

First Presbyterian Church of Valparaiso

3401 North Valparaiso Street

Valparaiso, IN 46383

Phone: (219) 464-4985

Engaged locally and globally for Christ!



Challenges

A few of you know that my younger daughter, Ashley asked me to join her in a ½ Ironman. I felt honored to do so. An Ironman is a race involving three events held one right after another. The first part is the swim. An Ironman participant will swim 1.2 miles. Upon exiting the water, the swimmer will ride a bicycle 56 miles. When finished biking, the last part of the race is a 13.1 mile run (a half marathon).

At 57 years of age, the entire race will be a challenge for me. I am grateful that the event takes place in the beautiful city of Chattanooga, Tennessee. I will swim in the Tennessee River, bike the farmlands of south Chattanooga and run the Riverwalk adjacent to downtown Chattanooga. Chattanooga is a scenic place.

A lot of you know that I try and stay fit. Frankly, I just feel better when I do. I enjoy getting out for a quick run or swim. I like a long walk on a nice day. I enjoy a good bike ride as well.

Frankly, I can and have done each of the events in the ½ Ironman. However, I have not done each of them on the same day right after the other one. That is a challenge because muscles fatigue on any one of the events let alone three of them. Your brain is screaming for you to stop, but that loud voice has to be ignored. That is a challenge.

I have to eat during the race. Fuel is important for the body to function effectively. I need to pay attention to my potassium, magnesium and sodium levels. If I don't provide fuel for my body or eat the correct type of food, muscles will cramp and it will not be a pretty ending.

This Ironman is going to challenge me. I am facing an obstacle. Part of me wonders if I can do it. Yet, in thinking more about this, I am confident because I have faced other challenges and have overcome them. I completed the Rocket City Marathon three years ago. I ran 26.2 miles in four hours and thirty-seven minutes. I have faced career challenges, family challenges and spiritual ones as well. We all face challenges.

Some of us have faced challenges in our childhood, like me. Some of us were abandoned and abused. Others have faced parents with unrealistic expectations. We never felt good enough. Some of us still don't feel a sense of worth. Others face incredible obstacles right now. I think of people who face the challenge of a neurological disease. I think of those faced with a child who is addicted to drugs. I marvel at those that must deal daily with aging parents. I have a friend and colleague with congestive heart failure. I think of those who live in fear as they watch the news each day. Life is not for the faint of heart. It is a challenge.

How do we face these challenges?

One of my favorite theologians is Dietrich Bonhoeffer. I have read most of his books and plenty of others about his life. Eric Metaxis' book is the best I have read about Bonhoeffer ([Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy](#))

Bonhoeffer lived in a very challenging time, during World War II. He was a young pastor with a brilliant mind. He loved people, and he loved preaching the Gospel. Yet as Adolf Hitler rose to power, Hitler wanted to nationalize the church. Bonhoeffer was ardently opposed.

Bonhoeffer faced the incredible challenge of being the voice of Christ in a very dark time. Yet he was resilient to the very end. He met the challenge. As the Nazi troops led Bonhoeffer to his execution, Bonhoeffer sang hymns of praise.

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Bonhoeffer faced his challenge head on. He did so in the context of a wonderful prayer life. He found his support in Jesus Christ.

I know that we can certainly turn to the secular world for help as we face our challenges. I have loved material published in Psychology Today. When faced with obstacles/challenges, psychologists encourage us to:

1. Turn toward reality
2. Embrace life as it is rather than as you wish it to be
3. Be patient
4. Practice generosity
5. Pay attention to your feelings
6. Accept success and failure as part of life
7. Cultivate loving relationships

I love the suggestions. I find them helpful.

Yet some of those techniques for handling the challenges and obstacles of life have not worked for me. Eventually, I get frustrated and depressed. Over the years, the only thing I have found that works is prayer. God, through His Son Jesus Christ is the answer to all of my needs.

One way I have been able to conquer marathons and difficult challenges over the years is to pray about it. I recall key Scripture passages. Actually when I run, swim, or bike, I refer to Paul's words in his letter to the Philippians. I say some words over and over again as I race and train, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

As you face your challenges in life, remember always to pray. Remember always that you can do all things through Christ.

Blessings!
Mark

Session Synopsis of April 16, 2018

It is mid-April, and while we anxiously await spring, we are nevertheless faced with cold and cloudy days. As noted by Lou Ann Karabel in her opening devotions and prayer, we are thirsty for light and warmth in this seemingly endless winter. She began our meeting with a recording (and encouraged us to join in the singing!) by Carrie Newcomer entitled "Lean in Toward the Light" which begins, *"Winter is the oldest season/But quietly beneath the snow/Seeds are stretching out and reaching/Faithful as the morning glow."*

This was a special meeting as Elders were joined by members of the Board of Deacons in this annual joint meeting (which is prescribed by the Book of Order). Deacons were welcomed and commended

for the significant work they perform for our church. They DO have a huge impact and were applauded for their service.

Since Pastor Mark was at a conference, Pastor Toby moderated the meeting. Several motions were approved, including:

- a CE fundraiser by VBS (Vacation Bible School) to collect coins for Living Waters for the World, which trains and equips volunteer mission teams to partner with communities in need of clean water around the world;

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Session Synopsis of April 16, 2018, continued

- moving Communion in May from May 6 to May 13 for both services to accommodate the Puppet Ministry performing on May 6;
 - planning a blended service on July 1 in the Pavilion, followed by group fellowship;
 - receiving reports from Building & Grounds, Building Disciples, CE, Endowment, iEngage, Worship, both Clerks, the Treasurer, and the Pastor; and
 - if the way be clear, Building Disciples was given permission to invite poet, essayist, lyricist, and folk artist Carrie Newcomer (we listened to her song during opening devotions!) to present a concert and workshop at our church in September.
- God's presence in nature: a beautiful sunrise, a family of deer, a stray cat;
 - God's presence in others offering help in unexpected places and ways (putting out fires, changing tires, providing gas, removing overgrown shrubs);
 - God's presence in our congregation: sharing, welcoming, inviting, listening; and
 - God's presence in healings.

Pastor Toby closed the meeting by thanking God for being with us in each of these situations and by asking all to continue to look for God's presence in our daily lives and to continue to share the stories of His presence with others.

Pastor Toby then invited everyone present to share where we have seen God at work recently. Elders and Deacons shared many wonderful stories including:

- God's presence at the new LIFT intergenerational gatherings the past two Sundays;
- God's presence in Kenya presented by Ken McAloon about his recent mission trip;

If you would like more information, please read the detailed minutes which are ***posted in the glass-enclosed announcement board*** in the Hospitality Center once they are approved. Also feel free to contact any of the Elders and/or the Clerk if you have questions or are interested in further details.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Hollar, Clerk

Communication with Session

Communication is always important, and Session wants to be both transparent in our actions and available to members of the congregation for anything and everything of concern to you. If you have a question or concern for a Team or an individual Elder, please contact them directly or attend a Team meeting. Each Elder/Moderator has a mailbox in the office, and all should be listed in the most recent Church Directory. They can also be contacted through our website www.fpcvalpo.com. (You may have noticed in recent weeks that Session members' names and the teams they moderate have been listed in both the weekly bulletins and the *Tidings*.) Both Worship and iEngage are going to explore additional ways for members to contact officers.

It is important to note: In order for *any communication (letter, email, etc.)* to come before the entire Session for action, it must be sent to the Clerk of Session. There is a standing item on the docket for "Correspondence" which provides for these communications to be presented.

So, if you have a question or concern, please talk to an Elder; if you want to address something to the entire Session or feel there should be some kind of action taken by Session, please address that to the Clerk of Session.

Stephen Ministry

Are You Stressed? Discouraged? Feeling Down?

You don't have to go through difficult times alone. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to provide you with confidential, one-to-one, Christian care and support. Male Stephen Ministers meet with men and female Stephen Ministers meet with women.

So don't keep it all inside and struggle alone. Our Stephen Ministers are here to care.

To find out more about Stephen Ministry, talk with Dave Spitler or one of our Pastors.

Pastoral Visit

If you would like a visit from the one of the pastors, please contact Dawn in the church office at dscarborough@fpcvalpo.org or 219-464-4985 to set up a time.

Memorials Received

We thank you for the memorials received in memory of Betty Izynski and Bob Florio. They are very much appreciated.

Christian Sympathies

We extend our heartfelt Christian sympathies to the following:

To the Ron and Linda Izynski family upon the death of Ron's mother, Betty.

To the Beth Florio family upon the death of her husband, Bob.

On the Go Excursions

On the Go Excursions



Tuesday, May 15, 2018

“The Shrine of Christ's Passion”
St John, Indiana

An inspiring journey through the last week in
the life of Jesus in a beautiful outdoor setting.
(Ride or Walk)

Lunch at historic Teibel's Restaurant

Car Pooling (need volunteers!)

Leave FPC Valparaiso at 9:45 a.m. – Home by 5:00 p.m.

Email or call the church office to sign up at churchoffice@fpcvalpo.org or 219-464-4985
See Pastor Nancy Becker for information.

Puppet Program “We, Like Sheep,” by Kathie Hill – during May 6, 2018, Worship Service at 11:00 a.m.

Our Puppet Ministry will present their annual spring program during the 11:00 a.m. worship service on May 6, 2018. “We, Like Sheep,” by Kathie Hill teaches about the love of Jesus, our Good Shepherd. Based on the parable of the 99 sheep, the play follows the antics of Grimey, who leaves the flock only to realize that the Good Shepherd will leave the 99 just to find him.

With the direction of Puppet Leaders Jason and Erin Leto and helper Bonnie Swarner, our puppeteers Shayne, Bella, Madison and Katie have been practicing for many weeks to get the puppets ready for the program. Maggi Alexander has gathered a multi-aged group of singers who will add songs interspersed with this engaging story of several sheep who share a lesson inspired by Christ’s teachings.

Children attending the 11:00 worship service will be invited to come forward to a special seating area near the altar and Puppet Stage so they can see and hear the play up close! (Maybe some of them will want to continue the tradition of puppeteering within our church.)

New Meeting Time for Kids of the Kingdom

Sunday school for preschool age through 5th grade will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings May 6, 13, 20, in the CE wing. Last day for the 2017-2018 church school year for all children and youth will be May 20, 2018.

LIFT – Multigenerational Sharing and Learning

We gathered as 40+ folks of mixed ages on four Sunday mornings in April, to Learn in Faith Together through sharing food, a Bible lesson, recreation and prayer.

A Big Thank You to the Men’s Breakfast Group who prepared our first LIFT meal on April 8. Wow! ...scrambled eggs, sausage, Tater Tots, pancakes, orange juice, and milk were provided for our first week. On other April Sundays we explored themes “Books, Books, Books”; “Play Ball”; and “Breakfast with Jesus”. Church groups provided the food elements for those 3 weeks!! . . . Thank You!!

Instead of volunteer teachers, this pilot program was self-taught. Organized discussion and participation took place in cooperative groups at the six tables. The weekly table group activities strengthened faith and formed bonds as an outcome of this month-long pilot program.

Summer Events for Christian Opportunities

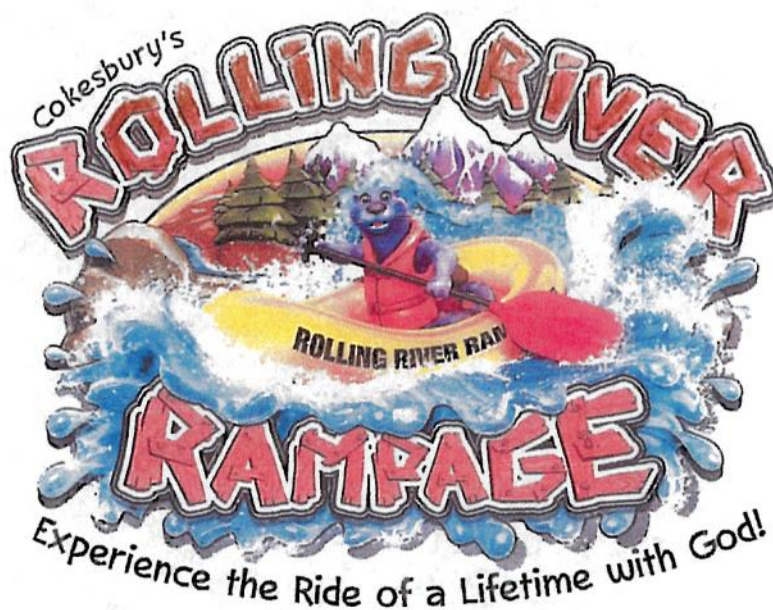
Christian Education supports both the outreach of Vacation Bible School (June 10 – 13, 2018) and the Summer Mission Trip to West Virginia (July 28 – August 4, 2018). We are excited for the efforts and enthusiasm of the Gordon family who are leading VBS and Ken Crews who is heading the Youth-based Mission Trip.

You are invited to join these offerings! How? Look for details that continue to be publicized on First Notes, flyers, Facebook and on the worship screens.

Library News

We have almost 1,000 books in our church library! Seventy-six new books have been processed and shelved. Joan Johnston continues to put returned books back in place on the shelves, to change the décor of the room and to select seasonal books to showcase on the shelf in the Welcome Center. She recently swapped the Lenten offerings for a new group of books for May. It’s easy to write your name and the call letters to borrow a book. You do it yourself! Stop by the library to let a book find you! Thank you, Joan!

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Where?

First Presb Church Bullseye Lake & Valparaiso St Valpo

When?

6-8pm free family dinner at 5:30pm

What time?

Vacation Bible School starts Sunday June 10- 13th

For more information, call/contact

Jason, Becky or Isabel Gordon

219-242-8630

Benefiting



or visit our website at

<http://www.fpcvalpo.org> get involved VBS

to register

Rolling River Rampage Leader Resources

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Vacation Bible School Is Happening in June.

We would like to ask the congregation to help us and offset costs by letting us borrow your:

- Christmas Tree
- Pup Tent or Regular Tent
- Canoe or Blow Up Raft



You can drop off your items at the church during office hours and on Sunday and we will store your items in a locked secure area and return them to you after VBS. Please make sure your name is secured to your borrowed items.

Our goal is to spread God's love to the children of the area and support the charity Living Waters for the World, a charity that provides clean drinking water for the poor around the World.



Geneva Center Summer Camps for Children and Youth offers a variety of summer camps. Go to www.genevacenter.org for complete summer camp information and online registration; or checkout the brochure displayed in the CE wing on the door of room 144-145.

Scholarships are available.

Browsing the Church Library
Pastor Nancy Becker

I want to recommend spending some time in one of the great treasure of our church, which is our church library. Our late Sister-in-Christ Georgia Coyle devoted her later years to making it into a marvelous place for inspiration, information and entertainment. There are all kinds of books: theological and biblical reference books, Bible commentaries, devotional guides, high level Christian fiction, prayer books and much, much more.

Just to pique your interest I call your attention to a few books that might be something that you would like to look at.

“Mockingbirds and Angel Songs” by Jo Carr and Imogene Sorley is one of my all-time favorite guides to prayer and meditation. These two women write short daily prayers out of their lives that sing with authenticity and honesty. The prayers offer the women's ordinary daily experiences that they simply talk over with God. I found that almost every prayer resonated with my own life and my faith journey.

“The Family of Jesus” by Karen Kingsbury is joy for those of us who like fictional imaginings about the people of the Bible. Kingsbury is a master at this kind of literature. In vivid and dramatic detail, she brilliantly imagines the lives of those closest to Jesus: Joseph, Mary, Zechariah, Elizabeth, James, John the Baptist. In this book these people come alive as we think about their lives and how they were changed by Jesus. The book also includes discussion guides that would be suitable for Bible study groups. (232.9)

“Bible Plants for American Gardens” by Eleanor Anthony King. As spring brings out the gardener in many of us, it is fun to browse through this book in which King imparts both horticultural and theological insight into the common trees and flowers and herbs in our yards and gardens. For example, apples are mentioned in the Old Testament, but King contends that the fruit so translated was probably an apricot. Or the well-known bulrushes in which Moses was hidden is also known as the papyrus plant which, down through the ages, has been the basis of paper. This is an enjoyable book to browse through. (229.8)

Scholarship Applications

Applications for several scholarships and one service award to be given by First Presbyterian Church are available in the church office. Please submit completed forms to the church office by June 11, 2018.

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.

Coffee Hour

Attention families and small groups - please consider signing up to host a Coffee Hour in May. It's a wonderful way to practice "Radical Hospitality" as you provide much appreciated treats or snacks to young and old, familiar and new faces of our church family. Sign up on the Coffee Hour clipboard in the Hospitality Center.

If this feels overwhelming to you, keep it simple with purchased baked goods or fruit, cookies or crackers. Still too much? We have a closet of goodies that just need to be placed on trays (we provide those too!) and cleaned up once the 11:00 a.m. service begins. Contact Julie Golding with any questions at:

219-921-9042

or

fletcherjulie3@gmail.com

Thanks for your support!

First Friday Friends

Please join us on Friday, May 4, 2018, at 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall for First Friday Friends! This is a ministry for elementary-aged kids (K-6).

Dinner and FUN included!! Invite a friend, and be sure to RSVP to Pastor Toby:

tmueller@fpcvalpo.org

Prayer & Praise Ministry

If you desire prayer support for yourself or loved ones, don't hesitate to call on our 100+ Prayer Warriors through our Prayer & Praise Ministry hotline. Know that your requests can be held in strict confidence for your privacy, or we can also add your request to our Sunday announcements and/or printed Prayer Sheet. God is always listening! To begin the prayer hotline, please contact Pastor Toby Mueller at:

tmueller@fpcvalpo.org

or

(256) 425-3181

Presbyterian Saints

Please join us on Wednesday, May 2, 2018, at 12:00 p.m. for our next Saints luncheon. The program following the luncheon will be given by our own Betty Richardson on kaleidoscopes. Betty will be bringing her collection of kaleidoscopes to share with us. We are looking forward to seeing you at our May luncheon.

Make your reservation for the noon luncheon by calling or emailing the church office at 464-4985 or churchoffice@fpcvalpo.org by Friday, April 27, 2018. If you need to cancel, please notify the church office by noon on Monday, April 30, 2018. Otherwise, except in an emergency, you will be asked to cover the \$9.00 cost of your meal as we have to pay the caterer. Thank you.

First Presbyterian Church



"United in the Love of Christ"

3401 N. Valparaiso Street
Valparaiso, IN 46383

Phone No: (219) 464-4985

Email: churchoffice@fpcvalpo.org

Mission at Work

“Mission is the purpose of the church”

Our church has an opportunity to do mission for EVERYONE!

These mission opportunities continue for everyone
at First Presbyterian Church Valparaiso.

FILL YOUR LIFE – Love is Feeding Everyone. We encourage everyone to fill a red grocery bag with items for the food pantry and bring it to church each Sunday.

MISSION TRIPS SET FOR 2018 – let us know if you want to be a part of one!

- Syria, Lebanon – January
- Kenya R.E.A.L. – February 10-20
- Guatemala – April 28 – May 3
- West Virginia – July 28 – August 4
- Brazil – August 24 – 31
- Holy Land – August 7 – 17
- Cuba – November

Texas Hurricane Disaster Relief – Unskilled volunteers are needed to help with recovery efforts. If you are interested in being part of this mission please let Pastor Mark know.

Kenya R.E.A.L. – A mission trip is also being planned for the spring of 2019. Please contact Ken McAloon if you are interested in being part of the mission trip. We are also helping with Pastor Henry's van.

RELAY FOR LIFE – Spring of 2018. If you would like to be part of this, please let Beth Germann know.

Praise Items: Budgeted giving in 2018 over \$7,125

Second Mile and special Mission Offerings collected in 2018: over \$6,000

There is a Mission Budgeted Giving board in the narthex.

There is a mission bulletin board by the small group room

Mission Team is praying about our Local Mission giving which includes PADS, Hilltop House, Christian Food Pantry, Youth Services Bureau, Great Banquet, Kairos, Kairos Outside, Geneva Center. If you want more information how to get involved with any of these, please contact the church office or Beth Germann.

PADS

Our PADS Ministry is over and will start up again in October. Thanks to the many volunteers who helped make the First Presbytery church mission succeed in helping the homeless men in our community have a warm, dry, safe place to sleep. And have a delicious dinner and breakfast served by volunteers showing them God's love. Here is a partial list of the volunteers who

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Mission at Work, continued

helped this year. It takes over 40 volunteer hours each week (not counting food preparation) to fully staff PADS. Many thanks to all the volunteers who helped this year:

Doyll Andrews	Carolyn Dye and the Disciple Bible Group	Paul McKenzie
Ryan Bays		Don Mohr
Lene Behrens	Jason and Becky Gordon	Pastor Mark Mueller
John Benjamin	Fred Grosick	Pastor Toby Mueller
Sheya and Bryan Bennett	Sally Hawke	Stan Olling
Brett Brechner	Mary Henrichs	John Pio
Leila Bufford	Dan Higgins	Paul Powell
Mario Bustos	Doug and Judy Hollar	John and Tammy Rittel
Byerly Family	Judy Johnson	Rose Ross and Congregational Health Team
Matt Byerly	Glennas and David Jones	
Monica Conrad	Jerry Kahrs	Kathy Rowe
Jared Comstock	Faye Karcher	John Stocks and the Boy Scout Troop 920
Kim Croarkin	Paul Knauff	Wayne Stowers
Pat Cumings	Ken Koch and Men's Coffee Break Bible Study	Brian Swallow
Terry Diedrich	Olga Koch	St. Andrews Episcopal Church
Beverly Dudek	Bob Lyon	Trinity Lutheran Church

We have been helped by two churches, Trinity Lutheran and St. Andrews who provide meals once a month.

Thank you for being Jesus' hands and feet here in Valparaiso, in Indiana, in the United States and in the World! We are blessed to share our blessings! If you have ideas for future mission opportunities, please contact Beth Germann 464-3608. We meet the second Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. You are welcome to join us!

Travel with The Outreach Foundation to learn more about God's mission in Brazil. The trip will be led by Outreach's Associate Director for Mission Juan Sarmiento. Our hosts will be Outreach's Coordinator for Portuguese speaking ministries Jose Pezini and leaders of The Independent Presbyterian Church of Brazil (IPIB). Cost of the trip is approximately \$3000 including airfare from Atlanta and all in-country costs: room, board, transport and two day participation in the conference "Making Disciples: The Essence of Mission".



AUGUST 24 – 31, 2018 MAKING DISCIPLES WITH THE CHURCH IN BRAZIL

The focus of the trip will be sharing with congregations that are prioritizing discipleship as a way of developing new congregations among younger generations that have become disconnected from traditional church structures. We will travel around Sao Paulo, Campinas, Valinhos and Sao Jose do Rio Preto visiting with new believers, pastors, recently planted congregations, and established congregations that are starting others. We will worship with brothers and sisters in Christ and learn from some of the leaders of a growing Presbyterian-led church planting movement that includes leaders from several Reformed and evangelical denominations.



**Come and see
what God is
doing!**

**Meet brothers
and sisters you
didn't know you
had!**

**Be encouraged
and be an
encourager**

**Learn as you
share with others
who follow Jesus
in a very different
context**

**THE OUTREACH
FOUNDATION**

www.theoutreachfoundation.org

615-778-8881

Contact Lisa Dill for more
information and to register

The deadline for submitting your application with the \$150 deposit is May 25, 2018.

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Holy Land Mission Trip
Sign up date was extended to July 25, 2018.

- Aug 7: Fly
- Aug 8: Arrive in Tel Aviv. Visit the port city of Jaffa – St. Peter Church and the story of Peter in the house of Simon the Tanner. Transfer to Jerusalem to the hotel.
- Aug 9: Start the day with a pilgrimage visit to Mount of Olives with a panoramic view over the city of Jerusalem. Walk the Palm Sunday path from the Pater Noster Church to the garden of Gethsemane. Visit the Wailing Wall, the most holy site for the Jews all over the world. Stop at the Israeli museum where you can see the model of Jerusalem at the time of Jesus (Jerusalem second temple period) and the shrine of the book – the place where you can learn about the Dead Sea scrolls. End the day in the village of Ein Karem. See the Church of the visitation and the birth place of St. John the Baptist.
- Aug 10: Leave Jerusalem towards southern city of Bethlehem (West Bank, Palestinian Authority). Drive through the check point and the separation wall. Visit the Monastery of the Shepherds Fields, where the angel of the Lord appeared to the shepherds announcing the birth of Jesus. Visit the Nativity Church, the birth place of the Lord, and St. Catherine Catholic Church. Mission to Bethlehem University, Bethlehem Bible College and/or Wiam, tour a refugee camp.
- Aug 11: Drive to the wilderness to visit Masada, Herod's most amazing desert fortress. Then drive to Qumran to visit the remains of the settlement and the caves where the Dead Sea scrolls were found. Stop at the Dead Sea for a float in this unique salty lake. (And enjoy a drink at the world's lowest elevation bar, if you want!).
- Aug 12: Early morning start with a walk in Jerusalem in the Old City. Walk the way of the cross and visit the Holy Sepulcher Church. This is the place of the crucifixion and the tomb of our Lord Jesus Christ. Attend the English speaking Sunday worship in the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer. Then proceed to Mount Zion to visit the last supper room and the church of St. Peter in Gallicantu.
- Aug 13: Today we concentrate on the Biblical City of Jerusalem and the Temple Mount area. Visit the city of David. Southern steps. Western Wall and the Western Wall tunnel.
- Aug 14: Leave Jerusalem towards the coastal plain and visit the remains of Caesarea Maritima, Herod's biggest city, the place where Cornelius the centurion met Simon Peter and believed in Christianity. This is also the place where St. Paul was in prison. On the way to the Sea of Galilee, drive through Nazareth and visit the amazing church of the Annunciation. Overnight in Tiberias by the sea.
- Aug 15: Drive to the Golan Heights to visit the biblical city Dan. Enjoy a walk in the natural park and the biblical remains of Dan. Then drive to Caesarea Philippi, the place where Peter declared Jesus as the Son of God. Overnight in Tiberias by the sea.
- Aug 16: Today we will finalize our pilgrimage concentrating on Jesus's public ministry. We will start our day with a worship by the lake near the church of the Multiplication and the story of feeding the five thousand. Then visit the church of St. Peter Primacy and Jesus appearing to his disciples. See the remains of Capernaum, Jesus's Galilean headquarters, and the Chapel of the Beatitudes. Finalize the day with a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee. Overnight in Tiberias by the sea.
- Aug 17: Early check out and transfer to the airport.

Cost: \$2,100 (extra for a single room) + flight (currently running only \$700!)

Please contact Tracy Campbell @ 219-916-9176 or tlc.andrews@gmail.com

Sign up by July 25, 2018!

The sooner the better as flights are running cheap right now!!!

Christian Food Pantry

In March, two hundred twenty-seven families were served which provided food for five hundred forty-nine people. Easter dinner items were given out to 100 families! It was great that there was enough to purchase hams and other dinner items for that many. As this report is written, the shelves in the storeroom are literally bare.

The following items are needed for the summer Kid's Kits:

- Chicken Noodle Soup
- Cookies (Small Bags)
- Crackers (Small Bags)
- Fruit Cups
- Jell-O®
- Pudding Cups
- Tooth Brushes
- Tubes of Toothpaste (Small)
- Tomato Soup

The following basic items are needed:

- Bathroom Tissue
- Diapers (Larger Sizes)
- Canned Fruit
- Cereal
- Coffee (Small Cans)
- Cooking Oil (Small Bottles)
- Jiffy® Corn Bread Mix
- Juices
- Macaroni and Cheese
- Peanut Butter
- Pork 'n Beans
- Saltine Crackers
- Soups
- Teas
- Tuna in Water

Our sponsoring congregations are greatly appreciated!

Nan, Sharon and Anne

Second Mile Offering and Christian Food Pantry

May's Second Mile Offering will be received for the Kids Alive Ministry. You will find envelopes in the slots on the back of the chairs for your convenience.

If you would like to donate items to the food pantry, there is a basket in the entryway for that purpose.

Worship Flowers

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE WORSHIP FLOWERS in honor or memory of a loved one, please fill out the information below and return it to the church office or sign up on the clipboard chart located on the north bookcase in the Hospitality Center. Thank you.

June 3	June 17	June 24	July 8	July 15	July 22
July 29	Aug. 5	Aug. 12	Aug. 26	Sept. 2	Sept. 9

Name: _____ Phone: _____

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

To be taken home: _____ To be delivered to shut-ins: _____

Deacons Doings

(submitted by Jason Gordon)

The Deacons have been busy delivering daffodils to our deacon friends this Easter. For those that were unable to attend church during this special season, 10 friends were given communion at their homes.

We also continue to send the caring cards for those having a bit of a hard time. Please sign them when they are up. They are a tangible reminder that our church members care about one other.

The Deacons will also be serving a family dinner during Vacation Bible School this June. This simple gesture helps to spread God's loving message to the latest generation and their families. We encourage all families to attend VBS and invite other friends too!

We want to remind everyone that our congregation is an aging one and it is important to invite new people to our church. You can invite your neighbor, co-worker or family member to any mission work that is being done as well as our weekly Sunday services. Many people want to make a difference but sometimes do not know how to.



May Calendar

Tuesday, May 01, 2018

10:00 AM	Staff Team Meeting	Workroom
10:00 AM	Men's Coffee Break Bible Study	101
6:15 PM	Worship Team	101

Wednesday, May 02, 2018

10:00 AM	Women's Bible Study	101
12:00 PM	Saints Luncheon	FR, 154, 155
3:30 PM	Disciples Bible Study	101
5:00 PM	Reformation Ringers	Sanctuary
6:15 PM	Building Disciples Team	101
6:30 PM	B.S. ('Bible Study') Teen Boys	Off-site
7:00 PM	iEngage Team	Workroom

Thursday, May 03, 2018

9:30 AM	The Comfort Stitchers	154, 155
3:00 PM	Endowment Meeting	101
6:00 PM	Small Group	101
6:30 PM	Praise Band	Sanctuary

Friday, May 04, 2018

5:30 PM	First Friday Friends	Fellowship Hall
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Saturday, May 05, 2018

8:00 AM	Rain Date: Clean Up Day	FPC
10:00 AM	Puppet Practice	Sanctuary

May Calendar, continued

Sunday, May 06, 2018

9:00 AM	Liturgical Service of Worship	Sanctuary
9:00 AM	Pre-Confirmation Class	100
9:45 AM	Coffee Fellowship	Hospitality Center
10:00 AM	Congregational Life Team	Friendship Room
10:00 AM	Confirmation Class	154
10:00 AM	Kids of the Kingdom*	CE Rooms
10:05 AM	Pastor's Class	101
11:00 AM	Contemporary Praise Service	Sanctuary
12:00 PM	Presbys Youth Group	100

Monday, May 07, 2018

8:30 AM	Retired Presbyterian Men	Off-site
5:00 PM	Journeys of Faith	101
5:30 PM	Christian Education Team	100
6:00 PM	Building & Grounds Team	154, 155
7:00 PM	Boy Scouts	Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, May 08, 2018

10:00 AM	Staff Team Meeting	Workroom
10:00 AM	Men's Coffee Break Bible Study	101

Wednesday, May 09, 2018

10:00 AM	Women's Bible Study	101
3:30 PM	Disciples Bible Study	101
5:00 PM	Reformation Ringers	Sanctuary
6:30 PM	B.S. ('Bible Study') Teen Boys	Off-site

Thursday, May 10, 2018

9:30 AM	The Comfort Stitchers	154, 155
6:00 PM	Small Group	101
6:30 PM	Praise Band	Sanctuary

Friday, May 11, 2018

Saturday, May 12, 2018

*denotes rescheduled gathering time

continued on next page

May Calendar, continued

Sunday, May 13, 2018 – Happy Mother's Day!

9:00 AM	Liturgical Service of Worship	Sanctuary
9:00 AM	Pre-Confirmation Class	100
9:45 AM	Coffee Fellowship	Hospitality Center
10:00 AM	Confirmation Class	154
10:00 AM	Kids of the Kingdom*	CE Rooms
10:05 AM	Pastor's Class	101
10:15 AM	Adult Choir Practice	148, 149
11:00 AM	Contemporary Praise Service	Sanctuary
11:00 AM	Puppets	Stage
6:00 PM	Presbys Youth Group	100

Monday, May 14, 2018

11:00 AM	Presbyterian Resale Shop Ministry	Off-site
5:00 PM	Journeys of Faith	101
5:30 PM	Stewardship Team	100
6:30 PM	Mission Team	101
7:00 PM	Boy Scouts	Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, May 15, 2018

9:45 AM	On the Go Excursions	Leave FPC
10:00 AM	Men's Coffee Break Bible Study	101
7:00 PM	Boy Scouts Committee	154, 155

Wednesday, May 16, 2018

10:00 AM	Women's Bible Study	101
10:30 AM	Widows' Group	Friendship Room
3:30 PM	Disciples Bible Study	101
4:30 PM	LIFT Eval.	101
5:00 PM	Reformation Ringers	Sanctuary
6:30 PM	Confirmation Banquet	Friendship Room
**	Session Meeting - Rescheduled (following Confirmation Banquet)	154, 155
6:30 PM	B.S. ('Bible Study') Teen Boys	Off-site

Thursday, May 17, 2018

9:30 AM	The Comfort Stitchers	154, 155
10:00 AM	Harriet Drapier/Mary Crosby	Friendship Room
6:00 PM	Small Group	101
6:30 PM	Praise Band	Sanctuary
7:00 PM	Finance Team (Rescheduled)	Workroom

Friday, May 18, 2018

Saturday, May 19, 2018

4:00 PM	IDGB Fourth Day Gathering	Sanctuary, FH, 154
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*denotes rescheduled gathering time

**denotes following the 6:30 p.m. Confirmation Banquet

continued on next page

May Calendar, continued

Sunday, May 20, 2018 – Confirmation Sunday

9:00 AM	Liturgical Service of Worship	Sanctuary
9:45 AM	Coffee Fellowship	Hospitality Center
10:00 AM	Kids of the Kingdom*	CE Rooms
10:05 AM	Pastor's Class	101
10:15 AM	Adult Choir Practice	148, 149
11:00 AM	Contemporary Praise Service	Sanctuary

Monday, May 21, 2018

5:00 PM	Journeys of Faith	101
7:00 PM	Boy Scouts	Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, May 22, 2018

10:00 AM	Men's Coffee Break Bible Study	101
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Wednesday, May 23, 2018

10:00 AM	Women's Bible Study	101
3:30 PM	Disciples Bible Study	101
6:30 PM	B.S. ('Bible Study') Teen Boys	Off-site

Thursday, May 24, 2018

9:30 AM	The Comfort Stitchers	154, 155
2:00 PM	Pines Communion	Off-site
6:00 PM	Small Group	101
6:30 PM	Praise Band	Sanctuary

Friday, May 25, 2018

Saturday, May 26, 2018

Sunday, May 27, 2018

9:00 AM	Liturgical Service of Worship	Sanctuary
9:45 AM	Coffee Fellowship	Hospitality Center
10:15 AM	Adult Choir Practice	148, 149
11:00 AM	Contemporary Praise Service	Sanctuary

Monday, May 28, 2018 – Church Office Closed – Memorial Day

Tuesday, May 29, 2018

10:00 AM	Men's Coffee Break Bible Study	101
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Wednesday, May 30, 2018

10:00 AM	Women's Bible Study	101
3:30 PM	Disciples Bible Study	101
6:30 PM	B.S. ('Bible Study') Teen Boys	Off-site

Thursday, May 31, 2018

9:30 AM	The Comfort Stitchers	154, 155
6:30 PM	Praise Band	Sanctuary

*denotes rescheduled gathering time

Resale Shop – May 2018 Schedule

May Scheduler: Carolyn Dye (219) 464-8878
 June - Sept. Scheduler: Pam Skaltsas (219) 464-7384

Closed on Sundays and Mondays – 462-4281

Tuesdays through Saturdays – 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
www.firstpresbyterianresale.com

Tues	Wed	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
1 Pat Blanco Joan Johnston ----- Karen Huguenard Cheryl Keach	2 Chris Hurd Alexa Olling ----- Carol Bonvissuto Cindy Robinson	3 Linda Flory Pam Skaltsas ----- Linda Hartlerode Pam Skaltsas	4 Alexa Olling TBD ----- Ruth Eskilson Karen Simerlein	5 Jackie Bernal Violet Blossom ----- Carolyn & Doug Dye
8 Marilyn Mohr Nancy Pedersen ----- Pastors Toby & Mark Mueller	9 Sally Hawke Joan Johnston ----- Kay Exley Karen Kelly	10 Betty Richardson Rose Ross ----- Rose Ross Debbie Shaw	11 Mary Brown Janice Reichard ----- Elizabeth Monroe Karen Simerlein	12 Linda Hartlerode Pam Skaltsas ----- Linda Hartlerode Pam Skaltsas
15 Mary Jayne Shurr TBD ----- Beth Germann Paul Knauff	16 Mary Jayne Shurr Star Ruwersma ----- Carol Bonvissuto Judy Hollar	17 Pat Puffer Betty Richardson ----- Pat Buckwell Judy Kendrick	18 Barb Aungst Ruth Eskilson ----- Carolyn Dye Laura Tucker	19 Violet Blossom Catherine Busch ----- Marilyn & Don Owens
22 Inge Culberson Inge Nimtz ----- Carolyn Dye Laura Tucker	23 Star Ruwersma Mary Jayne Shurr ----- Kay Exley Karen Kelly	24 Becky Bluhm Pam Skaltsas ----- Carolyn Lelek Inge Nimtz	25 Rose Cummins Alexa Olling ----- Carol Bonvissuto Cindy Robinson	26 Closed for Memorial Day Weekend
29 Jill & Croc McGonigle ----- Nancy Becker Cindy Robinson	30 Ginger & Jim Boys ----- Judy Hollar Della Hutton	31 Cindy Robinson TBD ----- Kay Exley Judy Kepshire	We Need Your help! We have several openings in May and would appreciate your help at the Resale Shop. It's fun, easy, and quite rewarding. Please consider volunteering. Call Carolyn Dye at 219-464-8878.	

Harriet Drapier / Mary Crosby Circle's

Next Meeting

Date: May 17, 2018 Hostesses: Dottie Staats
 Time: 10:00 A.M. Co-hostess: Janice Reichard
 Lesson: Dottie Staats

Presbyterian Resale Shop Ministry

Moderator: Carolyn Dye
 Vice-moderator: Pam Skaltsas
 Treasurer: Linda Hartlerode
 Historian: Mary Jayne Shurr

Happy Birthday!

May 1
Carolyn Dye
Kaitlin Shideler

May 2
Trey Buehler

May 3
Barbara Aungst
Allison Skadberg

May 4
Karen Robison

May 5
Kathy Rowe

May 9
Doyll Andrews, III
Jim Hubbard
Joanne Webb-McClennan

May 11
Tom Byerly
Lou Ann Karabel

May 12
Andrea Phillips

May 15
Norman Brooker
Marilyn Mohr
Lisa Pavlopoulos
Pete Shaw

May 16
Carol Byerly
Jacob Goodpaster
Michael Skaltsas

May 17
Anne Hurst
Trenton Olling

May 18
Donna Cummins
Harry Karabel
Gavin Martin

May 19
Susan Grosick

May 23
Ken McAloon

May 24
Heather Crews
Brooke Spitler

May 26
Lenny Corso
Bill Rogers
Marcy Wood

May 27
Joy Dirks

May 28
Paul Knauff

May 30
Doug Dye
Virginia Gricich

May 31
Carla Evans
Paul Grant

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

Per Capita

Please prayerfully consider paying your per capita. The more per capita paid by each member, fewer funds will come out of our operating budget. The cost is \$40.00 per member.

Financial Report

March 2018

Income	\$ 49,613	YTD Income	\$ 121,499
Expenses	<u>36,780</u>	YTD Expenses	<u>117,381</u>
Over/Short	\$ 12,833		\$ 4,118

Ministry Roster

If there are any changes, please find a substitute and notify the church office as soon as possible to facilitate bulletin printing. Thank you for your time and ministry.

USHERS SCHEDULE

May 6
9:00 a.m. Jim Hubbard
Sharon Hubbard
Larry Wheeler

11:00 a.m. Carla Evans
Kathy Evans

May 13
9:00 a.m. Jackie Bernal
Carolyn Dye
Doug Dye

11:00 a.m. Glen Buford
Leila Buford

May 20
9:00 a.m. David Goodwin
Phebe Klapp
Trent Olling

11:00 a.m. Sheya Bennett
Olga Koch

May 27
9:00 a.m. Beth Germann
Vic Klancer
Rose Ross

11:00 a.m. Catherine Busch
Steve Scarborough

SEXTON:

Open: Paul Knauff
Close: Valarie Smart-Higgins (5/6)
Close: Don Mohr (5/13, 5/20, 5/27)

ELDER ON CALL

May 6 Elizabeth Monroe
20 Andrea Phillips

DEACON ON CALL

May 13 Valarie Smart-Higgins
27 Mike Becker

COMMUNION SET UP

SATURDAY, MAY 12, 2018 (rescheduled date)

Isabel Gordon
Jason Gordon

COMMUNION SUNDAY,

MAY 13, 2018 (rescheduled date)

PRESENTATION/CLEAN UP:

Ginger Boys
Jim Boys

MAY 13, 2018, COMMUNION SERVERS (rescheduled date)

Brad Dirks*
Elizabeth Monroe*
Cathy Cole
Connie Knauff
Sterling Miller
Chip Wilkes

*denotes leaders



First Presbyterian Church of Valparaiso

In case of a pastoral emergency, please call Pastor Mark Mueller at (256) 425-3152.

To contact the Prayer Teams for emergency prayer, please contact
Pastor Toby Mueller via email at tmueller@fpcvalpo.org or via phone (256) 425-3181.

CHURCH STAFF

E-MAIL ADDRESS

Janice Axmann, Organist.....	axmann122@comcast.net
Pastor Nancy Becker, Parish Associate.....	mnbecker3@gmail.com
Rhonda Clark, Adult Choir Director	
Ken Crews, Student Pastor.....	kennethcrews@go.mccormick.edu
Julia Evans, Director of Youth Ministry	julia.evans@valpo.edu
Beverlee Frazee, Business Manager.....	bfrazee@fpcvalpo.org
Pastor Mark Mueller, Pastor/Head of Staff	mmueller@fpcvalpo.org
Pastor Toby Mueller, Associate Pastor	tmueller@fpcvalpo.org
Dawn Scarborough, Administrative Assistant.....	dscarborough@fpcvalpo.org
Lisa Thomas, Director of Children's Ministries.....	lthomas@fpcvalpo.org

<u>Elders of Session</u>	<u>Ministry Team</u>
Doyll Andrews	Mission Team
Rhonda Coffin.....	Stewardship Team
Cathy Cole.....	Christian Education Team*
Brad Dirks	Worship Team
Barry Hughes	Building and Grounds Team*
Jerry Kahrs	iEngage Team
Lou Ann Karabel.....	Building Disciples Team
Connie Knauff.....	Christian Education Team*
Sterling Miller	Building and Grounds Team*
Elizabeth Monroe.....	Finance Team
Andrea Phillips.....	Congregational Life Team
Chip Wilkes.....	Personnel Team

*denotes Co-moderator

Moderator of Session

Pastor Mark Mueller

Clerk of Session

Judy Hollar



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