME AT THE TABLE

COMMUNION SUNDAY
IS
NOVEMBER 1, 2020



We will celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion on Sunday on November 1, 2020, during the online worship service (via Facebook Live/FPC website/FPC Youtube channel) at 10:00 a.m. Pastor Kim invites all to the communion table in your home by bringing a piece of bread/cracker and a cup of juice/wine or whatever common elements you have to celebrate communion. This way, our faith community can be joined together for the sacrament even though we are physically apart.

CONGREGATIONAL HEALTH MINISTRY NEWS

There will not be a Flu Shot Clinic held at FPC Valparaiso this year. Flu shots are available at the local pharmacy or doctor's office.

STORY TIME

Join us on Wednesday mornings at 11:00 a.m. for Story Time via Facebook Live or FPC's website at www.fpcvalpo.org.

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BE THE LIFELINE PATIENTS NEED.

Give blood.



Blood Drive
First Presbyterian Church

Gym
3401 N. Valparaiso Street
Valparaiso, IN 46383

Sunday, November 22
8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

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

Give Something that Means Something® | RedCrossBlood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS

DEACONS' DOINGS

The Deacons will be collecting items for the Advent bags on November 12, 2020, from 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church. Please deposit wrapped gift donations in the boxes marked *Advent Items* located under the canopy near Church Door A. We thank you for your donations!

If you know of anyone who would appreciate an Advent Bag from the Deacons, please feel free to let us know. Contact Phyllis Crews at (219) 759-1765 or Catherine Busch at cmbusch03@gmail.com. We would be happy to deliver some holiday cheer. These will be delivered at the beginning of December along with a small plant. We will be adhering to the rules of visitation for the facilities where our Deacon Friends are, or if at their own residences, we will take all COVID precautions.

Usually in December, we have the Deacon cookie walk. We feel it best to forego the walk this year, but hope to have a similar event once we are able when the church reopens.

As November is the time to *Give Thanks*, the Deacons have decided to **Give**. They have distributed some of their restricted funds to six organizations who are in need during these unprecedented times. PADS, Kenya REAL, Caring Place, Kids Alive, Hilltop House and one other service organization will each be receiving \$350. For this we **Give Thanks!**

If you desire prayer support for yourself or loved ones, don't hesitate to contact the Prayer Warriors through the Prayer and Praise Ministry chain. Please contact Beth Germann at bcgermann@gmail.com or (219) 477-9964.

Blessings,

The Deacons



WE'LL GET THROUGH THIS

By Joanna Fuchs

Lord, our troubles
Are so great,
We don't know what to do;
The price for our iniquity
Is finally coming due.

The world is crumbling
All about;
No safe place can be found.
Right is wrong,
Wrong is right;
The change is quite profound.

Lord, we need
Your guiding light
To lead us out of here;
We'll focus on
Your Word, and prayer,
To take away our fear.

Temptations of
This dying world
We'll rule out and let go;
Give our burdens
All to you,
Shed all worldly woe.

That's how we'll
Get through this, Lord,
Fixed on heaven above,
Assured of your
protection, help,
And everlasting love.

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

Sunday, November 01, 2020 - All Saints Sunday

| | | |
|----------|------------------------|---|
| 10:00 AM | Online Worship Service | Facebook Live/FPC Website/FPC Youtube Channel |
| 11:00 AM | Virtual Coffee Hour | Via Zoom |
| 1:00 PM | CE Hour | FPC |
| 6:00 PM | Presbys | FPC |

Monday, November 02, 2020

| | | |
|---------|--------------------------|----------|
| 5:30 PM | Christian Education Team | Via Zoom |
| 7:00 PM | Scouts Troop 920 | FPC |

Tuesday, November 03, 2020

| | | |
|----------|------------------------|-----------|
| 10:00 AM | Membership Team | Via Zoom |
| 1:30 PM | Bulletin Notes Meeting | Via Zoom |
| 6:15 PM | Worship Team | Sanctuary |

Wednesday, November 04, 2020

| | | |
|----------|--------------------------|---|
| 11:00 AM | Story Time | Facebook Live/FPC Website/FPC Youtube Channel |
| 7:00 PM | Congregational Life Team | Via Zoom |

Thursday, November 05, 2020

| | | |
|----------|---------------------------|----------|
| 10:00 AM | The Comfort Stitchers | FPC |
| 10:00 AM | Community Task Force Team | Via Zoom |
| 6:30 PM | iEngage Team Meeting | Via Zoom |

Friday, November 06, 2020

| | | |
|---------|----------------------|-----|
| 6:00 PM | Faith Filled Fridays | FPC |
|---------|----------------------|-----|

Saturday, November 07, 2020

Sunday, November 08, 2020

| | | |
|----------|------------------------|---|
| 10:00 AM | Online Worship Service | Facebook Live/FPC Website/FPC Youtube Channel |
| 1:00 PM | CE Hour | FPC |
| 3:00 PM | Prayer Group - Monica | FPC |
| 6:00 PM | Presbys | FPC |

Monday, November 09, 2020

| | | |
|----------|-----------------------------------|----------|
| 11:00 AM | Presbyterian Resale Shop Ministry | Off-site |
| 7:00 PM | Scouts Troop 920 | FPC |

Tuesday, November 10, 2020

| | | |
|---------|------------------------|----------|
| 1:30 PM | Bulletin Notes Meeting | Via Zoom |
| 6:00 PM | Prayer Group - Leila | FPC |
| 6:30 PM | Mission Team | Via Zoom |

Wednesday, November 11, 2020

| | | |
|----------|--------------|---------------------------|
| 11:00 AM | Story Time | Facebook Live/FPC Website |
| 7:00 PM | Finance Team | Via Zoom |

Thursday, November 12, 2020

| | | |
|----------------|--|----------------------|
| 7:00 AM | Minutes/Reports Due for Session Pkt | Church Office |
| 10:00 AM | The Comfort Stitchers | Pavilion |
| 5:00 PM | Elders-elect Training | Via Zoom |

Friday, November 13, 2020

Saturday, November 14, 2020

| | | |
|---------|---------------------|----------|
| 9:00 AM | Presbytery Assembly | Via Zoom |
| | (CST) | |

NOVEMBR CALENDAR, CONTINUED

Sunday, November 15, 2020 - Tidings Articles Due to Office

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| 10:00 AM | Online Worship Service | Facebook Live/FPC Website/FPC Youtube Channel |
| 1:00 PM | CE Hour | FPC |
| 6:00 PM | Presbys | FPC |
| Monday, November 16, 2020 | | |
| 7:00 PM | Scouts Troop 920 | FPC |
| Tuesday, November 17, 2020 | | |
| 1:30 PM | Bulletin Notes Meeting | Via Zoom |
| 5:00 PM | Prayer Group - Pastor Nancy | FPC |
| Wednesday, November 18, 2020 | | |
| 11:00 AM | Story Time | Facebook Live/FPC Website |
| 7:00 PM | Session Meeting | Via Zoom |
| Thursday, November 19, 2020 | | |
| 10:00 AM | The Comfort Stitchers | FPC |
| 10:00 AM | Community Task Force Team | Via Zoom |
| 4:30 PM | Deacons-elect Training | Via Zoom |
| Friday, November 20, 2020 | | |
| 6:00 PM | Faith Filled Fridays | FPC |
| Saturday, November 21, 2020 | | |
| Sunday, November 22, 2020 | | |
| 8:00 AM | Red Cross Blood Drive <i>(until 1:00 p.m.)</i> | Fellowship Hall |
| 10:00 AM | Online Worship Service | Facebook Live/FPC Website/FPC Youtube Channel |
| 1:00 PM | CE Hour | FPC |
| 3:00 PM | Prayer Group - Monica | FPC |
| 6:00 PM | Presbys | FPC |
| Monday, November 23, 2020 | | |
| 7:00 PM | Scouts Troop 920 | Pavilion |
| Tuesday, November 24, 2020 | | |
| 1:30 PM | Bulletin Notes Meeting | Online |
| 5:00 PM | Prayer Group - Andrea | FPC |
| Wednesday, November 25, 2020—Office Closes at Noon | | |
| 11:00 AM | Story Time | Facebook Live/FPC Website |
| Thursday, November 26, 2020 - Church Office Closed - Thanksgiving Day | | |
| Friday, November 27, 2020 - Church Office Closed | | |
| Saturday, November 28, 2020 | | |

NOVEMBER CALENDAR, CONTINUED

Sunday, November 29, 2020 – First Sunday of Advent

| | | |
|----------|------------------------|---|
| 10:00 AM | Online Worship Service | Facebook Live/FPC Website/FPC Youtube Channel |
| 1:00 PM | CE Hour | FPC |
| 6:00 PM | Presbys | FPC |

Monday, November 30, 2020

| | | |
|---------|------------------|-----|
| 7:00 PM | Scouts Troop 920 | FPC |
|---------|------------------|-----|

LITURGIST SCHEDULE

| | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| November 1, 2020 | Presbys |
| November 8, 2020 | Jason Adams |
| November 15, 2020 | Fred Grosick |
| November 22, 2020 | Harry Karabel |
| November 29, 2020 | Mike Croarkin |

**KENYA REAL UPDATE
WATER RUNNING FOR THE FIRST TIME!**

Did you happen to run any water through a faucet in your home today? Did you wash dishes or get a drink?

We didn't have running water in the kitchen at our school, Calvary Hope. Our hardworking women had to get the water from a tank, fill buckets and wheelbarrows and wash the dishes in them. Heavy, time consuming, and definitely not the easiest way to wash all the students' dishes!

But, because of **YOU** and your love for others, we have not one sink but **TWO** sinks with.....Running Water! Actual faucets!!

What a blessing and we praise God for providing through people like you! Thank you for helping to make this beautiful gift possible.

Next time you run your faucet, please say a prayer of thanks to God for supplying the need of running water for our kitchen at Calvary Hope School in Kenya.

Be joyful always, pray at all times, be thankful in all circumstances. This is what God wants from you in your life in union with Christ Jesus. -1 Thessalonians 5:16-18



MISSION NEWS, CONTINUED

CHRISTIAN FOOD PANTRY

One hundred sixty-one families received food from the pantry which provided for four hundred forty people. The pantry volunteers were busy helping those in our community that came for assistance. It has been decided that menu items for Thanksgiving dinner can be offered since donated turkeys have been reserved. Items that will be given out and, therefore, needed are cranberry sauce, turkey gravy (packets are safest to pack), cake mixes, frostings, French fried onions, boxed mashed potatoes and canned sweet potatoes. It is hoped that items can be packed in such a way as to make it easy for a quick pick up of items. For basic giving cereals, all soups, bathroom tissue, Kleenex, paper towels, tuna in water, baked beans or pork 'n beans, mac 'n cheese as well as canned veggies are always needed. Any kind of help is greatly appreciated.

Questions? Call Nan at 219-462-6169

MISSION NEWS, CONTINUED

The Mission Team realizes that the state lockdown will affect everyone differently. If there is a financial need that is causing you concern, please reach out to Ken McAloon, Lisa Pavlopoulos, Mission co-moderators, or Pastor Kim. There are funds available to help ease the stress during these trying times. Remember we are stronger together; and know that you are loved.

Stay safe,

Your Mission Team



RESALE SHOP NEWS

The Presbyterian Resale Shop recently completed “changeover.” The shop was completely emptied and restocked with fall and winter merchandise. Our dedicated volunteers spent many hours accomplishing this monumental task but the rewards more than made up for the effort. On our grand reopening day we took in over \$2,000! Sales have continued to be brisk and we will be able to make generous donations to many local charities. We are blessed with loyal customers, awesome volunteers and an abundance of donations from our community.

The Resale Shop is in desperate need of large plastic bags suitable for winter coats, jackets and bulky items. Bags may be dropped off at the Shop between 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday; or place the bags in the Resale Shop drop box behind the shop in the alleyway. Please wear a mask if entering the store as it is the policy of the Resale Shop. If it is not convenient to drop off the bags, please contact me via email or phone as listed below.

Thanks and blessings to all for your support.

Mary Linda Scott
231-590-5799
nana6987@hotmail.com

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH’S MISSION STATEMENT:
Building Disciples; Growing in Faith; Serving in Christ’s Name

FPC VALPARAISO IS A MATTHEW 25 CONGREGATION:



- **Building congregational vitality**
- **Dismantling structural racism**
- **Eradicating systemic poverty**

www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/matthew-25/

RESALE SHOP SCHEDULE 2020 SCHEDULE
SCHEDULER: MARY LINDA SCOTT (231) 590-5799

RESALE SHOP SCHEDULE
NOVEMBER 2020
11 AM – 3 PM TUESDAY THROUGH SATURDAY
 Closed on Sundays and Mondays – 462-4281
www.firstpresbyterianresale.com

| TUES. | WED. | THURS. | FRI. | SAT. |
|--|---|---|---|--|
| 3 Pat Blanco Pastor Nancy Becker | 4 Chris Hurd Becky Bluhm | 5 Chiq Colton Linda Flory Pam Skaltsas | 6 Star Ruwersma Linda Hartlerode | 7 Catherine Busch Dolly Trapp |
| 10 Porter County Animal Shelter Pam Skaltsas | 11 Dorothy Ailes Kay Exley | 12 Chiq Colton Star Ruwersma | 13 Mary Brown Debbie Kelley | 14 Jacki Phillips Sarah Greider Carol McCreery |
| 17 Mary Brown Elizabeth Monroe | 18 Star Ruwersma Jan Bays | 19 Chiq Colton Pat Lane | 20 Debbie Kelley Becky Bluhm | 21 Cindy Robinson Dolly Trapp |
| 24 Jan Bays Nancy Porter | 25 Dorothy Ailes Kay Exley | 26 HAPPY THANKSGIVING! CLOSED  | 27 Becky Bluhm Debbie Kelley | 28 Abha Kapila Cindy Robinson Dolly Trapp |

PRESBYTERIAN RESALE SHOP MINISTRY

Moderator: Pam Skaltsas
 Treasurer: Jan Bays
 Historian: Mary Jayne Shurr
 Secretary: Cindy Robinson
 Scheduler: Mary Linda Scott

**GET A 30% DISCOUNT OFF YOUR FULL
 PRICE PURCHASE
 EVERY TIME YOU VOLUNTEER!!!**

**STORE MANAGER:
 Pam Skaltsas – 219-252-3175**

**SCHEDULER:
 Mary Linda Scott – 231-590-5799**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

November 1
Dawn Heckard

November 12
Melissa Reyna

November 26
Sally Long

November 2
David Rice

November 14
Dolly Trapp

November 29
Kevin Nuppnau

November 3
Carolyn Lelek

November 15
Mark Robison

November 30
Kinsley Spicer

November 6
Jack Kinsey

November 16
John Nuppnau
Lauren Phillips

November 7
Doug Hollar
William Stanko

November 17
Harrison Bennett

November 8
Walker Powell

November 19
Tom Edwards, Jr.

November 10
Emily Golding
Nancy Pedersen

November 20
Gena Banta-Long

November 11
Rodger Jones
Kameron Stanko
Gail Wilkes

November 23
Bryan Bennett

November 24
Sarabel Nowlin

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

DUE DATES – TIDINGS ARTICLES, BULLETIN ARTICLES AND SCREENS

Due Date for Tidings Articles:

The due date for Tidings articles is the 15th of the month prior to the publication. (i.e. June articles are due by May 15.) Please email articles to Dawn Scarborough in the church office at dscarborough@fpcvalpo.org

Due Date for Bulletin Articles, First Notes and/or Advertisements:

The due date for bulletin articles, First Notes, and announcements are due by noon the Monday prior to the publication.

PER CAPITA

Please prayerfully consider paying your per capita. *The cost is \$42.00 per member.* Per capita helps support the decisions of the commissioners to Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly as they discern the will of Jesus Christ together. It also supports the work of the Presbytery Commission of Ministry and the Commission on Preparation for Ministry.

Please email bulletin announcements and First Notes articles to Dawn Scarborough in the church office at: dscarborough@fpcvalpo.org.

THANK YOU!

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

| CHURCH STAFF | E-MAIL ADDRESS |
|---|---------------------------|
| Pastor Kim Adams..... | kadams@fpcvalpo.org |
| Janice Axmann, Organist..... | axmann122@comcast.net |
| Pastor Nancy Becker, Parish Associate..... | mnbecker3@gmail.com |
| Rhonda Clark, Adult Choir Director..... | rclark3110@gmail.com |
| Ken Crews, Director of CE & Youth Ministry..... | kencrews@fpcvalpo.org |
| Brad Dirks, Organist..... | bdirks@comcast.net |
| Beverlee Frazee, Business Manager..... | bfrazee@fpcvalpo.org |
| Judy Hollar, Clerk of Session..... | churchoffice@fpcvalpo.org |
| Dawn Scarborough, Church Administrator..... | dscarborough@fpcvalpo.org |

In the event 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* |
| Kim Croarkin | iEngage Team* |
| Brad Dirks..... | Worship Team |
| Rick Exley..... | Building and Grounds Team* |
| Sharon Kinsey..... | Christian Education Team |
| Vic Klancer | Building and Grounds Team* |
| Ken McAloon..... | Mission Team* |
| Elizabeth Monroe..... | Finance Team |
| Lisa Pavlopoulos..... | Mission* and Stewardship Teams |
| Andrea Phillips..... | Congregational Life Team |
| Chip Wilkes | Personnel Team |

*denotes Co-moderator

Moderator of Session

Pastor Kim Adams

Clerk of Session

Judy Hollar

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

| FINANCIAL REPORT | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|--------------|------------------|
| SEPTEMBER 2020 | | | |
| Month Income | \$ 23,209 | YTD Income | \$ 308,376 |
| Month Expenses | <u>(32,298)</u> | YTD Expenses | <u>(325,710)</u> |
| Over/Short | \$ (9,089) | | \$ (17,334) |



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