

First Presbyterian Church of Valparaiso

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

Engaged locally and globally for Christ!



SESSION SYNOPSIS OF MAY 2, 2021

The Session meeting during which Confirmands are examined is always one of the most **POWERFUL** meetings of the year. That is because the current class of eighth graders is presented for membership and asked to share statements of faith that they have written at the conclusion of their Confirmation Class.

Sunday morning (following an uplifting outdoor worship in the pavilion attended by 94 people!), Elders gathered safely in the sanctuary and introduced themselves by sharing how long they have been members of FPC Valpo. Confirmands then introduced themselves, including their schools and their sponsors. [Sponsorship is a new aspect of the Confirmation Class in which the student chooses an adult with whom he/she builds a relationship, talks to about his/her faith, discusses questions or gets help solving problems he/she faces within or even outside of the church setting.]

This year's Confirmands are...

- Andrew
- Gavin
- Evelyn Crews

In order to help the Confirmands better understand what it means to become a member of the church, Elders first gave the following responses to three questions:

- 1) *What has been difficult or what have you doubted in your faith journey?*
 - God's timing can be inconvenient: sometimes we want something *now* but God's timing says *wait*;
 - It's okay to doubt or question God about things we don't understand;
 - It's okay to have questions about what is in the Bible, including its seeming contradictions;
 - Sometimes *people* in the church might do things that are upsetting, but God *never* does (so don't let an individual damage a relationship with Jesus);
 - Ups and downs in our relationship with God/Jesus/the Holy Spirit will occur, but with the support of our church family, they can be overcome.
- 2) *What does it mean for you to be a member of First Presbyterian Church?*
 - This is where our friends are, we have very strong bonds, these are friendships for life;
 - These are the people who understand us, let us talk, support us;
 - This is our family, not an obligation;
 - People here always help us feel like we belong (even if we are shy);
 - These kinds of friendships last forever, and they can't be found on social media or in public places;
 - We are a family; we all have parts to play, gifts to offer, and we complement each other in providing our various ministries.

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SESSION SYNOPSIS OF MAY 2, 2021, CONTINUED

- 3) *Where do you find/see hope for the future of First Presbyterian Church?*
- FPC Valpo survives!
 - You may have down times in the church, but there are *always* people here who pick you up!
 - The three Confirmands (and *all* of our youth) show such energy and passion for the church and have a variety of gifts to share!
 - All our youth can provide fresh ideas, insights, friends, and plans!
 - We are all a part of something much bigger than ourselves, and it is working!

Andrew, Gavin, and Evie each shared a portion of their statements of faith with the Elders who then had an opportunity to ask each of them specific questions. Elders subsequently closed the examination and voted unanimously to welcome these three fine young Christians into full membership at First Presbyterian Church of Valparaiso. They will be presented to the congregation on Pentecost Sunday, May 23, 2021, when they will hopefully be able to share their statements of faith with all of you!

Many thanks were offered to Heather and Ken Crews for teaching this year's Confirmation Class. Parents were also thanked for their huge commitment of bringing the students each Sunday morning as well as providing meaningful conversations about the study materials, all with the goal of establishing a strong life-long relationship with FPC Valpo.

Hope you can join us on Pentecost to welcome these outstanding young people and congratulate them on their achievement. This rite of passage is their beginning; nevertheless, *"it is the responsibility of the whole congregation to nurture those who are baptized as they grow in faith and seek to respond to Christ's call to discipleship."* Their journey of faith is at its start, and it is up to each of us to walk with them as their journeys continue!

It was a beautiful day, and Confirmands, Elders, and guests adjourned to enjoy a delicious luncheon in the pavilion provided by the Christian Education Team.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Hollar, Clerk

SESSION SYNOPSIS OF MAY 19, 2021

At least once each year, a joint meeting of all officers, both Elders and Deacons, is required according to the *Book of Order*. Not only are the Elders responsible for approving the work of the Deacons, but they also want to personally thank them for the wonderful and compassionate service that they provide to our church. Good communication between the two groups is especially important as we begin the process of returning to in-person activities.

This meeting began with a discussion of the ministries of both groups and there were some interesting observations. For instance, different churches have varying numbers of Deacons, and some churches don't have any! When that happens, the Elders must also perform the work of the Deacons. In some churches, Deacons are responsible for the building and grounds. There is actually no age requirement for either Deacons or Elders, so once an individual becomes a member of the congregation, that individual is eligible to become either a Deacon or an Elder. We have frequently had high school Deacons, and perhaps we will see a high school Elder in the near future as well! In any case, it was agreed that each office provides a different kind of blessing. Deacons receive the joy of working one on one in compassionate service visiting their Deacon Friends (and taking them Advent Bags and flowers at Christmas and Easter), while Elders earn respect for providing leadership and conducting the important and necessary business of the church. Our Deacons are also responsible for the preparation, set-up, and clean-up of the Lord's Supper.

This month, Elders have been praying for both the Congregational Nominating Committee and the Membership Team as part of their Holy Living mission. Prayers have been felt, which has given confidence and support as both teams face challenges. Current officers were asked to submit possible names for new officer candidates, and if *you* feel called to serve as a Deacon or an Elder, be sure to share that information with leaders Sharon Kinsey or Trish Lawson. The committee prays over the names and follows the guidance of the Holy Spirit in calling these potential new officers. For next month, Elders will be praying for the Worship Team, and you are invited to pray for them as well.

Another important topic is a **GRATITUDE LIST**. While there are many things for which we are grateful, the main focus here is for this year's Sunday school teachers **Dawn Heckard, Trish Lawson, Heather Crews, Ken Crews, Leila Buford, Lisa Vukin, and Sharon Kinsey** as well as the entire **Christian Education Team!** All have worked diligently through difficult and challenging times to be both creative and compassionate in their work with the young people of our church. Gratitude is also extended to **parents** and **youth** who have attended and responded so positively!

Other business included the following:

- **Matthew 25 Team** is offering a 4-week study on *Understanding Structural Racism* beginning this Sunday at 9:00AM in the Sanctuary, and ALL are encouraged to attend!
- Jeffrey Whitney, Jerry Kahrs, and Harry Karabel spent an entire day working out the details to livestream the outdoor worship service in the pavilion! This Sunday will be the test run, and if it is successful as they think it will be, livestreaming of this service should begin on May 30!
- The next Session meeting will take place **IN PERSON** on June 16.
- **Congregational Life** received approval to begin monthly restaurant fundraisers with proceeds benefiting Building & Grounds expenses, and if the way be clear, to hold a movie night concessions fundraiser in June with the proceeds benefiting Kenya REAL. Watch for details!

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SESSION SYNOPSIS OF MAY 19, 2021, CONTINUED

- You will again be seeing the large red “bull’s-eye” nametags identifying Elder on Call and Deacon on Call beginning this Sunday. Now that we are worshiping in person, this program identifies a point person if you have any questions, concerns, requests, etc.

Joys and Concerns were shared and prayers were offered for year-end activities for students and teachers, for our graduating seniors, for those recovering from health issues, and for those who are suffering.

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. **In the meantime**, 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

CHANCEL VISIONING TEAM NEWS

Natural light...flexible space for our musical worship leaders...ramp to facilitate access to the chancel area for worship leaders...focused design on the cross...fixtures equipped for liturgical art...and more. Here are preliminary designs from Elevate Studio that envision enhancements for our worship space after working via Zoom with ten members of our congregation for a year. The Chancel Visioning Team encourages you to view the larger drawings placed in the sanctuary, placed to help you see in our worship space how the design possibilities enhance what we have. You are invited to write your comments on a card at the table. Some members of the Chancel Visioning Team will remain after our worship service on June 6th to talk with you and answer questions.

COME IMAGINE WITH US!

Please see the preliminary drawings that were attached to the June 2021 Tidings email.

The Exterior View picture on the right is included in the above-mentioned report.



**JUNE'S SECOND MILE OFFERING
PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE**

OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE

Our second mile offering for the month of June is Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, which enables congregations and mission partners of Presbyterian Church (U.S.A) to witness to the healing love of Christ through caring for communities adversely affected by crises and catastrophic events.

Our Mission Team here at Valparaiso First Presbyterian Church has supported Presbyterian disaster Assistance for many years. In 2020 we sent money to support PDA for the Nashville tornadoes, Puerto Rico hurricanes and the Beirut Explosion. This year we have sent money to support relief for the Texas, Oklahoma and Louisiana freeze help and the Covid 19 relief for India.

Please prayerfully consider donating to the second mile offering to support Presbyterian Disaster Relief. Thank you!

For more information, go to <https://pda.pcusa.org/>

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HEARTFELT THANK YOUS RECEIVED

Dear First Presbyterian Church,

Your generosity is a blessing! Your love in action is Christ like! Thank you for supporting and encouraging Pastor Henry and gifting him an iPad. With this, he will be able to communicate and share with all of us, what God is doing. Thank you for making this possible. What love you are sharing! Amazing and oh so generous. Thank you!

Hope does not disappoint us because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit. –Romans 5:3-5

God bless you and shine his face on you ♡

Kenya REAL,

Janet



I'd like to thank the church mission group for the \$500 it helped me to gain a home.

God bless!

Michelle



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CHRISTIAN FOOD PANTRY

In April, the Christian Food Pantry served ninety-four families which provided for two hundred and thirty people. Donations of food, monies and Meijer coupon monies were generous. It is anticipated that the numbers of families needing food assistance may increase as government assistant benefits run out. The pantry is prepared. No specific food items are needed at this time but basic items (cereal, baked beans, tuna in water, canned fruit, etc.) are always appreciated.

Special attention to the continuing help offered by Sandy and Pam needs to be mentioned in this month's report. Thank you to you and all that come to work as needed! Nan appreciates knowing she can count on you.

It also needs to be remembered that pantry information doesn't get to our sponsoring congregations except through the efforts of contacts at each church. You are needed and appreciated also.

Nan (founder) (219) 462-6169

Sharon (219) 464-1764

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

STATEMENT OF FAITH ANDREW

“What do you believe about God?”. God is the Creator, Christ, and the Holy Spirit. We call this The Trinity. God is the combination of all of them. I believe God created the universe, and everything in it. I believe God is revealed in people helping other people, in the kindness of their hearts. God is Christ.

“What do you believe about Jesus?”. Christ is the living embodiment of God. I believe that Jesus was born to give those who had trouble believing in God something tangible, something they could see, and touch. Jesus lived to help others, to love others, to show that they are loved by God, and to teach peace. Jesus is the sacrifice, his body and blood for the people of the world.

“What do you believe about the Holy Spirit?”. This is the one I find difficult to understand. This aspect of God is so mysterious. As I said in the first paragraph “God is revealed in people helping others”. The Holy Spirit is how this happens, it moves through people, and helps us to understand our faith.

“What do you believe about the Bible?”. The Bible is the word of God, for The People of God, that most of us know. But I believe that the Bible isn't the direct word of God; but instead it is the word of God (most of the time) passed through the people and written on the pages. Or rather, the Bible was inspired by the word of God, not the direct word of God.

“What is the Church?”. The church is The People, and the building/space it is in. While the building part of the church is not as nearly important as the people part, you can have a church without the building, but you cannot have the church without the people. The building of the church is important because it gives us a place to gather, to start to learn and share about the word of God, then we take it out into the world.

But the people in the church, the community, is also very important because that is how we learn about the word of God, and then we can share it. The community in the church is important for other reasons too, because we have food drives, like the Super Bowl of Caring, a homeless shelter, and many other things to help others when they need it. The church helps, even if it isn't a matter of getting food and shelter, they can help with the loss of a loved one, or any other personal problem.

“What do I hope to receive from my church?”. I hope to receive, as I said in the last paragraph, help, whether the loss of a loved one or not, the church should support those who need it.

“What do I hope to share with my church?”. I hope to share my beliefs, and good (and bad) things that may happen!

STATEMENT OF FAITH GAVIN

As I am considering my Statement of Faith, I am starting off by reviewing the Holy Trinity. When I think about these names, I understand that God is a powerful creator, who is also human on the inside. I believe that the Creator God, God the Father, God Almighty is the creator of everything. He is also a father of every person on the Earth and he is the Almighty. The creator of everything in the universe such as the planets, stars, people, animals, etc. Not just do I believe that Creator God created humans, but he also created diversity and different societies in people. Without this, we wouldn't have the Earth the way it is today.

I believe that Jesus the Christ is our savior. The one and only that died for our sins to be forgiven. For me to be a disciple, means that I should follow in Jesus's ways and to teach others of his teachings. Jesus helps me live my life in a certain way by usually keeping me out of trouble and helping me do good deeds for others.

About the Holy Spirit, I believe that it is always with us, during our tough times and great achievements. It is there to support us and guide us through life. The Holy Spirit helps me make decisions by guiding me in the right direction and giving me truth and strength. It is a feeling that I have in my heart and my mind.

When it comes to the Bible, I believe that it is the Holy Scripture and that it teaches us and guides us to be good Christians. The Bible gives me rules that help me make decisions. I do not have a favorite story of the Bible. Although I know some of the stories, I struggle with saying that I have a favorite because I do not understand a lot of them.

I believe that the Church is a place for people to go to renounce their sins and feel better about themselves. I feel that it is a place for them to form a stronger link with God. To me, Church doesn't just mean praying and listening to the pastor teach a scripture, it means connecting to God and doing my best to become a better Christian. We can be the church by educating others about God and Christianity, and by also doing good deeds for others who are in need.

From my church, I hope to receive care and love. I also hope to receive a deeper understanding of Jesus's teachings by learning the stories of the Bible better. I'm not sure what talents that I could share with the church, but I know that I can share my love and kindness. I hope to spend more time with the youth of the church by participating in Presbys.



STATEMENT OF FAITH EVELYN CREWS

God. He's the man in charge, right? Well, it's not that simple. Everyone understands God differently, and that is truly a wonderful thing. I understand God as more of a feeling than a person up in the clouds so to speak. The feelings of hope, joy, and faithfulness all combined is what God feels like to me. I believe that this person of the Holy Trinity we usually refer to as God is like a father figure who watches over all of us since the day we entered this world. God also makes sure each and every one of us is safe and healthy, and that may be hard to believe at this point in our lives with COVID, cancers, and other illnesses, but it's true. I also believe that God is a creator of all good things, and evil things. It may be hard for some to comprehend why God would create such horrible things like illnesses, violence, and so on but I believe he created these things so we could have a chance to learn. If life was always rainbows and sunshine, we wouldn't know right from wrong because we would never get to experience the wrong. These are the reasons God is all-mighty. He watches over us, protects us, cares for us, and best of all, loves us for who we are.

When you first think of Jesus, you think "Oh! He's our Lord and Savior!" But what does being the "Lord and Savior" mean? Well, to me, being our Lord and Savior means lots of things. We all know that Jesus saved us from our sins, hence the "Savior" part of his title. This whole, "he saved us from our sins" business is exactly why I believe Jesus to be such an important role in my life. Jesus saving all of us from our sins is the reason I am alive today. Without the crucifixion of Christ, I wouldn't be here, or at least that's how I think of it. That is why I believe it is my duty to be a disciple of Jesus. For me, being a disciple is kind of my way of paying what Jesus did for us forward. I feel that by following in his footsteps, I am making lives better just like he did.

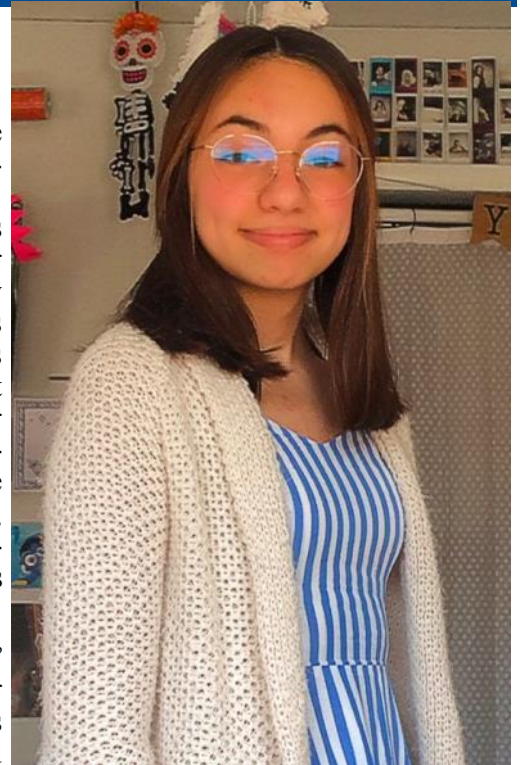
The last person or thing of the Holy Trinity is known as the Holy Spirit to most. The Holy Spirit can be interpreted in so many different ways that it can be confusing to understand what you believe. I believe the Holy Spirit to be a force. A force that makes a person do good in the world or a force that works through multiple people to make a bad situation better. I think that the Holy Spirit is alive in everyone whether they know it or not. For me, the Holy Spirit is definitely alive and it forces me to make good decisions, help whenever I can, and overall do good in the world because it makes me feel like it is my duty.

The Bible. What is it exactly? Well, the simple answer would be that the Bible is a book written by lots of people who impacted Jesus's life in some way or another. It's full of stories about Jesus, his disciples, and lots more. But, there is so much one can believe about the Bible. I personally believe that there is mainly only one thing every single person should take away from it, love your neighbor as you love yourself. The Bible was written so long ago and in such a different time that I believe some things are simply outdated and aren't as important to listen to. To love your neighbor as you love yourself isn't one of those things, though. This phrase that the Bible influences so heavily guides me in life. My favorite story in the Bible, however, doesn't necessarily include this. I really enjoy the story where Jesus goes to the temple ere people are selling items and starts flipping tables. I enjoy this one because it just shows how even the most divine of us have anger and emotions too.

The church is something we all relate back to religion. But, I believe the church should be more than just a place of worship and prayer. The church should be a welcoming place where everyone can go no matter their sexuality, race, and gender. For me, the church is almost a second home. I've been around the church my whole entire life. I've been going on mission trips since I was three, I've been going to worship for as long as I can remember, and I've always been there to help whenever possible.

For me personally, I hope to receive the feeling that I am welcomed with open arms, I am heard, and my opinions are respected. These feelings are very important to me.

On my end, I hope to share my beliefs, opinions and views with the church. I feel it is especially important for me to share my view on things because I am younger and those who are younger tend to view the world and other topics a lot differently than adults.



CONGREGATIONAL LIFE NEWS, CONTINUED

COFFEE HOUR IS BACK!!!

We are looking for ministry teams, families or individuals who would like to volunteer to host...



COFFEE HOUR UNDER THE PAVILION

MAY 30, 2021 THROUGH AUGUST 29, 2021

Below is a Sign Up Genius link where you can sign up to host one or more Sundays!

**Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we are only allowing store bought items to be served and asking that the volunteer(s) for that Sunday be the ones distributing the food.

(Tongs and gloves preferred)

Coffee can be made at the church and transported to the pavilion.

Any questions, please contact:

Trish Lawson: 219-671-1205 or tmlawson77@yahoo.com

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084DA8A92DA2FC1-coffee>



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CONGREGATIONAL LIFE
&
THE FPCV PRESBYS YOUTH GROUP
INVITE YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR ANNUAL
"SELL, SHOP & WASH!!!"



Saturday June 12, 2021

8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

FPCV Pavilion

Looking to clear out some of your well-loved treasures?

\$20.00 Reserves your table for the day.

(All table reservation fees will benefit New Creation Men's Shelter.)

RSVP to Trish at tmlawson77@yahoo.com or 219-671-1205

by June 5, 2021.

While selling and/or shopping allow the Presbys to send you back into the community in a freshly washed car!

***A FREE WILL DONATION WILL BE ACCEPTED AND WILL BENEFIT
FPC'S YOUTH MISSION TRIP!***

OPPORTUNITY



THE MATTHEW 25 MINISTRY TEAM INVITES YOU . . .

to the four-week study, “Understanding Structural Racism.” The discussion will focus on the key concepts found in PC(USA)'s Facing Racism Study Guide:

https://facing-racism.pcusa.org/site_media/media/uploads/facing_racism/facing-racism-study-guide.pdf.

All who are open to learning, and willing to engage in meaningful and respectful dialogue about structural racism, are welcome. Everyone is invited to attend. This is one way we can come together to support the Matthew 25 initiative. We will explore the Bible based study with open discussion questions to follow.

The class will be held on **SUNDAYS 5/30, 6/6, & 6/13 at 9:00 a.m.**, before worship, in the sanctuary. Please attend one, or all 4 of the study sessions. We hope you will join us in this deeper study and grow in our understanding together.

Peace,

Your Matthew 25 Ministry Team

BUILDING AND GROUNDS NEWS

Dear Friends of First Presbyterian,

Because of the continued COVID-19 situation, Building and Grounds is not holding the traditional Spring Clean-up again this year.

Instead, it makes sense to ask members of the congregation to stop by the church grounds, on their own, and pull some weeds during this growing season. ... No sign ups this year ... stop over any day or time when it is convenient – just bring a bucket, gloves and any hand tools of your choice; this is for individuals, couples or families. Please continue to follow social distancing protocol. There will be no particular assigned areas; where some weeds are spotted is just right.

We will be extending this invitation via First Notes and other communication to others in the congregation; but we particularly want to thank you for helping to keep our grounds looking neat and well-groomed in the past, and would appreciate any help you can give to weeding this season.

God bless,

Zane, member of Building and Grounds

THE CARING PLACE FUNDRAISER

CARRY-OUT FOR THE CARING PLACE THURSDAY, JUNE 17, 2021

Drive-up Meal Pickup Times
Available to be Preselected/Scheduled: 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church Parking Lot
3401 N. Valparaiso Street
Valparaiso, IN 46383

Thursday, June 17 -- BBQ Dinner from Smoke Daddy

Bringing some of the best Windy City Restaurants to Valpo!

FAMILY PACK MENU OPTIONS

**SMOKE
DADDY**

Family Pack Option # 1

Pulled Pork, Pulled Chicken, Mac-n-Cheese, Smoked Pit Beans, Salad, Jalapeno Beer Cheese, Slider Buns

Family Pack Option #2

Dozen Jumbo Wings, The Daddy Salad, 3 Racks Baby Back Ribs, Cornbread, Coleslaw

Pre-order your Family Pack at www.thecaringplacenwi.org
Last Day to Order Smoke Daddy: June 16 at Noon (or until sold out)

All Four-Star Family Packs feed 4 people and cost \$60, and \$10 from every Family Pack is donated to The Caring Place!

Drive-Up Meal Pickup: 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm
at First Presbyterian Church Parking Lot
3401 N. Valparaiso St., Valparaiso, IN

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH 4 STAR RESTAURANT GROUP | CHICAGO

Family Pack Meals must be preordered in advance. Food trucks will not be equipped to take walk-up orders. To preorder and reserve a pickup time, visit the website below:

<https://www.thecaringplacenwi.org/spring-events-carry-out-for-the-caring-place>

PRESBYTERIAN WEEKDAY NURSERY SCHOOL (“PWNS”)

May was an exciting month for our students as we finished out our spring semester with many fun events. Both classes enjoyed beautiful days to play outside on our church playground. The 3-4 class enjoyed having their moms join us for our annual Mother’s Tea and our Pre-k class had a fun dessert night with their parents. Presbyterian moms Laurie Swallow, Lisa Thomas, and Maggie Christy joined their daughters, Kayla, Kennedy, and Piper, for Mom’s Tea and Presbyterian parents Michael & Josie Byerly joined their son, Gabriel, for Pre-K Parents’ Night. We were able to set our butterflies free outside on a nice weather day after watching them grow from tiny caterpillars. We ended out the year with our school “carnival”, playing games and enjoying each other’s company.

A big thank you to Connie Knauff, Maggi Alexander and Lynsey Buehler for working together as a teaching team to offer our in-person classes this spring, to Ann Skadberg and Sheya Bennett for providing background work and support, and to Dan and Val Higgins for doing the extra cleaning and disinfecting of our classrooms. They all worked hard to provide a safe and fun learning environment for the children of our PWNS families who were ready for classes in our PWNS classrooms.

Please visit our website at www.pwnspreschoolvalpo.org or contact the church office at 464-4985 if you are interested in enrolling for the upcoming school year. Have a wonderful summer!

ALL ARE WELCOME AT THE TABLE

SUNDAY COMMUNION WILL BE SERVED ON SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 2021

We will celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion on Sunday, June 7, 2021 during the online worship service (via Facebook Live/FPC website/FPC YouTube channel) 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 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.

In addition, we will celebrate the sacraments at the 10:00 a.m. in-person worship in the Church Pavilion.



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Applications for two scholarships and one service award to be given by First Presbyterian Church are available online at <https://www.fpcvalpo.org/scholarships>. **Please mail completed forms to the following address by June 11, 2021:**

First Presbyterian Church
3401 N. Valparaiso Street
Valparaiso, IN 46383
Attn: Scholarship Committee

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

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

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

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

FROM THE DEACONS

Submitted by Cindy Robinson

Last month, I brought to your attention the frills of buying lots of flowers for lots of fun with the May holidays. However, the June holidays seem so much more serious!

June 14th: Flag Day is a holiday that commemorates the adoption of the United State's flag in general; along with, it's design, color and stars.

June 19th: Juneteenth or Emancipation Day is a holiday that commemorates the end of slavery in the United States, and finally,

June 20th Father's Day is a holiday that first started after the worst mining accident in United States history.

My goodness, there's a lot of history in June! Even in the Bible, Romans 15:4 states, *'For whatever was written in former days for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures, we might have hope.'* Hope is such a precious word, especially now. With COVID starting to calm down in most areas, more of a "controlled norm" is starting to take shape.

Take a moment to pray for the history in June, and for the hope that embraces it. And pray that COVID continues to subside so we can enjoy outdoor activities with all of the Fathers in our lives. But do not forget about the most important Father of all. John 12:49 states, *'For I did not speak of my own accord, but the Father who sent me commanded me what to say and how to say it.'*

God bless all you Fathers out there, and Happy Father's Day!

CALENDAR

Tuesday, June 01, 2021

10:00 AM	Membership Team	Zoom
10:00 AM	Men's Bible Study	Friendship Room
1:30 PM	Bulletin Notes Meeting	Zoom
6:00 PM	Building and Grounds	Friendship Room
6:15 PM	Worship Team	Zoom
7:00 PM	Prayer Group - Leila	154, 155

Wednesday, June 02, 2021

10:00 AM	Wed. Morning Bible Study - Ken C	Friendship Room
7:00 PM	Congregational Life Team	Zoom
7:00 PM	Matthew 25 Team	Friendship Room/Zoom

Thursday, June 03, 2021

10:00 AM	The Comfort Stitchers	154, 155
5:30 PM	iEngage Team Meeting	Zoom

Friday, June 04, 2021

Saturday, June 05, 2021

Sunday, June 06, 2021

9:00 AM	Matthew 25 Study	Sanctuary
10:00 AM	Worship Service	Pavilion / Facebook Live / FPC Website / FPC YouTube Channel

Monday, June 07, 2021

10:30 AM	Pre-agenda Meeting	Zoom
5:30 PM	Christian Education Team	Zoom
7:00 PM	Scouts Troop 920	Pavilion, Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, June 08, 2021

9:00 AM	PWNS - Summer Session	PWNS Classrooms
10:00 AM	Men's Bible Study	Friendship Room
11:00 AM	Agenda Meeting (Rescheduled)	Zoom
1:30 PM	Bulletin Notes Meeting	Zoom
6:30 PM	Mission Team	Zoom

Wednesday, June 09, 2021

10:00 AM	Wed. Morning Bible Study - Ken C	Friendship Room
7:00 PM	Finance Team	154, 155 (Rescheduled Venue)

Thursday, June 10, 2021

9:00 AM	PWNS - Summer Session	PWNS Classrooms
10:00 AM	The Comfort Stitchers	FPC

Friday, June 11, 2021

Saturday, June 12, 2021

8:00 AM	Garage Sale/Car Wash (Presbys Cong. Life)	Pavilion
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CALENDAR

Sunday, June 13, 2021		
9:00 AM	Matthew 25 Study	Sanctuary
10:00 AM	Worship Service	Pavilion / Facebook Live / FPC Website / FPC YouTube Channel
5:30 PM	Vacation Bible School	FPC, Pavilion
6:00 PM	Presbys	Fellowship Hall
Monday, June 14, 2021		
11:00 AM	Presbyterian Resale Shop Ministry	Off-site
5:30 PM	Vacation Bible School	FPC, Pavilion
7:00 PM	Scouts Troop 920	Pavilion, Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, June 15, 2021		
9:00 AM	PWNS - Summer Session	PWNS Classrooms
10:00 AM	Men's Bible Study	Friendship Room
1:00 PM	DAR Group	Fellowship Hall
1:30 PM	Bulletin Notes Meeting	Zoom
5:30 PM	Vacation Bible School	FPC, Pavilion
6:00 PM	Deacons Meeting	Zoom
7:00 PM	Prayer Group - Leila	154, 155
Wednesday, June 16, 2021		
10:00 AM	Wed. Morning Bible Study - Ken C	Friendship Room
5:30 PM	Vacation Bible School	FPC, Pavilion
7:00 PM	Session Meeting	Zoom
Thursday, June 17, 2021		
9:00 AM	PWNS - Summer Session	PWNS Classrooms
10:00 AM	The Comfort Stitches	FPC
Pickup times to be scheduled	Caring Place: Food Truck Fundraiser	Church Parking Lot
5:30 PM	Vacation Bible School	FPC, Pavilion
7:00 PM	Community Task Force Team	Zoom
Friday, June 18, 2021		
5:30 PM	Vacation Bible School	FPC, Pavilion
Saturday, June 19, 2021		
8:00 AM	PEO Junk in the Trunk Fundraiser (until 12:00 p.m.)	Pavilion, Parking Lot

**denotes must preorder preferred meal deals in advance. Food trucks will not be equipped to take walk-up orders. To preorder and reserve a pickup time, visit the website below:*

<https://www.thecaringplacenwi.org/spring-events-carry-out-for-the-caring-place>

continued on next page

CALENDAR

Sunday, June 20, 2021		
10:00 AM	Worship Service	Pavilion / Facebook Live / FPC Website / FPC YouTube Channel
6:00 PM	Presbys	Fellowship Hall
Monday, June 21, 2021		
7:00 PM	Scouts Troop 920	Pavilion, Fellowship Hall
7:00 PM	Nominating Committee	154, 155
Tuesday, June 22, 2021		
9:00 AM	PWNS - Summer Session	PWNS Classrooms
10:00 AM	Men's Bible Study	Friendship Room
1:30 PM	Bulletin Notes Meeting	Online
Wednesday, June 23, 2021		
10:00 AM	Wed. Morning Bible Study - Ken C	Friendship Room
Thursday, June 24, 2021		
9:00 AM	PWNS - Summer Session	PWNS Classrooms
10:00 AM	The Comfort Stitchers	FPC
Friday, June 25, 2021		
6:00 PM	Outdoor Movie Night	Pavilion
Saturday, June 26, 2021		
Sunday, June 27, 2021		
10:00 AM	Worship Service	Pavilion / Facebook Live / FPC Website / FPC YouTube Channel
6:00 PM	Presbys	Fellowship Hall
Monday, June 28, 2021		
7:00 PM	Scouts Troop 920	Pavilion, Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, June 29, 2021		
9:00 AM	PWNS - Summer Session	PWNS Classrooms
10:00 AM	Men's Bible Study	Friendship Room
1:30 PM	Bulletin Notes Meeting	Zoom
7:00 PM	Prayer Group - Leila	154, 155
Wednesday, June 30, 2021		
10:00 AM	Wed. Morning Bible Study - Ken C	Friendship Room

LITURGIST SCHEDULE

June 6, 2021:	Presbys
June 13, 2021:	Elizabeth Monroe
June 20, 2021:	Steve Scarborough
June 27, 2021:	Lou Ann Karabel

**FINANCIAL REPORT
APRIL 2021**

Month Income	\$47,589	YTD Income	\$155,964
Month Expenses	<u>(35,415)</u>	YTD Expenses	<u>(142,941)</u>
Over/Short	\$12,174		\$13,023

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH OPTIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

MAIL OPTION:

Folks are welcome to mail pledges and gifts to the church at the following address:

First Presbyterian Church
3401 N. Valparaiso Street
Valparaiso, IN 46383

ELECTRONIC TRANSFER OPTION:

If you would like to have pledges and gifts transferred to the church via electronic transfer, please contact the church office via email at: churchoffice@fpcvalpo.org

ONLINE GIVING OPTION:

If you would like to give pledges and gifts to the church online, please visit the church's website at www.fpcvalpo.org and click on "To Make a Gift" tab located on the right; or click on the following link: <https://onrealm.org/FirstPresbyteri76732/-/give/KLYBGIVCVH>

Grateful for all!

RESALE SHOP NEWS

Everybody loves a winner! The Presbyterian Resale Shop provides opportunities for everybody to win. Our volunteers meet new people, make new friends, and enjoy the satisfaction of helping others. Our customers have the opportunity to purchase quality items at a fair price. The charities we support are able to continue their work in our community.

In May we supported The Boys and Girls Club of Valparaiso, the Christian Food Pantry, the Presbyterian Weekday Nursery School, the Geneva Center, Housing Opportunities, and the Nazarene Church Dry Pantry.

Join our team and you can be a winner too!

Mary Linda Scott
231-590-5799
nana6987@hotmail.com



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH'S 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/

**RESALE SHOP SCHEDULER:
MARY LINDA SCOTT (231) 590-5799**

**RESALE SHOP SCHEDULE
JUNE 2021
11 AM – 3 PM TUESDAY THROUGH SATURDAY
Closed on Sundays and Mondays – 462-4281
www.firstpresbyterianresale.com**

TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
1 Pastor Nancy Becker Mary Brown Beth Germann	2 Chris Hurd Becky Bluhm	3 Linda Flory Chiq Colton	4 Star Ruwersma Mary Jayne Shurr	5 Chiq Colton Dolly Trapp Oxana Grigoryeva
8 Elizabeth Monroe Pat Buckwell Dolly Trapp	9 Kay Exley Dorothy Ailes	10 Chiq Colton Inge Nimtz	11 Mary Linda Scott Carolyn Dye	12 Chiq Colton Julie Golding Carol McCreery
15 Mary Brown Pat Lane Shirley Bustos	16 Star Ruwersma Debbie Kelley	17 Chiq Colton Inge Nimtz	18 Jan Bays Nancy Porter	19 Chiq Colton Dolly Trapp Abha Kapila
22 Star Ruwersma Judy Hollar Carol Bonvissuto	23 Kay Exley Dorothy Ailes	24 Becky Bluhm Chiq Colton	25 Mary Linda Scott Debbie Kelley	26 Jan Bays Oxana Grigoryeva <i>Independent Cat Society Day</i>
29 Paul Knauff Judy Hollar Carol Bonvissuto	30 Ginger & Jim Boys			

PRESBYTERIAN RESALE SHOP MINISTRY

Tri-moderators:	Pam Skaltsas (219-252-3175) Debbie Kelley (239-565-2224) Karen Huguenard (219-309-3334)
Treasurer:	Jan Bays
Historian:	Mary Jayne Shurr
Secretary:	Cindy Robinson
Scheduler:	Mary Linda Scott (231-590-5799)

**GET A 30% DISCOUNT OFF YOUR
FULL PRICE PURCHASE
EVERY TIME YOU VOLUNTEER!!!**

STORE MANAGER:
Pam Skaltsas – (219) 252-3175

SCHEDULER:
Mary Linda Scott – (231) 590-5799

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

June 1
Debra Daugherty
Harry Turner
Susan Jones

June 2
Dylan Wray

June 3
John Bianco

June 5
Don Owens

June 6
June Olling

June 9
Karen Mitseff

June 11
Samantha Braggs

June 12
Benjamin Braggs
Hattie Hoham

June 15
Phyllis Crews

June 17
Sally Hawke

June 19
Norma MacKenzie

June 20
Beverly Caldwell
Pam Skaltsas

June 23
Bob Bernal

June 26
Debra Cunningham
Tina Kukler

June 27
Fred Grosick

June 29
Erich Walls

June 30
Sterling Miller
Stuart Robbins

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

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, First Notes and/or Advertisements:

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

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.

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

THANK YOU!

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHURCH STAFF	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Pastor Kim Adams	kadams@fpcvalpo.org
Janice Axmann, Organist	axmann122@comcast.net
Pastor Nancy Becker, Parish Associate	mnbecker3@gmail.com
Ann Carlson, pianist	ann_kieth@yahoo.com
Rhonda Clark, Handbell Choir Director	rclark3110@gmail.com
Ken Crews, Director of CE & Youth Ministry	kencrews@fpcvalpo.org
Susan Davis, Business Manager	sdavis@fpcvalpo.org
Brad Dirks, Organist	bdirks@comcast.net
Dan Higgins, Custodian	
Valarie Smart Higgins, Custodian	
Judy Hollar, Clerk of Session	churchoffice@fpcvalpo.org
Dawn Scarborough, Church Administrator	dscarborough@fpcvalpo.org
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>
Marc Buehler	Finance/Stewardship Team*
Matthew Byerly.....	Worship Team
Kim Croarkin	Matthew 25 Team Congregational Life Team**
Rick Exley.....	Building and Grounds Team*
Sharon Kinsey	Christian Education Team Nominating Team
Harry Karabel.....	iEngage Worship Team**
Vic Klancer	Building and Grounds Team*
Ken McAloon.....	Mission Team*
Lisa Pavlopoulos	Finance/Stewardship Team*
Jacki Phillips	Adult Spiritual Formation Team (CE)
Ryne Press.....	Community Task Force Mission Team*
Trish Lawson	Congregational Life Team Membership Team**
	Nominating Team**
Ron Scott.....	Personnel Team

* denotes Co-moderator

** denotes Elder Rep.

Moderator of Session

Pastor Kim Adams

Clerk of Session

Judy Hollar

Membership Clerk

Susan Grosick, Membership Team Moderator

Board of Deacons

Nancy Porter, Moderator

Endowment Committee

Kathy Joseph, Moderator

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



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