

First Presbyterian Church of Valparaiso

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

Engaged locally and globally for Christ!



PLANNED GIVING GRATITUDE: THE PARENT OF ALL VIRTUES?

Recently, while perusing some of the books in our home office, I came across one titled: *Radical Gratitude.....and other life lessons learned in Siberia*. How does one *NOT* explore a book with such a title? It begins with the true story of a family escaping from Poland during WWII to relative safety, if not unbearable hardship in Siberia. The author, Andrew Bienkowski, describes the mud hut his brother, parents and grandfather occupied in Siberia; the gray, frozen cold of the region and the desperate hunger felt by all. He goes on to tell of his grandfather intentionally starving himself (literally to death) so that his children and grandchildren can have his portion of food and survive. The piece de resistance is his grandfather's last wish, which is to be buried without clothes so that those clothes can be sold and the money used for food.

As one might expect, witnessing such selflessness had a profound impact on Bienkowski. He devoted his life to helping others and dedicated his book with the following words, "To Dziadek, my grandfather, who gave his life for me and in so doing, taught me how to live." For obvious reasons, Bienkowski understood at an early age *and in a visceral way* that our "me first" approach to modern life is an empty way to live. Quoting Winston Churchill, "we make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give" Bienkowski asserts that one of our greatest human attributes is the ability to understand and help or be generous toward others and *the surest way to cultivate such a desire is to practice being purposefully grateful*. So how do we do that?

Bienkowski tells us to start by waking up in the morning and realizing that we have breath and life and shelter....that we are here! He maintains that by cultivating a spirit of gratefulness our past regrets diminish as do our worries of the future and that practicing gratefulness allows us to *move out of ourselves*. Quoting the philosopher Cicero who claimed, "*gratitude is not only the greatest of virtues, but the parent of all others*", Bienkowski maintains that *it is through our experience of gratitude, that we desire to reach out and help others*.

The popular Christian author Ann Lamott writes beautifully on the subject, "You breathe in gratitude and you breathe it out too." She continues, "When we go from rash and clenched to grateful, we sometimes get to note the experience of *grace* in knowing that we could not have gotten ourselves from where we were stuck, in hate or self-righteousness or self-loathing (which is the same thing), to freedom. The movement of *grace* in our lives toward freedom is a mystery. So we simply say 'Thanks'. Saying and *meaning* 'thanks' then leads to a crazy thought: What more can I give?"

And so it goes. The mystery of grace opens us to gratitude that both calms and inspires a sense of generosity within us that radiates out toward others. Our generosity toward others then evokes their gratitude, which, in turn, inspires their sense of generosity and the tide continues. It is, no doubt, the way God intended us to live. Of this spiritual and very human dynamic, Ann Lamott asks the question, "How can something so simple be so profound?"

From Bienkowski, to Churchill, to Cicero to Lamott and, of course, the Scriptures.....and it all begins with the spiritual practice of *Gratitude*.

May *Gratitude* find a permanent place in all our hearts now and always.

Kathy Joseph
Moderator, Planned Giving

OPPORTUNITY



FPCV Building & Grounds Team, Faith Formation Team &
The Izaak Walton League of America PCC presents:

2024-2025 NATURALIST PROGRAM ON FPCV GROUNDS



This is a FREE year long program for all ages that will include beautifying God's creation even more here on the church property. There will be presentations of different wild life and fieldtrips to many Porter Co trails.

For more information and to reserve your spot, contact
Trish Lawson tlawson@fpcvalpo.org



THE SMOCK FOUNDATION

The Smock Foundation provides funds to Presbyterian congregations for grants to members needing emergency assistance. We applied and received our grant request for \$10,000! Imagine the generosity of this family who established this foundation in 1955 and today's board that allocates those funds. This grant is intended for "aged Presbyterians" in Indiana with extraordinary needs like burdensome medical expenses or other unexpected major, costly life events. Although primarily concerned for the comfort of people of the Presbyterian faith in their declining years, Laura Smock generously recognized the needs created by life's misfortunes among others as well.

If you are aware of Presbyterian members with extraordinary financial needs, please tell our senior pastor. The practice has been for the pastor and one church officer to confidentially consider and approve distribution of Smock grant funds (consistent with the intent of the grant) in order to protect the privacy of the recipient. These names and the specific need being met must be reported to the Smock Foundation for accountability, but are not identified to our congregation.

Yes, this is the same Smock Foundation that provided a matching grant to our congregation last year to improve access for those with disabilities through our entrances A and C, and to install accessible water fountains in our building. We are grateful for these direct gifts to our church and for the generosity of those Presbyterians who came before us!

SYMPATHY

We extend our heartfelt sympathies to:

The Katherine Myers family upon her death; and
To the Debbie Walls family upon the death of her husband, Erich.



FPCV & First Presbyterian Church Preschool families
Join us for a special “before Worship” Coffee Hour in the
Hospitality Center
&
Children’s “indoor” Easter Egg Hunt in Fellowship Hall
Sunday March 31, 2024 both at 9am

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN PRESCHOOL

Spring is just around the corner and our kids are itching to get outside and play more. This past month the students worked hard on shapes, letters, and numbers - as well as preparing for Valentine's Day. We are truly thankful to our parents that volunteer to put our parties together - the kids love them!

This month we are celebrating Read Across America week with having a field trip to the library and participating in our Read-A-Thon fundraiser.

New this year is a Meet the Author event with Patricia Cummings on Thursday, March 7, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the Friendship Room. **PLEASE JOIN US IF YOU CAN!**

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.

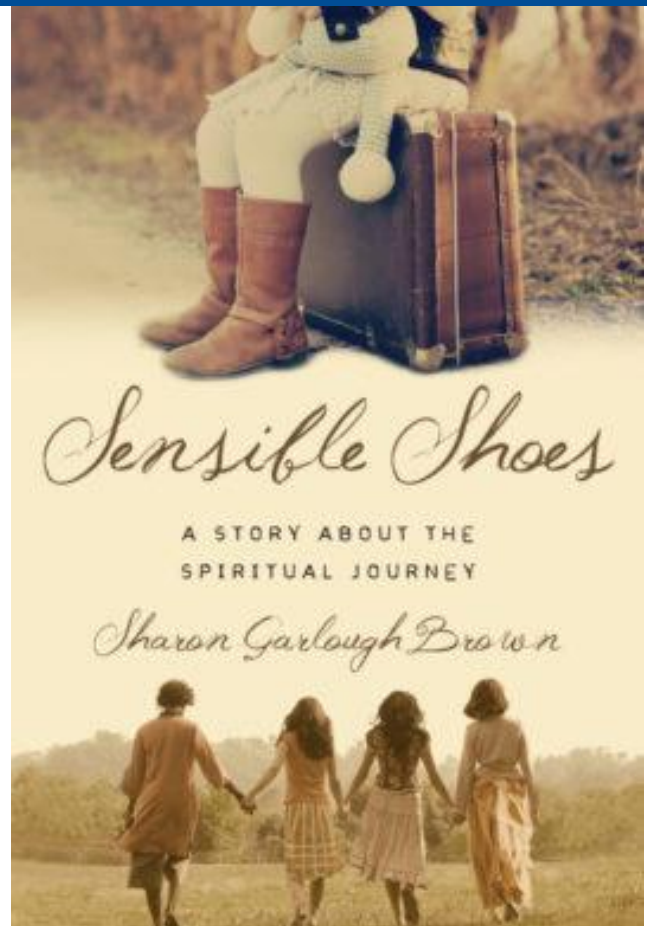
BOOK CLUB OPPORTUNITY

Join Pastor Julia as she guides us through ***Sensible Shoes*** by pastor and spiritual director, Sharon Garlough Brown, and introduces prayer and Scripture reading practices from Christian tradition.

This is an 8-week offering Sundays April 7th through June 2, 2024 (skipping May 5th) 2pm-4pm in Room 101.

Books can be purchased at Amazon, Barnes & Noble and Target Those interested feel free to email Pastor Julia at jzhao@fpcvalpo.org

Hope to see you there!



ALL ARE WELCOME AT THE TABLE

**COMMUNION WILL BE SERVED ON
SUNDAY, MARCH 3, 2024 AT 10:00 A.M. WORSHIP,
MAUNDY THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 2024 AT 7:00 P.M. WORSHIP
AND
EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 2024 AT 10:00 A.M. WORSHIP**

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.



SHARING TABLE PROJECT

(submitted by Chris Hoham)

The Sharing Table Project is about the future vision and mission and ministry of this church. I was excited to hear about and participate in the Hilltop Food Pantry Lenten Food Box 2024 activity. This was not a specific activity of the Sharing Table Project, but it is full of actions that match up with those identified at the initial All Church Event. These are actions to focus the work to be completed under the Sharing Table Project. The five top actions identified at the All-Church Event were: Care for the Facility, New Member Outreach, Funding the Mission Plan, Grow Community Partnerships and Grow Faith Formation/Learning Programs. My excitement about the Lenten Food Box 2024 Activity is how it touches many of these actions.

Personal involvement to support a mission plan is an element of Funding the Mission Plan. Individuals need to take ownership of a box which they will fill for a family in need. Grow Community Partnerships even listed Hilltop House as an example partnership to increase interaction with our congregation. Grow Faith Formations / Learning Programs is another action which was discussed mostly as building the Sunday Programs, but working through a guide at home has and always will continue to bring growth to an individual's faith. A calendar of activities to follow as part of the Lenten Food Box 2024 certainly helps my faith grow as I pray for the family who receives the box of items and write them notes, share Bible verses, and invite them to join us in worship; all activities we hope to repeat often as we work to grow our community of faith.

And, yes, New Member Outreach is another action item. Inviting those who receive the box to join us will require us to tell a little of the story of First Presbyterian Church Valparaiso. Last year's activities around The Sharing Table Project created new stories to share amongst our congregation. As we reach out into the community, new stories will be told. I look forward to hearing the stories and then sharing those stories. The Sharing Table Project reminds us that our shared activities add the sauce to the stories to bring joy to the stories and to keep them vibrant.





SHARE YOUR
LUCKY CHARM.

Give blood for those in need.



Blood Drive
First Presbyterian Church

Gym
3401 N. Valparaiso Street
Valparaiso

Monday, March 4
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

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

Come to give March 1-24 for a \$10 e-gift card to a pet supply merchant of choice! Give blood, treat your pet & make a paw-sitive impact this spring. PLUS automatically be entered for a chance to win a \$3K gift card (5 winners)! Terms: rcblood.org/Pets.

[EEO]-Order ID: 6252457 - Item ID: 7541428 - Qty: 1 of 1 - Q518 - J023-APL 160 - APC 1 - 30163



RED CROSS BLOOD RECIPIENT SPOTLIGHT

Isaac loves outdoor activities and has his black belt in karate. In May 2021, at just 17 years old, he had to put his hobbies on hold when he was diagnosed with a type of cancer called Ewing’s sarcoma.

Throughout his treatment, Isaac received two dozen blood product transfusions, and unfortunately, he and his family know how scary it can be when blood shortages occur. During one appointment, they were told there was no blood available for his scheduled transfusion and he’d have to return the next day.

Now 19, Isaac is cancer-free. To help ensure other patients don’t have the same stressful experience, he recently made his first blood donation.

"During my treatment, I took 24 blood transfusions. It felt really good to be able to give back and help replenish the supply that I took from and help out some of the people who are going through some of the things that I went through and even worse things. It feels good to be able to

MISSION TEAM NEWS



In February, the FPCV Mission Team outlined opportunities in 2024 that engage us with the community through our faith and actions.

SECOND MILE MISSION OFFERINGS:

- Blankets/Church World Service
- Hilltop House offering and pantry food boxes
- One Great Hour of Sharing PCUSA
- Kenya REAL school
- Presbyterian Preschool
- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance PCUSA
- Foreign Missionaries (EFCA or other)
- Geneva Center scholarships
- Peacemaking PCUSA
- Indiana Dunes Great Banquet
- Christmas Joy PCUSA

Using the preparation of food boxes for Hilltop Neighborhood Pantry as a spiritual practice includes some personal sharing about God’s love with art, recipes, prayers and notes. Bring them to church on Easter or the Sunday after.

The Presbyterian Church Resale Shop is serving as a sponsor for Hilltop’s annual SOUPS supper that raises funds to support its childcare, pantry, after-school care, bookmobile, community garden and its under-construction Mission Kitchen. Get tickets and a group of friends together to sample the best soups in Valpo at the VU Harre Union ballroom on March 19th from 4 to 7 p.m. If you are so inclined, contribute some desserts by dropping them off at church by 9 a.m. on the 19th.

Signing Bread for the World letters in March advocates for the federal farm bill and renews programs such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and international food aid programs. Among the measures that should be included are strengthening nutrition security in domestic and international programs; creating a more equitable SNAP program; and increasing food systems sustainability. Federal nutrition programs provide roughly 10 times as much food assistance as private churches and charities combined.

Learn about the history and experiences of NW Indiana’s indigenous people with Madolyn Wesaw from the Pokagon Band of the Potawatomi in our Friendship Room on April 20 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Mission Team is hosting the NWIAAA Spring Forum; last year we hosted its Fall Forum in immigration issues at the southern US border.

Watch for what’s coming next month! Join the team and share your ideas! Meetings are on the second Tuesday each month at 6:30 p.m. in Rooms 154-155 with Zoom option.

BREAD FOR THE WORLD

(submitted by Beth German)

This year our congregation is once again supporting Bread for the World by writing letters to our senators and our representative.

Bread for the World is a Christian coalition advocacy organization urging U.S. decision makers to do all they can to pursue a world without hunger. Their mission is to educate and equip people to advocate for policies and programs that can help end hunger and food Insecurity in the U.S. and around the world.

Our Church's letter writing campaign is to ask our two U.S. senators, Mike Braun and Todd Young, as well as our Rep. Mrvan to support the renewal of the upcoming Farm Bill in the Congress. The goal is to help end hunger in this country and globally.

The farm bill plays a significant role in addressing hunger in the U.S. and around the world. As a Christian, and member of Bread for the World, I believe everyone should have access to enough nutritious food to help them lead healthy and productive lives. Studies show that when people have the opportunity to purchase nutritious foods, they will. Specifically this is where support is needed in 2024:

- Support is needed for the farm bill that fully funds the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP – formerly food stamps) without adding additional obstacles that would restrict access to this vital program.
- Support is needed for increased funding for the Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program, which enables SNAP participants to purchase more fresh fruits and vegetables.
- Support is needed to fully fund Food for Peace and other international nutrition programs that provide critical assistance to millions of women and children around the world.

For the first three Sundays of March Mission Team is encouraging a letter writing campaign to Senator Braun, Senator Young, and Representative Mrvan. There will be instructions for the letters. There will be prewritten letters for those desiring to use them. However, each letter needs to have at least two personal reasons for writing the letters added to the bottom, such as your support of food banks or other ways you support the fight against hunger. Please sign the letters and include your address. This personal addition will help in getting the letters read.

There will be envelopes for you to hand address. There will be three boxes in the church's narthex for letters. The envelopes will be stamped and mailed to our two senators Mr. Todd Young and Mr. Mike Braun and our representative, Mr. Frank Mrvan. The goal is to send the letters by the end of March.

For those who wish to mail letters from home, here are the addresses:

Representative Frank Mrvan
7895 Broadway, Suite A
Merrillville, IN 46410

Senator Mike Braun
404 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Todd Young
185 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

For those who wish to send an email letter, please find the following link:

https://go.bread.org/page/62469/action/1?_gl=1*86sdp5*_gcl_au*MjAzMjk3OTU2LjE3MDU4NDQzNjY



OFFERING of LETTERS

Put your faith into action with
Bread for the World's Offering of Letters!

As people of faith, we are called to give of our time, talent, and treasure for a greater purpose. Bread for the World invites you to use your voice to help end hunger.

Every year, Bread for the World organizes churches, community organizations, and people of faith from across the country to write letters and emails to their members of Congress who have the power to impact the policies and programs that can **end hunger**.

By taking part in **Bread for the World's 2024 Offering of Letters**, you will help support domestic and international nutrition programs that offer a hand up to families and a brighter future for children.

Your letter matters. Combined with others from your church, campus, or organization—and joined with the voices of thousands of advocates across the country—your letter or email is an expression of faith and hope, urging U.S. decision makers to pursue a world without hunger. God uses these letters to change hearts and minds, and again and again, Bread for the World wins help and opportunity for our neighbors who face hunger.

Prayer of the Day

God of love,

*We gather this day to worship you;
to hear your word proclaimed,*

*to pray for our neighbors,
near and far,*

and to offer the gift of our voices

-and our words

*so that children around the world
have enough nourishing food*

that they will thrive.

Amen. ☺



How to participate in Offering of Letters

Join Bread for the World in pursuing a world without hunger.

Please take a few minutes to write your members of Congress. Urge them to help families and children experiencing hunger and poverty—no matter where they live.

Sample letters can be found to print or send by email at ol.bread.org.

2023 CHRISTIAN FOOD PANTRY MINISTRY

“I WAS HUNGRY AND YOU FED ME...” MATHEW 25:35

During January, one hundred ninety-four families were served during regular hours providing food for five hundred eight people. During evening hours, seven families were served providing food for sixteen people. Paper towels were offered. In addition, bean soup kits were – containing dried beans, seasonings, an onion, ham hock and instructions also included a muffin mix – were well received (and had even been requested). Since ‘kits’ seem to be helpful a similar one for goulash will be prepared for later in February. Pantry volunteers find it ‘fun’ to have seasonal extras so a request for ‘green’ bottles of mid-size laundry detergent and dish detergent are being requested for March and St. Patrick’s Day. Those items are infrequently donated and are, therefore, greatly appreciated. Suggestions were also shared with congregations for a February ‘Soup-er Bowl’ contest with votes being cast with cans of soup for a Super Bowl winner. Those results bring smiles to congregates and needed soups for the pantry. The usual basic food items are regularly in need along with extras like tissues, toilet paper, health care items and cleaning supplies. Virtually any donated item can be used by someone.

Nan and Sharon

+++

PADS MINISTRY NEEDS YOUR HELP

Volunteers are needed for PADS ministry. Please find the following opportunities:

March 6

- 6-10 PM Shift
- 2-6 AM Shift
- Dinner -7:00 PM
- 6-7AM Thursday Breakfast

March 27

- 6-10 PM Shift
- 2- 6 AM Shift
- Laundry pick up on Thurs., Mar. 28

March 13

- 2- 6 AM Shift

April 3

- 6-10 PM Shift
- 2- 6 AM Shift

March 20

- 6-10 PM Shift
- 2- 6 AM Shift
- 6-7AM Thursday Breakfast

April 10

- 6-10 PM Shift
- 2- 6 AM Shift
- Laundry pick up on Thur., April 11

If you have any questions, please call or email Beth Germann at: 219-477-9964 or bcgermann@gmail.com

DEACONS DOINGS

Deacons continue to serve our church. We have been calling, sending cards, and visiting those in our church community who are homebound and in need of contact from our church. If you know of someone who has this need, please let our moderator know: Beth Germann at 219 -477-9964 or bcgermann@gmail.com

We are planning for how Deacons can serve our church community in 2024. Our first Deacon meeting of the year involved taking care of business, planning our year's work, accepting assignments, reviewing the Deacon Friend list and sharing news about our dear friends. Always the best part though is centering our time around prayer, love and just a bit of laughter.

March will see us in the middle of the Lenten season as we prepare for the risen Christ. The journey in your spiritual life is always uniquely your own, but perhaps remembering these three actions required to serve the Lord can guide you daily. Act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with God. (Micah 6:8)

Beth Germann 219-477-9964, bcgermann@gmail.com will continue to do the prayer chain in 2024. If any have prayer concerns, please let Beth know and she will put out an email prayer request. If you would like to be on the list, please also let Beth know.

Your Deacons are praying for our church family. We are happy to be able to visit in person with our Deacon friends, making sure they know they are prayed for and loved.

*Rejoice always,
Pray continually,
Give thanks in all circumstance;
For this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH RESALE SHOP NEWS



Out of sight, underground, below the Presbyterian Church Resale Shop is a mammoth basement. It is used to collect clothing donations that have been set aside because they are out of season. The clothes are rather randomly put on hangers and hung in the basement as they arrive, awaiting the proper season for their Sale. Spring, of course, is just around the corner, and it will soon be time to set out those



spring and summer fashions. But first they need to be sorted! A great group of church members and friends spent two evenings sorting the donated clothing according to gender and size. Because of the work of many hands the groups of clothes are ready to be brought upstairs and hung in the show room at the end of March. Both work evenings were productive and full of laughter and fun and food! The Resale Shop team is so grateful for the support of our church!

CONGREGATIONAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Talk about being a vibrant congregation! Each week we name glimpses of daily congregational life as living witness as Christ’s church whether in worship, ministry teams, faith formation, food and shelter for men experiencing homelessness, preschool, our resale shop, session meetings...and so many other ways. Our Annual Congregational Report draws word pictures of our faith and worship, and how we live out the work of the church together in our community, and elsewhere through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and other presbytery, synod and denominational programs.

Our collective generosity makes these visible ministries possible! And we are indeed a generous people blessed with faith and ministry in which we choose to invest. In 2023 we received \$539,951 as pledged gifts, general giving, loose offerings and per capita contributions, exceeding our anticipated giving for the operating fund. In addition, we were gifted with \$26,000 in estate gifts by saints who came before us, now set aside as reserve funds.

Our operating expenses in 2023 were 505,191.93, slightly under our budget projections. Part of this was due to a few months without an associate pastor and the extra work of our staff and others to fill the gap. Our discretionary giving for 2nd Mile and other mission opportunities “outside the walls” exceeded \$50,000, supplemented by over \$70,000 earned and distributed by our Presbyterian Church Resale Shop volunteers.

This kind of generosity from our congregation strengthens the financial foundations of ministry for the future. It begins to make sustainable progress toward restoring moderate reserve funds for the next year that brings the unexpected like a pandemic. How fortunate that we could dip into reserve funds in the previous couple of years to tide us over to the next year while continuing to minister in our community and support missions elsewhere.

We are richly blessed with a financial foundation we will sustain as we trust in the grace of God and the blessings of the Spirit while we envision and address the needs of ministry and outreach to others in 2024.

2024 DOLLARS IN SERVICE OF OUR MINISTRY AND MISSION JANUARY THROUGH FEBRUARY 15, 2024

| INCOME | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| General income for operations | \$ 47,081 |
| Smock grant to serve people in need | \$ 10,000 |
| Sharing Table gifts | \$ 15,199 |
| Other designated gifts | \$ 886 |
| Presbyterian Church Resale Shop | \$ 5,267 |
| Presbyterian Preschool | \$ 8,480 |
| Total | \$ 86,194 |
| INVESTMENTS IN MINISTRY | |
| Personnel | \$ 43,146 |
| Administration & Ministry Teams | \$ 12,388 |
| Mission and other designated funds | \$ 6,157 |
| PCRS | \$ 4,414 |
| Preschool | \$ 5,251 |
| Total | \$ 71,355 |

—Linda Long, Treasurer

WORSHIP FLOWER OPPORTUNITY

If you would like to donate worship flowers in honor/memory of a loved one or celebration, please fill out the information below and return it to the church office. **If you would like to have the flowers delivered to the church, please do so by noon the Friday prior to the Sunday service.** If you have any questions regarding the process, please contact the church office at 219-464-4985. Thank you.

Mar. 3 Mar. 10 Mar. 17 Mar. 24

Name(s): _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

CALENDAR

Friday, March 1, 2024

Saturday, March 2, 2024

Sunday, March 3, 2024

| | | |
|----------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| 9:00 AM | Faith Formation Classes | CE Rooms |
| 10:00 AM | Worship Svc. Live & Streamed* | FPC, Online |
| 11:00 AM | Congregational Life Team | FPC, Online |
| 6:00 PM | Presbys | Fellowship Hall |

Monday, March 4, 2024

| | | |
|---------|---|-----------------|
| 1:00 PM | Red Cross Blood Drive (Until 6:00 p.m.) | Fellowship Hall |
| 6:00 PM | Men's Bible Study | 101 |

Tuesday, March 5, 2024

| | | |
|----------|------------------------|--------------------|
| 12:00 PM | Men's Bible Study | 101 |
| 1:30 PM | Bulletin Notes Meeting | Hospitality Center |
| 2:00 PM | Membership Team (TBC) | 154, 155 |
| 6:00 PM | Sweet Adelines | Fellowship Hall |

Wednesday, March 6, 2024

| | | |
|----------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| 10:00 AM | Wed. Morning Bible Study | 101 |
| 11:00 AM | Building and Grounds | 154, 155 |
| 1:30 PM | Stewardship Team Meeting | 154, 155 |
| 2:00 PM | Bible Study | 101 |
| 5:30 PM | Faith Formation Team | 144, 145 |
| 6:30 PM | Worship Team | Friendship Room |
| 7:00 PM | PADS | FPC |

Thursday, March 7, 2024

| | | |
|----------|------------------------|-----------|
| 10:00 AM | The Comfort Stitchers | 154, 155 |
| 6:30 PM | Choir | Sanctuary |
| 7:30 PM | Worship Team Rehearsal | Sanctuary |

Friday, March 8, 2024

Saturday, March 9, 2024

continued on next page

CALENDAR

| | | |
|---------------------------|--|--------------------|
| Sunday, March 10, 2024 | | |
| 9:00 AM | Faith Formation Classes | CE Rooms |
| 10:00 AM | Worship Svc. Live & Streamed* | FPC, Online |
| 6:00 PM | Presbys | Fellowship Hall |
| Monday, March 11, 2024 | | |
| 6:00 PM | Men's Bible Study | 101 |
| Tuesday, March 12, 2024 | | |
| 12:00 PM | Men's Bible Study | 101 |
| 1:30 PM | Bulletin Notes Meeting | Hospitality Center |
| 6:00 PM | Sweet Adelines | Fellowship Hall |
| 6:30 PM | Mission Team | 154, 154 |
| Wednesday, March 13, 2024 | | |
| 10:00 AM | Wed. Morning Bible Study | 101 |
| 2:00 PM | Disciples Bible Study | 101 |
| 6:00 PM | iEngage Team Meeting | Online |
| 7:00 PM | Finance Team | 154, 155 |
| 7:00 PM | PADS | FPC |
| Thursday, March 14, 2024 | | |
| 9:00 AM | MT Meeting | Friendship Room |
| 10:00 AM | The Comfort Stitchers | 154, 155 |
| 11:00 AM | Agenda Meeting (TBC) | FPC |
| 5:00 PM | Handbell Choir | Chapel |
| 6:30 PM | Choir | Sanctuary |
| 7:30 PM | Worship Team Rehearsal | Sanctuary |
| Friday, March 15, 2024 | | |
| 7:00 AM | Reports/Minutes Due for Session Packet | Email |
| Saturday, March 16, 2024 | | |
| Sunday, March 17, 2024 | | |
| 9:00 AM | Faith Formation Classes | CE Rooms |
| 10:00 AM | Worship Svc. Live & Streamed* | FPC, Online |
| 6:00 PM | Presbys | Fellowship Hall |
| Monday, March 18, 2024 | | |
| 6:00 PM | Men's Bible Study | 101 |
| Tuesday, March 19, 2024 | | |
| 12:00 PM | Men's Bible Study | 101 |
| 1:30 PM | Bulletin Notes Meeting | Hospitality Center |
| 6:00 PM | Sweet Adelines | Fellowship Hall |
| Wednesday, March 20, 2024 | | |
| 10:00 AM | Wed. Morning Bible Study | 101 |
| 2:00 PM | Bible Study | 101 |
| 6:30 PM | Session Meeting | 154, 155 |
| 7:00 PM | PADS | FPC |
| Thursday, March 21, 2024 | | |
| 10:00 AM | The Comfort Stitchers | 154, 155 |
| 5:00 PM | Handbell Choir | Chapel |
| 6:30 PM | Choir | Sanctuary |
| 7:30 PM | Worship Team Rehearsal | Sanctuary |
| Friday, March 22, 2024 | | |
| Saturday, March 23, 2024 | | |

CALENDAR

| | | |
|--|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Sunday, March 24, 2024 - Palm Sunday | | |
| 9:00 AM | Faith Formation Classes | CE Rooms |
| 10:00 AM | Worship Svc. Live & Streamed* | FPC, Online |
| 11:00 AM | Palm Sunday Processional | Walking Path |
| 11:30 AM | Indoor Picnic Fellowship | Fellowship Hall |
| 6:00 PM | Presbys | Fellowship Hall |
| Monday, March 25, 2024 | | |
| 6:00 PM | Men's Bible Study | 101 |
| Tuesday, March 26, 2024 | | |
| 12:00 PM | Men's Bible Study | 101 |
| 1:30 PM | Bulletin Notes Meeting | Hospitality Center |
| 6:00 PM | Sweet Adelines | Fellowship Hall |
| Wednesday, March 27, 2024 | | |
| 10:00 AM | Wed. Morning Bible Study | 101 |
| 2:00 PM | Bible Study | 101 |
| 7:00 PM | PADS | FPC |
| Thursday, March 28, 2024 | | |
| 10:00 AM | The Comfort Stitches | 154, 155 |
| 5:00 PM | Handbell Choir | Chapel |
| 6:30 PM | Choir | Sanctuary |
| 7:00 PM | Maundy Thursday Worship | Sanctuary |
| 7:30 PM | Worship Team Rehearsal | Sanctuary |
| Friday, March 29, 2024 | | |
| 7:00 PM | Good Friday Worship | Sanctuary |
| Saturday, March 30, 2024 | | |
| Sunday, March 31, 2024 - Easter Sunday | | |
| 7:00 AM | Sunrise Worship | Pavilion |
| 9:00 AM | Easter Egg Hunt | Fellowship Hall |
| 10:00 AM | Worship Svc. Live & Streamed* | FPC, Online |

** 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



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

| | |
|---|----------------------------|
| March 1 Chip Wilkes | March 20 Aiden Andrews |
| March 2 Kathy Joseph | March 23 Sharon Hubbard |
| March 3 David Goodwin Erin Randall Avalyn Richardson | March 24 Jill Edwards |
| March 5 Simon Cole Beth Germann | March 26 Emma Adams |
| March 6 Phyllis Bryant | March 27 Erin Leto |
| March 7 Macy Highlan Katherin Swarner | March 30 Shayne Wassell |
| March 10 Aaron Onohan Jean Wheeler | |
| March 15 Peg Borgman Carla Miller | |
| March 16 Marilyn Owens Laurie Swallow | |

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



MINISTRY ROSTER

SEXTON

Open: Mike Becker
Close: TBD*

**We need your help serving on the team. Please contact Vic Klancer for this easy service to your faith community.*

ELDER ON CALL SCHEDULE

March 3 Harry Karabel
March 17 Sharon Kinsey
March 31 Kathyne Penninga

DEACON ON CALL SCHEDULE

March 10 Joy Dirks
March 24 Bonnie Swarner

LITURGIST SCHEDULE

March 3 Mike Becker
March 10 Michael McKee
March 17 Sharon Kinsey
March 24 Ron Scott
March 31 Johnny

USHERS SCHEDULE

March 3 David Goodwin
Michael McKee
Suk McKee
March 10 Doug Hollar
Judy Hollar
Molly
March 17 Mary Brown
Elizabeth Monroe
Rose Ross
March 24 Kathy Joseph
Jerry Kahrs
Steve Scarborough

Easter Sunday
March 31 Jason Adams
Denise Walker
Mike Walker

Continued on next page

MINISTRY ROSTER, CONTINUED

COMMUNION SERVERS

March 3
Mike Becker
Harry Karabel
Michael McKee

MAUNDY THURSDAY

March 28, 2024

7:00 p.m. Jason Adams
Michael McKee
Steve Scarborough

10:00 a.m. David Goodwin
Kathryne Penninga
Ron Scott

COMMUNION SET UP / CLEAN UP

March 3
10:00 a.m. Betty Richardson
Jean Patton

MAUNDY THURSDAY

March 28, 2024

7:00 p.m. Sheya Bennett

EASTER SUNDAY

March 31, 2024

10:00 a.m. Beth Germann / Gina Peyton

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.

Thank you!

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 |
| 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 |
| Julia Zhao, Associate Pastor in Residence..... | jzhao@fpcvalpo.org |

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

Elders of Session

Ministry Team

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| 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 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)