

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



WORDS
FOR THE **BEGINNING**

**JOIN US ON CHRISTMAS EVE,
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2024**

**For
4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
in the Sanctuary and
Streamed Online**

**(FPC FaceBook page, fpcvalpo.org,
FPC YouTube Channel)**

Communion will be served at 4 & 7 pm Worship.

All Are Welcome!



COMFORT STITCHERS' MINISTRY

Dear Church family,

We'd like to invite you to share in the love and comfort of our Prayer Shawl Ministry, known as the Comfort Stitchers. This ministry began in 2008 with two dedicated founders, Dolly Trapp and Sandy Sopata, and has since grown with many loving hands and caring hearts. Every shawl, blanket, hat, and washcloth are crafted with prayers and good wishes, designed to offer comfort and celebrate life's precious moments.

Our shawls are available for a variety of occasions – from times when comfort and support are needed, to joyful milestones like birthdays, anniversaries, or retirements. These warm and cozy creations wrap babies, keep tired shoulders warm, and bring solace to those who could use a little extra care.

If you know someone who would be blessed by one of these gifts, please feel free to take a shawl from the cabinet in the Hospitality/Welcome Center. Just jot down your name and your recipient's name on the sign-out sheet, so we can continue sharing this ministry's love far and wide.

We also welcome new hands and hearts to join us! The Comfort Stitchers meet every Thursday morning at 10:00 am in Room 154/155. Whether you're a seasoned knitter, crocheter, loomer or just curious, we'd love to have you join us in the fellowship.

Warmest blessings,

The Comfort Stitchers:

Sandy, Mary Linda, Ginger, Rhonda C, Linda, Nancy, Rhonda C, Bev, and Sharon

SYMPATHIES

We extend our heartfelt sympathies to the Dottie Staats family upon her death.

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FPC VALPARAISO IS A MATTHEW 25 CONGREGATION:



MATTHEW 25

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

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

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PRESCHOOL

We are very busy down in our preschool classrooms this month. On Tuesday, December 17th and Wednesday, December 18th at 6 PM, we will have our Christmas program in the sanctuary. We would love to have you join us. Also, if you are interested in being a guest reader or volunteering for special projects, please send an email to fpp@fpcvalpo.org.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!

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HEARTFELT THANK YOUS

The Deacons would like to express their gratitude for your contribution of baked goods. Particularly to Mary Brown, whose delectable pumpkin rolls have attracted many repeat customers. I also want to extend my thanks to the deacons for managing the sales station. Over the weekend, we successfully raised \$920, and we were fortunate to have leftover cookies to donate to PADS ministry. ~June Olling

+ + +

Thank you so much for honoring us in worship with the Bread for the Journey Sunday, and the special coffee hour. We are grateful and will miss our church family.

Blessings,

Brad and Joy Dirks

PADS MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

PADS HELP NEEDED

HELP needed for PADS meals!! We need to feed our guests a nice dinner and breakfast. **PLEASE HELP!** Thank you. Sign up is where the coffee hour is in the Hospitality Center.

2024

December 11	Breakfast 6-6:15 a.m.
December 25	Shift 6:30–10:00 p.m. Dinner 7:30 p.m.*
December 26	Breakfast 6-6:15 a.m.

** We host PADS on Christmas and help is needed. A leader is willing to get lasagna, bread, salad and dessert to have available for Christmas Dinner. However, a couple of people are needed to set up, serve the dinner, and then clean up. If you can help, please reach out to Beth Germann at bcgermann@gmail.com or (219) 477-9964.*

2025

January 2	Breakfast 6-6:15 a.m.
January 8	Breakfast 6-6:15 a.m.

NURSERY COORDINATOR POSITION



At the request of Faith Formation, Session has approved the hiring of a part-time Nursery Coordinator to assure we are living into our commitment to be the welcoming Church we say we are. We need to indicate to all, including those contemplating visiting and worshiping at our church on Sunday mornings, that we do indeed have Nursery available and staffed every week. That fact will be on signs in the lobby and on our website for all to see. Thus, the Personnel Team is now taking applications. There may be weeks where there are no children in the Nursery, but if we don't staff it and if we don't promote it, then for sure there will be no families needing it.

NURSERY COORDINATION (part-time 8:45AM -11:45AM Sunday mornings)

Provides care and attention to children ages 1 month – 3 years (those not at the Playground) for 3 hours every Sunday Morning and during certain special worship services throughout the year.

Requirements: Certified in infant child CPR and have childcare experience. Background check will be conducted.

Rate: \$20/hour (\$60/Sunday)

Interested and/or questions contact: personnel@fpcvalpo.org

PRAYER AND PRAISE MINISTRY

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.

bcgermann@gmail.com or (219) 477-9964



ALL ARE WELCOME AT THE TABLE

**COMMUNION WILL BE SERVED ON
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2024 AT 10:00 A.M. WORSHIP
CHRISTMAS EVE, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2024
AT
4:00 P.M. AND 7:00 P.M.**



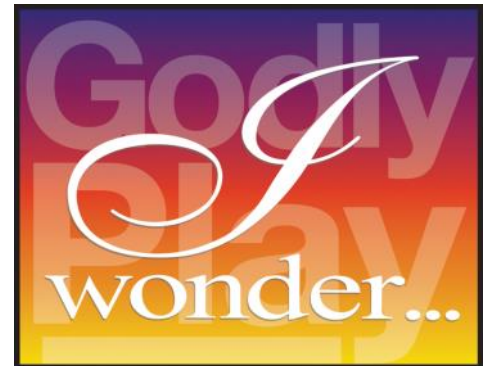
We will celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion on the above-captioned dates/times during the in-person at FPC Valpo and online worship services (via Facebook Live/FPC website/FPC YouTube channel).

All are invited 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.

**JOIN US SUNDAY MORNINGS AS WE EXPLORE ALL THE STORIES OF THE BIBLE
THROUGH WONDER & PLAY.**

Meet us at 9:00 a.m. in room 144 for
Music with Mr. Harry.
Followed by our Godly Play lesson in room 141.
Class will conclude at 9:45 a.m. when children will be
led to the Playground in the Sanctuary.

Any questions, feel free to reach out to:
Trish Lawson, Director of Faith Formation at
tlawson@fpcvalpo.org



**Sunday Morning
Teen
Bible Study**

With Jim Peyton
9am-9:45am in Room 154
Bring your Bible and get ready for
some great discussions!

You make a difference.

**Thank you
for your continued
support.**



American Red Cross

BLOOD DRIVE RESULTS
First Presbyterian Church

Donors Registered = 22

Pints Collected = 25

Your support will go a long way toward replenishing blood supplies and ultimately saving lives!

One single blood donation can help save more than one life.

redcrossblood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | facebook.com/redcrossblood | [@redcrossbloodXX](https://twitter.com/redcrossbloodXX)

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH RESALE SHOP NEWS



'Tis the season to deck the halls, and your Presbyterian Church Resale Shop is overflowing with holiday décor! We have been blessed with an abundance of donations and are working hard to create attractive displays to tempt our shoppers.

December is a busy month for everyone, but we invite you to take a break from your usual hustle and bustle and spend a few hours volunteering with us. Everything we do ultimately benefits those in our community who need assistance...and that is the true joy of the Christmas season.



MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL FROM THE VOLUNTEERS OF THE RESALE SHOP!

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

DUE DATES: TIDINGS ARTICLES, BULLETIN ARTICLES AND SCREENS

DUE DATE FOR TIDINGS ARTICLES is the 15th of the month prior to the publication. (i.e. March articles are due by April 15.) Please email articles to Dawn in the church office at dscarborough@fpcvalpo.org

DUE DATE FOR BULLETIN ARTICLES, SCREENS, FIRST NOTES AND/OR ADVERTISEMENTS is noon the Monday prior to the publication.

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

Please email screen announcements to Jeff at jwhitney@fpcvalpo.org.

THANK YOU!

CALENDAR

Sunday, December 1, 2024		
9:00 AM	Faith Formation	FPC
10:00 AM	Worship Svc. Live & Streamed*	FPC, Online
Monday, December 2, 2024		
6:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
Tuesday, December 3, 2024		
12:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
12:00 PM	PCPS Board Meeting	154, 155
1:30 PM	Bulletin Notes Meeting	Friendship Room
4:30 PM	Scouts	FPC
6:00 PM	Sweet Adelines	Fellowship Hall
Wednesday, December 4, 2024		
10:00 AM	Wed. Morning Bible Study	101
1:00 PM	Building and Grounds	FPC
1:30 PM	Stewardship Team Meeting (TBD)	154, 155
2:00 PM	Disciples Bible Study	101
4:00 PM	PCRS Quarterly Meeting	Friendship Room
6:00 PM	PADS Ministry	Fellowship Hall
Thursday, December 5, 2024		
10:00 AM	The Comfort Stitchers	154, 155
5:00 PM	Handbell Choir	Sanctuary
6:30 PM	Choir	Sanctuary
7:30 PM	Worship Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Friday, December 6, 2024		
Saturday, December 7, 2024		
Sunday, December 8, 2024		
9:00 AM	Faith Formation	FPC
10:00 AM	Worship Svc. Live & Streamed*	FPC, Online
Monday, December 9, 2024		
6:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
Tuesday, December 10, 2024		
12:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
1:30 PM	Bulletin Notes Meeting	Friendship Room
4:30 PM	Scouts	FPC
6:00 PM	Sweet Adelines	Fellowship Hall
6:30 PM	Preschool Planning Team	101, 100
Wednesday, December 11, 2024		
10:00 AM	Wed. Morning Bible Study	101
2:00 PM	Disciples Bible Study	101
6:00 PM	PADS Ministry	Fellowship Hall
7:00 PM	Finance Team	154, 155
Thursday, December 12, 2024		
9:00 AM	MT Meeting	Friendship Room
10:00 AM	The Comfort Stitchers	154, 155
5:00 PM	Handbell Choir	Sanctuary
6:30 PM	Choir	Sanctuary
7:30 PM	Worship Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Friday, December 13, 2024		
Saturday, December 14, 2024		
10:00 AM	Dress Rehearsal	Sanctuary

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CALENDAR

Sunday, December 15, 2024		
9:00 AM	Faith Formation	FPC
10:00 AM	Worship Svc. Live & Streamed*	FPC, Online
Monday, December 16, 2024		
6:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
Tuesday, December 17, 2024		
12:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
1:30 PM	Bulletin Notes Meeting	Friendship Room
4:30 PM	Scouts	FPC
6:00 PM	Sweet Adelines	Fellowship Hall
Wednesday, December 18, 2024		
10:00 AM	Wed. Morning Bible Study	101
2:00 PM	Disciples Bible Study	101
7:00 PM	PADS Ministry	Fellowship Hall
Thursday, December 19, 2024		
10:00 AM	The Comfort Stitchers	154, 155
5:00 PM	Handbell Choir	Sanctuary
6:30 PM	Choir	Sanctuary
7:30 PM	Worship Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Friday, December 20, 2024		
Saturday, December 21, 2024		
Sunday, December 22, 2024		
9:00 AM	Faith Formation	FPC
10:00 AM	Worship Svc. Live & Streamed*	FPC, Online
Monday, December 23, 2024		
6:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
Tuesday, December 24, 2024		
12:00 PM	Church Office Closes	
4:00 PM	Christmas Eve Worship	Sanctuary
7:00 PM	Christmas Eve Worship	Sanctuary
Wednesday, December 25, 2024 - Church Office Closed		
7:00 PM	PADS	Fellowship Hall
Thursday, December 26, 2024 - Church Office Closed		
10:00 AM	The Comfort Stitchers	154, 155
Friday, December 27, 2024 - Church Office Closed		
Saturday, December 28, 2024		
Sunday, December 29, 2024		
10:00 AM	Worship Svc. Live & Streamed*	FPC, Online
Monday, December 30, 2024 - Church Office Closed		
6:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
Tuesday, December 31, 2024 - Church Office Closed		
12:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
4:30 PM	Scouts	FPC
6:00 PM	Sweet Adelines	Fellowship Hall

* *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

The church office will be closed from noon Tuesday, December 24, 2024, through Wednesday, January 1, 2025, for the Christmas and New Year's holiday as a way for the staff to enjoy their families. We will be available for any emergencies that arise during this time.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

December 1 Kathy Spittler	December 13 Lindsay Giles
December 2 Andrew Adams Susan Swarner	December 19 John Lawson
December 4 Paige Hughes	December 21 Pastor Nancy Becker
December 5 Audrey Rudzinski	December 23 Ken Kukler
December 6 Leanne Grant	December 25 Lillian Bianco Marc Buehler Gavin Kukler Jean Patton
December 8 Michael Byerly Joan Johnston	December 30 Elizabeth Monroe
December 10 Diana Richardson	

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

MINISTRY ROSTER

COMMUNION SERVERS

Dec. 1	Doug Hollar Judy Hollar Rose Ross
Christmas Eve Dec. 24	
4:00 p.m.	Julie Golding Cathy Cole Emily Golding
7:00 p.m.	Jason Adams TBD TBD

COMMUNION SET UP / CLEAN UP

Dec. 1	Betty Richardson
Dec. 24	
Preparations:	Beth Germann
4:00 p.m.	June Olling
7:00 p.m.	June Olling

continued in next column

MINISTRY ROSTER, *continued*

SEXTON

Open:	Paul Knauff
Close:	Jim Hubbard
Christmas Eve:	
4:00 p.m.	Paul Knauff
7:00 p.m.	TBD

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTERS

Dec. 1	Ben & Madison Keller
Dec. 8	Wed. morning Bible Study (Contact: Sharon Kinsey)
Dec. 15	Comfort Stitchers (Contact: Pastor Nancy Becker)
Dec. 22	TBD
Dec. 24	
4:00 p.m.	Lawson Family
7:00 p.m.	Andrea Phillips Family

ELDER ON CALL SCHEDULE

Dec. 1	Rose Ross
Dec. 15	Linda Long
Dec. 29	Chip Wilkes

DEACON ON CALL SCHEDULE

Dec. 8	Jim Peyton
Dec. 22	Betty Richardson

LITURGIST SCHEDULE

Dec. 1	Mike Becker
Dec. 8	Mike Becker
Dec. 15	Kathryne Penninga
Dec. 22	Sheya Bennett
Dec. 29	Molly

USHERS SCHEDULE

Dec. 1	Jason Adams Amy Press Ryne Press
Dec. 8	Michael McKee Suk McKee Molly
Dec. 15	Doug Hollar Judy Hollar Jim Gray
Dec. 22	Rose Ross Steve Scarborough TBD
Christmas Eve – Dec. 24	
4:00 p.m.	Jason Adams Kathy Joseph Jerry Kahrs
7:00 p.m.	Jason Adams Mike Walker Denise Walker
Dec. 29	Jason Adams Ben Keller Madison Keller

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHURCH STAFF	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Rev. Kim Adams	kadams@fpcvalpo.org
Rev. Nancy Becker, Parish Associate.....	churchoffice@fpcvalpo.org
Rev. Dr. Julia Zhao, Associate Pastor in Residence.....	jzhao@fpcvalpo.org
Rhonda Clark, Handbell Choir Director.....	churchoffice@fpcvalpo.org
Sue Davis, Business Manager	sdavis@fpcvalpo.org
Brad Dirks, Organist.....	churchoffice@fpcvalpo.org
Dan Higgins, Custodian	
Valarie Smart-Higgins, Custodian	
Judy Hollar, Clerk of Session.....	churchoffice@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* Worship Team*
Sharon Kinsey	Faith Formation Team Adult Faith Formation*
Jerry Kahrs	Finance Building and Grounds*
Harry Karabel.....	iEngage Team Worship Team*
Linda Long	Mission
Elizabeth Monroe	Membership Team Nominating Team Stewardship Team*
Kathryne Penninga	Worship Team Congregational Life* Mission *
Ron Phillips.....	Adult Faith Formation Team Faith Formation Team*
Rose Ross	Congregational Life
Jeanne Turner	Stewardship Team Membership*
Chip Wilkes.....	Personnel Team* Finance Team*

*denotes Elder Rep.

Building and Grounds Team

Vic Klancer, Moderator

Moderator of Session

Pastor Kim Adams

Membership Clerk

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

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



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