

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 17, 2023

Baptism and Confirmation are two gifts from God and reason for celebration within our church family, and each provided a gratifying introduction to the May Session meeting.

First, Pastor Kim introduced Sarah Middleton, the daughter of Suk and Michael McKee, and Sarah's husband Tyler, who are requesting that their daughter Aria be baptized at First Presbyterian. Sarah shared some of her story about her journey as a baptized and confirmed Presbyterian herself. After questions and meaningful conversation, a motion was made and unanimously approved to celebrate the baptism of Aria Middleton on July 9, 2023.

Second, Pastor Ken introduced Noelle Kukler who has grown up in this church and has participated in the two-year confirmation program taught by Pastor Ken and Heather Crews. Noelle shared her statement of faith with the Elders and answered their questions after which a motion was made and also unanimously approved to welcome Noelle into membership. She shared her statement of faith with the congregation and was officially confirmed during worship on Sunday, May 21, followed by the delicious Confirmation Potluck Luncheon.

We are truly blessed to have added Noelle to our church family now and look forward to welcoming Aria in July.

In other business, several **motions** were approved:

- The June Session meeting has been rescheduled for June 14, 2023.
- Finance Team has recommended the Treasurer cash in a CD invested with PILP (Presbyterian Investment & Loan Program) coming due in May, transfer a previously approved match for Smock Grant to capital account, and invest remainder in high-interest CD with Horizon Bank.
- Finance Team has recommended that the newly renamed Planned Giving Team become a subcommittee of the Finance Team, including endowment giving as part of their expertise.
- Vacation Bible Camp will collect a missional offering from June 4, 2023, through June 28, 2023, to support The Caring Place and World Relief (a Christian-based non-profit that does refugee resettlement work, including Ukrainian families in the Chicagoland area).

Elders are continuing to work on a new document covering use of our facilities; beginning to work on calling candidates for Elder and Deacon positions; and beginning to plan for the fall Stewardship campaign.

Reports were received from the Treasurer, the Clerk, Pastor Kim, Building & Grounds, Congregational Life, Faith Formation, Worship, and the Presbyterian Resale Shop. In addition, four members of the Presbyterian Resale Shop attended the meeting asking questions regarding the upcoming church audit. While some of their questions were answered, they were directed to meet with the Administrative Commission that has been delegated with resolving any issues they might have.

continued on next page

And as always, Joys and Concerns were shared:

- Spring Clean-up Day was celebrated with many workers sharing great fellowship and making our property look outstanding.
- New chancel furniture has added to the worship experience, and care guidelines have been shared so it will continue to stay lovely.
- Several Elders have returned after being away for a time, and they remarked how wonderful it has been to see church friends (like returning home to family).
- Children and grandchildren are truly a joy: playing great baseball, visiting grandparents, graduating from colleges, traveling together.
- Receiving good health reports are always a blessing.

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 of Session

OPPORTUNITY



&



**All freewill donations will
support the
Dressed for School Program.**

Come shop for new treasures & drive
away in a
freshly washed car!

Saturday, June 3, 2023
8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church
3401 N Valparaiso St
Valparaiso, IN 46383





PRESBYTERIAN RESALE SHOP MINISTRY NEWS

PRESBYTERIAN RESALE SHOP YOUR HELP HELPS US HELP OTHERS

OUR MISSION:

The Presbyterian Resale Shop sells high quality, gently used items at a fair price to customers in northwest Indiana. We strive to help those in need, to create a welcoming environment for our customers and to promote teamwork among our volunteers. Our goal is to provide funding to worthy service agencies and charities, locally and globally.

The Presbyterian Resale Shop supports a wide variety of charities and service agencies in our community. In May we generously supported The Boys and Girls Club of Valparaiso, Family House Inc., First Contact, Hilltop House Food Pantry, Moraine House, The Salvation Army, Valparaiso Nazarene Church Dry Pantry and VNA Hospice.

For over 80 years the Presbyterian Resale Shop has been a mission of First Presbyterian Church of Valparaiso. We are proud to carry out God's work in our community. Each volunteer gives their time willingly and joyfully. Please prayerfully consider how you can help us help others.

Blessings to our Church family and thank you for your continued support.

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

STEWARDSHIP.....IT'S NOT ONLY ANNUAL GIVING!

As Christians, we understand that Stewardship derives from our *genuine gratitude to God for **all** we have received in life*. That gratitude is then reflected in *everything* we do: the care we devote to family and friends; the effort we give to work and community; our response to specific concerns of the world-wide community; the way we attend to and use our precious gifts; and so much more.

First Presbyterian has been blessed throughout the years by members who have used their gifts to support this congregation not only through their **Annual Giving** which is essential, but through ***Special Gifts*** (*responding to Church-led appeals or providing a gift from the heart*) and through ***Legacy Gifts*** (*final gifts which express gratitude for all that has been received and enjoyed in life*). All three types of gifts are a testament to the love our Church forefathers and mothers had for their faith community and their conviction that the on-going mission of First Presbyterian Church in Valparaiso should continue.

So it is for us, now, to consider the future. By making a ***Special Gift*** or by committing to make a ***Legacy Gift*** in your will or estate plan, you will help ensure that First Presbyterian lives on to guide and serve coming generations. How might you do this?

To ensure your gift is used where the need is greatest, consider directing a gift in one of two ways.

To The Sharing Table Project - This is currently a top priority for First Presbyterian since over the next three years our Church is committed to fostering an enhanced sense of community, strengthening the Christian

growth of our members, and generating funds to support our future mission and ministry which includes updating facilities and grounds in support of these priorities.

To **First Presbyterian directly with no restrictions** – This gives First Presbyterian maximum flexibility to use your gift **where the need is greatest** ensuring the usefulness of your gift as needs and times change.

If you prefer to be more specific about the use of your gift, consider giving to First Presbyterian's: Mission and Ministry Fund; Capital Fund; Endowment or consult with a member of the Planned Giving Committee for ways you might personally identify a purpose or item you wish to support/provide.

Gifts can be made in a variety of forms. Certain types of gifts can even provide tax benefits to the donor. To explore making a ***Special*** or ***Legacy Gift***, just contact Kathy Joseph or Jim Hubbard. We will do our best to guide you through this important giving process.

Yours in Christ,

Your Planned Giving Committee

“What we do for ourselves dies with us. What we do for others and the world remains and is immortal.” -anonymous

CHRISTIAN FOOD PANTRY

Basic items needed are as follows:

- Cereal
- Tuna in Water
- Peanut Butter, Canned Fruit
- Canned Green Beans, Peas & Corn
- Toilet Paper, Kleenex, Paper Towels
- Brown Paper Grocery Bags

The food pantry began collecting items for “Kids Kits” for children home during the summer months (through July). The items needed for the kits are as follows:

- Tomato and Chicken Noodle Soup
- 6 Oz. Real Fruit Drinks
- Fruit Cups & Applesauce Cups
- Pudding Snack Cups & Jell’O® Cups
- Canned Pasta (SpaghettiOs®)
- Peanut Butter Sandwich Crackers
- Bags of Crackers, Goldfish, or Teddy Grahams
- Mac & Cheese
- Small Boxes of Raisins
- Tooth Brushes & Toothpaste

DEACONS DOINGS

(submitted by June Olling)

This past month the deacons sponsored a Family Nature Night. A big thank you to Bonnie Swarner and the Porter County Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America. The tables were set up with different conservation displays. There were plenty of activities such as digging for fossils, archery and introduction to kayaking. My favorite activity was meeting different animals such as a skunk, turtle, guinea pig named Cinnamon, and the very famous pink toe tarantula named Rosie. Rosie’s handler was Jim Louderman from Chicago’s Field Museum with some of his biological specimens and live insects too. It was fun for all. We should all care for the environment. Genesis 2:15 The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work and keep it.



“Matthew 25 Reflection” presents information chosen by our Matthew 25 Team to inform and inspire our church family to actively engage in activities and with initiatives that reduce poverty and racism in our local communities and beyond.

What Students Are Saying About Race and Racism in America New York Times March 2021

The New York Times invited teenagers across the nation to join a moderated discussion about racial equity and justice. The article offers a sampling of the 2,000-plus thoughtful, passionate comments. Here are two of those comments:

I feel that there is no real definite solution to racism, but there are steps that can be taken to get closer to equality. Step 1 would be to teach your kids how to show compassion and how not to judge someone by the color of their skin but by the content of their character. By doing this, the next generation will grow up knowing how to not judge others by the way that they look but by the way they act and the decisions they make. Step 2 would be to educate this generation and the next about racism and the correct history behind it. It is mostly ignorance that causes people to make poor judgment on others and treat others unfairly and that is what I believe is one of the main causes of racism. Step 3 would be to enforce the change of history books and to encourage communities to work for each other not against each other.

— [Aidan, Illinois](#)

I am white, and I live in a predominately white suburban town. I have never been treated differently for the color of my skin because I am a product of white privilege. I was not very politically active until George Floyd was murdered and the Black Lives Matter protests began in May. Since then, I’ve tried to better understand the hardships that people of color endure as a result of racism. I think it is of the utmost importance to speak out against corrupt systems, especially if you are not affected by these systems. Because in my opinion, choosing not to speak up against something because it does not involve you is proof that the system is working. Turning a blind eye with the thinly veiled excuse “politics isn’t for me” can no longer mask selfish ignorance. This is not the time to be anti-political because silence is contributing to the blatant discrimination of black Americans. Hiding behind privilege instead of utilizing that very privilege to initiate change can no longer be justified.

— [Annie, New Jersey](#)

PRAYER:

Heavenly Father, please help us to be aware of the role our younger members will play in addressing changes regarding racism. Help us to meaningfully engage them in our efforts to understand and address these difficult issues. Amen

CALENDAR

Thursday, June 1, 2023

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

Friday, June 2, 2023

Saturday, June 3, 2023

8:00 AM	Annual Yard Sale & Car Wash	Pavilion
---------	-----------------------------	----------

Sunday, June 4, 2023

10:00 AM	Worship Svc. Live & Streamed*	FPC, Online
11:00 AM	Congregational Life Team	FPC
11:00 AM	Music & Tech Team Appreciation Picnic	Pavilion
12:00 PM	Campaign Team	101

Monday, June 5, 2023

6:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
---------	-------------------	-----

Tuesday, June 6, 2023

10:00 AM	Membership Team	154, 155
12:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
1:30 PM	Bulletin Notes Meeting	Hospitality Center
6:00 PM	Building and Grounds	Friendship Room
6:00 PM	Sweet Adelines	FPC

Wednesday, June 7, 2023

10:00 AM	Wed. Morning Bible Study	101
11:15 AM	Agenda Meeting (TBC)	FPC
5:30 PM	Faith Formation Team	144, 145
6:30 PM	Worship Team	Online

Thursday, June 8, 2023

10:00 AM	The Comfort Stitchers	154, 155
7:00 PM	Finance Team (Rescheduled TBC)	154, 155
7:30 PM	Worship Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary

Friday, June 9, 2023

7:00 AM	Reports/Minutes Due for Session Packet	Email
---------	--	-------

Saturday, June 10, 2023

5:30 PM	The Sharing Table Project Banquet	Fellowship Hall
----------------	--	------------------------

CALENDAR

Sunday, June 11, 2023

10:00 AM	Worship Svc. Live & Streamed*	FPC, Online
11:00 AM	Nom Com Meeting	155

Monday, June 12, 2023

11:00 AM	Resale Shop Ministry	Off-site
6:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101

Tuesday, June 13, 2023

12:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
1:30 PM	Bulletin Notes Meeting	Hospitality Center
6:00 PM	iEngage Team Meeting	Online
6:00 PM	Sweet Adelines	FPC
6:30 PM	Mission Team	Online
7:15 PM	Matthew 25 Team	Friendship Room, Online

Wednesday, June 14, 2023

10:00 AM	Wed. Morning Bible Study	101
7:00 PM	Session Meeting (Rescheduled)	154, 155

Thursday, June 15, 2023

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

Friday, June 16, 2023

Saturday, June 17, 2023

Sunday, June 18, 2023

10:00 AM	Worship Svc. Live & Streamed*	FPC, Online
12:00 PM	Campaign Team	101

Monday, June 19, 2023

6:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
---------	-------------------	-----

Tuesday, June 20, 2023

12:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
1:30 PM	Bulletin Notes Meeting	Hospitality Center
6:00 PM	Sweet Adelines	FPC

Wednesday, June 21, 2023

10:00 AM	Wed. Morning Bible Study	101
----------	--------------------------	-----

Thursday, June 22, 2023

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

Friday, June 23, 2023

Saturday, June 24, 2023

CALENDAR

Sunday, June 25, 2023

10:00 AM	Worship Svc. Live & Streamed*	FPC, Online
5:30 PM	Vacation Bible Camp	FPC

Monday, June 26, 2023

5:30 PM	Vacation Bible Camp	FPC
6:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101

Tuesday, June 27, 2023

12:00 PM	Men's Bible Study	101
1:30 PM	Bulletin Notes Meeting	Hospitality Center
5:30 PM	Vacation Bible Camp	FPC

Wednesday, June 28, 2023

10:00 AM	Wed. Morning Bible Study	101
12:30 PM	Parkinson's Support Group	Friendship Room
5:30 PM	Vacation Bible Camp	FPC

Thursday, June 29, 2023

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

Friday, June 30, 2023

**denotes in-person and streamed online: Facebook, fpcvalpo.org, FPC YouTube Channel:*

www.fpcvalpo.org/worship-livestream,

www.youtube.com/channel/UC8Za9RpS1LFHAmVd6XW_pTQ, or

www.facebook.com/1stPresChurchValpo

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Worship outside under the pavilion first and third Sundays of the month, weather permitting, and inside the sanctuary all other Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

June 1
Debra Daugherty
Harry Turner
Susan Jones

June 2
Dylan Wray

June 3
John Bianco

June 6
June Olling

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 26
Tina Kukler

June 27
Fred Grosick

June 30
Sterling Miller
Stuart Robbins

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

ONLINE GIFTS TO THE CHURCH

FPC VALPARAISO ONLINE GIVING AND PLEDGE OPPORTUNITIES

Visit <https://onrealm.org/FirstPresbyteri76732/-/form/pledge/pledgeincome>
to make a 2023 pledge to FPC
or
<https://onrealm.org/FirstPresbyteri76732/-/form/give/KLYBGIVCVH>
for FPC online giving opportunity.

DUE DATES – TIDINGS ARTICLES, BULLETIN ARTICLES AND SCREENS

Due Date for Tidings Articles:

The due date for Tidings articles is the 15th of the month prior to the publication. (i.e. June articles are due by May 15.) Please email articles to Dawn Scarborough in the church office at dscarborough@fpcvalpo.org

Due Date for Bulletin Articles, Screens, First Notes and/or Advertisements:

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

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

Please email screen announcements to Jeff Whitney at
jwhitney@fpcvalpo.org.

FINANCE TEAM REPORT HIGHLIGHTS AS OF APRIL 30, 2023

- \$18,868 was received in April from our Endowment and legacy gifts through Porter County Community Foundation, designated to funds for scholarships, our operating expenses, music and unbudgeted mission and ministry needs this year. If you want to consider these kinds of gifts, see our Planned Giving materials.
- \$218,165.23 has been received as pledged so far this year, just under half way to our operating fund pledge goal for the year. We received another \$14,647 in general support for our budget.
- \$9,368 from our mission giving and \$20,000 through the Presbyterian Women Resale Shop has been sent to community and world-wide missions.
- Our preschool is self-sustaining, we receive extra gifts to support our varied musicians, and our ministry teams are keeping within their budgets as they do their work on our behalf.
- Overall income for April was \$57,941.78; year-to-date is \$305,922.
- Overall expenses for April were \$48,300 and year-to-date is \$237,864.
- Watch this summer for \$70,000 in updates to our building for water fountains, some required repairs, and modifications to improve access for those with mobility limits – paid for by a Smock Foundation grant and gifts to our capital fund.

Numbers like these demonstrate the deep commitment of our congregation to support our current mission and ministries – intergenerational Faith Formation, rich spectrum of music in our worship, our generosity to serve others through missions, and our pastors and staff, technology, utilities, etc. that support all that we do in ministry. We are doing so much right now, building closer personal relationships as we work together post-pandemic. Just imagine what we can do through *The Sharing Table Project for tomorrow!*

– Linda Long, Treasurer

MISSION STATEMENT:
Building Disciples; Growing in Faith; Serving in Christ's Name
FPC VALPARAISO IS A MATTHEW 25 CONGREGATION:



MATTHEW 25

- Building congregational vitality
- Dismantling structural racism
- Eradicating systemic poverty

www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/matthew-25/

FPC SCHOLARSHIPS

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 submit completed forms to the following address by June 11, 2023:**

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.

ALL ARE WELCOME AT THE TABLE

**COMMUNION WILL BE SERVED DURING
WORSHIP
on
Sunday, May 28, 2023
and
Sunday, June 4, 2023
at 10:00 a.m. Worship**

We will celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion on the above-captioned dates/times during the in-person at FPC Valpo and online worship services (via Facebook Live/FPC website/FPC YouTube channel).

All are invited to the communion table in your home by bringing a piece of bread/cracker and a cup of juice/wine or whatever common elements you have to celebrate communion. This way, our faith community can be joined together for the sacrament even though we are physically apart.

MINISTRY ROSTER

SEXTON

Open: Doug Hollar
Close: Vic Klancer

ELDER ON CALL SCHEDULE

June 4 Ryne Press
June 18 Ryne Press

DEACON ON CALL SCHEDULE

June 11 June Olling
June 25 Sheya Bennett

LITURGIST SCHEDULE

June 4 Ryne Press
June 11 Linda Long
June 18 Sharon Kinsey
June 25 Presbys

USHERS SCHEDULE

June 4 Kathy Joseph
Jerry Kahrs
June 11 Denise Walker
Mike Walker
June 18 David Goodwin
Rose Ross
June 25 Jim Hubbard
Sharon Hubbard

COMMUNION SERVERS

June 4 Rhonda Coffin
Connie Knauff
Paul Knauff

COMMUNION SET UP / CLEAN UP

June 4 Betty Richardson

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHURCH STAFF

E-MAIL ADDRESS

Pastor Kim Adams	kadams@fpcvalpo.org
Pastor Nancy Becker, Parish Associate.....	mnbecker3@gmail.com
Rhonda Clark, Handbell Choir Director	rclark3110@gmail.com
Pastor Ken Crews, Associate Pastor	kencrews@fpcvalpo.org
Sue 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
John Stocks, Custodian	
Jeff Whitney, Director of Worship Music & Digital Technology	jwhitney@fpcvalpo.org

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

<u>Elders of Session</u>	<u>Ministry Team</u>
Marc Buehler.....	Building and Grounds*
Matthew Byerly.....	Worship Team iEngage**
Sharon Kinsey	Faith Formation Team Adult Faith Formation**
Harry Karabel.....	iEngage Worship Team**
Linda Long	Finance
Elizabeth Monroe	Membership Team
Ron Phillips.....	Adult Spiritual Formation Team Faith Formation Team**
Ryne Press.....	Mission Team Matthew 25 Team**
Trish Lawson.....	Congregational Life Team Nominating Team
Ron Scott.....	Personnel Team Nominating Team**
Jeanne Turner	Stewardship Team

* denotes Co-moderator

** denotes Elder Rep.

Building and Grounds Team

Vic Klancer

Moderator of Session

Pastor Kim Adams

Membership Clerk

Elizabeth Monroe

Board of Deacons

Cindy Robinson, Moderator

Clerk of Session

Judy Hollar

Planned Giving Committee

Kathy Joseph, Moderator

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



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