

First Presbyterian Church of Valparaiso

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

Engaged locally and globally for Christ!



FAITH FORMATION TEAM NEWS

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Students, Teachers, Aides,
Principals and Administrators

Join us for the Annual
Blessing of the Backpacks
Sunday, August 6, 2023
10:00 a.m. Worship

All are welcome to bring
backpacks for a special blessing.



SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR SUCCESS

The beginning of the school year is an exciting time; especially for kindergarteners kicking off their first year of school. However, the rising costs of school supplies have taken away some of the fun and excitement for some families. The Mission Team would like to invite the congregation to help relieve some of that stress.

Hilltop has a group of 25 children who will be starting kindergarten soon. The Mission Team has purchased 25 new backpacks. We would like to invite the congregation to help provide the school supplies (*new and unopened packages*) from the list below.

- ◆ Box of Crayons (24 count)
- ◆ Clipboard
- ◆ Dry Erase Markers
- ◆ Glue Sticks
- ◆ Headphones
- ◆ Kleenex (large)
- ◆ Pencil/Supplies Box
- ◆ Pencils (beginner pencils)
- ◆ Scissors (kids scissors with blunt tip)
- ◆ Washable Markers

All are welcome to forward the supplies to the tote on the south wall in the Hospitality Center by Sunday, August 13, 2023. Then the Mission Team will fill the backpacks with the supplies which will be given to eager students to begin the first day!

Thank you,

The Mission Team

FAITH FORMATION & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE PRESENT. . .
THE END OF SUMMER/BACK TO SCHOOL POTLUCK!

Sunday, August 27, 2023 after Worship in Fellowship Hall.
Fun, fellowship and learning all about the new program year!



Main dish will be supplied by Faith Formation & Congregational Life.
Please bring a side or dessert to share.
RSVP'S ARE APPRECIATED AT:
Trish Lawson at tlawson@fpcvalpo.org

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PWNS families of the past, present and
the future

First Presbyterian Church
would like to celebrate you!!

Join us

Sunday, September 10, 2023

9am for Faith Formation for all ages

10am for Worship

Following worship we will have a special
Coffee Hour in honor of PWNS!

**EXPLORING NEW MEMBERSHIP AT FPC VALPARAISO
SEPTEMBER 3 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 17, 2023
9:00 A.M. - 9:50 A.M. IN ROOM 101**

While the faith journey is indeed a personal one, it is not meant to be traveled alone!

Whether you are a first time/frequent visitor and friend of First Presbyterian Church, Valparaiso (FPCV) or just need a refresher, all are welcome to join us for “Exploring at First Presbyterian Church, Valparaiso.” We will take a look at what it means to be Presbyterian (what we believe), how the Presbyterian Church (USA) is structured, and the various ministries of FPCV. Each session will be held on Sunday mornings (9/3; 9/10; 9/17 in room 101) from 9:00 a.m. - 9:50 a.m. Additional Sunday morning faith formation classes are available for children and youth. If you plan on attending and would like to know more about additional opportunities for children and youth, please contact Trish Lawson at tlawson@fpcvalpo.org.

As a member of First Presbyterian Church, you will be encouraged to grow in your relationship with the Triune God through worship, faith formation, fellowship, mission, and outreach. However, by attending this class you are not required to become a member, in fact, you are welcome to simply come and learn more about us (you can still receive our monthly newsletter, participate in a Bible study, join the choir, or enjoy any of our fellowship events).

Please let us know if you are interested in attending, by contacting the church office churchoffice@fpcvalpo.org.

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2023 PER CAPITA

This year, our per capita is \$43 per member. When we give to support *per capita*, we are saying, “Thank you for the gift of the Church.” We are working together, seeking the mind of Christ, working for justice and mercy in the world, and participating in God's continual reformation of the Church. **WE ARE THE CHURCH, TOGETHER.**

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHIES

We extend our heartfelt sympathies to:

The family and friends of Marcelle Johnson upon her death;

To Marilyn Mohr and family upon the death of her husband, Don Mohr; and

To Ralph and Cathy Greenawald upon the death of their brother-in-law, Dr. Donald Pell.

Stewardship is preparing for the annual celebration of its church family's generous spirit of giving. As each family considers its needs for the coming year, the church is also making those evaluations regarding its 2024 Budget requirements. In planning for your family's needs, remember to consider God's importance and His bountiful blessings in your lives. 2 Corinthians 9:7 and Luke chapter 6, Verse 38 says, "Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion". "God loves a cheerful giver" because those who feel pleasure in giving display the glorious grace of His Son. "The measure you give will be the measure you receive."



There are many ways to give of your Time, your Talents, and your Treasure.

- Your time can be shared by volunteering to help in many capacities throughout the church.
- Your musical talents, for example, are welcome in the adult and bell choirs. The Prayer and Art group would welcome your creative and artistic ability. Faith Formation appreciates additional educational leadership, and your love of cooking can be shared by providing wonderful additions for the church's Potluck meals. Any other special talents you may have are always welcome.
- Finally, your personal decision to support the church's annual budget needs is vital to its ability to continue to provide its many available programs and services.

Our church's financial obligations not only support our missions and ministries and maintain wages and benefits for the staff and leadership but also provide worship experiences, Faith Formation, and maintenance and repairs for the building and grounds of our beautiful facility to support the activities that help us grow our faith.

In August and September our Stewardship Team will begin sharing a variety of information which may be helpful in determining your comfortable level of giving for the 2024 budget year. In October, Church at Work offerings will share the progress of pledges received and opportunities for you to consider your personal time and talent interests. This time of gratitude and thanksgiving will culminate with a celebration at **God's Bountiful Table** to prayerfully thank God for his blessings in your life.

We invite you to mark your calendars for **Celebration Sunday, October 22nd** followed by a harvest meal of thanksgiving. Your invitations will be mailed to you in September including response cards to indicate your attendance. **Please RSVP for the luncheon by OCTOBER 1st.**

Sharing God's Bountiful Table

Your Stewardship Team,

Jeanne Turner, Moderator
Trish Lawson, Elizabeth Monroe and Denise Walker

"The one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully."
2 Corinthians 9:6

GRATITUDE BEYOND WORDS!



The VBC mission outreach has generated
\$375.50 for the Caring Place and
\$672.83 for World Vision Chicagoland Ukrainian Relief.

Congratulations! You have made a difference in children's lives!

**HEARTFELT THANK YOU FROM
KENYA REAL**

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family,

We cannot thank you enough. Your Church Family is making sure that Pastor Henry has a van that works; and the registration is paid. You are blessing us with this gift. We thank the Lord for you and your gracious giving.

May the Lord give you hope and joy that goes beyond measure.

Kenya REAL
Janet

DEACONS DOINGS

(submitted by Bob Marrs)

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and, Love your neighbor as yourself” –Luke 10:27

“Love your neighbor as yourself” – one of the most important things we can do is to lead others to Christ by our actions. Listen for God’s calling.

As we all are enjoying the dog days of summer the Deacons continue to visit and reach out to their Deacon Friends by visiting, calling and sending cards. If you know of a church member who has needs the Deacons provide, please contact any Deacon or the Church Office.

We have a few projects that we are hard at work planning. The Cookie Sale/Walk in November and the Advent bags for Deacon Friends that are delivered by December 1st. We would like to thank those that helped us in the past to make this project a success. Those that receive an Advent bag are very appreciative and many look forward to getting one. Each bag contains 25 individually wrapped gifts, one for each of the 25 days before Christmas. Mini/travel or regular size hand lotion/sanitizer, Kleenex, post-it notes, pens, color pencils, markers, note cards, soaps, candies, cookies, inspirational books, cross word puzzle books, jigsaw puzzles, adult coloring books, eyeglass cleaners, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoos, socks, thank you card sets, journaling books, mini picture frames, ornaments, small flashlights are a few ideas of the gifts we have given in the past. Collection for the Advent bag project will begin near the end of October. Please prayerful consider assisting with this worthwhile project. For more Advent bag project information contact Linda Marrs, lmarrs@comcast.net.

Look for more information about these very worthy projects in future Tidings and church announcements.

Peace, Grace and Love to all...

SURPRISING WAYS TO MAKE A CHARITABLE GIFT THROUGH LIFE INSURANCE!

ARTICLE HIGHLIGHTS: Did you know that by giving a no longer needed **whole** life insurance policy to First Presbyterian and making it the owner and beneficiary you may receive a tax deduction for the cash value on your federal income tax, and, if you continue to pay future premiums you may be able to take future deductions. Also, if you purchase a **new** life insurance policy and make the Church both owner and beneficiary and make premium payments through the Church, you may receive a tax deduction each year.

THE DETAILS

Giving life insurance may offer you benefits and a chance to make a special gift to First Presbyterian when other options are not currently feasible. Perhaps you have a policy that is no longer needed or for which the purpose intended no longer exists. The following are several ways an ordinary (whole) life insurance policy can be used to make a charitable gift.

1. Naming First Presbyterian Church as a beneficiary on an existing life insurance policy

This would be part of a will or estate plan and is an easy and direct way to ensure a legacy gift to First Presbyterian through the proceeds received from the policy.

2. Transferring ownership of a policy to First Presbyterian

By transferring ownership and beneficiary status of a no longer needed policy, you may be able to claim a charitable deduction for the *cash value* of the policy. If the policy is not fully paid up and you choose to make the premium payments through the Church, you may be able to take future deductions. To access the benefits from your gift, the Church may surrender the policy for its current cash value; hold it until its face value can be fully realized or even take out a loan against its cash value; among other options.

3. Purchasing a new policy in order to make a charitable gift

It is possible to purchase a whole life insurance policy *for the purpose of transferring ownership and beneficiary status* to First Presbyterian while personally continuing to pay the premiums. You may choose to pay all the premiums or a portion of the premiums and, may be able to declare your premium payments as tax deductible gifts. As in item number two above, the Church has a variety of options for responding to and even maximizing the financial return from such a gift.

Your gifts to First Presbyterian, including gifts funded through life insurance, are always welcome and deeply appreciated. **In all cases, however, we urge you to speak with your tax advisor, estate attorney and/or financial advisor before taking any steps that alter your personal finances.**

Serving together in God's Love,

Your Planned Giving Team

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PRAYER & PRAISE MINISTRY

If you desire prayer support for yourself or loved ones, you are welcome to contact the Prayer Warriors through the Prayer and Praise Ministry chain: bcgermann@gmail.com or (219) 477-9964.

MISSION TEAM NEWS

BREAD FOR THE WORLD UPDATE

News From Bread Indiana Lead Team about the letters we wrote in support for Bread for the World:

Fifty-three (53) congregations and other groups have reported sending 4,503 letters and verified emails to our members of Congress in support of those who are hungry. This exceeds our previous record of 46 groups sending 4,444 letters in 2019. Approximately 20 additional congregations are still planning letters for this year.

Thanks to all who have participated so far.

Letters are still needed since Congress will be working on the Farm Bill at least until September. The goal is to help end hunger in this country and globally. If you haven't already and would like the opportunity, perhaps consider sending a letter soon.

Grateful for all!

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CHRISTIAN FOOD PANTRY

In June, pantry volunteers were busy serving one hundred eighty-one families with food supplies planned for four hundred twenty-nine people. Kids' Kits ("kits") were provided for seventy-five children and contained a surprise extra (i.e., toys and bubbles) provided by an FUMC Sunday School class. Regular supplies for the kits have been generously donated and will continue to be needed through the second week in August.

Any and all help is appreciated.

Thank you for caring and sharing,

Nan and Sharon

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, Screens,
First Notes and/or Advertisements:**

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

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

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

You make a difference.

**Thank you
for your continued
support.**



American Red Cross



BLOOD DRIVE RESULTS

First Presbyterian Church

July 9, 2023

Donors Registered = 36

First-time Donors = 2

Pints Collected = 41

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.

Individuals who are 17 years of age (16 with parental permission in some states), meet weight and height requirements (110 pounds or more, depending on their height) and are in generally good health may be eligible to give blood. Please bring your Red Cross blood donor card or other form of positive ID when you come to donate. Theme078.Size005 | 2012/07 © 2012 The American National Red Cross | 07/12AP295

redcrossblood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | facebook.com/redcrossblood | @redcrossbloodXX



“Matthew 25 Reflection” presents information chosen by our Matthew 25 Team to inform and inspire our church family to actively engage in activities and with initiatives that reduce poverty and racism in our local communities and beyond.

IS JUNETEENTH WORTH CELEBRATING?

A month ago, on the **4th of July**, we celebrated a federal holiday commemorating a huge event in the history of our nation, the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776! We were no longer controlled by the English colonies and could start the journey to become the United States of America. We usually celebrate this holiday with Family, Fun, Food and Fireworks! A few of us stop for a few seconds to think about and give thanks for **the priceless freedoms we have and take for granted as United States citizens**: freedom of choice in schooling, job training, where we live, job, transportation, marriage partner, children, beliefs, travel, investments, home, land, and business ownership, retirement plans, doctors, etc. Freedoms that we almost self-destructed through the Civil War, re-cemented through the patriotism of two World Wars, and put in jeopardy again with the capital insurrection on January 6, 2022.

Two months ago, on June 19, our country celebrated **Juneteenth** as a federal holiday for only the third time (starting in 2021). This holiday commemorates June 19, 1865, when enslaved people in Galveston, Texas, finally learned (two years after the Emancipation Proclamation was issued) they had been freed. **They were no longer someone’s property! Each one was a person. The ultimate freedom!**

Should be a huge celebration... I would think. A few of us saw an article or headline in the news. Did Juneteenth have any meaning or significance at all to any of us? Did any of us stop to think what Juneteenth means to our Black friends? Did any of us stop to think what a celebration of the 4th of July freedoms means to a Black family who is still fighting the bureaucracy and systems in place to gain their rightful equality in America?

Is Juneteenth worth celebrating?

Prayer: Dear God: As we celebrate the Emancipation Proclamation and the end of the depravity of slavery, we pray that we work toward the day that all Americans can treat each other as equals regardless of the color of our skin. Amen.

Doug Hollar

CALENDAR

Tuesday, August 1, 2023

10:00 AM	Membership Team	154, 155
12:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
1:30 PM	Bulletin Notes Meeting	Hospitality Center
6:00 PM	Building and Grounds	Friendship Room
6:00 PM	Sweet Adelines	FPC
6:00 PM	Planned Giving (TBC)	101

Wednesday, August 2, 2023

5:30 PM	Faith Formation Team	144, 145
6:30 PM	Worship Team	Online

Thursday, August 3, 2023

10:00 AM	The Comfort Stitches	154, 155
7:30 PM	Worship Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary

Saturday, August 5, 2023

1:00 PM	Visitation Fellowship	FPC
3:00 PM	Witness to the Resurrection: Celebrate the Life of Don Mohr, Sr.	FPC

Sunday, August 6, 2023

10:00 AM	Worship Svc. Live & Streamed*	FPC, Online
11:00 AM	Congregational Life Team	FPC

Monday, August 7, 2023

6:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
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Tuesday, August 8, 2023

12:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
1:30 PM	Bulletin Notes Meeting	Hospitality Center
6:00 PM	iEngage Team Meeting	Online
6:00 PM	Sweet Adelines	FPC
6:00 PM	Planned Giving (TBC)	101
6:30 PM	Mission Team	Online
7:15 PM	Matthew 25 Team (TBC)	FR, Online

Wednesday, August 9, 2023

11:15 AM	Agenda Meeting (TBC)	FPC
7:00 PM	Finance Team	154, 155

Thursday, August 10, 2023

10:00 AM	The Comfort Stitches	154, 155
7:30 PM	Worship Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary

Friday, August 11, 2023

Saturday, August 12, 2023

CALENDAR

Sunday, August 13, 2023	9:00 AM	Adult Faith Formation: Summer of Joy	Friendship Room
	10:00 AM	Worship Svc. Live & Streamed*	FPC, Online
Monday, August 14, 2023	6:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
Tuesday, August 15, 2023	12:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
	1:30 PM	Bulletin Notes Meeting	Hospitality Center
	6:00 PM	Sweet Adelines	FPC
	6:00 PM	Deacons Meeting	154, 155
Wednesday, August 16, 2023	3:00 PM	Stewardship Team	154, 155
	7:00 PM	Session Meeting	154, 155
Thursday, August 17, 2023	10:00 AM	The Comfort Stitchers	154, 155
	7:30 PM	Worship Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Friday, August 18, 2023			
Saturday, August 19, 2023	8:00 AM	IDGB Team Meeting	FPC
Sunday, August 20, 2023 - Called Meeting of the Congregation			
	10:00 AM	Worship Svc. Live & Streamed*	FPC, Online
Monday, August 21, 2023	6:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
Tuesday, August 22, 2023	12:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
	1:30 PM	Bulletin Notes Meeting	Hospitality Center
	6:00 PM	Sweet Adelines	FPC
Wednesday, August 23, 2023	12:30 PM	Parkinson's Support Group	Friendship Room
Thursday, August 24, 2023	10:00 AM	The Comfort Stitchers	154, 155
	7:30 PM	Worship Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Friday, August 25, 2023			
Saturday, August 26, 2023			
Sunday, August 27, 2023	9:00 AM	Faith Formation Classes	FPC
	10:00 AM	Worship Svc. Live & Streamed*	FPC, Online
Monday, August 28, 2023	6:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
Tuesday, August 29, 2023	12:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
	1:30 PM	Bulletin Notes Meeting	Hospitality Center
	6:00 PM	Sweet Adelines	FPC
Wednesday, August 30, 2023			
Thursday, August 31, 2023	10:00 AM	The Comfort Stitchers	154, 155
	7:30 PM	Worship Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary

continued on next page

CALENDAR

* 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

ONLINE GIFTS TO THE CHURCH

FPC VALPARAISO ONLINE GIVING OPPORTUNITY

Visit: <https://onrealm.org/FirstPresbyteri76732/-/form/give/KLYBGIVCVH>

for FPC online giving.

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Worship outside under the pavilion first and third Sundays of the month, weather permitting, and inside the sanctuary all other Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

August 1
Linda Marrs

August 3
Leila Buford

August 4
Tammy Rittel

August 6
Ron Phillips

August 8
Katie Golding

August 10
Ryne Press

August 13
Noelle Kukler

August 14
Mary Linda Scott

August 15
John Haas

August 16
Barbara Miller

August 18
Cheryl Highlan

August 19
Andy Kahrs

August 20
Ann Skadberg

August 22
Suk McKee

August 23
Marilyn Ellis

August 25
Doug Greider
Nora Reyna

August 26
Zane Cole
Morgan Walls

August 27
Kenny McAloon
Mike Shurr

August 29
Larry Wheeler

August 30
Vic Klancer
Sandy Highlan-Sopata

August 31
Kim Croarkin

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

ALL ARE WELCOME AT THE TABLE

**COMMUNION WILL BE SERVED DURING
WORSHIP
on
Sunday, August 6, 2023
at 10:00 a.m. Worship**

We will celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion on the above-captioned date/time 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.



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/](http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/matthew-25/)

MINISTRY ROSTER

SEXTON

Open: Paul Knauff
Close: Paul Knauff

ELDER ON CALL SCHEDULE

August 6 Jeanne Turner
August 20 Jeanne Turner

DEACON ON CALL SCHEDULE

August 13 Bob Marrs
August 27 Linda Marrs

LITURGIST SCHEDULE

August 6 Michael McKee
August 13 Ryne Press
August 20 Jeanne Turner
August 27 Presbys

USHERS SCHEDULE

August 6 Denise Walker
Mike Walker
August 13 David Goodwin
Rose Ross
August 20 Jim Hubbard
Sharon Hubbard
August 27 Mary Brown
Julie Golding

COMMUNION SERVERS

August 6 Isabel Gordon
Jason Gordon
Jeanne Turner

COMMUNION SET UP / CLEAN UP

August 6 Joy Dirks

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHURCH STAFF

E-MAIL ADDRESS

Pastor Kim Adams	kadams@fpcvalpo.org
Pastor Nancy Becker, Parish Associate	churchoffice@fpcvalpo.org
Rhonda Clark, Handbell Choir Director	churchoffice@fpcvalpo.org
Pastor Ken Crews, Associate Pastor	kencrews@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.

Elders of Session

Ministry Team

Marc Buehler	Building and Grounds*
Matthew Byerly.....	Worship Team iEngage**
Sharon Kinsey.....	Faith Formation Team Adult Faith Formation**
Harry Karabel.....	iEngage Team Worship Team**
Linda Long.....	Finance Team
Elizabeth Monroe.....	Membership Team Nominating Team**
Ron Phillips.....	Adult Spiritual Formation Team Faith Formation Team**
Ryne Press.....	Mission Team Matthew 25 Team**
Ron Scott.....	Personnel Team Nominating Team
Jeanne Turner.....	Stewardship Team

* denotes Co-moderator

** denotes Elder Rep.

Building and Grounds Team

Vic Klancer*

Moderator of Session

Pastor Kim Adams

Membership Clerk

Elizabeth Monroe

Board of Deacons

Cindy Robinson, Moderator

Congregational Life Team

Deba Daugherty

Clerk of Session

Judy Hollar

Planned Giving Committee

Kathy Joseph, Moderator

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



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