

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 29 AND JUNE 15, 2022

A special Called Session meeting was held **MAY 29** for two primary purposes, the first of which was to meet with prospective new members, Confirmand Aiden Andrews and Jim and Gina Peyton. Aiden shared his Statement of Faith which he had already read for the congregation, and Jim and Gina spoke about what had brought them to FPC Valpo. All three were enthusiastically welcomed into membership with us.

A second purpose of this meeting was to discuss the results of the Elevate Studios assessment of our building in terms of facility needs. This assessment included estimated dollar amounts if we want to complete all of the projects that seem warranted. Both Building and Grounds Team and the Chancel Visioning Team offered their priorities for consideration as it seems unlikely that we would be able to complete all the recommendations. This first presentation was an opportunity for Elders to ask questions and begin to digest the information. It will ultimately be up to Session to finalize what projects truly do need our attention, and these will be based on the projected amount the Capital Campaign Committee feels is a reasonable goal for us.

* * *

JUNE 15, 2022

Historically, Session and ministry teams do not meet in July, which meant that the regular June meeting had a great deal of business to conduct to get us through until August!

Despite having a packed agenda, Elders always begin with instruction that is aimed at helping them to continue to do the work they have been called to do. This month's training centered on another ordination question: *Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith...in the Confessions of our church as ... [revealing] what Scripture leads us to believe and do.* There are 12 Confessions that comprise part I of our Constitution (Part II is the Book of Order), and studying these confessions tells a story of our faith, that God is at work and has been throughout our history. It reveals that the Presbyterian Church has been trying to solve real world problems for a *long* time (going all the way back to the Apostles and Nicene Creeds). Discussion revealed that all of the Confessions address what it means to be a Matthew 25 church putting Christ at the center of our mission.

IMPORTANT BUSINESS

- Linda Long has been elected our new Church Treasurer (but she refuses to serve for as long as our dear Ruth Dickey served before her!). Congratulations and thanks, Linda!
- A Financial Review Team has completed an **audit** for 2021 and found that our books are indeed in order.
- Session has completed the required review of Membership Rolls.
- Pastor Kim has been accepted into the highly competitive Wabash Leadership Program which will begin in January 2023. She is one of 15 selected in the state, and all work done will be specific to Indiana.
- In view of the unfortunate tragedies that have occurred recently, a team is being created to start conversations regarding the Safety & Security of our Lord's Church and our Faith Community. Matthew Byerly will spearhead a team to include Marc Buehler, David Spitler, and Vic Klancer to determine security protocols for FPCV.
- Session approved a possible July 4th parking lot fundraiser with funds received designated to a ministry/mission FPC is currently supporting.

continued on next page

OTHER MOTIONS

WORSHIP TEAM

- Approved moving the 10 AM worship service to outdoors in the **Pavilion** the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month (pending weather conditions), starting mid-June until Labor Day with continuation revisited pending weather conditions at that time.

FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP TEAM

- Approved giving stipends of \$330 per person to not more than 5 of the 11 from our church registered for the Presbyterian Association of Musicians conference on worship and music June 26-July 1; total stipends not to exceed \$1,659)

BUILDING & GROUNDS TEAM

- Approved a revised & updated Wedding Fee Schedule
- Approved a revised & updated Memorial Fee Schedule
- Approved a facility use request by Rev. Bill Rogers to use the Sanctuary, when available, on Saturday evenings

JOYS & CONCERNS

- Prayers of thanks for the emails and texts of concern following the storms Monday night during Vacation Bible Camp; they helped!
- Prayers of thanks that VBC/PWNS parents say “this is the only place where people really love the children”
- Prayers of thanks that VBC has this wonderful chance to bring 18-20 children all to Christ
- Prayers of concern for Grandpa Jim Knopf who is still struggling
- Praises that Sherry B is eating and continuing to improve
- Praises that Elder Matthew Byerly will likely begin a new job in the fall as an Elementary Music teacher in the Portage school system
- Praises that Lauren Phillips will likely be able to graduate in 3 ½ years due to where she stands with credits already received

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

HEARTFELT SYMPATHIES

We extend our heartfelt sympathies to:

The Janice Reichard family and friends upon her death.

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE



Boundless Grace by Ginger Boys

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE THROUGH SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2022

1st and 3rd Sundays,
10:00 a.m. Worship in the Pavilion

2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays,
10:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

All are welcome!

HOLY LIVING

MEMBERSHIP TEAM

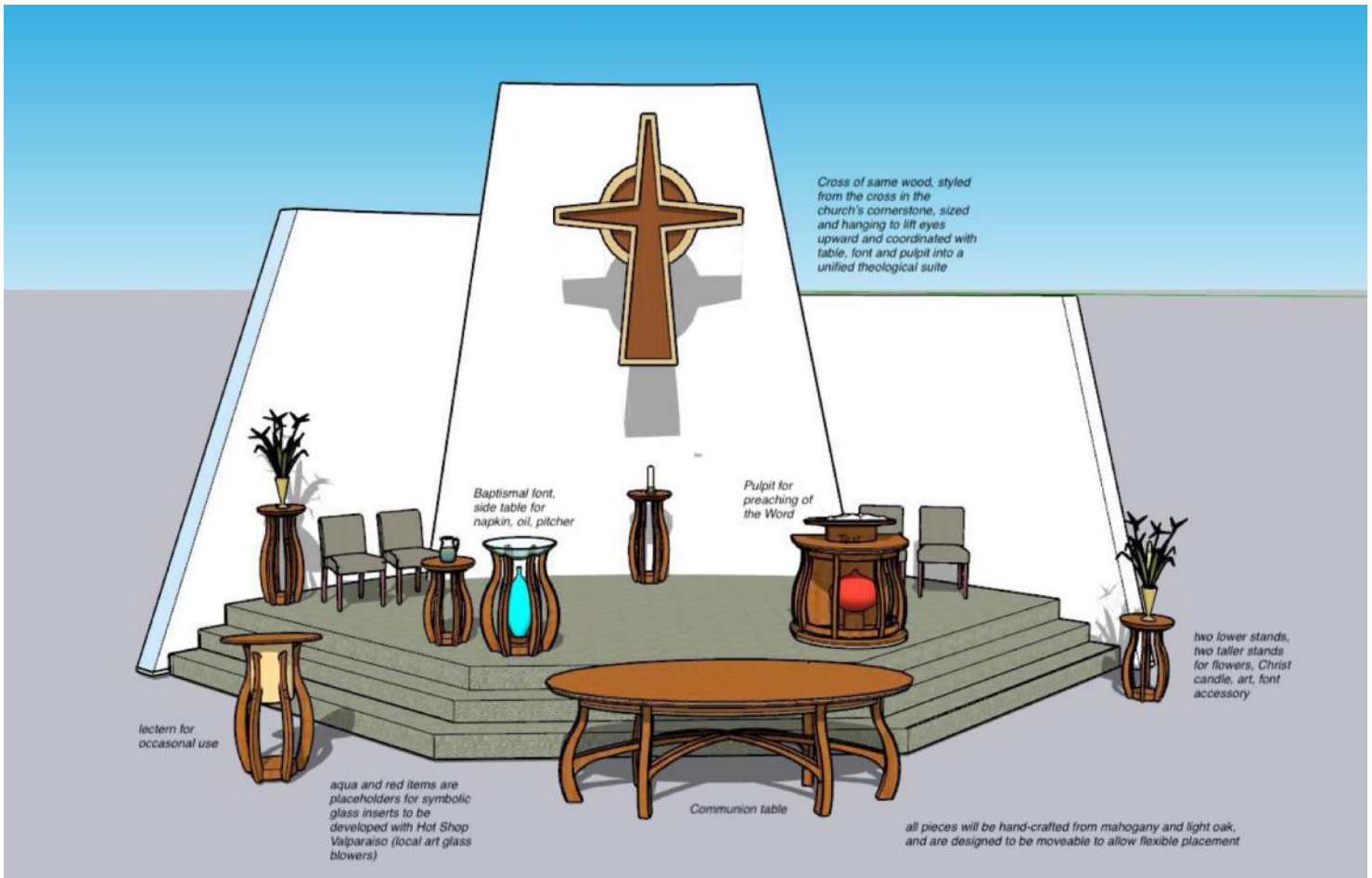
This team meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 10:30 a.m. in the church. The team is responsible for the following:

- ♦ The WELCOME BAGS that are given to each new family when they visit FPC Valpo;
- ♦ Keeping an adequate supply of the pamphlets and folders given out during New Member Classes;
- ♦ Planning receptions for the New Members when recognized during Worship;
- ♦ Send communications to visitors interested in joining the Church; and
- ♦ Annual review of the membership roll for presentation to Session.

PRAYER & PRAISE MINISTRY

If you desire prayer support for yourself or loved ones, don't hesitate to contact the Prayer Warriors through the Prayer and Praise Ministry chain at bcgermann@gmail.com or (219) 477-9964.

MOVING FROM VISION TO THE HEART OF OUR SACRED SPACE



Erich Thompson of Sacred Spaces is crafting a suite of artisan furniture for our chancel as the first step to enhance our worship space. Erich, a Presbyterian minister, listens to the dreams of congregations and crafts those visions into oak and mahogany chancel furnishings.

- We are starting with the heart of our worship space, that place where the Word is read and proclaimed, children of God are baptized, and we share the Feast at the Lord's Table under the Risen Cross.
- If you will help fund this special project, please note **Sacred Space** on an envelope, or the memo line of your check; or
- Indicate Sacred Space for online or text giving:

<https://onrealm.org/FirstPresbyteri76732/give/SacredSpace>

Text "FPCVALPO SacredSpace" to 73256 using your mobile device and choose Sacred Space as the fund.

"Creating sacred spaces is about figuring out how to manifest the belief that Jesus is important... you create... sacred spaces in which God and humanity meet." *Bruce Reyes-Chow, former moderator of PCUSA General Assembly*

DEACONS DOINGS

(submitted by Linda Marrs)

JULY FUN FACTS:

- 7th month of the year, also known as the Dog days of summer
- Named after Julius Caesar
- Independence Day is the 4th
- Full moon is Wednesday the 13th, also know as the Full Buck moon, the biggest and brightest full moon of the year.
- It's also **CHRISTMAS IN JULY!**

I bring this up because every Advent season the Deacons prepare Advent bags for our Deacon Friends. This tradition goes as far back as I can remember, and I have been a part of this church for, dare I say, 30 years. Each bag contains 25 individually wrapped gifts, one for each of the 25 days before Christmas. We put together 30 bags. They are delivered by the 1st of December. The gifts can be mini/travel or regular size hand lotion/sanitizer, Kleenex[®], post-it notes, pens, color pencils, markers, note cards, soaps, candies, cookies, inspirational books, cross word puzzle books, jigsaw puzzles, adult coloring books, eyeglass cleaners, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoos, socks, thank you card sets, journaling books, mini picture frames, ornaments, small flashlights are a few ideas of the gifts we have given in the past.

We are asking for 25 individuals/groups to help provide 30 of the same item, wrapped for our gift bags.

If you or your church group would like to be a part of this event, please contact Linda Marrs, lmarrs@comcast.net for more details.

KEEP AN EYE OPEN FOR CHRISTMAS IN JULY SALES!





FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH BUILDINGS & GROUNDS



Spring Clean Up ~ Thank You for Your Help...



... with Window Washing, Weeding, Pathway
Debris, Tree Trimming, Planting Flowers,
Spreading Mulch, Cleaning Pavilion, etc ...



What a beautiful day we had cleaning up!
We'd like to thank the Daughters of the
American Revolution, Faith Formation &
Christian Education, Congregational Life,
FPC Staff, and many more Friends.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS NEWS, CONTINUED

We need your help opening and closing the church before and after our Worship services for the following months in 2022.

“O” indicates an “open” date and we need your help “O”

“☺” simply means we have a volunteer;
and we thank you for your help.

<u>Month</u>	<u>Open</u>	<u>Close</u>
September	☺	O
October	☺	O
November	☺	☺
December	☺	O

Please consider helping out your
Faith Community in this very simple service.

If you are available to sign up or would like additional information
regarding this ministry, please contact Vic Klancer at:
219-216-4555 ~ or ~ vic-klancer@comcast.net

PRESBYTERIAN WEEKDAY NURSERY SCHOOL (“PWNS”)

PWNS ended another successful school year on May 27th!!! They had a wonderful graduation celebration in the Church Sanctuary with family and friends with cake after in the Friendship Room. The children entertained with songs, and the teachers had a video made up of all the children to share on the big screens. It is sad to say good bye to our now kindergartners, but we hope they will keep in touch and come back to visit. Many of their siblings are enrolled in our Early Learner class in the fall. Check out the pictures on the PWNS Facebook page! Thank you for a great year to our teachers, Dana and Samantha!!

We still have some openings in our classes this fall. Please contact me (219-241-0556) with any questions. We also have a part-time teaching position open if you would know of anyone who might be interested. You may contact me if interested.

You may see us outside with our friends this summer. Please stop and chat!!

Connie Knauff
219-241-0556

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/

CHRISTIAN FOOD PANTRY

Donations of food and money were generous in helping to supply needs for the one hundred fifteen families providing for two hundred seventy-nine people in May. The postal carrier's food collection provided 150+ boxes of various items that will be used to help those in need of pantry help. Two tubs and seven boxes of food were collected – the items served as 'tickets' for the lovely 16th Memorial Day concert celebrated appropriately at the Memorial Opera House with the food going to the Christian Food Pantry. (What has become an annual event was first organized as a combination Memorial Day celebration and food collection for the Christian Food Pantry by a scout earning his Eagle Badge.)

With schools in summer session, the pantry will offer Kid's Kits to families with children ages 5 to 15. Each child in a family gets his/her own kit which contains mac & cheese, canned pasta, two soups, fruit, applesauce, pudding cups, several drink pouches plus a number of extra salty and sweet 'treats.' **WITH THE VARIOUS FOOD COLLECTIONS MOST ALL OF THE KIT ITEMS NEEDED AT THIS TIME HAVE BEEN DONATED EXCEPT FOR THE POUCH DRINKS.**

As always appreciation is given to the many and various pantry volunteers, the contacts and representatives of our seven sponsoring churches and supporters in the community who assist in various ways with the pantry program aimed at helping those in our community in need of pantry assistance.

BASIC ITEMS NEEDED ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- Bathroom Tissue
- Canned Fruit
- Canned Veggies: Corn, Green Beans and Peas
- Cereal
- Empty Egg Cartons
- Kleenex
- Paper Towels
- Peanut Butter
- Pork & Beans
- Tuna in Water

Nan Steeves
Sharon Crowder

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU

Dear Members of FPC,

Thank you for believing in our mission with your most generous gift to Hilltop Neighborhood House. Also, your contribution to our food pantry has helped feed many of God's children. God has blessed your congregation and you have shared this blessing with us. God's presence is felt at Hilltop as is his guiding hand. We are most thankful for your caring and kindness. Our children and parents look forward to a brighter and more secure future because of the help you have provided. With sincere thanks. May God keep you in his care as we travel with him on our journey.

Nancy K
Board Member

WORSHIP NEWS

OPPORTUNITY – LITURGIST MINISTRY

Serving as the liturgist during worship is a ministry. We invite you to approach it prayerfully. This ministry is open to as many people as possible giving the opportunity to support our liturgists in this “work of the people” (the root of liturgy from Greek). Liturgists may read the Call to Confession and Confession of Sin, while the minister preaches the sermon, offers prayers, and blesses sacraments. Our liturgists are an important part of our worship, and demonstrate how we all minister to the community.

To sign up to serve as liturgist, please click on the link below:

<https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/994107930073/false#/invitation>

ALL ARE WELCOME AT THE TABLE

COMMUNION WILL BE SERVED ON SUNDAY, JULY 3, 2022, AT 10:00 A.M. WORSHIP

We will celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion on the above-captioned date 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.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE NEWS



THE MUSTARD SEED APPROACH

FPC Valpo is partnering with

GREEN TREE PLASTICS, LLC

collecting bottle caps and lids that will be recycled into benches we can enjoy for years to come!

The collection bin is located in the Hospitality Center with a full list of acceptable caps and lids.

For more info contact

Trish Lawson or check out **GREEN TREE PLASTICS, LLC**
(Bottle Caps to Benches Project) at the link below:

greentreeplastics.com

Thank you for your participation!



FOOD...FELLOWSHIP...FUN!!!

Sunday Summer Block Party!!

Featuring Musician Danen Kane!

Sunday, July 24, 2022

5:00 p.m. — 8:00 p.m.

in the pavilion

**Congregational Life is providing Grilled Hot Dogs &
Burgers (veggie ones too!)**

A-L share a side

M-Z share a dessert

(There will be a S'mores Bar too!)



****Please RSVP by July 1, 2022, to Trish Lawson
(219) 671-1205 or tmlawson77@yahoo.com
for a headcount for the main dish.**

+++

*Catch up over coffee on
Sunday mornings!*



COFFEE HOUR FELLOWSHIP

Consider hosting a Sunday by signing up in the Hospitality
Center or at the link below:

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

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE NEWS, CONTINUED

“TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK!”

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE PRESENTS:



FPCV Monthly Meal Out (“MMO”)

All Are Welcome!

Wednesday, July 20, 2022

10:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

300 Porters Vale Blvd
Valparaiso, IN

Donating back 20%

20% of the pre-tax total will go back to FPCV when you place your receipt in the clear Plexiglass box at the registers after ordering.

****In order for the fundraiser to officially happen, we need a minimum of 20 RSVPs by July 17, 2022. Visit <https://www.groupraise.com/events/219708> to RSVP.****

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 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.

Thank you!



**American
Red Cross**

Blood Drive
First Presbyterian Church

Gym
3401 N. Valparaiso Street
Valparaiso

Sunday, July 10
8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

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



Come to give June 30-July 10 and get an exclusive Red Cross recycled cotton tote bag, while supplies last! By donating, you're helping patients celebrate a summer with loved ones. It's an act of kindness you can carry with you!



redcrossblood.org | 1-800 RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767

Download the Blood Donor App today!

© 2015 The American Red Cross | 2015-APL-00753

Item ID: 3015379 - 01; 1 of 1; 08/13/2015; 3323 APL 01.05; APR 1, 2017/50

To schedule an appointment, visit: <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=FPCValpo>



“**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.

We do not easily recognize the **structural racism** that is woven into every aspect of society. Structural Racism is the many racial inequalities that result from American systems and policies that we have always accepted without question.

The best way to gain an understanding of Structural Racism is by looking at the inequalities it produces. We have previously examined inequalities in **wealth, education, housing, health care, and employment**. This month we wrap up this inquiry by looking at the inequalities in **Criminal Justice and Policing and Surveillance**.

I. CRIMINAL JUSTICE

- A. Once in the system, black students are 18x more likely than white students to be sentenced as adults.
- B. Once arrested, black people are convicted more often than white people.
- C. Black people are about 20% more likely to be sentenced to jail time, and typically see sentences 20% longer than those for whites who were convicted of similar crimes.
- D. Black people make up 13% of the population; they represent about 40% of the prison population.

II. POLICING AND SURVEILLANCE

- A. If you are white, you don't usually need to worry about being monitored by the police. The day-to-day reality for African Americans is different. More than half of all young black Americans know someone, including themselves, who has been stopped or questioned by the police.
- B. Black drivers are 30% more likely than whites to be pulled over by the police.
- C. Many incidents of racial profiling and police brutality are on record, especially with arrival of cell phone cameras and dash cams.

We have now examined seven important areas in determining a person's health and success. We have looked at many examples of the racial inequalities that exist in each of these areas. These inequalities are a direct result of the systems, policies and practices that are still in place today (Structural Racism).

As we read, study, and discuss Matthew 25 issues, we need God's help in fully recognizing the injustice and inequality that continue to exist because of systemic poverty and structural racism. Please add your voice daily in asking that God guide us and empower us, individually and as a church family, in our Matthew 25 efforts.

PRAYER IN RESPONSE TO TODAY'S ARTICLE:

Lord, help us find ways to transform our love and concern for those suffering due to poverty and racism into meaningful action. Amen.

PRESBYTERIAN RESALE SHOP MINISTRY NEWS

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.

Sales at The Presbyterian Resale shop continue to be strong. Our sales through May total \$38,524. We have donated \$21,500 already this year, including recent donations to Family House, Moraine House, First Contact and Porter County Mental Health.

Our next “give back to the community day” will be Saturday, July 16, 2022. We will partner with Chasing Dreams, a learning center providing the tools and skills for independent living. Shop with us that day and learn more about the work this agency is doing in our community.

We appreciate the support of FPC. Whether you are a volunteer or a generous donor of goods, we thank you!

If you would like more information about our mission or would like to join us in our joyful work, please contact me.

YOUR HELP HELPS US HELP OTHERS!

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

+++

THE PRESBYTERIAN RESALE SHOP IS TURNING 80!

We're so excited and we're going to celebrate twice!

All current and former volunteers are invited to share in the fun.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2022

The Resale Shop will host Coffee Hour immediately following worship at FPC. The Congregation is invited to join us as we celebrate this milestone in FPC's ministry to our community

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2022, AT 4:00 P.M.

Where: Valparaiso VFW 705 Roosevelt Road

Who: All present and former volunteers and one guest

Chicken and dessert will be provided.
Please bring a dish to share.

We will have a live band to help us celebrate!

RSVP: Mary Linda Scott (231-590-5799; or Karen Huguenard (219-309-3334) by **Mon., Sept. 19, 2022.**



CALENDAR

Friday, July 01, 2022

Saturday, July 02, 2022

Sunday, July 03, 2022

10:00 AM

Worship Svc. Live & Streamed*

FPC, Online

Monday, July 04, 2022 - Church Office Closed

Tuesday, July 05, 2022

12:00 PM

Men's Bible Study

101

1:30 PM

Bulletin Notes Meeting

Hospitality Center

6:00 PM

Sweet Adelines

FPC

Wednesday, July 06, 2022

Thursday, July 07, 2022

10:00 AM

The Comfort Stitchers

154, 155

11:00 AM

Disciples Bible Study

101

7:30 PM

Worship Team Rehearsal

Sanctuary

Friday, July 08, 2022

Saturday, July 09, 2022

Sunday, July 10, 2022

8:00 AM

Red Cross Blood Drive

Fellowship Hall

10:00 AM

Worship Svc. Live & Streamed*

FPC, Online

11:00 AM

Congregational Nominating Team (TBC)

101

Monday, July 11, 2022

11:00 AM

Presbyterian Resale Shop Ministry

Friendship Room

Tuesday, July 12, 2022

12:00 PM

Men's Bible Study

101

1:30 PM

Bulletin Notes Meeting

Hospitality Center

6:00 PM

Sweet Adelines

FPC

Wednesday, July 13, 2022

7:00 PM

Finance Team (TBC)

154, 155

Thursday, July 14, 2022

10:00 AM

The Comfort Stitchers

154, 155

10:30 AM

Stephen Ministry Team

101

11:00 AM

Disciples Bible Study

101

7:30 PM

Worship Team Rehearsal

Sanctuary

Friday, July 15, 2022

Saturday, July 16, 2022

****denotes in-person and streamed online: Facebook, fpcvalpo.org, FPC YouTube Channel. In addition, 10:00 a.m. Worship will be held in the Pavilion on the first and third Sundays of the month and the Sanctuary on the second, fourth and fifth Sundays through September 4, 2022.***

continued on next page

CALENDAR

Sunday, July 17, 2022

10:00 AM	Worship Svc. Live & Streamed*	FPC, Online
----------	-------------------------------	-------------

Monday, July 18, 2022

Tuesday, July 19, 2022

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

Wednesday, July 20, 2022

Thursday, July 21, 2022

10:00 AM	The Comfort Stitchers	154, 155
11:00 AM	Disciples Bible Study	101
7:30 PM	Worship Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary

Friday, July 22, 2022

Saturday, July 23, 2022

Sunday, July 24, 2022

10:00 AM	Worship Svc. Live & Streamed*	FPC, Online
5:00 PM	Block Party Potluck	Pavilion

Monday, July 25, 2022

Tuesday, July 26, 2022

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

Wednesday, July 27, 2022

12:30 PM	Parkinson's Support Group	Friendship Room
----------	---------------------------	-----------------

Thursday, July 28, 2022

10:00 AM	The Comfort Stitchers	154, 155
10:30 AM	Stephen Ministry Team	101
11:00 AM	Disciples Bible Study	101
7:30 PM	Worship Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary

Friday, July 29, 2022

Saturday, July 30, 2022

Sunday, July 31, 2022

10:00 AM	Worship Svc. Live & Streamed*	FPC, Online
----------	-------------------------------	-------------

**denotes in-person and streamed online: Facebook, fpcvalpo.org, FPC YouTube Channel. In addition, 10:00 a.m. Worship will be held in the Pavilion on the first and third Sundays of the month and the Sanctuary on the second, fourth and fifth Sundays through September 4, 2022.*

STEPHEN MINISTRY NEWS

Stephen Ministers help those they care for experience God during those times in life when they might be wondering, “Is God even there?”



**STEPHEN
MINISTRY**

How do you think Stephen Ministers help fill that spiritual gap?

God’s love is always there, but sometimes it can be really hard to feel it, especially when you’re going through a crisis. That’s probably when people doubt God’s presence the most, when their faith is the most vulnerable. But a Stephen Minister is Jesus’ hands and feet, just being there and caring for a hurting person. Stephen Ministers express God’s love in a tangible way that care receivers can feel.

What would you say to someone who’s considering receiving care from a Stephen Minister?

Asking for a Stephen Minister is the best thing I could have done for myself. Stephen Ministry is transformational. As a care receiver, you’ll grow so much through your Stephen Minister’s care, concern, and compassion for you—you may not even recognize yourself afterward! And you’ll be a lot better off for it.

I would encourage anyone who is suffering, discouraged, or going through a difficult time to ask for a Stephen Minister. And if someone offers a Stephen Minister to you, say, “Yes!” It really is life-changing.

– Excerpt from https://www.stephenministries.org/PDFs/Megan's_Story.pdf

FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP NEWS

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE UPDATE MAY 2022

**Thank you for giving from heartfelt gratitude
for God’s blessings showered upon you!**

**Together, we are investing in the ministry and mission
of First Presbyterian Church in Valparaiso
for today and years to come.**

During May we received:

- \$30,687 to support our operating budget including \$6,175 from our PCCF funds
- \$5,000 grant for visioning work with Session & congregation
- \$4,342 from our Endowment for Mission and Ministry
- \$1,264 for our music ministry
- \$810 for Second Mile gifts
- \$20,300 for Sacred Space chancel furnishings

So far this year, our giving is a bit higher than predicted, and our spending is a bit lower than budgeted. To date, our operating budget deficit is \$15,196. Our net cash flow in May is \$5,426 (from operating activities that include temporarily restricted accounts).

Your gifts of money, time and talent make God’s ministry happen in this place, i.e. our worship and music, faith formation, mission work, congregational fellowship and care, leadership by pastor and staff, resources of presbytery, and the building in which our ministry is housed. We are blessed!

continued on next page

VISIONING, STEWARDSHIP, BUDGETING, CAPITAL CAMPAIGN & SESSION THEY'RE ALL CONNECTED FOR 2023!

This is just a start. No doubt what we actually do as a congregation will be reshaped by world events (think pandemic), personal circumstances (loss or major increase in income), surprises, diverse points of view, and lots more. There is a wonderful line in a recent prayer:

“...equip our thinking to stay rooted in your Love...”

INITIAL PLANNING CALENDAR, 2022

JUNE: Two members speak during the Minute for Mission or Church at Work about their love for the church, and their giving

JULY: Invite individuals of the congregation to write Post-It style notes, one about what they love about the church, the other about what new ministry they might like to lead or join or initiate.

AUGUST: During the summer months, the stewardship/finance team welcomes others into the work of specific planning and speaking about giving with the congregation, and coordinate with the capital campaign team about team and best practices for planning a fall stewardship focus on giving to support our ministries and missions for 2023 that also lays the ground work and supports/coordinates/enhances the anticipated capital campaign, possibly in spring 2023.

Visioning work with Session and the congregation is planned for this fall. The point of money-talk around stewardship and finance is to support the mission and ministry we envision for the future (including our people and the physical facilities that house our work and worship).

SEPTEMBER: Ministry teams send their initial budget requests after planning their 2023 work to the Moderator of Finance by September 1 for discussion and feedback from the Finance Team on September 14; and to share with Session on Sept. 21st. It is possible that the request for commitment offerings during 2023, based upon our vision of current and future ministry, will happen in September/first week of October.

OCTOBER: Finance Team meets October 12 to review the initial results of the stewardship efforts, and recommends modification of the proposed budget for 2023 to Session, always keeping in mind the capital campaign to come; Session meets October 19 for discussion and feedback to ministry teams but probably no action yet. Our traditional “Celebration Sunday” happens sometime in October.

NOVEMBER: Finance Team meets November 9 to put the proposed 2023 budget and estimated income in format for Session consideration and approval on November 16.

DECEMBER: Members speak of their love for worship, the church at work and the connection between gratitude and personal giving; perhaps through a video of interviews, prepared with the Presbys using the themes of Advent for peace, hope, love and joy. Session does not have a scheduled meeting in December.

– Stewardship & Finance Team

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

July 3 Addison Williams	July 18 Delaney Canavan Allison Conner
July 5 Darlene Beatty Maggie Christy	July 20 Nathan Phillips
July 6 Mike Becker Troy Borlick	July 21 Monica Conrad
July 7 Steve Scarborough	July 22 Chris Hoham
July 8 Brenda Brooker Brenda Faurote Owen Hebert Maggi James	July 23 Cathy Cole Abigail Gibbs Robert Marrs, II
July 11 Linda Izynski	July 25 Bruce Dudek Nicholas Ribordy
July 12 Kenna Pedersen Betty Richardson Dave Spitler	July 26 Pastor Kim Adams
July 13 Dottie Staats Susan Nannenga	July 27 Stan Olling Leah Ribordy Luke Ribordy
July 14 Juliana Kahrs Betty Seegers	July 28 Mary Stoner
July 15 Connie Anderson	July 29 Tracy Goodpaster Zeke Highlan
July 16 Ron Izynski	July 30 Pat Blanco Rebecca Luick
July 17 Sarah Greider	

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

ROSTER

SEXTON

Open:	Jim Hubbard
Close:	Ron Phillips

COMMUNION SERVERS

July 3	Connie Knauff Paul Knauff Ron Phillips
--------	--

ELDER ON CALL SCHEDULE

July 3	Ron Phillips
July 17	Linda Long
July 31	Vic Klancer

DEACON(S) ON CALL SCHEDULE

July 10	Phebe Klapp David Goodwin
July 24	Bella Wunderlin Maddie Wunderlin

LITURGIST SCHEDULE

July 3	Linda Long
July 10	TBD
July 17	TBD
July 24	TBD
July 31	Presbys

USHERS SCHEDULE

July 3	Paul & Connie Knauff
July 10	Ryne & Amy Press
July 17	Elizabeth Monroe Rose Ross
July 24	Kathy Joseph Jerry Kahrs
July 31	Doug & Judy Hollar

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
Ken Crews, Director of Faith Formation & Youth Ministry	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**
Kim Croarkin	Matthew 25 Team Mission Team**
Sharon Kinsey	Faith Formation Team Adult Faith Formation**
Harry Karabel.....	iEngage Worship Team**
Vic Klancer	Building and Grounds Team*
Linda Long.....	Finance/Stewardship Team*
Elizabeth Monroe.....	Membership Team
Karen Mitseff.....	Finance/Stewardship 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**

* denotes Co-moderator

** denotes Elder Rep.

Moderator of Session

Pastor Kim Adams

Clerk of Session

Judy Hollar

Membership Clerk

Elizabeth Monroe

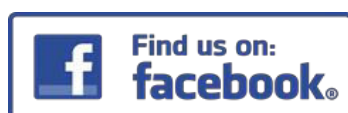
Board of Deacons

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)