

First Presbyterian Church of Valparaiso

3401 North Valparaiso Street

Valparaiso, IN 46383

Phone: (219) 464-4985

Engaged locally and globally for Christ!



Book of Order 2017/2019

F-1.0304 The Great Ends of the Church

The great ends of the Church are: ...

The shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God...

It's nothing new, really. I've been hearing about it since we arrived two years ago. *"Our CE program needs help."* *"There aren't enough people to teach."* *"No one comes back here [in the education wing] to see what's going on."* *"Our attendance has dropped."* *"Parents don't make their kids come to Sunday school anymore."* *"Culture has changed. Church is no longer a priority."*

I could go on. But I've seen it for myself. In countless conversations, the tone, the words echo similar sentiments. And I can tell you this truth: hiring one more person is not going to solve 'the problem.' One person cannot do the work of an entire congregation. As the Great Ends of the Church tell us, it is the purpose (or at least one of them) of the CHURCH to shelter, nurture, and encourage the spiritual fellowship of the children of God.

So, what's the answer? Honestly, I don't know. What I do know is that we are not alone in this issue. Many, many other churches across denominational lines are struggling with the same issues of low rates of attendance, of volunteerism, of interest in doing much more than giving one hour on Sunday mornings to 'the church.'

It's not going to be a quick fix. This is not something we're going to be able to assign one person to, and then assume it will get done. Sunday school is a thing of the past. How we've always done it will no longer work. We've already tried that. And before you relegate this to 'this doesn't apply to me,' this is a whole church matter. Because the nurture of all of God's children (all ages) is VERY important. Growing in our faith journeys is way up there on the priority list as disciples of Jesus. The only way we're going to grow is to do it **together**.

So, I've called some folks together to listen, to dialogue, to analyze, to ask: how are we at FPC Valpo going to bring about the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God? The *CE Task Force* has already begun its work, and will continue working, seeking the Spirit's leading toward a new vision for nurture and education here. You'll be hearing from us soon, through a survey. You may be seeing us in your small groups, or team meetings, as we ask questions. You will be invited to participate in some new ventures. YOUR input is vital. YOUR participation is urgent.

This isn't someone else's problem. This is ours. Yours. Mine. And, this is an opportunity for us to learn together and grow together in new and exciting ways. I'm looking forward to how things will unfold in 2018! I hope you are too! Let me know if you have questions, input, or want to help.

I continue serving in Christ,

Pastor Toby

Session Synopsis of January 15, 2018

Newly installed elders on Session joined those previously installed to serve in 2018 on Monday evening, January 15. With Pastor Mark traveling with the Outreach Foundation to meet Syrian and Lebanese pastors in Lebanon, Pastor Toby moderated the meeting. Highlights:

- Jerry Kahrs led devotions and opening prayer with focus on Martin Luther King and our shared dream of being created in the image of God and uniting in Christ across our many divisions and prejudices.
- Session affirmed fundraising for \$3,000 to provide half-court basketball facilities for 30,000 Syrian refugees living in camps in Lebanon and celebrated the generous contributions of money and medical supplies carried by Pastor Mark on behalf of the congregation to the Middle East.
- Vacation Bible School is scheduled for June and will focus on the theme of living water, blending materials from Living Waters of the World (a mission of the Synod of Living Waters) and Rolling River Rampage (Cokesbury). The Gordon family (Jason, Becky, and Isabel) have graciously volunteered to head up this endeavor.
- Youth Mission Trip is scheduled through West Virginia Ministry of Advocacy & Workcamps for July 28–August 4, 2018. Both youth and adults are encouraged to participate.
- Session issued a call for the Annual Congregational and corporate meeting for Sunday, January 28, 2018, after the 9:00 a.m. service to approve the 2017 Annual Report, receive the 2018 Operating Budget, note officers for the Corporation as elected by Session (Elizabeth Monroe, President, and Doyll Andrews, Secretary), approve the pastoral Terms of Call, and elect members-at-large to the 2018 Congregational Nominating Committee.

- Session re-elected Judy Hollar as Clerk of Session, Ruth Dickey as Treasurer, and Susan Grosick as Membership Clerk and named Jerry Kahrs as its second elder to the Nominating Committee.
- More do-business for Session included electing its commissioners to the presbytery assemblies for 2018 and approving the 2017 annual statistical report as well as the work of the deacons.

All previously ordained deacons and elders of the congregation, including those not presently serving, are encouraged to attend “Salt and Light: Building from Our Past, Visioning Our Future,” a retreat scheduled for Friday, February 9 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Saturday, February 10, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Taltree Arboretum and Gardens (450 W 100 N, Valparaiso, IN 46385). National Book Award winner Rev. Walt Wangerin, Jr. and Presbytery Visioning and Connecting Leader Rev. Jennifer Burns Lewis will be guest speakers. There is no cost to attendees. Lunch will be served on Saturday and childcare will be available, but RSVPing to the church office by February 1 is essential to assure planning.

If you would like more information, please read the detailed minutes that are posted in the glass-enclosed announcement board in the Hospitality Center once they are approved. Also feel free to contact any of the Elders and/or the Clerk if you have questions or are interested in further details.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Long, Clerk *pro tem*

Christian Sympathies

We extend our heartfelt Christian sympathies to the following:

To the Sharon Harris family upon the death of her grandson, Aidan Harris Carter.

To the Rose Ross family upon the death of her cousin, Betsy Kee.

Officer Retreat

Calling All Elders and Deacons!

If you have served as an elder or a deacon, you are invited to attend our Officer Retreat! Please join us as we seek inspiration and discernment for our future.

Salt and Light: Building from Our Past, Visioning Our Future

Taltree Arboretum and Gardens
450 W 100 N
Valparaiso, IN 46385

Friday, February 9, 2018 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Saturday, February 10, 2018* 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Guest Speakers:

National Book Award Winner, Walter Wangerin, Jr.
Wabash Presbytery Visioning and Connecting Leader, Rev. Jennifer Burns Lewis

Childcare is available upon request.

*denotes lunch will be served.

RSVP to the church office by February 1, 2018, at churchoffice@fpcvalpo.org or 219-464-4985.

Men's Breakfast

Please join us on Sunday, February 11, 2018, at 8:00 a.m. in the Friendship Room as we celebrate Christian fellowship and share a delicious meal!

We hope to see you there - bring a friend!

First Friday Friends

Please join us on Friday, February 2, 2018, at 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall for First Friday Friends! This is a ministry for elementary-aged kids (K-6).

Dinner and FUN included!! Invite a friend, and be sure to RSVP to Pastor Toby:
tmueller@fpcvalpo.org

Shrove Tuesday

The Confirmation Class and their parents will host the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner on Tuesday, February 13, 2018 from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Ticket sales will take place the two Sundays prior to the event (Feb. 4 and Feb. 11) between services. Ticket prices are \$3 per individual and \$10 per family.

Mark your calendars for dinner with the Confirmands on Tuesday, February 13th

Congregational Life News

Please Join Us for Family Game Night

Who: Everyone!
What: Family Game Night
When: February 16, 2018 from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Where: FPCValpo Fellowship Hall

Bring a snack to share and your favorite board/card games. Bring a friend!

Heartfelt Thank Yous

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for the snack boxes this year. Like always, the time of final exams is hard, so it was nice to receive the wonderful gifts! We shared them with our many friends who were also grateful for the gift.

Thank you again for this gesture of support and love,

Wendy, Gena and Marita Banta-Long

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Thank you to my church family for the love and support given to me, my daughter, Heidi, and her family on the death of my 15 year old grandson Aidan Harris Carter in Ohio on January 7th. Aidan was one of God's special children.

Sharon K. Harris

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Dear First Presbyterian Church,

Praise the Lord! Your generosity has helped us reach our goal for our new land! You have helped Wycliff go to school. How important and impactful! Your giving is a beautiful reflection of the love of our Savior, Jesus. Your grace through giving and prayer makes a beautiful difference in many lives in Kenya. So many children will benefit with a growing school, better education and food. Thank you also for your support of Pastor Henry's van—the ministry van. Wow! Thank you!!

For unto us a child is born. Hallelujah!

Janet Myers
Kenya REAL

Mitten Tree

Thanks to all who donated to the Mitten Tree. There were 81 gloves, 23 sets of matching gloves and hats, 88 hats, one pair of ear muffs, and two head bands. A total of 195 items were collected. This year was the most collected of the past 15 years! Some hats were handmade by our Thursday Comfort Stitchers group and were so beautiful! Items were taken to the school for distribution to any Valparaiso child in need.

God Bless to All,

Kathy Rowe

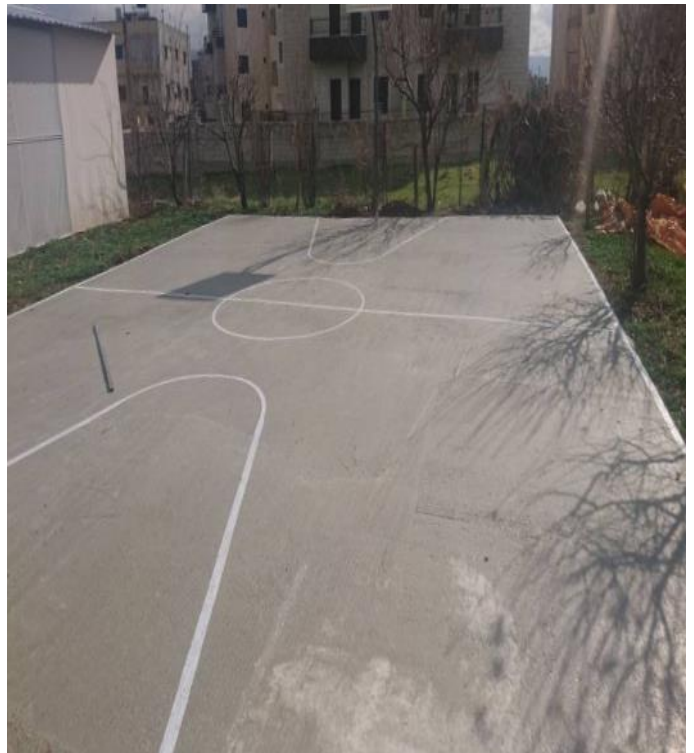
Hoops for Syria!

Ten refugee camps dot the landscape in the Bekaa valley, near Zahle, Lebanon. About 60,000 refugees fill those camps, tent after tent, forced from their homes due to violence, and even the threat of death. Although the Lebanese government has flung open their doors welcoming these outcasts, life is still very hard. Jobs in this small country are hard to come by, especially for refugees. Can you imagine what life must be like, scraping by day to day just to have enough to eat?

Through God's creative Spirit in Izdihar Kassis, hope is infiltrating this place. Izdihar has already begun her sewing ministry (which we helped with last year!) teaching women how to sew, thus giving them skills for income. But there are still thousands needing an outlet, a way to expend energy in positive ways.

Enter the basketball court!! Izdihar asked, and Pastor Mark provided seed monies to excavate, level, and pour the concrete for a basketball court – and by the time he was ready to leave Lebanon, the court was finished! But there are still bills to be paid! PLEASE help!! Donate what you can, and we'll put your name on a basketball in the Narthex!! No amount is too small, or too big, to help Syrian children and adults play together in positive, life-building ways!!

We're about half-way toward our goal! Help us get through the fourth quarter with your blessings!



Deacons Doings by Jim Boys

The Deacons finished out 2017 with the distribution of small evergreens and Advent bags to our 26 Deacon Friends. Our annual Cookie Walk was also a great success bringing in nearly \$900 to aid us in serving the needs of our congregation. Of course, we did not do this single handedly. We would like to thank all the ministry units and study groups that contributed wrapped items for the Advent bags as well as all those who baked and donated cookies for our Cookie Walk.

The Deacons are not letting the frigid winter of 2018 slow us down. January 14th was our first event of the year. We hosted our 2nd annual coffee hour honoring the retiring 2017 classes of Deacons and Elders as well as the new incoming classes of 2020.

As in the past, we will continue to set up and present the Communion elements each month as well as visit our Deacon Friends. Please remember to sign the Caring is Contagious Card located in the Narthex. It is one way that you can reach out to fellow members of our congregation and show your love. Stay tuned to see what other things the Deacons plan on doing this year!!!

As always, we strive to continue to be the hands and feet of our Lord and Savior by serving those within our church family and community. We encourage you to help others in your own way for remember: "In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:16

Coffee Hour Fellowship

Attention families and small groups - please consider signing up to host a Coffee Hour in 2018. It's a wonderful way to practice "Radical Hospitality" as you provide much appreciated treats or snacks to young and old, familiar and new faces of our church family. Sign up on the Coffee Hour clipboard in the Hospitality Center.

If this feels overwhelming to you, keep it simple with purchased baked goods or fruit, cookies or crackers. Still too much? We have a closet of goodies that just need to be placed on trays (we provide those too!) and cleaned up once the 11:00 a.m. service begins. Contact Julie Golding with any questions at:

219-921-9042

or

fletcherjulie3@gmail.com

Thanks for your support!

Prayer & Praise Ministry

If you desire prayer support for yourself or loved ones, don't hesitate to call on our 100+ Prayer Warriors through our Prayer & Praise Ministry hotline. Know that your requests can be held in strict confidence for your privacy, or we can also add your request to our Sunday announcements and/or printed Prayer Sheet. God is always listening! To begin the prayer hotline, please contact Pastor Toby Mueller at:

tmueller@fpcvalpo.org

or

(256) 425-3181

Congregational Health Team Meeting

When: February 18, 2018

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Place: Parish Nurse Office

Please attend if you are able.

Blessings,

Rose Ross

Mission at Work

“Mission is the purpose of the church.”

Our church has an opportunity to do mission for EVERYONE!

These mission opportunities continue for everyone
at First Presbyterian Church Valparaiso.

FILL YOUR LIFE – Love is Feeding Everyone. We encourage all to fill their red grocery bags with items for the food pantry and bring them to church each Sunday.

PADS: Our church gratefully is part of this ministry of helping the homeless men in our community have a warm, dry place to sleep and meals to eat.

Urgent need for volunteers to help staff the 1:30 a.m. – 5:00 a.m. shift, Thursday mornings.
Please call Beth Germann 219-477-9964 to volunteer or for more information.
Also need people to do laundry the end of February and March.

MISSION TRIPS SET FOR 2018 – Let us know if you want to be a part of one!

Syria, Lebanon – January
Kenya R.E.A.L. – February 10-20
Texas – March/April
Guatemala – April 28 – May 3
Holy Lands – May 15-26
West Virginia – July 28-August 4
Brazil – August 24-31
Holy Lands – September/October
Cuba – November

Kenya R.E.A.L. – A mission trip is also being planned for the spring of 2019. Please contact Ken McAloon if you are interested in being part of the mission trip. We are also helping with Pastor Henry's van.

RELAY FOR LIFE – Spring of 2018. If you would like to be part of this, please let Beth Germann know.

Praise Items:

- 1) Budget giving in 2017 was \$22,000
- 2) Second Mile and special Mission Offerings collected in 2017: over \$43,000

There is a Mission Budgeted Giving board in the narthex.

There is a mission bulletin board by the small group room

Mission Team is praying about our Local Mission giving which includes PADS, Hilltop House, Christian Food Pantry, Youth Services Bureau, Great Banquet, Kairos, Kairos Outside, Geneva Center. If you want more information on how to get involved with any of these, please contact the church office or Beth Germann.

Thank you for being Jesus' hands and feet here in Valparaiso, in Indiana, in the United States and in the World! We are blessed to share our blessings! If you have ideas for future mission opportunities, please contact Beth Germann 464-3608. We meet the second Monday of the month at 6:30. You are welcome to join us!

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Mission at Work, continued

Urgent PADS Needs!

Men's Homeless shelter here at our church on
Wednesday nights/Thursday early morning.

Please consider giving three hours of your time to help those in need.

Sign up in the Hospitality Center

or talk to

Olga Koch or Beth Germann

January 31 10:00 p.m. - 1:30 a.m. Shift - Need One Male Volunteer

February 8 1:30 a.m. - 5:00 a.m. Shift - Need 2 Volunteers

February 15 1:30 a.m. - 5:00 a.m. Shift - Need 2 Volunteers

February 22 1:30 a.m. - 5:00 a.m. Shift - Need 2 Volunteers

March 1 1:30 a.m. - 5:00 a.m. Shift - Need 2 Volunteers

We also need volunteers to do the laundry March 1 and March 28, 2018.

Christian Food Pantry

Volunteers were busy serving two hundred and forty-nine families which provided food for five hundred and seventy-three people in December. More than 85 turkeys or hams were offered along with other Christmas meal items to appreciative clients who had signed up ahead of time. The turkeys were purchased with the help of Aldi gift cards from the Valparaiso FOP. Both Strack and Van Til stores were generous with helpful donations of food bags purchased by shoppers at their stores. Numerous other groups gave generously which helped supply the basic and extra needs of pantry families.

The New Year will be back to basics for the regular food items offered to clients needing pantry assistance. Items needed are as follows:

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| ➤ Bathroom Tissue | ➤ Juices |
| ➤ Canned Fruit | ➤ Peanut Butter |
| ➤ Egg Noodles | ➤ Pork 'n Beans |
| ➤ Jiffy® Corn Bread Mix | ➤ Saltine Crackers |

But as always – any food donations are gladly received and served. A special thank you goes out to many extra volunteers who pick up food items regularly from Strack and Van Til, Aldi's, VHS and the seven sponsoring churches.

Happy New Year!
Nan, Sharon and Anne

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THE OUTREACH FOUNDATION

Israel/Palestine/Jordan Mission-Vision Trip

MAY 15-26, 2018

Join Associate Director Marilyn Borst and visit Outreach's strategic partners: Bethlehem Bible College, Palestinian Bible Society and Musalaha (a reconciliation ministry) to learn of their work and witness. We will also meet with other Palestinian Christian ministries to learn how they are seeking to be faithful under pressure and with peace, a seemingly elusive ideal in this controversial but compelling place.



There will, of course, be ample time to experience the sites of the Biblical narrative and the places where Christ's life and ministry became incarnational, including the Jerusalem area, Bethlehem, Nazareth and the Galilee, as well as Jericho and the Dead Sea. Participants will be expected to absorb assigned readings which will help prepare them to explore the history and politics of a contested land and to wrestle with the often-distorted theologies which have skewed our understanding of what the Bible teaches us about that land and the divine covenants (in both the Old and New Testaments) which were formed in that crucible.



We will also spend some days in Jordan visiting the refugee ministries of Middle East Council of Churches, who, through their Orthodox Initiative, are bringing hope and healing to both Syrian and Iraqi refugees. We will spend time with the students and staff of the Holy Land Institute for the Deaf where, for 50 years, this Anglican boarding school has dispensed both loving care and quality education. There will be an add-on option to see Petra.

LAND COST: \$2,480, double occupancy.
Not included in cost: R/T air, two meals, tips.

For more information: Lisa Dill (615) 778-8881
lisa@theoutreachfoundation.org,
www.theoutreachfoundation.org/trips



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Mission at Work, continued

Compass International Family Center Thanks First Presbyterian Church of Valpo!

The leaders and families appreciate our mission gift of \$1,000 toward the purchase of a 15-passenger van to bring families to Compass events! That puts Compass at \$9,260 today toward their goal of \$20,000. Who is “Compass” and why does it need a van for its ministry? Good questions!

- Compass International Family Center is a non-denominational ministry in Valparaiso to support immigrant and refugee neighbors of all ages in Northwest Indiana with educational support and other services they need to thrive in their new community. Typically, there are 60 children and 40 adults each year being served by some 50 volunteers in adult English classes, Citizenship classes, K-12 tutoring, English learner preschool classes, and childcare. Compass students have come from over 30 different countries over the years, speaking 15 different languages! Jessica Burkman has been the Compass Director for the last decade, and is a licensed teacher to English Learners with a passion for caring for newcomers from around the globe.
- Though many families can arrange to transport their children to Immanuel Lutheran School where the afterschool programs are currently housed, some cannot and need transportation to be provided. Compass is raising funds to purchase this essential van to bring children and parents without other options to the programs on Tuesday, Thursdays and other events as scheduled.

Compass sessions resume in mid-January. If you are interested in volunteering with Compass, please visit their website at compassifc.org or email Jessica at jburkman@compassifc.org. The new semester is a great time to jump in!

– Linda Long, Compass volunteer tutor

Second Mile Offering and Christian Food Pantry

February's Second Mile Offering will be received for the Hilltop House Ministry. You will find envelopes in the slots on the back of the chairs for your convenience.

If you would like to donate items to the food pantry, there is a basket in the entryway for that purpose.

Christians of the Holy Land

Live Online Presentation from Jerusalem

Please join us at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, Feb. 25, 2018, for an educational hour in the Friendship Room. Live from Jerusalem, Sa'id, a Palestinian Christian tour guide, will provide an informational session about the current state of Palestinian Christians living in the Holy Land. At the end of the presentation, he will provide information about an upcoming mission trip to the Holy Land to see the sights of the life and ministry of Jesus.

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Love Matters



LOVE MATTERS – COMMUNITY CONCERT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2018

THE RIPPLE EFFECT CHOIR

presents

LOVE MATTERS

... a Valentine Concert & Community Gathering highlighting the work of local groups that
“Equip Women + Empower Girls”

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2018

2:00 P.M. (EST) – Displays & Party with a Purpose

3:00 P.M. (EST) – Concert/Program by Ripple Effect Choir & Local Groups

4:30 P.M. (EST) – Displays & Refreshments

First Presbyterian Church, 333 W. Colfax Avenue, South Bend, IN

continued on next page

Mission at Work - Malawi Matters, continued

The event will include:
Concert by The Ripple Effect Choir +
other musicians
Highlight talks by local groups
Displays * Merchandise
Community Building/Networking *
Refreshments
Party with a Purpose (opportunity to
make reusable pads for girls and women)

No Charge * No Ticket
Freewill offering (\$10.00 suggested donation) benefiting Malawi Matters
Equipping Women/Empowering Girls education programs in "The Warm Heart of Africa"

The Ripple Effect Choir

The first of its kind in the Michiana area, The Ripple Effect is dedicated to the unification of community and transformation of social awareness. The singers emphasize diversity, hope, and healing, as well as mega doses of fun! Their eclectic, challenging repertoire includes everything from hymns and spirituals to jazz and musical theater. Directed by Sherry K (Klinedinst), the choir's aspiration is to influence and encourage others to make a difference by building bridges, promoting kindness, and "rippling" out in their own lives. The Ripple Effect is not just a group of voices, but a collective truth-speaking voice in the community, by way of the enormous power of music.

Malawi Matters

Malawi Matters facilitates Creative Methods of HIV & AIDS Education courses, Equipping Women/Empowering Girls programs, and Culture & HIV-AIDS sessions in 188 villages of the central region of Malawi, Africa. Formed in 2008 in response to the challenge of 2,000 Malawians living in the Michiana area, its programs will expand to

2,000 village schools in "The Warm Heart of Africa" in 2018.

Some of the groups participating in the "Love Matters" Community Celebration on 2/11/18:

Africa Bags
Dismas House
Indiana University South Bend – Feminist Student Union
Lot 2545 (Least of These)
Malawi Matters Inc.
Michiana Monologues
The Ripple Effect
St. Margaret's House
Starfish Project
Ten Thousand Villages
Trades of Hope
Wi'am Conflict Transformation Center
YWCA

Party with a Purpose: Keeping girls in school is an opportunity for people to come together to make reusable sanitary pads for youth in Malawi, Africa (and wherever they are needed). Supplies provided; willing hands needed to cut, assemble, and sew the materials. The event will begin at 2:00 P.M. (EST) on Sunday, February 11, prior to the "Love Matters" community concert at 3:00 P.M. (EST), and continue after the concert as well. It will also be held on Monday, February 12 from 10:00 A.M. (EST) to 2:00 P.M. (EST) at First Presbyterian Church in downtown South Bend.

Additional Information

Phyllis Wezeman, President, Malawi Matters
p.wezeman@comcast.net
574-255-3570; 574-302-1556

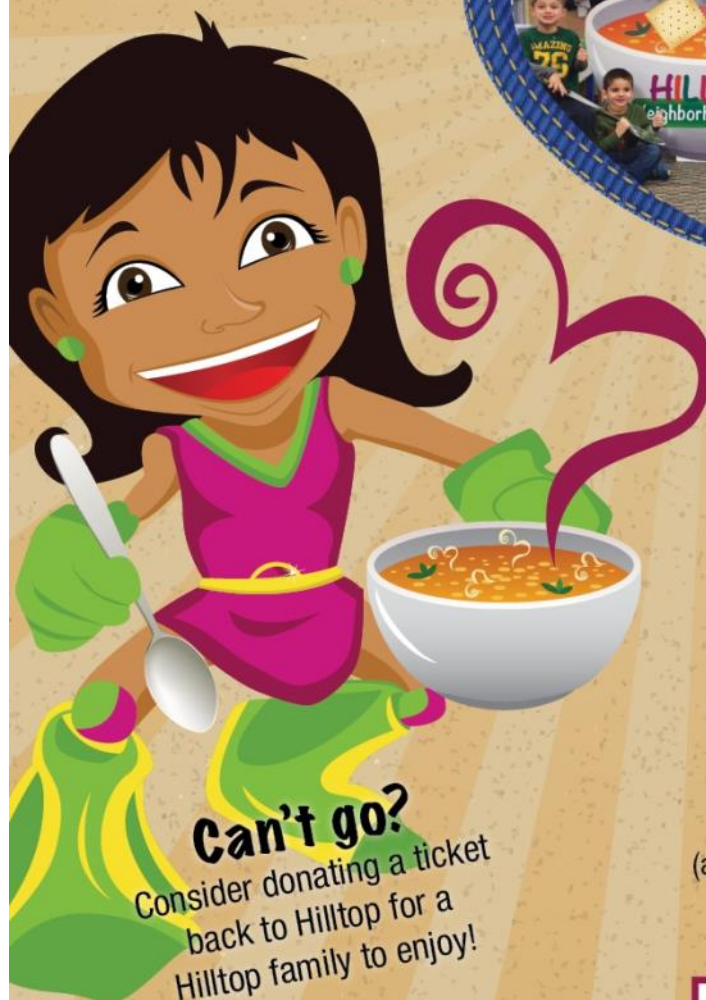
SAVE THE DATE! FEBRUARY 27, 2018

19th Annual Soups Dinner



**Soup & Dessert
Buffet**

Live Music!



Can't go?

Consider donating a ticket
back to Hilltop for a
Hilltop family to enjoy!

Join us for Heartwarming Soups and
Hometown Entertainment and help provide
scholarships for families needing assistance
with quality childcare while improving
their family situations.

Tuesday, February 27, 2018

4 pm-7 pm

Christ Lutheran Church

2610 N. Campbell St. • Valparaiso

(across from Valpo High School, access through Door #14)

TICKETS: \$25

In 2017 Hilltop was able to:

- Award over \$320,000 in childcare scholarships
- Provide 124 children with top quality childcare
- Create a safe, learning environment for 67 school-aged children through our summer camp and after-school programs
- Support 4,300 adults and children through the Hilltop Food Pantry



Christian Education News

Here are some items from our last Christian Education meeting held on January 2, 2018: We meet on the first Monday of the month at 5:30 p.m.; and would gratefully welcome having a parent or two on our committee.

Vacation Bible School 2018 is being led by Jason, Becky and Isabel Gordon. Plans for the June 10 – June 14 are underway, with a theme of water (Rolling River Rampage and Living Waters combining for the best of both!) We are grateful for the ministry and calling of the Gordon family. They have the energy and vision to make this “the best VBS ever at FPC Valpo”. Stay tuned!!!

Summer Mission Trip to West Virginia from Saturday, July 28 to Saturday August 4, 2018: The primary focus group of this mission trip will be high school youth, middle school youth (with 1 parent) and FPCV adult members if space permits. Ken Crews has put together a comprehensive, complete plan for this trip; after Session’s January approval you will be able to see the awesome details of this mission outreach for our youth!

Geneva Center Summer Camps: View the schedule/info regarding summer camps at www.genevacenter.org. There are many dates and age range options. Christian Ed Team will be providing partial payment/scholarships, as we have done in past years. Contact Connie Knauff or Cathy Cole as to details.

We applaud and appreciate you members who have answered a personal call to lead, teach, guide, and help our children and youth!!! You are... Kids of the Kingdom teacher, puppet leader, song leader, Confirmation teacher, Presbys dinner provider, VBS volunteer, Pre-Con teacher, senior high youth leader, special events helper...YAY! Thank you!!!! Our church is blessed by you folks! (There are two ways of volunteering... recruit yourself into a spot that speaks to you, or say “yes” when asked to serve.)

Scholarship Applications

Applications for several scholarships and one service award to be given by First Presbyterian Church are available in the church office. Please submit completed forms to the church office by June 11, 2018.

The annual Anne Lauterbach Scholarships are available to high school graduates of any age who are pursuing education toward a post-high school degree.

The annual Lillian Wilson Graeber Memorial Scholarship will be awarded to a graduating high school senior who is active in First Presbyterian Church and in the community and who has been accepted by a two or four-year institution of higher learning.

The First Presbyterian Church Service Award will go to a graduating high school senior who is implementing post-secondary education plans.

Anyone with questions may contact Margaret Alexander, Scholarship Committee Chairman, at 462-8723.

Our January began with a big “show and tell” day of our favorite Christmas toys. The children were excited to be back together with all of their friends and to get back into the routine of school.

We enjoyed making projects about winter animals and snow. The 3-4 year-old class began learning their shapes. They enjoyed going on a hunt for the gingerbread boy and found cookies he left in the kitchen. The Pre-K class practiced putting on and zipping their coats, and practiced writing their names. They also enjoyed dinosaur day and got to learn how tall and long a dinosaur would be if it stood in our hallway! Both classes did a family project decorating a paper pair of mittens. At the end of the month, the Pre-K class hosted their dads for Dad’s Dessert.

We continue to take donations of metal coffee cans and have recently begun collecting large 4 and ½ quart plastic ice cream tubs. Please save these containers for our school if you use these items in your home.

We are registering now for the 2018-2019 school year. Registration forms are available in the PWNS mailbox in the church office.

Sheya Bennett
309-5873

Ann Skadberg
405-7188

Worship Flowers

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE WORSHIP FLOWERS in honor or memory of a loved one, please fill out the information below and return it to the church office or sign up on the clipboard chart located on the north bookcase in the Hospitality Center. Thank you.

Feb. 18	Feb. 25	Mar. 4	Mar. 11	Mar. 18	Mar. 25
Apr. 8	Apr. 22	May 13	May 20	May 27	June 3

Name: _____ Phone: _____

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

To be taken home: _____ To be delivered to shut-ins: _____

February Calendar

Thursday, February 01, 2018

9:30 AM	The Comfort Stitchers	154, 155
3:30 PM	Endowment Meeting	101
6:30 PM	Praise Band	Sanctuary

Friday, February 02, 2018

5:30 PM	First Friday Friends	Fellowship Hall
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Saturday, February 03, 2018

Sunday, February 04, 2018

9:00 AM	Liturgical Service of Worship	Sanctuary
9:00 AM	Pre-Confirmation Class	100
9:15 AM	Kids of the Kingdom	CE Rooms
9:45 AM	Coffee Fellowship	Hospitality Center
10:00 AM	Congregational Life Team	Friendship Room
10:00 AM	Confirmation Class	154
10:15 AM	Adult Choir Practice	148, 149
11:00 AM	Contemporary Praise Service	Sanctuary
11:15 AM	Kids of the Kingdom	CE Rooms
12:00 PM	Presbys - Go to Lunch after 11:00 a.m. Service	Off-site
1:00 PM	Cub Scouts	FH, FR
6:00 PM	The Leftovers	101

Monday, February 05, 2018

8:30 AM	Retired Presbyterian Men	Off-site
5:00 PM	Journeys of Faith	101
5:30 PM	Christian Education Team	145
6:00 PM	Building & Grounds Team	154, 155
7:00 PM	Boy Scouts	Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, February 06, 2018

10:00 AM	Staff Team Meeting	Workroom
10:00 AM	Men's Coffee Break Bible Study	101

Wednesday, February 07, 2018

3:30 PM	Disciples Bible Study	101
5:00 PM	Reformation Ringers	Chapel
6:15 PM	Building Disciples Team	101
6:30 PM	B.S. ('Bible Study') Teen Boys	Off-site
7:00 PM	It's them again...	155
7:00 PM	PADS	Fellowship Hall

Thursday, February 08, 2018

9:30 AM	The Comfort Stitchers	154, 155
6:30 PM	Praise Band	Sanctuary

Friday, February 09, 2018

6:00 PM	Officer Retreat	Taltree Arboretum and Gardens
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Saturday, February 10, 2018

9:00 AM	Officer Retreat	Taltree Arboretum and Gardens
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February Calendar, continued

Sunday, February 11, 2018

8:00 AM	Men's Breakfast	Friendship Room
9:00 AM	Liturgical Service of Worship	Sanctuary
9:00 AM	Pre-Confirmation Class	100
9:15 AM	Kids of the Kingdom	CE Rooms
9:45 AM	Coffee Fellowship	Hospitality Center
10:00 AM	Confirmation Class	154
10:15 AM	Adult Choir Practice	148, 149
11:00 AM	Contemporary Praise Service	Sanctuary
11:15 AM	Kids of the Kingdom	CE Rooms
6:00 PM	The Leftovers	101
6:00 PM	Presbys Youth Group	100

Monday, February 12, 2018

11:00 AM	Presbyterian Resale Shop Ministry	Off-site
5:00 PM	Journeys of Faith	101
5:30 PM	Stewardship Team	100
6:30 PM	Mission Team	101
7:00 PM	Boy Scouts	Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

10:00 AM	Staff Team Meeting	Workroom
10:00 AM	Men's Coffee Break Bible Study	101
5:30 PM	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner	Sanctuary

Wednesday, February 14, 2018

12:00 PM	Ash Wednesday Service	Chapel
3:30 PM	Disciples Bible Study	101
5:00 PM	Reformation Ringers	Chapel
6:30 PM	B.S. ('Bible Study') Teen Boys	Off-site
7:00 PM	It's them again...	155
7:00 PM	Finance Team	Workroom
7:00 PM	PADS	Fellowship Hall
8:00 PM	iEngage Team	101

Thursday, February 15, 2018

9:30 AM	The Comfort Stitchers	154, 155
6:00 PM	Cub Scouts	Fellowship Hall
6:30 PM	Praise Band	Sanctuary

Friday, February 16, 2018

6:00 PM	Family Game Night	Fellowship Hall
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February Calendar, continued

Saturday, February 17, 2018

Sunday, February 18, 2018

9:00 AM	Liturgical Service of Worship	Sanctuary
9:00 AM	Pre-Confirmation Class	100
9:15 AM	Kids of the Kingdom	CE Rooms
9:45 AM	Coffee Fellowship	Hospitality Center
10:15 AM	Adult Choir Practice	148, 149
11:00 AM	Contemporary Praise Service	Sanctuary
11:15 AM	Kids of the Kingdom	CE Rooms
1:00 PM	Cub Scouts	FH, FR
6:00 PM	The Leftovers	101
6:00 PM	Presbys Youth Group	100

Monday, February 19, 2018

5:00 PM	Journeys of Faith	101
7:00 PM	Session	154, 155
7:00 PM	Boy Scouts	Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, February 20, 2018

10:00 AM	Staff Team Meeting	Workroom
10:00 AM	Men's Coffee Break Bible Study	101
7:00 PM	Boy Scouts Committee	154, 155

Wednesday, February 21, 2018

10:30 AM	Widows' Group	Friendship Room
3:30 PM	Disciples Bible Study	101
5:00 PM	Reformation Ringers	Chapel
6:30 PM	B.S. ('Bible Study') Teen Boys	Off-site
7:00 PM	It's them again...	155
7:00 PM	PADS	Fellowship Hall

Thursday, February 22, 2018

9:30 AM	The Comfort Stitchers	154, 155
2:00 PM	Pines Communion	Off-site
5:00 PM	Cub Scouts	Fellowship Hall
6:30 PM	Praise Band	Sanctuary

Friday, February 23, 2018

Saturday, February 24, 2018

February Calendar, continued

Sunday, February 25, 2018

9:00 AM	Liturgical Service of Worship	Sanctuary
9:00 AM	Pre-Confirmation Class	100
9:15 AM	Kids of the Kingdom	CE Rooms
9:45 AM	Coffee Fellowship	Hospitality Center
10:00 AM	Live Online Presentation from Jerusalem	Friendship Room
10:15 AM	Adult Choir Practice	148, 149
11:00 AM	Contemporary Praise Service	Sanctuary
11:15 AM	Kids of the Kingdom	CE Rooms
6:00 PM	The Leftovers	101
6:00 PM	Presbys Youth Group	100

Monday, February 26, 2018

5:00 PM	Journeys of Faith	101
7:00 PM	Boy Scouts	Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, February 27, 2018

10:00 AM	Staff Team Meeting	Workroom
10:00 AM	Men's Coffee Break Bible Study	101

Wednesday, February 28, 2018

3:30 PM	Disciples Bible Study	101
5:00 PM	Reformation Ringers	Chapel
6:30 PM	B.S. ('Bible Study') Teen Boys	Off-site
7:00 PM	It's them again...	155
7:00 PM	PADS	Fellowship Hall

Resale Shop – February 2018 Schedule

Feb. and Mar. Scheduler: Carolyn Dye (219) 464-8878

Closed on Sundays and Mondays – 462-4281

Tuesdays through Saturdays – 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
www.firstpresbyterianresale.com

Tues	Wed	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
		1 Linda Flory Pam Skaltsas ----- Ginger and Jim Boys	2 Mary Henrichs Cindy Robinson ----- Della Hutton Chris Hurd	3 Jackie Bernal Elizabeth Monroe ----- Linda Hartlerode Pam Skaltsas
6 Joan Johnston Betty Richardson ----- Beth Germann Karen Huguenard	7 Rose Olivarri Joan Johnston ----- Cindy Robinson Mary Linda Scott	8 Betty Richardson Rose Ross ----- Rose Ross Carol McCreery	9 Mary Brown Mary Henrichs ----- Beth Florio TBD	10 Linda Harvey TBD ----- Catherine Busch Julie & Emily Golding
13 Marilyn Mohr Nancy Pedersen ----- Carolyn Dye Laura Tucker	14 Sally Hawke Joan Johnston ----- Karen Kelly Judy Kepshire	15 Pat Puffer Karen Vogelsang ----- Pat Buckwell Judy Kendrick	16 Ruth Eskilson Mary Henrichs ----- Nancy Becker Cindy Robinson	17 Barbara Aungst Leanne Grant ----- Carolyn & Doug Dye
20 Mary Brown Janice Reichard ----- Paul Knauff Karen Huguenard	21 Star Ruwersma Mary Jayne Shurr ----- Barbara Aungst Mary Linda Scott	22 Becky Bluhm Pam Skaltsas ----- Carolyn Lelek Carol McCreery	23 Rose Cummins Alexa Olling ----- Carolyn Dye Laura Tucker	24 Linda Hartlerode Elizabeth Monroe ----- Linda Hartlerode Pam Skaltsas
27 Paul Knauff Alexa Olling ----- Pastors Mark & Toby Mueller	28 Mary Jayne Shurr Star Ruwersma ----- Karen Kelly Judy Kepshire	<div style="border: 2px solid blue; padding: 10px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">We Need Your Help!</p> <p>Our awesome workers have so much fun together that it's a joy volunteering at the Resale Shop. Join us for a shift or come in on Monday or Friday morning to help in the backroom. Call Carolyn Dye at (219) 464-8878 for more information.</p> </div>		

Harriet Drapier / Mary Crosby Circle's

Next Meeting

Date: March 15, 2018	Hostesses: Rose Cummins
	Co-hostess: Kathy Rowe
Time: 10:00 A.M.	Lesson: Janice Reichard

Presbyterian Resale Shop Ministry

Moderator:	Carolyn Dye
Vice-moderator:	Pam Skaltsas
Treasurer:	Linda Hartlerode
Secretary:	Rose Olivarri
Historian:	Mary Jayne Shurr

Happy Birthday!

February 1
John Hedman
Pat Tuerff
Ron Scott

February 3
Marci Powell
Doug Lang

February 4
Kay Exley

February 6
Linda Long

February 7
Gabriel Byerly

February 8
Jerry Kahrs

February 10
Sharon Allen
Sandi Roth
Zachary Simmons

February 11
Vilma Reusch
Isabella Wunderlin
Madison Wunderlin

February 12
Liam Luick
Karen Vogelsang

February 14
Rich Exley

February 15
Janice Axmann
Michael Martin

February 16
Willa Nuppnau
Julie Pollaro
Sharon Swihart

February 17
Sadie Kinsey
Sharon Kinsey

February 18
Melissa Klancer
Wendy Banta-Long

February 20
Lisa Scheller

February 23
Jim Boys
Valarie Smart-Higgins
Carolyn Hughes

February 24
Beverlee Frazee

February 26
Rose Bianco

February 27
Richard Lynch

February 28
Donna Parker
Lisa Vukin

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

Saints

Saints Program Planner(s) Needed for 2018

The Saints Ministry needs a volunteer (or two) to take over scheduling programs for our first-Wednesday-of-the-month noon luncheons---March through December. Our wonderful presenters have joined us for lunch as a small payment for their time. Planning the meal is not your responsibility. Please ask Dawn in the church office for a list of the varied past programs we've had. Feel free to contact Marilyn Owens with your questions. SAINTS is a very important part of Congregational Life. Thanks!!!

First Presbyterian Church



"United in the Love of Christ"

3401 N. Valparaiso Street
Valparaiso, IN 46383

Phone No: (219) 464-4985

Email: churchoffice@fpcvalpo.org

Ministry Roster

If there are any changes, please find a substitute and notify the church office as soon as possible to facilitate bulletin printing. Thank you for your time and ministry.

USHERS SCHEDULE

February 4	
9:00 a.m.	Karen Huguenard
11:00 a.m.	Leila Buford Beth Germann
February 11	
9:00 a.m.	David Goodwin Phebe Klapp
11:00 a.m.	TBD
February 18	
9:00 a.m.	TBD
11:00 a.m.	Beth Germann Steve Scarborough
February 25	
9:00 a.m.	TBD
11:00 a.m.	TBD

SEXTON: Dan Higgins

ELDER ON CALL

February 4 Elizabeth Monroe
18 Brad Dirks

DEACON ON CALL

February 11 Mike Becker
25 Julie Golding

COMMUNION SET UP, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2018

Jim Boys
(New Deacon Training)

COMMUNION SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2018 PRESENTATION/CLEAN UP:

Ginger Boys
(New Deacon Training)

FEBRUARY 4, 2018, COMMUNION SERVERS

Elizabeth Monroe*
Rhonda Coffin
Cathy Cole
Connie Knauff
Paul Knauff
Sterling Miller

*denotes team leader

The FPC Usher Team Needs Your Help!

We are in need of expanding the FPC usher team. If you would like to join the team, please contact Destiny Vargas at destiny.vargas2020@gmail.com or (219) 309-7357 or the church office at churchoffice@fpcvalpo.org or (219) 464-4985. Thank you!



First Presbyterian Church of Valparaiso

In case of a pastoral emergency, please call Pastor Mark Mueller at (256) 425-3152.

To contact the Prayer Teams for emergency prayer, please contact
Pastor Toby Mueller via email at tmueller@fpcvalpo.org or via phone (256) 425-3181.

CHURCH STAFF

E-MAIL ADDRESS

Janice Axmann, Organist.....	axmann122@comcast.net
Pastor Nancy Becker, Parish Associate.....	mnbecker3@gmail.com
Rhonda Clark, Adult Choir Director	
Ken Crews, Student Pastor	kennethcrews@go.mccormick.edu
Julia Evans, Director of Youth Ministry	julia.evans@valpo.edu
Beverlee Frazee, Business Manager	bfrazee@fpcvalpo.org
Pastor Mark Mueller, Pastor/Head of Staff	mmueller@fpcvalpo.org
Pastor Toby Mueller, Associate Pastor	tmueller@fpcvalpo.org
Dawn Scarborough, Administrative Assistant.....	dscarborough@fpcvalpo.org
Lisa Thomas, Director of Children's Ministries.....	lthomas@fpcvalpo.org

Per Capita

Please prayerfully consider paying your per capita. The more per capita paid by each member, fewer funds will come out of our operating budget. The cost is \$40.00 per member.

Financial Report

December 2017

Income	\$ 73,209.00	YTD Income	\$ 531,427
Expenses	<u>\$ 56,164.00</u>	YTD Expenses	<u>\$ 456,957</u>
Over/Short	\$ 17,045.00		\$ 74,470



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FPCVALPO (closed)