# First Presbyterian Church of Valparaiso 

3401 North Valparaiso Street<br>Valparaiso, IN 46383<br>Phone: (219) 464-4985<br>Engaged locally and globally for Christ!



## Session Meeting Synopsis of June 17, 2020

Your Community Task Force, the subcommittee created at the April Session meeting to develop the plan to reopen FPCValpo, has continued to meet regularly over the past two months. On June 16, they issued an email outlining the current plan, which is continually being updated as new information becomes available. As they stated, they are "dedicated to the goal of safely reopening our building while being mindful of the needs of our congregation." We are currently in Phase 1 of that reopening, with Pastor Kim streaming live from the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings, but we also anticipate moving into Phase 2 soon which should include small groups of individuals in controlled situations. In the meantime, Session gave the Community Task Force the power to make decisions regarding isolated and/or unique requests (such as approving the upcoming American Red Cross Blood Drive in July; a small wedding July 31-August 1; Scout Troop 920's use of the Pavilion for meetings; etc.).
> "Matthew 25:31-46 calls all of us to actively engage in the world around us, so our faith comes alive and we wake up to new possibilities. Convicted by this passage, both the 222nd and 223rd General Assemblies (2016 and 2018) exhorted the PC(USA) to act boldly and compassionately to see our neighbors through Jesus' eyes and serve those who are marginalized or in need - people who are hungry, thirsty, naked, sick, imprisoned, strangers, poor or oppressed in other ways and in need of welcoming."

Given the above directive from the PC(USA), Wabash Valley Presbytery has challenged FPC Valpo to become a Matthew 25 Congregation. Elders watched a short video from the PC(USA) and realized that in many ways we are already a Matthew 25 congregation! As a result, they unanimously approved moving ahead in aligning ourselves with both Presbytery and PC(USA) in exploring ways to expand our actions and our mission by becoming even more welcoming. And the most exciting news is that FPCValpo is the 500TH ChURCH to sign up to be a Matthew 25 congregation! Be sure to look for future activities wherein we will continue to "build congregational vitality; dismantle structural racism; and eradicate systemic poverty."
In other business:

- Finance Team affirmed that our revenues are on target at this point in the calendar year, and huge thanks again go to faithful supporters.
- The theme for this year's Stewardship Campaign comes from Joel 2:28: "And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions." Moderator Lisa Pavlopoulos is very excited for the fall campaign!
- The Chancel Visioning Team has been working with architects and engineers to determine long-term needs for the sanctuary and chancel areas. The decision has been made to look at the entire facility now as they hope to do a study of the entire building to determine a plan that looks ahead 10-20 years into the future.
- FPC Valpo has been invited by Presbytery to participate in a 2-year Congregational Coaching Project. A leadership team of four members from our congregation will begin work in late August, with a goal of discovering and developing the unique God-given gifts and potential of our congregation. Look for updates as they report back!
- IENGAGE has received a technology grant and will be purchasing several tablets that can be used on a rotational basis by members who do not have access to live-streaming of Sunday worship services. In addition, they plan to purchase an upgraded camera system so that we can continue to upgrade our online presence. It was noted that on any given Sunday, our services are being seen by between 120-200 households! God is amazing!

Note: Session and individual teams do not meet during the month of July, but if you have questions or issues that need to be addressed in the near future, please feel free to contact any team or elder at any time. Session policies allow for email motions; and the Moderator can call a special Session meeting if necessary, so church business can always be conducted.

If you would like more information, please read the detailed minutes which will be posted in the glass-enclosed announcement board in the Hospitality Center once they are approved (and we are allowed back into the church!). Also please contact any of the Elders and/or the Clerk if you have questions or are interested in further details.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Hollar, Clerk

## Worship News - Sacramient of Holy Communion

We will Celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion on Sunday, JULY 5, 2020, during the online worship service (via Facebook Live/FPC WEbSITE) at 10:00 A.m. Pastor Kim invites all to the communion table in your home by bringing a piece of bread/cracker and a cup of juice/wine to Partake COMMUNION. This way, our faith community can be joined together for the sacrament even though we are physically apart.

There was SO MUCH important work to be done that your Moderator (Pastor Kim) called for a special session meeting that was held on June 24. Only two topics were discussed during this meeting.

One order of business was to continue a conversation with Elders concerning the work of the Community Task Force regarding the status of worship, both on-line and eventually in-person (and what that would look like). Each Elder was given three (3) minutes to share her/his thoughts. Many important ideas were presented, but all agreed that (1) there is a great deal of work to be done in order for in-person worship to occur safely; (2) a survey of the congregation is in order to determine your thoughts and wishes; and (3) better communication with the congregation is needed. A motion was made to return to in-person worship on July 12, 2020, but the motion failed because after discussion, a majority of elders felt that this date was too soon given the status of the pandemic as well as the procedures that would need to be in place for this to happen safely. Nevertheless, Session challenged the Community Task Force to continue this discussion; put out a survey to the congregation to determine your thoughts and wishes; establish a more realistic projected date and plan for the re-opening of the church; and provide better communication to the congregation regarding the steps being taken and the progress being made.

The other order of business was a continuation of a discussion concerning the addition of an ASSOCIATE PASTOR to the staff. At last week's meeting, the motion was approved to direct the Congregational Nominating Committee to select an Associate Pastoral Nominating Committee (APNC). The process of selecting an Associate Pastor will probably take a year to a year and a half due to the fact that a congregational mission study will likely need to be completed. Given the unusual circumstances surrounding the current pandemic, the search process may look a bit different this time around, but following the approved motion from last week's Session meeting, it was resolved that the Congregational Nominating Committee should move forward faithfully in the selection process.

Again, please note that the Session and most teams will not be meeting again until August; but if you have questions or issues that need to be addressed, please feel free to contact any team member or elder at any time. Session policies do allow for email motions and the Moderator can call another special Session meeting if necessary, so church business can always be conducted.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Hollar, Clerk


## Welcome to Vacation Bible Camp ("VBC")

Here at First Presbyterian Church of Valparaiso we know it's been a weird and challenging few months. Some days it might have felt like we were just surviving. We also know that God is always at work in this Great Big Beautiful World. God invites us to do more than just survive, God invites us to thrive! Sunday, July 12 - Thursday, July 16 we're inviting folks of all ages to participate in our at-home Vacation Bible Camp (VBC). Campers will take part in outdoor/indoor activities, Bible stories, and online worship events.

Each camper will receive a supply bag that contains all the essential items needed for VBC. Supply bags will be available for pickup on SATURDAY, JULY 11, 2020, at FPCV or special delivery can be arranged for those who might have transportation challenges. A special private Facebook page will be created for campers, allowing us to connect while also doing our best to stay safe together. Each day will offer a new story and activities:

- Day 1: Genesis 2: 4b-23, God Creates a Beautiful World
- Day 2: Psalm 104: 10-30, God Cares for All Creation
- Day 3: Mark 4: 26-32, We are a growing part of God's kingdom
- Day 4: Psalm 52:8-9; Psalm 92:12-15; Jeremiah 17:7-8, We can trust in God's love
- Day 5: Revelation 21: 1-4; 22: 1-5, God will make all things new

All are welcome to journey through God's Great Big Beautiful World!

To ensure we have enough t-shirts and supplies for everyone, please register using the Vacation Bible Camp 2020 link on our website - www.fpcvalpo.org by June 30, 2020. Vacation Bible CAMP IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

Questions??? Contact Ken at kencrews@fpcvalpo.org

## The Church Office Is Closed on the Following Dates:

Friday, July 3, 2020
Tuesday, July 7, 2020
Monday, July 20, 2020
Friday, July 24, 2020
Monday, July 27, 2020
Friday, July 31, 2020

## Pastor Kim will be:

On vacation, July 12-23, 2020;
Out of town for church work, July 24-26, 2020;
Attending the PAM (Presbyterian Association of Musicians) Board of Directors meeting, August 2-6, 2020.

In the event of a congregational care emergency from July 1 through July 11, 2020, please contact the church office at 219-464-4985 and leave a message. Messages are checked frequently.

In the event of a congregational care emergency from July 12 through August 6, 2020, please contact Ken Crews at (773) 569-1115.

## Deacons Doings

As the world moves toward returning to "normal," the Deacons and Elders continue to contact congregation members through email, phone calls and cards as a way to stay connected until we can resume activities within the church building.

The Deacons are also maintaining contact with assigned "Deacon Friends" in a safe, social distancing manner, until it is deemed safe to resume normal contact.

Since our community has recently experienced increased need due to COVID-19, the Deacons have voted to donate $\$ 1,000$ from the Deacon Fund to the Christian Food Pantry to aid needy families during this crisis. In addition, the Deacons would like to make the congregation aware that the Smock Grant is available for congregation members in need of financial assistance. The Smock Grant is intended for Presbyterians who have been affected directly by COVID-19 (job loss, inability to pay bills, medical bills, food, etc.). Please contact a Deacon if you would like them to submit a request on your behalf.

As always, you are welcome to share your prayer requests with the Deacons' praise and prayer ministry by sending those requests to Beth Germann at begermann@gmail.com. You may also add your requests for prayer during Sunday morning online worship by contacting the church office at churchoffice@fpcvalpo.org.

Blessings and peace to all,

# Online Opportunities 

PRESBYS Via ZOOM<br>Updated Summer Gathering Days<br>2nd and 4th Sundays of the Month

All Presbys are invited to hang out the second and fourth Sunday evenings at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom. However, the Presbys will not meet via Zoom on July 12; however, you are encouraged to join Facebook live at 6:00 p.m. for Vacation Bible Camp. We will connect, learn, and play games! Login information is available on Facebook for members of the "Presbys" and "FPCV: Christian Ed Is Everywhere!" Facebook groups. Login information will also be emailed to Presbys families. Youth can access Zoom meetups via mobile devices, phone, or computer, using audio and/or video. Please contact Ken Crews with any questions at kencrews@fpcvalpo.org.

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## Story Time

Join us on Wednesday mornings in June 2020 at 11:00 a.m. for Story Time via Facebook Live or FPC's website at www.fpcvalpo.org.

## Congregational Life News

## Virtual Coffee Hour

Please join us for Virtual Coffee Hour (via Zoom) on Sundays in July following online worship. Coffee Hour will be from 11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. and will have an opportunity for fellowship, to see our church family and say hello to those we haven't seen in quite a while. We hope to see you "Zoom" into Coffee Hour!

Just follow these easy steps:

1) Enjoy morning worship at 10:00 a.m. via Facebook or FPC website; and
2) Join Coffee Hour at 11:00 a.m. via Zoom.

Please RSVP TO: Andrea Phillips at andrealynn1977@hotmail.com
Ken Crews at kencrews@fpcvalpo.org
for Coffee Hour and Christian Education; and we'll send you the invitation to join.
SEE YOU ONLINE. All are welcome!

## Resale Shop News

The Presbyterian Resale Shop reopened in May and has received overwhelming support from the community. In spite of operating at reduced hours, our sales have been good which in turn will allow us to continue supporting worthwhile charities in Valparaiso. We will continue to be open from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday through the end of July. We hope to return to normal operating hours in August. If you are willing, able and comfortable doing so, we could use your help assisting our customers at the counter. Masks are required for workers and customers. Social distancing is encouraged; and we are limiting the number of customers in the shop at one time. Please contact Mary Linda Scott at nana6987@hotmail.com or (231) 5905799 if you would like to join or rejoin the volunteers who make this great ministry possible.

If counter work isn't your thing but you would like to help with this ministry, we could use volunteers in our backroom sorting donations, hanging clothing and restocking the sales area. This work can be done at any time that is convenient to you. Please contact Pam Skaltsas, store manager, to make arrangements at mskaltsas@yahoo.com or (219) 252-3175.


## WE'RE ALL Together <br> American <br> Red Cross

# Blood Drive First Presbyterian Church 

## Gym <br> 3401 N. Valparaiso Street <br> Valparaiso

Sunday, July 12
8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Please call 1-800-RED CROSS
or go to redcrossblood.org, sponsor code "FPCValpo"
to schedule your blood donation appointment


Schedule a blood donation appointment today:
Download the Blood Donor App | RedCrossBlood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767

The Red Cross Blood Drive Covid-19 safety protocol is as follows;
> Screening at the door;
o Temperatures taken;
o Wellness questions;
o COVID-19 travel questions; and
o Everyone is required to wear a face mask and given one if you don't have one.
$>\quad$ All Red Cross personnel wear proper Personal Protective Equipment ("PPE").
$>\quad$ Red Cross will be doing COVID-19 antibody testing and the donors can receive the results.

| 11:00 AM | Story Time | Facebook Live \| FPC Website |
| ---: | :--- | :--- |
| 7:00 PM | Congregational Life Team-Rescheduled | Via Zoom |

Thursday, July 02, 2020
10:00 AM
The Comfort Stitchers
Via Zoom

Friday, July 03, 2020 - Church Office is Closed*
Saturday, July 04, 2020
Sunday, July 05, 2020
10:00 AM
Online Worship Service
Facebook Live | FPC Website

Facebook Live | FPC Website

Monday, July 06, 2020
Tuesday, July 07, 2020 - Church Office is Closed*
10:00 AM Men's Coffee Break Bible Study Via Zoom

Wednesday, July 08, 2020

| 11:00 AM | Story Time | Facebook Live \| FPC Website |
| ---: | :--- | :--- |
| 1:30 PM | Bulletin Notes Meeting (Rescheduled) | Via Zoom |

Thursday, July 09, 2020
10:00 AM The Comfort Stitchers Via Zoom

10:00 AM Community Task Force Team (TBC) Via Zoom

Friday, July 10, 2020
Saturday, July 11, 202

Friday, July 24, 2020 - Church Office is Closed
Saturday, July 25, 2020

Sunday, July 12, 2020

| 8:00 AM | Red Cross Blood Drive |
| ---: | :--- |
| 10:00 AM | Online Worship Service |
| 11:00 AM | Virtual Coffee Hour |
| 6:00 PM | Vacation Bible Campfire Worship |

Monday, July 13, 2020
6:00 PM
Vacation Bible Campfire Worship
Facebook Live

Via Zoom
Facebook Live

Facebook Live | FPC Website Facebook Live

Via Zoom
Facebook Live

Fellowship Hall<br>Facebook Live | FPC Website<br>Facebook Live | FPC Website<br>Facebook Live

Friday, July 17, 2020
Saturday, July 18, 2020
Sunday, July 19, 2020

| 10:00 AM | Online Worship Service | Facebook Live \| FPC Website |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 11:00 AM | Virtual Coffee Hour | Facebook Live \| FPC Website |

Monday, July 20, 2020 - Church Office is Closed
Tuesday, July 21, 2020
10:00 AM
Men's Coffee Break Bible Study
Via Zoom

Facebook Live | FPC Website

Via Zoom
Via Zoom
Facebook Live | FPC Website

Thursday, July 23, 2020
10:00 AM The Comfort Stitchers
10:00 AM Community Task Force Team (TBC)

Sunday, July 26, 2020

| 10:00 AM | Online Worship Service |
| ---: | :--- |
| 11:00 AM | Virtual Coffee Hour |
| 6:00 PM | Online Presbys Youth Group |

Monday, July 27, 2020 - Church Office is Closed
Tuesday, July 28, 2020

> 10:00 AM
> 1:30 PM

Wednesday, July 29, 2020
11:00 AM
Men's Coffee Break Bible Study
Bulletin Notes Meeting

Story Time

The Comfort Stitchers

Facebook Live | FPC Website<br>Facebook Live | FPC Website<br>Via Zoom

Via Zoom
Via Zoom

Facebook Live | FPC Website

Via Zoom

Friday, July 31, 2020 - Church Office is Closed

* denotes in the event of a congregational care emergency from July 1 through July 11, 2020, please contact the church office at 219-464-4985 and leave a message. Messages are checked frequently.

In the event of a congregational care emergency from July 12 through August 6, 2020, please contact Ken Crews at (773) 569-1115.

## Mission News

## Christian Food Pantry

Because of the pandemic, the pantry was rearranged in various ways. Due to various concerns, numerous volunteers needed to step back from giving time at the pantry. The serving system discussed and changed to see what would be the safest for volunteers and clients as well as most efficient for those working at serving. With The Shop closed for a time, it allowed for easy changes for all concerned. With people being wary of being out their homes and the fact that May had a holiday, one hundred and seventy-two families were served which provided food for three hundred and eighty-one people. Since it has been more difficult for food donations to come to the pantry, it is fortunate that monetary giving has been generous so needed items can be purchased. A donation of over 280 dozen eggs also helped the perishable offerings. Items for the Kid's Kits have been coming in and those kits were offered the second week in June. If and when the country can settle into a new normal situation, the pantry service should - with the help of our sponsoring congregations and local groups and individuals - be able to provide for our neighbors needing pantry assistance.

Those working the pantry are VERY appreciative of the new AC installation in the Asbury Center!

## MISSION NEWS, CONTINUED

The Mission Team realizes that the state lockdown will affect everyone differently. If there is a financial need that is causing you concern, please reach out to Ken McAloon, Lisa Pavlopoulos, Mission comoderators, or Pastor Kim. There are funds available to help ease the stress during these trying times. Remember we are stronger together; and know that you are loved.

Stay safe,
Your Mission Team

Nan and Sharon

## Resale Shop July 2020 Schiddule

## Resale Shop Schedule

 JULY 202011 am - 3 pm Tuesday through Saturday
Closed on Sundays and Mondays - 462-4281
www.firstpresbyterianresale.com

| Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $1$ <br> Chris Hurd Marilyn Zubeck | 2 <br> Chiq Colton <br> Linda Flory Pam Skaltsas | ```3 Jan Bays Debbie Kelley``` | $4$ <br> Closed |
| $7$ <br> Jan Bays <br> Pat Blanco <br> Nancy Porter | 8 <br> Chiq Colton <br> Pat Conway | $9$ <br> Chiq Colton Debbie Kelley | $\begin{aligned} & \hline 10 \\ & \text { Mary Brown } \\ & \text { Pam Summers } \end{aligned}$ | $11$ <br> Carol McCreery Dolly Trapp |
| $14$ <br> Dorothy Ailes <br> Pastor Nancy Becker | $15$ <br> Kay Exley <br> Star Ruwersma | $16$ <br> Pat Buckwell Chiq Colton Pat Puffer | $17$ <br> Debbie Kelley Pam Summers | $18$ <br> Catherine Busch Dolly Trapp |
| 21 <br> Mary Brown Paul Knauff | 22 <br> Kay Exley <br> Star Ruwersma | 23 <br> Becky Bluhm Chiq Colton Pam Skaltsas | $24$ <br> Star Ruwersma <br> Pam Summers | $25$ <br> Cindi Robinson Dolly Trapp |
| $28$ <br> Pat Lane <br> Star Ruwersma | 29 <br> Dorothy Ailes Debbie Kelley | 30 <br> Jacki \& Ron Phillips | $31$ <br> Debbie Kelley Star Ruwersma |  |

## Get A 30\% Discount Off Your Full Price Purchase Every Time You Volunteer!!!

Presbyterian Resale Shop Ministry<br>Moderator: Carolyn Dye<br>Vice-moderator: Pam Skaltsas<br>Treasurer:<br>Historian:<br>Secretary:<br>Scheduler:<br>Jan Bays<br>Mary Jayne Shurr<br>Cindy Robinson<br>Mary Linda Scott

## Liturgist Schedule

July 5, 2020
Maddie Kinsey
July 12, 2020
July 19, 2020
July 26, 2020

Jim Hubbard
Vic Klancer
Ginger Boys

## Happy Birthiay!

July 3
Addison Williams
July 5
Darlene Beatty
Maggie Christy
July 6
Mike Becker
Troy Borlick
July 7
Steve Scarborough
July 8
Brenda Brooker
Brenda Faurote
Owen Hebert
Maggi James
July 11
Linda Izynski
July 12
Bob Lyon
Kenna Pedersen
Betty Richardson
David Spitler

July 13
Dottie Staats
Susan Nannenga
July 14
Juliana Kahrs
Betty Seegers
July 15
Connie Anderson
July 16
Ron Izynski
July 17
Sarah Greider
July 18
Delaney Canavan
Allison Conner
July 20
Nathan Phillips
July 21
Monica Conrad
July 22
Chris Hoham

July 23
Cathy Cole
Abigail Gibbs
Robert Marrs, II
July 25
Bruce Dudek
Nicholas Ribordy
July 26
Pastor Kim Adams
July 27
Stan Olling
Leah Ribordy
Luke Ribordy
July 28
Mary Stoner
July 29
Tracy Goodpaster
Zeke Highlan
July 30
Pat Blanco
Rebecca Luick

## Due Dates - Tidings Articles, Bulletin Articles and Screens

Due Date for Tidings Articles:

## Due Date for Bulletin Articles,

 First Notes and/or Advertisements:
## Per Capita

Please prayerfully consider paying your per capita. The cost is $\$ 42.00$ per member. Per capita helps support the decisions of the commissioners to Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly as they discern the will of Jesus Christ together. It also supports the work of the Presbytery Commission of Ministry and the Commission on Preparation for Ministry.

The due date for Tidings articles is the 15 th 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@fpevalpo.org

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

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

Thank you!
CHURCH STAFF
Pastor Kim Adams kadams@fpcvalpo.org
Janice Axmann, Organist

$\qquad$
axmann122@comcast.net
Pastor Nancy Becker, Parish Associate mnbecker3@gmail.com
Rhonda Clark, Adult Choir Director rclark3110@gmail.com
Ken Crews, Director of CE \& Youth Ministry. kencrews@fpcvalpo.org
Brad Dirks, Organist bdirks@comcast.net
Beverlee Frazee, Business Manager bfrazee@fpcvalpo.org
Judy Hollar, Clerk of Session churchoffice@fpcvalpo.org
Dawn Scarborough, Church Administrator. dscarborough@fpcvalpo.org

| Elders of Session | Ministry Team |
| :---: | :---: |
| Matthew Byerly . | iEngage Team* |
| Kim Croarkin | iEngage Team* |
| Brad Dirks | Worship Team |
| Rick Exley. | Building and Grounds Team* |
| Jim Hubbard, Pro Tem | Personnel Team |
| Sharon Kinsey | Christian Education Team |
| Vic Klancer | Building and Grounds Team* |
| Ken McAloon | Mission Team* |
| Elizabeth Monro | Finance Team |
| Lisa Pavlopoulos | Mission* and Stewardship Teams |
| Andrea Phillips.. | Congregational Life Team |
| Jacki Phillips . | Building Disciples Team |
| Chip Wilkes ...... | Personnel Team |
| *denotes Co-moderator |  |
| Moderator of Session |  |
| Pastor Kim Adams |  |

## Clerk of Session

Judy HollarE-MAIL ADDRESS

Mission Statement: Building Disciples; Growing in Faith; Serving in Christ's Name

| Financial Report May 2020 |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Month Income | \$ 37,977 | YTD Income | \$ 192,138 |
| Month Expenses | $(32,008)$ | YTD Expenses | $(182,165)$ |
| Over/Short | \$ 5,969 |  | \$ 9,973 |

