

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



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

Saturday, November 8, 2025

9am-2pm

3401 N. Valparaiso St.

Valparaiso, In 46383

Contact: Trish Lawson tlawson@fpcvalpo.org



All are welcome!

POINSETTIAS

It's that time of year again! If you would like to order poinsettias for this Christmas Season, **please forward the following information and a check to the church office by Sunday, December 7.** The price is \$15.99 per plant. Red and white options are available.



Name: _____

In honor of: _____

In memory of: _____

of Red Plants: _____

of White Plants: _____

You make a difference.

**Thank you
for your continued
support.**



American Red Cross



BLOOD DRIVE RESULTS

First Presbyterian Church

September 22, 2025

Goal = 34

Donors Registered = 38

Pints Collected = 38

First Time Donors = 2

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

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

PARISH NURSE NEWS, CONTINUED

Parish Nurse Rose Ross, RN will be offering information on end-of-life topics during Adult Faith Formation at 9:00 a.m. on November 9, 2025, and November 16, 2025.

- November 9 will cover Advanced Directives as well as Do Not Resuscitate and what that means.
- November 16 will cover Hospice, Palliative and Comfort Care.

Please join us in the Friendship Room at 9:00 a.m. There will be time for questions after the presentation as well as handouts.

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Blood Drive **First Presbyterian Church**

Gym
3401 N. Valparaiso Street
Valparaiso

Sunday, November 23
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 blood Nov. 17-Dec. 7 for an exclusive pair of Red Cross x PAC-MAN socks, while supplies last!



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

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DEACONS DOINGS

October has brought us beautiful weather, lots of work to the Church, dedication of time, talents, and treasures; and now we are looking forward to Advent!

November is upon us!! The Cookie Walk on November 7th is fast approaching. Please join us for a wonderful array of cookies and other treats, and many vendors as part of the Holiday Craft Fair held right here at our Church. The Cookie Walk is the Deacon's only fund raiser. If you would like to make a batch of your favorite recipe and donate it to the Walk, we would love to accept it on Friday the 6th in the kitchen after 4 pm or early Saturday morning. *(The Fair starts at 9 am.)*

The Deacons are also looking forward to giving out our Advent bags and visiting our Deacon friends in December. We would love if you or a Bible Study or group you are in would like to donate 16 small gifts for the bags. They can be anything thoughtful and creative and wrapped as a gift! We hope to have 25 gifts so our friend can open one a day. Help us brighten a person's life this Advent Season.

As this Thanksgiving Season approaches, may we always be kind and caring, always supporting each other, and thankful for every gift God has granted us.

Thankful for All!!!

Deacon Connie Knauff

+ + +



OUR ANNUAL DEACON COOKIE WALK is approaching fast! Deacons have been baking treats and cookies for several years now, raising funds for the charitable work we do.

If you would like to contribute and bake some unique items or perhaps treats from a family recipe, we would love to have them. Just place them in a sandwich size zip lock bag and drop off **Friday, November 7, 2025, at the kitchen church from 4pm onward** or early the day of the Craft Fair November 8, 2025. Thanks!

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ADVENT BAGS

For several years, the Deacons have provided gift bags to several shut-ins in our church family during the Advent season.

We are reaching out to anyone who would like to help. You can help by providing 16 identical gifts that are pre-wrapped for our Deacon friends. Such gifts can include personal care items such as: a magnifying glass, socks, puzzles, candy, cookies, hot chocolate etc. Anything thoughtful and creative would be great!

Thanks for any assistance and if you have any questions, please contact: Deacon Betty Richardson at 219-242-3667



MISSION TEAM NEWS: KENYA MAIZE HARVEST PRAISE ITEM

Please find the pictures from Kenya of the harvest. The money FPC Valparaiso sent was used to hire about 30 people and also a tractor to get the corn that will be ground up for the ugali that the children will eat every day at school. Thank you all so much for approving this!



KENYA REAL JOURNEY



I'm back from Kenya with a heart overflowing! Thank you for praying for me and for our teams and giving so generously to make this trip possible.

God truly answered your prayers – our entire team stayed healthy and safe throughout the journey. We spent the majority of our time in classrooms with the children, alongside dedicated teachers, and working with the tough loving ladies in the kitchen who serve with their muscle and their hearts!

There is always a kindness and a joy that comes from a real place - nothing fake about it! We taught songs about God's love for them, and they taught us just as much as we shared with them! Just hanging out together, laughing, learning... all because of Jesus' love, these times together are built on holy ground.

This trip was about so much more than what we could give – it was about building relationships rooted in Christ's love and learning from our brothers and sisters in Kenya. These relationships have been built over time because we go back to Calvary Hope Centre school and church each year.

We spent time in their homes, listening, sharing, and praying. These are incredible connections that remind me that we are more alike than we are different from each other!

Thank you for being part of this mission through your prayers and financial support. You made these life-changing and perspective-changing connections possible.

May God bless you and keep you,

Let me know if you want to hear anymore about my trip—God always shows up in a big way!

Janet
Kenya REAL

MISSION NEWS

DAYBREAK/PADS OPPORTUNITIES

Daybreak Homeless Shelter is in need of volunteers!!

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

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

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MANY THANKS!!

FPCV made dinner for Daybreak homeless shelter <https://daybreakvalpo.org/> on Thursday, October 16. We prepared the dinner for 40 people in the FPCV kitchen and delivered it to the Daybreak homeless shelter. Thank you to all who supplied the food, prepared and cooked the food, delivered the dinner, ate and visited with the guests, and cleaned up! Many volunteers make it successful. We hope to serve dinner quarterly, so look out for the volunteer opportunities for January 2026.

**OUR SECOND MILE OFFERINGS MAKE A PROFOUND IMPACT
TO THE
CHARITIES WE SUPPORT**

**Please find the following listing of what our congregation has
donated through the end of September 2025:**

January:	Church World Services Blankets & Disaster Relief	\$ 1,590
February:	Hilltop House offering & pantry food boxes	655
March:	One Great Hour of Sharing	1,254
April:	Kenya REAL	3,300
May:	Project Neighbors	3,475
June:	Presbyterian Disaster Assistance	1,041
July:	Foreign Mission REACH GLOBAL: Hero Project	3,172
August:	Presbyterian Preschool	3,125
September:	Project Neighbors	<u>1,610</u>
TOTAL:	THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 2025	\$ 19,222

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. November articles are due by October 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!

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

PARENTS & GUARDIANS



Due to the blessing of a growing class size for Godly Play on Sunday mornings and being conscious of not overcrowding the sacred space with tables and chairs, we will be moving the “Feast” to room 145 after the lesson and free time are complete. We ask that you or the trusted adult that is permitted to pick your child/children please be at room 145 no later than 9:45 a.m. as some Sundays our teachers have active roles in Sunday Worship, and we need to make sure they can get to the Sanctuary in ample time.

We hope your children have enjoyed learning the Godly Play stories just as much as we have loved teaching them & we look forward to those smiling faces on Sunday mornings!

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OPPORTUNITY

The Playground and the Faith Formation team can always use the extra help!

If you are interested in learning how to teach Godly Play, we encourage you to come and sit in on a class or two to observe and ask questions.

We are adding a Playground rotation schedule for adults to help supervise the table.

If teaching or helping out at the Playground interests you, please reach out to any of the Faith Formation Team or Trish Lawson: tlawson@fpcvalpo.org



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN PRESCHOOL NEWS

As the autumn leaves have begun to fall, our early learner and pre-k students are falling into school routines and doing a great job in the classroom! We couldn't be more proud of them! This past October, we had a wonderful trip to Garwood Orchard, learned fire safety and got to Trick or Treat around the church. Thank you so much to all the volunteers for our Halloween party for making it especially fun for all of our kids!

This November, we are partnering with Hilltop Food Pantry! Starting Monday, November 3rd - November 14th, the students and families are invited to donate boxes of cereal for the Hilltop Food Pantry Collection. Then on November 19th, our students will be filling the truck with all their collected donations. What a privilege it is to help others this thanksgiving season! Our Thanksgiving break is November 26th-28th. We hope everyone has a wonderful, blessed Thanksgiving!

INFORMED GIVING... IF YOU ARE 73 OR OLDER AND HAVE AN IRA



Since they doubled the standard deduction, ninety percent of us can no longer take a tax deduction for money we give to the church. **However, we do not pay any taxes on our IRA required minimum deduction (RMD)... IF we give the money to the church.**

Those of us 73 or older, must take a specified amount, our Required Minimum Distribution (RMD), from our IRA each year. As we take money out of our IRA, we are now required to pay the taxes we avoided when we put the money in.

For example:

Assume Mary is required to take \$3,000 out of her IRA this year. She also wants to give \$3,000 to the church for The Sharing Table.

Option 1: She can have this money sent to herself. It is considered income, and she would pay \$720 more income tax (if she is in the 24% tax bracket). $\$3,000 - (\$720 \text{ taxes}) = \$2,280$. She has only \$2,280 to give to the church because she will owe \$720 at tax time.

Option 2: She can request her RMD money be sent **directly** to First Presbyterian Church Valparaiso, and she **would pay no taxes on this money.** $\$3,000 - \$0 = \$3,000$ will be transferred in her name to the church!

The government takes \$0 in taxes!

If she wants to send only \$2,000 directly to the church, she can have the remaining \$1,000 (only \$720 after taxes) sent to herself.

These donations of your IRA Required Minimum Distribution directly to the church are called: Qualified Charitable Deductions (QCD'S).

So, if Mary has the check sent to her, **she only has \$2,280 to give to the church after paying the taxes.**

By having the money sent directly to the church **(via a QCD), Mary is able to donate the full \$3,000!**

All it takes is a phone call to the custodian of your IRA (or your accountant/financial advisor). They can help you set up the process and timing for sending out your QCD checks this year. **To avoid the steep penalty for forgetting to take your RMD, it might be wise to consider this option soon for this year.**

Doug Hollar, Planned Giving

CALENDAR

Saturday, November 1, 2025		
Sunday, November 2, 2025 - Daylight-Saving Time Ends - Clocks Fall Back		
9:00 AM	Faith Formation	FPC
9:00 AM	Presbys Youth Group Breakfast	FPC
10:00 AM	Worship	Sanctuary
11:00 AM	Congregational Life	Friendship Room
Monday, November 3, 2025		
6:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
Tuesday, November 4, 2025		
12:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
12:00 PM	PCPS Board Meeting	Friendship Room
1:30 PM	Bulletin Notes Meeting	FPC
6:00 PM	Sweet Adelines	Fellowship Hall
6:30 PM	Planned Giving	101
Wednesday, November 5, 2025		
10:00 AM	Faithful Friends Bible Study	101
1:00 PM	Building and Grounds Team	154/155
2:00 PM	Disciples Bible Study	101
5:30 PM	Faith Formation Team	145
6:30 PM	Worship Team Meeting	154/155
Thursday, November 6, 2025		
10:00 AM	Comfort Stitchers	154/155
4:00 PM	Membership Team	101
5:00 PM	Bell Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
6:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:30 PM	Worship Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Friday, November 7, 2025		
Saturday, November 8, 2025		
9:00 AM	Craft Fair & Deacons' Cookie Walk (until 2:00 p.m.)	FPC
Sunday, November 9, 2025		
9:00 AM	Faith Formation	FPC
10:00 AM	Worship	Sanctuary
Monday, November 10, 2025		
6:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
Tuesday, November 11, 2025		
12:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
1:30 PM	Bulletin Notes Meeting	FPC
4:00 PM	Preschool Team Meeting	100
4:30 PM	Scouts	FPC
6:00 PM	Sweet Adelines	FH
6:30 PM	Mission Team	154/155
Wednesday, November 12, 2025		
10:00 AM	Faithful Friends Bible Study	101
11:00 AM	Agenda Meeting (TBC)	
2:00 PM	Disciples Bible Study	101
5:30 PM	Presbys Youth Group	100
6:00 PM	iEngage Team	Online
7:00 PM	Finance Team	
Thursday, November 13, 2025		
9:00 AM	MT Meeting	FR
10:00 AM	Comfort Stitchers	154/155
5:00 PM	Bell Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
6:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:30 PM	Worship Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Friday, November 14, 2025		
Saturday, November 15, 2025		

CALENDAR

Sunday, November 16, 2025	9:00 AM	Faith Formation	FPC
	10:00 AM	Worship	Sanctuary
Monday, November 17, 2025	6:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
Tuesday, November 18, 2025	12:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
	1:30 PM	Bulletin Notes Meeting	FPC
	6:00 PM	Sweet Adelines	Fellowship Hall
Wednesday, November 19, 2025	10:00 AM	Faithful Friends Bible Study	101
	11:00 AM	Agenda Meeting (TBC)	FPC
	2:00 PM	Disciples Bible Study	101
	6:30 PM	Session Meeting	
Thursday, November 20, 2025	10:00 AM	Comfort Stitchers	154/155
	5:00 PM	Bell Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
	6:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
	7:30 PM	Worship Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Friday, November 21, 2025			
Saturday, November 22, 2025			
Sunday, November 23, 2025	8:00 AM	Red Cross Blood Drive (Until 1:00 p.m.)	Fellowship Hall
	9:00 AM	Faith Formation	FPC
	10:00 AM	Worship	Sanctuary
		Hanging of the Greens & Soups and Salad Luncheon	Sanctuary/ Friendship Room
Monday, November 24, 2025	11:00 AM		
	6:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
Tuesday, November 25, 2025	9:00 AM	Preschool	
	12:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
	1:30 PM	Bulletin Notes Meeting	FPC
	4:30 PM	Scouts	FPC
Wednesday, November 26, 2025	10:00 AM	Faithful Friends Bible Study	101
	12:00 PM	Church Office Closes	FPC
Thursday, November 27, 2025 - Thanksgiving Day - Church Office Closed			
Friday, November 28, 2025 - Church Office Closed			
Saturday, November 29, 2025			
Sunday, November 30, 2025 - Advent	9:00 AM	Faith Formation	FPC
	10:00 AM	Worship	Sanctuary

Worship is 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

CALLED MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2025

AT THE CONCLUSION OF 10:00 A.M. WORSHIP

The Called Meeting of the Congregation will be held for the purpose of receiving the Congregational Nominating Committee's Report and electing deacons. Opportunity shall be given to the congregation to bring forth nominations from the floor. The nominee must be present, an active member and in agreement to have his/her name placed in nomination.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

November 1
Dawn Heckard
Connie Jeha

November 2
David Rice

November 3
Barbara Crane
Carolyn Lelek

November 6
Jack Kinsey

November 7
Doug Hollar

November 8
Walker Powell

November 10
Emily Golding
Nancy Pedersen

November 11
Rodger Jones
Gail Wilkes

November 12
Melissa Reyna

November 15
Mark Robison

November 16
John Nuppau
Lauren Phillips

November 19
Tom Edwards, Jr.

November 20
Gena Banta-Long

November 26
Sally Long

November 29
Kevin Nuppau

November 30
Kinsley Spicer

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



MINISTRY ROSTER

SEXTON

Open: Rick Exley
Close: Rick Exley

ELDER ON CALL SCHEDULE

November 2 Sharon Kinsey
November 16 Madison Keller
November 30 Rhonda Coffin

DEACON ON CALL SCHEDULE

November 9 Jim Peyton
November 23 Jason Gordon

LITURGIST SCHEDULE

November 2 Sharon Kinsey
November 9 Jason Adams
November 16 Christina Dougherty
November 23 Michael McKee
November 30 Andrew

USHER SCHEDULE

November 2 Doug Hollar
Judy Hollar
Steve Scarborough

November 9 Connie Knauff
Paul Knauff
Trent Olling

November 16 Kathy Joseph
Jerry Kahrs
Molly

November 23 Jim Gray
Denise Walker
Mike Walker

November 30 Jason Adams
Rose Ross

COMMUNION SERVERS

November 2 Sharon Kinsey
Connie Knauff
Paul Knauff

COMMUNION SET UP / CLEAN UP

November 2 Connie Knauff
Paul Knauff

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHURCH STAFF

E-MAIL ADDRESS

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

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

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

*denotes Elder Rep.

**denotes Vice Moderator

Building and Grounds Team

Vic Klancer, Moderator

Moderator of Session

Pastor Kim Adams

Membership Clerk & Moderator of Membership

Elizabeth Monroe

Board of Deacons

Beth Germann, Moderator

Personnel Team

Jim Hubbard, Moderator

Clerk of Session Pro Tem

Jim Hubbard

Planned Giving Committee

Kathy Joseph, Moderator

Treasurer

Jerry Kahrs

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



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