

# 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 AUGUST 16, 2023

Following an opening prayer, welcome issued to visitors, and approval of the agenda, Elders spend time monthly studying some aspect of our faith. This year, emphasis has been on the Book of Confessions. Currently Elders are reading the *Scots Confession* which was ratified in 1560. Discussion included the problematic language from that time period as well as the judgmental attitudes toward the “Romanists” (Catholics). It was reflective of the times and as much a political document as a religious one, but it was noted that it helps us understand not only our own history but also how those earlier views shaped who we are as a Church today (thankfully, “Reformed and always Reforming according to the Word of God”).

With the success of the Sharing Table Project, Elders now have the enjoyable task of determining and prioritizing how that money should be spent. As you may recall, there were five priorities which were identified to provide the foundation for our best possible future. Those five areas were (1) Care for Our Facilities; (2) Outreach and Communication; (3) Funding the Mission Plan; (4) Grow Community Partnerships; and (5) Grow Faith Formation/Learning Programs. In the next several months, Elders will be asking their teams to prioritize their own “wish lists” for the disbursement of the funds that are even now beginning to come in. Preliminary requests will be shared at the December 6 Session meeting, and we would also like to encourage members of the congregation to contribute thoughts and ideas as to how these funds should be distributed. Please contact an Elder and attend a team meeting to share *your* priorities with your leaders!

In addition, the following **motions** were **approved**:

- **Membership Team** has called a Session Meeting for Sunday, September 17, for the purpose of meeting with and welcoming the New Members Class.
- **Building & Grounds** approved two motions regarding Scouts
  - 1) To allow Cub Scout Pack 902 (Cooks Corners) to have their pack meeting at the Pavilion on August 22 from 6:00-8:00 with no fees to be charged.
  - 2) To allow Dunes Moraine BSA Adult Leader Training with appropriate fees to be charged to cover custodial fees under the condition that a date can be found.
  - 3) Session approved recommending that B & G create a subcommittee to include members from B & G as well as additional church members to look into alternative solutions for dealing with imminent energy needs.
- **Faith Formation** amended a June motion to hold the concert by Danen Kane on October 21, 2023, in the Sanctuary with proceeds designated for the Caring Place.
- Reports were received from the following:
  - 1) **Congregational Nominating Committee** ~ The slate of officers is nearly complete!
  - 2) **Administrative Commission** ~ Moderator Bruce Roth again updated Session on the progress being made concerning the Presbyterian Church Resale Shop.
  - 3) **Faith Formation (“FF”)**
    - A) Reminder was given that photographing and/or publishing of children’s pictures are *not* permitted without written consent of the parent/guardian; this includes photos taken during any church activity by anyone (including grandparents!)
    - B) FF and Membership Teams are excited to begin implementing a new **Connections Desk** beginning September 10 to be located in the narthex to welcome visitors to our facility.
  - 4) **Stewardship** ~ Fall timeline is moving according to plan.

*Continued on next page*

5) **Finance**

- A) Giving is slightly ahead of the budgeted plan and expenses are slightly below the budgeted plan, so finances appear to be in good shape.
- B) Auditors will meet with Finance the week of September 17 for a consultation and financial review.
- C) Sharing Table funds are coming in already and are being invested to earn about 5% interest while awaiting disbursement.

6) **Personnel**

- A) The exit interview was conducted with Associate Pastor Ken Crews.
- B) We will probably employ one of our part-time custodians to also work part time at the Presbyterian Church Resale Shop beginning in October.

➤ Other reports were received from Pastor Kim, Pastor Ken, iEngage, Membership Clerk, and the Clerk of Session.

➤ And as always, Joys and Concerns were shared:

- ◆ Prayers of healing for Pastor Nancy who is recuperating following knee replacement as well as prayers for husband Mike as he is her primary caregiver.
- ◆ Prayers for Pastor Kim's family as husband Jason's uncle has passed.
- ◆ Prayers for Pastor Ken and his family as they transition to a new church family and joy for his ministry among our community over the last several years.
- ◆ Prayers of praise and excitement at the Presbyterian Church Resale Shop with all that is happening for good, especially the new cash register/computer that will enable the shop to receive credit and debit cards.

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

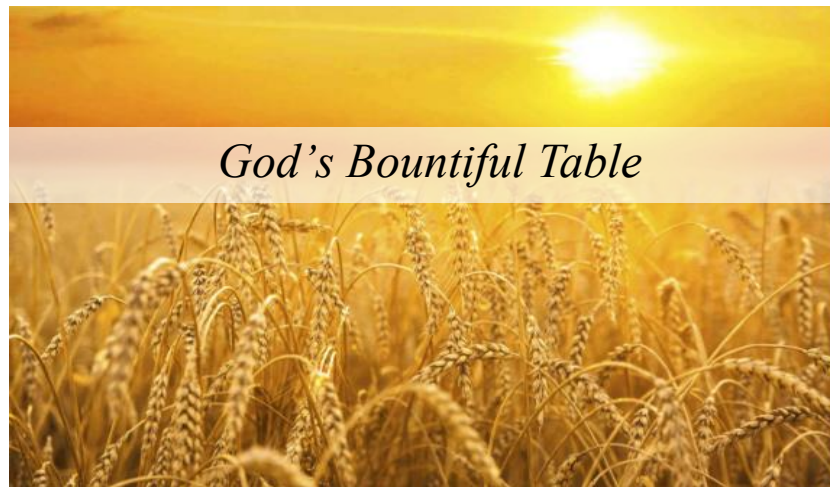
**EXPLORING NEW MEMBERSHIP AT FPC VALPARAISO  
SEPTEMBER 3 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 24, 2023  
9:00 A.M. - 9:50 A.M. IN ROOM 101**

While the faith journey is indeed a personal one, it is not meant to be traveled alone!

Whether you are a first time/frequent visitor and friend of First Presbyterian Church, Valparaiso (FPCV) or just need a refresher, all are welcome to join us for "Exploring at First Presbyterian Church, Valparaiso." We will take a look at what it means to be Presbyterian (what we believe), how the Presbyterian Church (USA) is structured, and the various ministries of FPCV. Each session will be held on Sunday mornings (9/3; 9/10; 9/17 in room 101 and 9/24 in the Friendship Room) from 9:00 a.m. - 9:50 a.m. Additional Sunday morning Faith Formation classes are available for children and youth. If you plan on attending and would like to know more about additional opportunities for children and youth, please contact Trish Lawson at [tlawson@fpcvalpo.org](mailto:tlawson@fpcvalpo.org).

As a member of First Presbyterian Church, you will be encouraged to grow in your relationship with the Triune God through worship, faith formation, fellowship, mission, and outreach. However, by attending this class you are not required to become a member, in fact, you are welcome to simply come and learn more about us (you can still receive our monthly newsletter, participate in a Bible study, join the choir, or enjoy any of our fellowship events).

Please let us know if you are interested in attending, by contacting the church office [churchoffice@fpcvalpo.org](mailto:churchoffice@fpcvalpo.org).



Stewardship is working closely with the Finance Team to share a reliable 2024 budget goal supporting God's Bountiful Table for the church's Ministry Vision. This goal differs from the Sharing Table Project presented during previous months which focuses primarily on facilities upgrades, communication improvements, broadening missions, growing Faith Formation and the growth and development of community partnerships.

God's Bountiful Table concentrates on the 2024 church budget needs and is similar to how you might plan for your own family's budget. First Presbyterian Church's budget goal for 2024 is between \$550,000 and \$650,000 which includes Staff, Worship and Music, Congregational Life, Missions, Faith Formation, and Maintenance and Repairs as well as our relationships with our FPC Resale Shop and our on-site Preschool (PWNS) both of which are self-supported.

Between August 20 and October 22, the Stewardship Team will present personal testimonies, pledging information and suggestions we hope will be helpful as you prayerfully consider a pledging decision that will be a blessing in your lives.

Mid-September you will receive your pledge card, an invitation to God's Bountiful Table celebration meal and a response card to indicate your attendance which can either be mailed or called in to the church office. There will also be posters displayed in the Narthex during September and October to donate a pie or cupcakes for the meal. If you would like to be a table host during the meal, you may also volunteer.

The culmination of this time of prayerful consideration will be Sunday, October 22, 2023. We are asking that you present your completed pledge card at the communion table during the service that Sunday and then join your church family at God's Bountiful Table in Fellowship Hall immediately following the service.

We look forward to your support and sharing God's Bountiful Table on October 22, 2023.

*May you live your life in the abundance of God's love.*

The Stewardship Team:

Jeanne Turner, Moderator

Trish Lawson, Elizabeth Monroe and Denise Walker

*FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VALPARAISO*

*God's Bountiful Table*

*Pledging Toward the 2024 Ministry Vision*

Budgeted Expenses

Faith  
Formation

Congregational  
Life

Worship  
and Music

Missions

Maintenance  
and Repairs

Staff

Self-Supporting

Preschool  
(PWNS)

FPC Resale Shop

+++

***A STEWARDSHIP LOVE STORY***

by Vic Klancer

In Matthew ~ Chapter 22, The Pharisees were questioning Jesus when they asked him “Which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?” Jesus replied, “You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important. Love your neighbors as yourself. The entire law ... is based on these two commandments.”

When Kim & I first came to First Presbyterian Church, 46 years ago, everyone welcomed us with opened arms and warm hearts.

We quickly learned that this Congregation lives the kind of Love that Jesus spoke of every day of the year.

There are thousands of love stories that occurred within these walls. And all of these stories demonstrate a basic trust in the Holy Spirit and a belief in the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Our three children were Baptized here. All of our kids received their “Soft & Warm” baby quilts, handmade by the ladies of this Church. And, I might add, they still have all three quilts forty some years later.

They attended Sunday school, vacation bible school, Presbys, traveled on various mission trips, attended Confirmation classes and presented their “Statements of Faith” to Session.

Our oldest daughter was married here. Two of our grandchildren were baptized here; and as an Elder, I fought to hold back tears when I asked you, the Congregation, if you would: Nurture them, Love them, and Guide them to be Faithful Disciples of Christ.

### *A STEWARDSHIP LOVE STORY, continued*

Our son-in-law struggled through three brain surgeries and you not only prayed for him but actually helped with his recovery.

I don't ever remember calling to ask for help; however, someone did put out the call when we needed to get our daughter our 1-year-old grandson and his dad to our house for his recovery. So on a sunny, Saturday, morning about 35 Presbyterians armed with trucks, trailers and empty boxes showed up at their apartment where they packed up, loaded, moved and unpacked this entire little family in about two hours !! That has to be one of the quickest home moves on record.

Of course the bigger Blessing is that our son-in-law fully recovered and is doing well.

During all of these years Kim & I have volunteered to work on almost every committee there is here at First Presbyterian.

More recently Kim has been struggling with multiple health issues and without any hesitation many of you have come forward to support and help us with meals, transportation, running errands and loving friendship.

Have you ever seen a Redwood Sequoia? It is the world's largest tree by volume. They can grow nearly 300 feet tall and 26 feet in diameter. Because the Sequoia is so tall it needs to have a strong foundation to keep it upright.

Amazingly; 95% of the Sequoia's roots are within the top three feet of the soils surface. However; the roots of these trees intertwine with those of other Sequoia trees around it, creating one huge root system underground.

Above ground we see these huge trees standing alone – yet underneath they all rely on each other for that critical Support. These intertwined roots enable the trees to share their strength with each other, to combat storms and bring in needed resources for their growth and health.”

We all need to remember that we, in unity, are each other's Support. We are members of the Body of Christ. We all have been blessed with different gifts and abilities and as members of the Body, we must remember that we are not individuals alone.

None of us is any more important than another. We are a family in Christ and we will always be among brothers and sisters in faith.

We are all here to work together, roots intertwined like the giant sequoias, to survive, to thrive, to do and be what God has called us together to do.

In 2nd Timothy, Chapter 1, Paul the Apostle reminds us that God does not want Us to be shy with the Lord's gifts; God wants us to be Bold, Loving and Wise.

It is because of the Blessings Kim & I have received and because of the Love and Friendship that all of you have shown our Family that we will FOREVER work to support First Presbyterian Church and this Congregation.

Paul the Apostle mentions in 1 Corinthians, Ch. 12, that there are different kinds of gifts but the same Spirit, and different kinds of service but the same Lord.

Kim & I pray that you too will support First Presbyterian Church and that you realize that no matter how large or small that support may be we simply need to trust in the Lord and allow the Holy Spirit to guide our decisions.

And please know that you are truly Loved here at First Presbyterian Church.

Thank you Church Family.

## THE CONNECTION DESK – WHAT IS IT?

It could be said that the primary purpose of a church building is to offer the space for two things to happen. First, it provides an opportunity and safe place for people to meet God. Second, it is where folks can build meaningful relationships with others. The Narthex of First Presbyterian Church of Valparaiso just might be the most important space, the primary place where people of all ages come together to “connect.” It is relational space and an essential aspect of growing together as the Body of Christ.

The Faith Formation and Memberships Teams have been sharing ideas about implementing a Connection Desk in a key location so visitors and guests don’t have to search an unfamiliar building or feel lost. Friendly faces and clear signage can help them navigate our beautiful church as they look for the nursery, office, restrooms, sanctuary, a cup of coffee, or our Faith Formation classrooms.

We envision the Connection Desk in a convenient, central location, staffed by one or more members. First-time visitors and those returning for a second or third “look” at FPCV will find updated brochures, a calendar of upcoming events, lists of serving opportunities, invitations to share musical gifts, stitching, or kitchen expertise, or a willingness to work with children or youth. Those who stop by the desk might fill out a welcome card or make a prayer request.

Begin looking for the Desk on September 10th, and if you feel led to join us as we launch this new ministry, talk to Sharon Kinsey or Elizabeth Monroe. We are looking for Super-Star greeters who love our faith family and are excited about sharing with others what our church is all about.



**PWNS families of the past, present and  
the future**

**First Presbyterian Church  
would like to celebrate you!!**

**Join us**

**Sunday, September 10, 2023**

**9am for Faith Formation for all ages**

**10am for Worship**

**Following worship we will have a special  
Coffee Hour in honor of PWNS!**

## THE SHARING TABLE PROJECT CONTINUES...



The Sharing Table Project has brought people together in a number of activities this year: a meeting of over 50 people discussed the future focus of First Presbyterian Church Valparaiso, small group meetings discussed prospective projects derived from that meeting, a series of studies of faith studies for all ages, a prayer vigil, and a dinner celebrating this church and our commitments to the church. Don't worry, this project is not over. Repeating these activities at some time is a distinct possibility as part of our continual renewal.

Gifts to the Sharing Table Project started coming in and totaled \$112,190 in July. A wonderful start. Thank you to all who have committed yourself to the project through your financial generosity. The work on the Church projects is about to begin. Remember the five areas which have been chosen for the focus: Care for our facilities, Improve outreach and communication, Available funds for our mission plan, Grow community partnerships, and Grow Faith Formation and learning programs. As the Session and committees define activities,

opportunities to share your time and talents around committee tables and in specific activities will be available. We are a community of shared faith, mission and action. The goal of the Sharing Table Project is to share ourselves within our church community and beyond. Keep an eye out for this monthly update to see which specific activities you feel called to pull up a chair to the table and share your talents.

Chris Hoham  
Project Continuation Chair  
The Sharing Table Project





To me, September has always been a month of change. Children return to the classroom, the leaves begin to show fall color, we trade our sandals for sweatshirts. This year, the Presbyterian Church Resale Shop will experience some of its biggest changes ever. After being closed for several months for reorganization and remodeling, the shop will celebrate a much-anticipated reopening in September. The Management Team and our volunteers are looking forward to serving our community as a mission of FPC. We are focusing on the future; and we are excited to share our journey with our congregation.

Our new Facebook page is “Presbyterian Church Resale Shop:”

[www.facebook.com/FPCResaleValpo](http://www.facebook.com/FPCResaleValpo)

Please “like” us and share us with your friends.

The success of the Presbyterian Church Resale Shop depends on the generosity of our donors who provide us with merchandise to sell but our success also depends on you!

Please prayerfully consider volunteering in whatever capacity you are able. We need help with sorting and pricing and displaying items in the shop. We need help greeting customers and assisting them with their purchases. The hours are flexible. We will provide “on the job” training. We are grateful for the love and support our congregation has given us and we ask that you continue to support our mission by sharing your time and talents. The pay is non-existent, but you will be richly rewarded!

Please contact me for additional information on how you can join us in our joyful work.

Bless you all,

Mary Linda Scott  
Co-Moderator Presbyterian Church Resale Shop Management Team  
[nana6987@hotmail.com](mailto:nana6987@hotmail.com)  
231-590-5799

## PRESBYTERIAN WEEKDAY NURSERY SCHOOL

The 2023-2024 School Year is off to a great start! Our class sizes are similar to last years, so that's really exciting! One of our goals is to bridge the gap between the church and preschool. We are always looking for volunteer readers or helpers for the classroom. The students love meeting new people and learning new things.

One need that we really have is for substitutes. We have been very fortunate with good health the past few years, but in the instance one of us is unable to teach, it would be lovely to have a substitute list. If you would be willing to put your name on the list, please email me at [pwms@fpcvalpo.org](mailto:pwms@fpcvalpo.org).

With that being said, want to thank the generous members of the church for their continued support and donations to the school. We are truly blessed to have an amazing church family backing up our mission.

Thank you again!

Dana Hanson

## DEACONS DOINGS

(submitted by Linda Marrs)

**You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands; you shall be blessed, and it shall be well with you.**  
Deuteronomy 15:10 (NIV)

Wow, here we are at the beginning of September and Labor Day is almost here. The Deacons continue to visit and reach out to their Deacon Friends by visiting, calling and sending cards. If you know of a church member who has needs the Deacons provide, please contact any Deacon or the Church Office.

We continue to be hard at work planning a few projects:

**COOKIE WALK/SALE** is happening November 4<sup>th</sup> as part of the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Holiday Craft and Vendor Show from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. If you are interested in donating baked goods, we ask that cookies be prepackaged with four small or two large cookies per package. Watch for more detailed information as the event gets closer or contact Deacon Moderator, Cindy Robinson if you have any questions.

**ADVENT BAGS FOR DEACON FRIENDS:** As of September 1<sup>st</sup>, there are only 116 days until Christmas Day. We would like to thank those that helped us in the past to make this project a success. Those that receive an Advent bag are very appreciative and look forward to getting one. We are planning to make 24 bags this year. We are asking you to prayerfully consider donating 24 of the same type of item, individually gift wrapped. Gift ideas: mini/travel or regular size hand lotion/sanitizer, Kleenex, post-it notes, pens, color pencils, markers, note cards, soaps, candies (regular or sugar free), cookies (manufactured sealed), gum, 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. Each bag contains 25 individually wrapped gifts, one for each of the 25 days before Christmas. **Collection for the Advent bag project will begin near the end of October**, bags are to be delivered by December 1st. Watch for the collection box in the Welcome Center. Please prayerfully consider assisting with this worthwhile project. For more Advent bag project information or questions, contact Linda Marrs, [lmarrs@comcast.net](mailto:lmarrs@comcast.net).

**"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."**  
Matthew 5:4

A **FUNERAL LUNCHEON TEAM LEADER** is needed. Please prayerfully consider leading this very rewarding and needed ministry. For more details contact the Deacon Moderator: Cindy Robinson, Congregational Life Team: Debra Daugherty or Trish Lawson.

Peace, Grace and Love to all.

## MISSION TEAM NEWS

### CHRISTIAN FOOD PANTRY

In July, the pantry served one hundred eighty-eight families providing food for three hundred and ninety people. One hundred twenty-seven Kid's Kits were given out.

Basic supplies (cereal, pork 'n' beans, fruit, soups, etc.) are needed in addition to brown paper grocery bags . Since the bags need to be doubled any supply is used up in a short time. The pantry service is grateful for the crew of faithful volunteers who are always ready to help as needed. The same is true of faithful supporters and sponsors. All are greatly appreciated.

Nan and Sharon

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### PRAYER & PRAISE MINISTRY

If you desire prayer support for yourself or loved ones, you are welcome to contact the Prayer Warriors through the Prayer and Praise Ministry chain: [bcgermann@gmail.com](mailto:bcgermann@gmail.com) or (219) 477-9964.

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### 2023 PER CAPITA

This year, our per capita is \$43 per member. When we give to support *per capita*, we are saying, "Thank you for the gift of the Church." We are working together, seeking the mind of Christ, working for justice and mercy in the world, and participating in God's continual reformation of the Church. **WE ARE THE CHURCH, TOGETHER.**

#### 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](mailto: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](mailto:dscarborough@fpcvalpo.org).

Please email screen announcements to Jeff Whitney at [jwhitney@fpcvalpo.org](mailto:jwhitney@fpcvalpo.org).

## THANK YOUS

Dear First Presbyterian Church family,

We are overwhelmed by your gracious gift to insure a teacher can be provided to teach computer skills to the children. You have taken a big concern; and by God's grace provided.

Our students have the gift and privilege of learning computer skills. This is an answer to prayer. Now, you are an answer to my prayers of provision for the teacher, Dennis. Thank you, thank you.

May God bless you and keep you,

Janet

...Let the whole world know what God has done. – I Chronicles 16:8

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Dear FPCV Scholarship Committee,

Thank you so much for your review and consideration of my scholarship application. Generosity of the Anne Lauterbach Scholarship is deeply appreciated. Every day I'm so grateful to have the wonderful privilege of attending the veterinary school. Clinical rotations have begun; and so far I've experienced preventative medicine, shelter medicine, internal med, emergency and critical care, and most recently anesthesia. I'm now off to an off-campus extensionship; and I'm so excited to learn about different species!

I miss my FPCV family a lot. I enjoy all the Facebook updates of our church family and look forward to the holidays.

Anyway, thank you once again for your support. I will continue to implement my faith and community service to enhance my dedication and love for veterinary medicine.

Sincerely,

Wendy Banta-Long

+ + +

Dear First Presbyterian Church Scholarship Committee,

Thank you so much for the generous scholarship. I'm happy to know that my church is supporting me in my academic journey. I can't wait for this next chapter.

Luke Ribordy

+ + +

Dear First Presbyterian Church Scholarship Committee,

Thank you so much for selecting me for the Graeber Scholarship and the Presbyterian Service Award! I have made so many memories and friends at FPCV throughout the years and can't wait to keep growing here on my breaks.

Love,

Leah Ribordy

**INFORMED GIVING... IF YOU ARE 70 1/2 OR OLDER AND HAVE AN IRA**

Since they doubled the standard deduction, ninety percent of us can no longer take a tax deduction for money we give to the church. **However, we can eliminate the taxes due on any money we take from an IRA... IF the money is sent directly from our account to the church.**

At age 70 1/2, we may begin to voluntarily take money from an IRA.

Those of us, 73 or older, must take a specified amount, our Required Minimum Distribution (RMD), from our IRA each year. Any time we take money out of an IRA, we must pay the taxes we avoided when we put the money in.

Here is an example:

- Assume Mary's RMD requires her to take \$3000 out of her IRA this year. She also wants to give \$3000 to the church for The Sharing Table.
- ◆ Option 1: She can have this money sent to herself. It is considered income, and she would pay \$720 more income tax (if she is in the 24% tax bracket).  $\$3000 - (\$720 \text{ taxes}) = \$2280$ .
- ◆ She has only \$2280 to give to the church because she will owe \$720 at tax time.
- ◆ Option 2: She can request her RMD money be sent directly to First Presbyterian Church Valparaiso, and she would pay no taxes on this money.  $\$3000 - \$0 = \$3000$  will be transferred in her name to the church!
- ◆ The government takes \$0 in taxes!
- ◆ {If she wants to donate only \$2000 directly to the church, she can have the remaining \$1000 (only \$720 after taxes) sent to herself.}
- Donations from your IRA (required or voluntary) transferred directly to the church are called:

**Qualified Charitable Deductions (QCD'S)**

- ◆ So, if Mary has the check sent to her, she only has \$2280 to give to the church after paying the taxes.
- ◆ By having the money sent directly to the church (via a QCD), Mary can donate the full \$3000!
- ◆
- All it takes is a phone call to the custodian of your IRA (or your accountant/financial advisor). They can help you set up the process (paperwork) and timing for sending out your QCD checks this year. **To avoid the steep penalty for forgetting to take your RMD, it might be wise to consider this option soon for this year.**

Doug Hollar  
Planned Giving Committee

## CALENDAR

|                                                              |                               |                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Friday, September 1, 2023                                    |                               |                    |
| Saturday, September 2, 2023                                  |                               |                    |
| Sunday, September 3, 2023                                    |                               |                    |
| 9:00 AM                                                      | Exploring New Membership      | 101                |
| 10:00 AM                                                     | Worship Svc. Live & Streamed* | FPC, Online        |
| 11:00 AM                                                     | Congregational Life Team      | FPC                |
| Monday, September 4, 2023 - Labor Day - Church Office Closed |                               |                    |
| Tuesday, September 5, 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                | Fellowship Hall    |
| 7:00 PM                                                      | Planned Giving                | 101                |
| Wednesday, September 6, 2023                                 |                               |                    |
| 10:00 AM                                                     | Wed. Morning Bible Study      | 101                |
| 5:30 PM                                                      | Faith Formation Team          | 144, 145           |
| 6:30 PM                                                      | Worship Team                  | Online             |
| Thursday, September 7, 2023                                  |                               |                    |
| 10:00 AM                                                     | The Comfort Stitchers         | 154, 155           |
| 5:00 PM                                                      | Handbell Choir                | Chapel             |
| 6:30 PM                                                      | Choir                         | Sanctuary          |
| 7:30 PM                                                      | Worship Team Rehearsal        | Sanctuary          |
| Friday, September 8, 2023                                    |                               |                    |
| Saturday, September 9, 2023                                  |                               |                    |
| Sunday, September 10, 2023                                   |                               |                    |
| 9:00 AM                                                      | Exploring New Membership      | 101                |
| 9:00 AM                                                      | Faith Formation Classes       | CE Rooms           |
| 10:00 AM                                                     | Worship Svc. Live & Streamed* | FPC, Online        |
| 11:00 AM                                                     | Nom Com Meeting               | 101                |
| Monday, September 11, 2023                                   |                               |                    |
| 6:00 PM                                                      | Men's Bible Study             | 101                |
| Tuesday, September 12, 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                | Fellowship Hall    |
| 6:30 PM                                                      | Mission Team                  | Online             |
| 7:15 PM                                                      | Matthew 25 Team (TBC)         | FR, Online         |
| Wednesday, September 13, 2023                                |                               |                    |
| 10:00 AM                                                     | Wed. Morning Bible Study      | 101                |
| 11:15 AM                                                     | Agenda Meeting (TBC)          | FPC                |
| 7:00 PM                                                      | Finance Team                  | 154, 155           |
| Thursday, September 14, 2023                                 |                               |                    |
| 10:00 AM                                                     | The Comfort Stitchers         | 154, 155           |
| 5:00 PM                                                      | Handbell Choir                | Chapel             |
| 6:30 PM                                                      | Choir                         | Sanctuary          |
| 7:30 PM                                                      | Worship Team Rehearsal        | Sanctuary          |
| Friday, September 15, 2023                                   |                               |                    |
| Saturday, September 16, 2023                                 |                               |                    |

*continued on next page*

## CALENDAR

Sunday, September 17, 2023

|          |                               |             |
|----------|-------------------------------|-------------|
| 9:00 AM  | Exploring New Membership      | 101         |
| 9:00 AM  | Faith Formation Classes       | CE Rooms    |
| 10:00 AM | Worship Svc. Live & Streamed* | FPC, Online |

Monday, September 18, 2023

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

Tuesday, September 19, 2023

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

Wednesday, September 20, 2023

|          |                          |          |
|----------|--------------------------|----------|
| 10:00 AM | Wed. Morning Bible Study | 101      |
| 2:30 PM  | Bible Study              | 101      |
| 3:00 PM  | Stewardship Team         | 154, 155 |
| 7:00 PM  | Session Meeting          | 154, 155 |

Thursday, September 21, 2023

|          |                        |           |
|----------|------------------------|-----------|
| 10:00 AM | The Comfort Stitchers  | 154, 155  |
| 5:00 PM  | Handbell Choir         | Chapel    |
| 6:30 PM  | Choir                  | Sanctuary |
| 7:30 PM  | Worship Team Rehearsal | Sanctuary |

Friday, September 22, 2023

Saturday, September 23, 2023

Sunday, September 24, 2023

|          |                                          |                 |
|----------|------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 9:00 AM  | Faith Formation Classes                  | CE Rooms        |
| 9:00 AM  | Exploring New Membership                 | Friendship Room |
| 9:00 AM  | If the way be clear, Called Session Mtg. | Friendship Room |
| 10:00 AM | Worship Svc. Live & Streamed*            | FPC, Online     |

Monday, September 25, 2023

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

Tuesday, September 26, 2023

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

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

|          |                           |                 |
|----------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| 10:00 AM | Wed. Morning Bible Study  | 101             |
| 12:30 PM | Parkinson's Support Group | Friendship Room |

Thursday, September 28, 2023

|          |                        |           |
|----------|------------------------|-----------|
| 10:00 AM | The Comfort Stitchers  | 154, 155  |
| 5:00 PM  | Handbell Choir         | Chapel    |
| 6:30 PM  | Choir                  | Sanctuary |
| 7:30 PM  | Worship Team Rehearsal | Sanctuary |

Friday, September 29, 2023

Saturday, September 30, 2023

|          |                           |           |
|----------|---------------------------|-----------|
| 10:00 AM | (CDT) Presbytery Assembly | FPC Valpo |
|----------|---------------------------|-----------|

## CALENDAR

\* on calendar denotes in-person and streamed online: Facebook, [fpcvalpo.org](http://fpcvalpo.org), FPC YouTube Channel:

[www.fpcvalpo.org/worship-livestream](http://www.fpcvalpo.org/worship-livestream),

[www.youtube.com/channel/UC8Za9RpS1LFHAmVd6XW\\_pTQ](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8Za9RpS1LFHAmVd6XW_pTQ), or

[www.facebook.com/1stPresChurchValpo](http://www.facebook.com/1stPresChurchValpo)

## ONLINE GIFTS TO THE CHURCH

### FPC VALPARAISO ONLINE GIVING OPPORTUNITY

Visit: <https://onrealm.org/FirstPresbyteri76732/-/form/give/KLYBGIVCVH>

for FPC online giving.

### 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!

September 1  
Bonnie Swarner

September 10  
Ansen Andrews

September 27  
Kathy Welter

September 2  
Owen Hebert  
Ray Miller

September 12  
Gary Germann  
Jerry Valdivia

September 29  
Emily Coffin  
Becky Gordon  
Ann Klipstine

September 3  
Della Hutton

September 14  
Tracy Campbell

September 30  
Christine McAloon

September 4  
Justin Giles

September 15  
Cathy Greenawald  
Robbie Greenawald

September 5  
Katelynn Stanko

September 19  
Sylvia Graham  
David McGonigle

September 7  
Sandra Corso  
Darlaine Lorz

September 22  
Jerry Seegers

September 8  
Garry Anderson  
Kyla Deible  
Bridgett Kinsey

September 24  
Sheya Bennett

September 9  
Dan Higgins

September 25  
Steve Heckard

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

## ALL ARE WELCOME AT THE TABLE

### COMMUNION WILL BE SERVED DURING WORSHIP

on  
**Sunday, September 3, 2023**  
**at 10:00 a.m. Worship**

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



### 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/](http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/matthew-25/)

### MINISTRY ROSTER

#### SEXTON

Open: Zane Cole  
Close: Ron Phillips

#### ELDER ON CALL SCHEDULE

September 3 Elizabeth Monroe  
September 17 Linda Long

#### DEACON ON CALL SCHEDULE

September 10 Gina Peyton  
September 24 Cathy Greenawald

#### LITURGIST SCHEDULE

September 3 Jeanne Turner  
September 10 Ryne Press  
September 17 Jeanne Turner  
September 24 Presbys

#### USHERS SCHEDULE

September 3 Connie Knauff  
Paul Knauff  
September 10 Amy Press  
Ryne Press  
September 17 Elizabeth Monroe  
Rose Ross  
September 24 Kathy Joseph  
Jerry Kahrs

#### COMMUNION SERVERS

September 3 Sharon Kinsey  
Trish Lawson  
Linda Long

#### COMMUNION SET UP / CLEAN UP

September 3 June Olling

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### CHURCH STAFF

### E-MAIL ADDRESS

|                                                                    |                           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Pastor Kim Adams .....                                             | kadams@fpcvalpo.org       |
| Pastor Nancy Becker, Parish Associate.....                         | churchoffice@fpcvalpo.org |
| Rhonda Clark, Handbell Choir Director .....                        | churchoffice@fpcvalpo.org |
| Sue Davis, Business Manager .....                                  | sdavis@fpcvalpo.org       |
| Brad Dirks, Organist .....                                         | churchoffice@fpcvalpo.org |
| Dan Higgins, Custodian                                             |                           |
| Valarie Smart Higgins, Custodian                                   |                           |
| Judy Hollar, Clerk of Session.....                                 | churchoffice@fpcvalpo.org |
| Trish Lawson, Director of Faith Formation .....                    | tlawson@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.*

#### Elders of Session

#### Ministry Team

|                        |                                                         |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Marc Buehler.....      | Building and Grounds*                                   |
| Matthew Byerly.....    | Worship Team   iEngage**                                |
| Sharon Kinsey .....    | Faith Formation Team   Adult Faith Formation**          |
| Harry Karabel.....     | iEngage Team   Worship Team**                           |
| Linda Long .....       | Finance Team                                            |
| Elizabeth Monroe ..... | Membership Team   Nominating Team**                     |
| Ron Phillips.....      | Adult Spiritual Formation Team   Faith Formation Team** |
| Ryne Press.....        | Mission Team   Matthew 25 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

#### Congregational Life Team

Debra Daugherty

#### 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)