

First Presbyterian Church of Valparaiso

3401 North Valparaiso Street

Valparaiso, IN 46383

Phone: (219) 464-4985

Engaged locally and globally for Christ!



HOPE

“Hope is dancing when you can’t hear the music.” - Sr. Joan Chittester, OSB

The days are getting darker. This isn’t a surprise, hopefully. When you’ve made so many trips around the sun, you acknowledge the rhythm of life, and seasons. As you read this, you are entering into that holy season of Advent.

You may recall that Advent begins in darkness, with difficult passages when so many would really rather just cut to the chase and sing “Silent Night” and make merry. But that is not faithful to the season, or the texts each week. Mary’s pregnancy was long, not immediately finished. The journey to Bethlehem, likewise, was arduous and days on end. There is not much in life (if it is good) that is not worth the wait. Bread, wine, friendships, community... they all take time to develop and grow well.



As you enter into Advent, as well as this time of transition, I urge you to keep this in mind. Wait. Wait patiently, praying often for God’s will; for a heart that is ready to receive the infant Savior; for the heart of your next pastor to be readied also for transition and this new thing.

Because it is a good thing. You are good, as Genesis reminds us of God’s chant about creation. So keep hoping, keep dancing, keep praying, as God’s faithful children.

I continue serving in Christ,

Pastor Toby

As you may be aware, Session held a special Called Meeting on Thursday, November 1, for several stated purposes as there was important business that could not wait until the next scheduled meeting.

First, Elders approved a job description for a Director of Christian Education and Youth Ministry, and they directed Personnel to proceed with hiring a candidate.

Second, it was important for Session to approve a final payment plan for Pastor Mark, which they did, allowing him two weeks vacation leave as well as one week of unused study leave. At the same time, details of a Farewell Celebration were presented. On November 18, there will be one Worship service at 10:00 a.m. (at which Pastor Toby will preach); a reception will follow in the Friendship Room. A gift will be presented, and a basket for cards and letters from members will be available. Anyone wishing to do so may offer words of tribute and farewell.

Probably the most important purpose of this Called Meeting was to discuss with Jennifer Burns-Lewis, the Visioning and Connecting Leader from Presbytery, the next steps our congregation can and should take in the search for our next head pastor. She presented some of the decisions and options that lie ahead as well as the support the Presbytery will provide. Topics discussed included:

- A Covenant of Closure for Pastor Toby;
- Interim/Transitional Pastor vs. Bridge Pastor*;
- Revision of our Ministry Information Form;
- Financial outlook for a potential head pastor;
- Selection of a Pastoral Nominating Committee (by the Congregational Nominating Committee) and subsequent election at a Congregational Meeting;
- The introduction of Mr. Roger Hartzler who is our advocate with the Commission on Ministry; he will be our resource and will answer any questions or concerns that we have now or that our PNC has once they are selected;
- Important dates for presenting requests to the Commission on Ministry;
- Pastoral Care solutions during the absence of a head pastor; and
- The importance of communication among Elders as well as with the congregation as the process moves forward.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Hollar, Clerk

Christian Sympathies

We extend our heartfelt Christian sympathies to the following:

To the Nelson family and friends upon the death of JoAnn Nelson;

To the Carol Bonvissuto family on the death of her son Ralph (Butchie) Bonvissuto;

To the Cesar Blanco family and friends upon the death of his wife Jacquie Blanco;

To the Jerry Valdivia family upon the death of her husband Ron.

Director of CE and Youth Ministry

We are very pleased to announce that our own Ken Crews who has been working with us as a Student Pastor, participating in our worship services on the first Sunday of the month and leading our Youth Ministry has been hired to a 3/4 time position as our Director of Christian Education and Youth Ministry. His focus will be Christian Education for all ages and Youth Ministry, which includes our Presbys youth group. Ken is still finishing up his education and preparation for ordained ministry and has discontinued his work with First Presbyterian Church of Portage. In his role with us, Ken is filling a newly created position. This position is not intended to fulfill duties previously assigned to Pastor Mark or Pastor Toby. Our session has determined that Christian Education and Youth Ministry deserves time, attention and resources to assure viable programming is available to our congregation and the families within it. Ken has proven himself capable of leading both; and we are excited to have him in this new role.

Personnel Team &
Christian Education Team

Prayer & Praise Ministry

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

bcgermann@gmail.com

or

(219) 477-9964

Men's Breakfast

Please join us for the next Men's breakfast on Sunday, December 9, 2018, at 8:00 a.m. in the Friendship Room as we celebrate Christian fellowship and share a delicious meal!

We hope to see you there - bring a friend!

Building and Grounds News

CHURCH FALL CLEAN UP

Buildings and Grounds Team thanks those who participated in the Fall Clean up. Considerable clean up and removal of over six trailer loads of limbs, brush, and dead plantings were removed. Great participation, fellowship, and lunch was had by all.

Special thanks to:

Cathy Cole
Zane Cole
Steve Churchill, Master Chef
Jeff Golding
Fred Grosick

Dan Higgins
Craig Johnson
Judy Johnson
Jon Keach
Sterling Miller

Kent Richardson
Bruce Roth
David Spitler
Tom Swihart

Dear FPCV friends,

As I peer out on the snow covered lawn, I am reminded that yet another season is upon us. This year isn't just another change in meteorological season, but a change in ministerial season. While spring may be the season we most often associate with new beginnings, this winter brings new beginnings in ministry at First Presbyterian Church of Valparaiso as I begin my new role as Director of Christian Education & Youth Ministry. And I can tell you, I am beyond thrilled to share in this ministry with you all!

As we enter a new season together, I want to share with you a few beliefs that inform how I understand ministry.

1. I believe that Christian ministry happens in community; an intergenerational community gathered around Christ and the command to love God and neighbor.
2. I believe Christian community is all about relationships; our relationship with Christ and with one another.
3. I believe relationships are a function of time; the more time and energy we commit to our relationships the healthier and more meaningful they will be.

FPCV is an amazing community of faithful Christ followers. With the Holy Spirit guiding us there isn't anything we can't accomplish in building God's kingdom!

I will do my best to use the talents and skills that God has blessed me with to be of service to the FPCV community, and I will be inviting you to do the same. If you have thoughts, ideas, hopes, or dreams you would like to share, please feel free to contact me so we can explore ways to bring them to life. I can easily be contacted at kencrews@fpcvalpo.org or call the church office at 219-464-4985. I'm always up for good coffee and good conversation!

Peace,

Ken Crews, Director of Christian Education & Youth Ministry

We are so excited to welcome Ken Crews to spending more time with our children and youth! He has so many good ideas. Make sure you make Ken and his family welcome when you see them.

Please look in the narthex for Family Advent Booklets to use with your families.

CE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

KIDS OF THE KINGDOM

Sunday, December 2, 2018	Kids of the Kingdom will not be meeting. Please come and join us in the Hanging of the Greens activities.
Sunday, December 9, 2018	We will be practicing for the cantata.
Saturday, December 15, 2018	There will be practice for the cantata in the sanctuary.
Sunday, December 16, 2018	Present cantata at the 9:00 a.m. service of worship.
Sunday, December 23, 2018	No Kids of the Kingdom
Sunday, December 30, 2018	No Kids of the Kingdom
Sunday, January 6, 2019	We will go back to our regular schedule with LIFT at 10:00 a.m.

Confirmation Class – 2019 Calendars

Confirmation Class will begin selling 2019 calendars between services on Sunday, Dec 2, Dec. 9 and Dec. 16. The cost of the calendars is \$7.00. Profits from the calendar sales will be donated to a charity selected by the Confirmands. Please stop by and purchase a calendar while supplies last.



January 6 – ALL Generations, 10 am
in the Fellowship Hall!

First Friday Friends

Due to Holly Days downtown Valparaiso, the next First Friday Friends will gather in January.

Please join us on Friday, January 4, 2019, at 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall for First Friday Friends! This is a ministry for elementary-aged kids (K-6).

Dinner and FUN included!! Invite a friend, and be sure to RSVP to Ken Crews at:

219-464-4984

or

kencrews@fpcvalpo.org

Please plan to join Ken on January 4, 2019, for a fun evening!



The Outreach Foundation
**MISSION
PARTNERSHIP**
UPDATE

SEE HOW GOD'S WORK IS
TRANSFORMING GOD'S PEOPLE

Matanzas Evangelical
Theological Seminary (SET)
Cuba



Marilyn and Mercedes

I just came back from my 15th trip to Cuba leading another team from The Outreach Foundation. I am usually asked a simple question by those who are surprised to hear that there is a Presbyterian presence there: "Oh, really . . . How did you find the Church there (i.e. what is going on with it)?" My simple answer: "I find that it is *persevering*. . ."

Often you meet a person on these Cuban journeys' who seems to embody this like **Mercedes** Cardenas, an 89-year old elder in the village church of Sabanilla. Rail thin with thick glasses and an effervescent personality, this Afro-Cuban retired school teacher models an inspiring life of faithfulness — of *perseverance*. She remembers the first Presbyterian evangelist who came to town in the 1930s when she was a small child. Ricardo Jorge would preach in the town square and the priest in the adjacent Catholic Church would ring the bells to drown him out. Jorge would speak more loudly as hundreds gathered around him. The bell tolled more loudly! A family near the square offered their home for worship, which was soon too small, so another house was pur-

chased for this purpose. A neighbor child (Carlos Camps, later to become a pastor) came to Mercedes' home and brought siblings to Sunday School. Sadly, within only a few years of the "Glorious Revolution" of '59, most had left that thriving church, fearful of the hostility and discrimination which the new communist government exhibited towards Christianity. Mercedes was one of the few Presbyterians left in town — **Mercedes was the church in Sabanilla**. In '84 a seminarian arrived (Francisco Marrerro, later Dean of SET) and services were held in Mercedes' home for four years. Neighbors would bring chairs. "We gathered to know Christ," she said. A small sanctuary was built in '96. They named it Resurrection Church because "it had risen from the ashes."

Just last year a dilapidated house next door was purchased, thanks to gifts from First Presbyterian Valparaiso and First Presbyterian Fort Worth, so that this 36-member congregation can live into their vision for ministry to the elderly and to youth and so they could

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Our team on the steps of Resurrection Church in Sabanilla

accommodate a Living Waters for the World system which makes clean water available to the community. “We want Cuba to know Christ,” Mercedes concluded.

So, what does this story of Resurrection Church in Sabanilla have to do with the Seminary in Matanzas (SET)? Well, quite a bit. Because this is exactly the context for which most of the seminary’s graduates are being prepared. It is always inspiring to spend time in Matanzas with the Rev. Dr. Carlos Ham, the President of SET, and to be reminded how this “outpost of ecumenism” (i.e. training pastors for Presbyterian, Episcopal, Baptist and Quaker congregations of Cuba, as well as many smaller denominations) uses its small, spartan campus to make a big impact for the Kingdom in Cuba. There are currently only 15 students in residence (seven are Presbyterians!) but the seminary serves over 550 students in diploma and degree programs spread around



Some of SET's June graduates

the island, most of them “aimed” to train lay leaders for the Church. With a crippled national economy, few of the students can take classes without scholarship support, and so the seminary must raise 95% of its budget from outside the country. But we were reminded of how gifts from partners like The Outreach Foundation go far in the Cuban context because the annual budget for SET is only \$300,000 – for the entire seminary! [The annual budget for Princeton Theological Seminary exceeds \$50 million.... *million.*]

Carlos reminded us that *studies* are not the only part of the education of these pastors-in-training:

“Formation and *service* are the pillars of our seminary. Not only do students spend most weekends deployed to a congregation

that is without a pastor, teaching and preaching, but back in Matanzas, they volunteer in the local orphanage and/or children’s hospital and participate in some of the cultural and artistic events for which the city (nicknamed The Athens of Cuba) is famous.”



Dr. Carlos (left) with Outreach team member Jeff McDonald from Midland, TX

One of the highlights of our time at SET was a Q and A with the students. Gathered in the only large meeting room on campus, we began with introductions: **Yoelkis**, here with his wife and daughter, had studied to be a lawyer and was the first blind student to study at SET; **Adrianna** was an elder who had already served as a lay pastor in her church when she felt the call to ordained ministry; **Roxana** was a Quaker from the eastern side of the island – both her parents had been pastors; **Aneer**, an elder at his large Presbyterian church in Cardenas, was drawn by the diaconal emphasis of the seminary; **Susanna** had worked as a mechanical engineer before coming to seminary – her weekend assignment was at the Resurrection Church in Sabanilla!

Returning to the story of Sabanilla, Mercedes, as we were leaving, encouraged us to come back next year: “I will be 90 years old then!!!” And she surprised us with two sprightly jumps in the air to prove, I suspect, that God still had plans for her for a while and she would be here to welcome us. May God preserve Mercedes so that she may soon see a full-time pastor installed in her church – and *that* would be worth THREE jumps, for sure!

Joyfully,

Marilyn Borst
Associate Director for Partnership Development

THE NEED

The Outreach Foundation is seeking gifts totaling **\$40,000** for programs and scholarships.

October 2018



Mercedes and the other elders and deacons in Sabanilla await, in hope, for a pastor. Perhaps God is preparing one even now, at the Seminario Evangélico de Teología (SET)



An inspiring and encouraging encounter with the students at SET

Thank you so much for these shoes I needed these really bad thank you so so much! If it wasn't for you I would not have them thank you!

Thank you so much for these shoes. I needed these really bad.
Thank you so much! If it wasn't for you, I would not have them. Thank you!

To my friends at the Presbyterian Church,

Thank u so much for my school shoes. I got Spiderman + I Love them!! You all are so very nice + without my school shoe I wouldn't have friends because ~~no~~ people would laugh at my dirty shoes.

Thank U,

To my friends at the Presbyterian Church,

Thank you so much for my school shoes. I got Spiderman and love them!! You all are very nice and without my school shoes, I wouldn't have friends because people would laugh at my dirty shoes.

Thank you.

Worship Flowers

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

Dec. 9 Dec. 30

Name: _____ Phone: _____

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

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

Presbyterian Weekday Nursery School ("PWNS")

November moved along quickly as we were busy with many seasonal activities. Our Pre-K class made good use of our kitchen making Stone Soup and baking pumpkin bread for their families. The children earned feathers for an Indian headband by doing kind and helpful deeds at home. They also made drums and necklaces for Native American Week. The month ended with our annual Fruit Feast. The children were excited to share some fall songs and poems with their families before sitting down to a delicious "feast."

Our 3-4 year old class also baked pumpkin bread for their families. They learned the nursery rhyme of "Old Mother Hubbard" and brought in food items for our "cupboard" as a community outreach program. Thanks to the generosity of our PWNS families, we were able to donate over 150 items to the Christian Food Pantry!

As we celebrate Thanksgiving, we remember many things we are thankful for. This month we are especially thankful for our new church playground that was donated by Kent & Betty Richardson. Our preschool children are very excited to enjoy our new outside play area when we have nice weather days at school. Many thanks to The Richardsons for this wonderful gift!

We continue to collect many types of plastic containers for crafts including, Crystal Light, prune, icing and ice cream containers. We are running especially low on family size ice cream containers in either round or square shapes. We also continue to collect metal coffee cans. Thanks to all of our church family members who recycle and share these items with PWNS.

We are very excited for the Christmas season. Look for our handprint tree and family Christmas projects decorating the halls and bulletin boards of our PWNS classrooms.

**Please join us for our 12th annual Barnes and Noble Book Fair, Sunday, December 2nd.
(Please see next page for details and voucher)**

Merry Christmas!

Sheya Bennett
309-5873

Ann Skadberg
405-7188

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**OUR PWNS BOOKFAIR IS COMING UP
ON
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2ND!**

Please join us at Barnes & Noble on Sunday, December 2, for our annual bookfair. The PWNS children will have their artwork on display and we will have some Christmas coloring and crafts set up for children to do in the afternoon. Our church youth puppeteers will put on a puppet show at 12:30 p.m. Please use the voucher to the right to make any Barnes & Noble purchases and feel free to share vouchers with your family and friends. The vouchers can be used in the store on Sunday, December 2, from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., and online through December 7. Proceeds from our bookfair helps us to purchase classroom books, PWNS library books, and birthday books for our students.

Presbyterian Saints

Please join us on Wednesday, December 5, 2018, at 12:00 p.m. as the Saints will be enjoying their Christmas ham dinner. Our program will feature our own Ann Carlson playing Christmas music on the piano. We will also have a toast to welcome in the New Year!

If you made your reservation for the noon luncheon and need to cancel, please contact the church office at (219) 464-4985 by 10:00 a.m. on Monday, December 3, 2018. Otherwise, except in an emergency you will be asked to cover the \$9.00 cost of your meal to pay the caterer. Thank you.

**Barnes & Noble
Bookfair**

**Supporting
PWNS**

**Presbyterian Weekday
Nursery School**

Sunday, December 2

Barnes & Noble

150 Silhavy Rd., Valpo

Bookfair ID# 12461588

Please present this voucher prior to making your purchase. A percentage of the net sale will be contributed to your school/organization.*

*The purchase of gift cards, Barnes & Noble memberships, textbooks, magazine subscriptions, video games, digital content, purchases made at Cafés owned and operated by Starbucks, and other items Barnes & Noble may exclude from time to time in its sole discretion are not eligible for bookfair sales. Institutional discounts may not be applied. See **BN.COM/bookfairs** for more details and to shop online.



Christian Food Pantry

In October, two hundred fifty-six families were served which provided food for five hundred seventy-nine people.

The following basic items are always needed:

- Canned Fruit
- Mac & Cheese
- Canned Spaghetti Sauce
- Cereal
- Mixed Veggies
- Paper Products (bathroom tissue)
- Pork & Beans
- Saltine Crackers
- Soups
- Spaghetti Noodles (one pound packages)
- Tuna in Water
- Corn

Any extras are always greatly appreciated.

Nan, Anne and Sharon

Second Mile Offering and Christian Food Pantry

December's Second Mile Offering will be received for the Joy Offering. You will find envelopes in the slots on the back of the chairs for your convenience.

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

Poinsettias

It's that time of year again! If you would like to order poinsettias for this Christmas Season, please forward the following information to the church office by December 10. Colors to choose from are Traditional Red or White. The price is \$10.00 per plant with any profits going to a local charity, which will be decided by Worship.

Name: _____

In honor of: _____

In memory of: _____

Number of Traditional Red plants: _____ Number of White plants: _____

The Deacons have been busy preparing for the Advent season, and celebrating the birth of our Savior! Advent Bags are being prepared for all of our home-bound deacon friends, or those in care facilities. The bags contain 24 wrapped items that have been donated by various groups and individuals in the church. We are so blessed to have these donations to give to our friends so that they may celebrate the season daily during advent. The bags will be ready for delivery by our Deacons, along with flowers beginning December 2 (Sunday). Thanks to Jacki Phillips and Catherine Busch for coordinating the bags, and for Mary Jayne Shurr for selecting the festive Christmas flowers for our friends to enjoy.



The Deacons' Cookie Walk will be held on Sunday, December 9th from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. in the Hospitality Center. This is a festive event, so come get your holiday cookies along with some Christmas cheer! Price will remain at \$6.00 per pound. If you are a Deacon or Elder, please bake cookies for the sale if you are able. Others who would like to bake a seasonal favorite to donate to the walk are encouraged to participate, too! Please drop off your

cookies Saturday, December 8th from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., or by 8:00 a.m. on Sunday, Dec. 9th. Thank you to Jason Gordon for his coordinating efforts to make the Cookie Walk a success! This is the Deacons' only fundraiser to help with their ministry, so please come and participate! We look forward to seeing everyone!

IF YOU LOOK FOR ME AT CHRISTMAS...

Author Unknown

If you look for me at Christmas,
you won't need a special star;
I'm no longer just in Bethlehem,
I'm right there where you are.

You may not be aware of Me
amid the celebrations.
You'll have to look beyond the stores
and all the decorations.

But if you take a moment
from your list of things to do,
and listen to your heart, you'll find
I'm waiting there for you.

You're the one I want to be with,
you're the reason that I came,
and you'll find Me in the stillness,
as I'm whispering your name.

Love, Jesus

HANGING OF THE GREENS

Please join us on Sunday, December 2, 2018, for a One Family Service at 10:00 a.m. Then plan to stay and help decorate our beautiful church for the Advent Season. Congregational Life will be providing a lunch of soup and sandwiches in Fellowship Hall after the decorating. Please join us for some food and fellowship with our church family!

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CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Please join Congregational Life for Christmas Caroling! We will be meeting at the church at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 15, 2018. We will head out to carol and then return to the church for a pizza lunch. Bring the kids, bring your singing voices, and let's go spread some holiday cheer!

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COFFEE HOUR

Dear Church Family,

Please consider hosting a Coffee Hour at least one time this fall. It's a wonderful way to practice "Radical Hospitality" as you provide much appreciated treats or snacks to young and old, familiar and new faces of our church family.

Sign up on the clipboard in the Hospitality Center.

Partner with another person or family or get your small group or committee together to host a Coffee Hour this fall.

If this feels overwhelming to you, keep it simple with purchased baked goods or fruit, cookies or crackers. Set up by 9:30 a.m. and clean up once the 11:00 a.m. service begins. Contact Julie Golding with any questions at:

219-921-9042

or

fletcherjulie3@gmail.com

December Calendar

Saturday, December 01, 2018

Sunday, December 02, 2018

10:00 AM	Confirmation Class	154
10:00 AM	Hanging of the Greens Service	Sanctuary
11:30 AM	Hanging of the Greens Luncheon	Fellowship Hall
12:00 PM	Presbys Go To Lunch	Off-site
1:30 PM	Cub Scouts	Fellowship Hall

Monday, December 03, 2018

8:30 AM	Retired Presbyterian Men	Off-site
5:00 PM	Journeys of Faith	Small Groups Room
6:00 PM	Small Group	Friendship Room

Tuesday, December 04, 2018

10:00 AM	Men's Coffee Break Bible Study	Small Groups Room
6:15 PM	Worship Team	Small Groups Room

Wednesday, December 05, 2018

10:00 AM	Women's Bible Study	Small Groups Room
12:00 PM	Saints Luncheon	Friendship Room, 154, 155
3:30 PM	Disciples Bible Study	Small Groups Room
5:00 PM	Reformation Ringers	Chapel
6:15 PM	Building Disciples Team	Small Groups Room
6:30 PM	B.S. ('Bible Study') Teen Boys	Off-site
7:00 PM	PADS	Fellowship Hall

Thursday, December 06, 2018

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

Friday, December 07, 2018

Saturday, December 08, 2018

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December Calendar, continued

Sunday, December 09, 2018

8:00 AM	Men's Breakfast	Friendship Room
9:00 AM	Liturgical Service of Worship	Sanctuary
9:00 AM	Deacon Cookie Walk Fundraiser	Hospitality Center
10:00 AM	Congregational Life Team	Friendship Room
10:00 AM	Kids of the Kingdom	CE Rooms
10:00 AM	Confirmation Class	154
10:15 AM	Adult Choir Practice	148, 149
11:00 AM	Contemporary Praise Service	Sanctuary
6:00 PM	Presbys Youth Group	100

Monday, December 10, 2018

11:00 AM	Presbyterian Resale Shop Ministry	Off-site
5:00 PM	Journeys of Faith	Small Groups Room
6:00 PM	Small Group	Friendship Room
6:30 PM	Mission Team	Small Groups Room
7:00 PM	Boy Scouts Committee	140

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

10:00 AM	Men's Coffee Break Bible Study	Small Groups Room
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Wednesday, December 12, 2018

10:00 AM	Women's Bible Study	Small Groups Room
5:00 PM	Reformation Ringers	Chapel
6:30 PM	B.S. ('Bible Study') Teen Boys	Off-site
7:00 PM	Finance Team	Workroom
7:00 PM	PADS	Fellowship Hall

Thursday, December 13, 2018

9:30 AM	The Comfort Stitchers	154, 155
6:30 PM	Praise Band	Sanctuary
6:30 PM	Cub Scouts	Fellowship Hall

Friday, December 14, 2018

Saturday, December 15, 2018

10:00 AM	Christmas Caroling	Meet at FPC
1:00 PM (tentative)	Rehearsal for Christmas Cantata/Program (children)	Sanctuary
2:00 PM (tentative)	Rehearsal for Christmas Cantata/Program (adults)	Sanctuary
4:00 PM (tentative)	Thank You Gathering for Choir	Hospitality Center

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December Calendar, continued

Sunday, December 16, 2018

9:00 AM	Liturgical Service of Worship*	Sanctuary
9:45 AM	Coffee Fellowship	Hospitality Center
10:00 AM	Kids of the Kingdom	CE Rooms
10:00 AM	Confirmation Class	154
10:15 AM	Adult Choir Practice	148, 149
11:00 AM	Contemporary Praise Service	Sanctuary
1:30 PM	Cub Scouts	Fellowship Hall
6:00 PM	Presbys Youth Group	100

Monday, December 17, 2018

5:00 PM	Journeys of Faith	Small Groups Room
6:00 PM	Small Group	Friendship Room

Tuesday, December 18, 2018

10:00 AM	Men's Coffee Break Bible Study	Small Groups Room
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Wednesday, December 19, 2018

10:00 AM	Women's Bible Study	Small Groups Room
10:30 AM	Widows' Group	Friendship Room
3:30 PM	Disciples Bible Study	Small Groups Room
5:00 PM	Reformation Ringers	Chapel
6:30 PM	B.S. ('Bible Study') Teen Boys	Off-site
7:00 PM	PADS	Fellowship Hall

Thursday, December 20, 2018

9:30 AM	The Comfort Stitchers	154, 155
10:00 AM	Harriet Drapier/Mary Crosby	Friendship Room
6:30 PM	Praise Band	Sanctuary
6:30 PM	Cub Scouts	Fellowship Hall

Friday, December 21, 2018

Saturday, December 22, 2018

**denotes Christmas Cantata/Program*

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December Calendar, continued

Sunday, December 23, 2018

9:00 AM	Liturgical Service of Worship	Sanctuary
9:45 AM	Coffee Fellowship	Hospitality Center
10:15 AM	Adult Choir Practice	148, 149
11:00 AM	Contemporary Praise Service	Sanctuary
6:00 PM	Presbys Youth Group	100

Monday, December 24, 2018 – Christmas Eve

4:00 PM	Christmas Eve Service	Sanctuary
6:00 PM	Small Group	Friendship Room
7:00 PM	Christmas Eve Service	Sanctuary

Tuesday, December 25, 2018 - Christmas Day, Church office closed

Wednesday, December 26, 2018 - Church Office Closed

10:00 AM	Women's Bible Study	Small Groups Room
1:00 PM	Parkinson's Support Group	154/155
5:00 PM	Reformation Ringers	Chapel
6:30 PM	B.S. ('Bible Study') Teen Boys	Off-site
7:00 PM	PADS	Fellowship Hall

Thursday, December 27, 2018

9:30 AM	The Comfort Stitchers	154, 155
2:00 PM	Pines Communion (rescheduled)	Off-site
6:30 PM	Praise Band	Sanctuary

Friday, December 28, 2018

Saturday, December 29, 2018

Sunday, December 30, 2018

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

Monday, December 31, 2018

5:00 PM	Journeys of Faith	Small Groups Room
6:00 PM	Small Group	Friendship Room

Happy Birthday!

December 1 Kathy Spitler	December 23 Ken Kukler
December 2 Robert Meyer Susan Swarner	December 25 Lillian Bianco Marc Buehler Gavin Kukler Natalie Miller Jean Patton
December 3 Gerrit Carlson	December 28 Richard Trapp
December 4 Paige Hughes	December 30 Elizabeth Monroe
December 5 Audrey Rudzinski	
December 6 Barbara Baker Leanne Grant	
December 8 Michael Byerly Joan Johnston	
December 10 Diana Richardson	
December 11 Nicole Arney	
December 12 Harley Money Tim Reyna	
December 13 Lindsay Giles	
December 16 John Lawson Tom Lazar	

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



ADVENT CANDLELIGHTERS

Dec. 2	10:00 a.m.	Congregational Life Contact: Andrea Phillips
Dec. 9	9:00 a.m.	Jim Hubbard Chip Wilkes
	11:00 a.m.	iEngage Contact: Jerry Kahrs
Dec. 16	9:00 a.m.	Choir Members Contact: Rhonda Clark
	11:00 a.m.	Maggie & Walt Alexander
Dec. 23	9:00 a.m.	Christian Ed Contact: Cathy Cole
	11:00 a.m.	Susan & Chris Nannenga Justin, Tracy & Addison
Christmas Eve Dec. 24	4:00 p.m.	Judy & Craig Johnson Marci, Paul & Walker Powell
	7:00 p.m.	Valarie Smart Higgins & Dan Higgins

Resale Shop News

Fall and Christmas Decorations Needed

If while sorting through your fall and Christmas decorations, you find that you have some you have grown tired of putting up for the seasons and want to give them a good home, please bring them to the Presbyterian Resale Shop. We will find homes for them.

Thanks for your support!

Dec. Scheduler: Kay Exley (219) 464-4154
Jan. & Feb. Scheduler: Carolyn Dye (219) 464-8878

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

Tues

Thurs.

Sat.

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

Ministry Roster

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

USHERS

December 2 – Hanging of the Greens

10:00a.m. David Goodwin
Phebe Klapp
Olga Koch

December 9

9:00 a.m. Fred Grosick
Susan Grosick
Rodger Jones

11:00 a.m. Carla Evans
Kathy Evans

December 16

9:00 a.m. David Goodwin
Phebe Klapp
Beth Germann

11:00 a.m. Dan Higgins
Jim Knopf

December 23

9:00 a.m. Carolyn Dye
Doug Dye
Vic Klancer

11:00 a.m. Chris Hoham
Steve Scarborough

December 24 – Christmas Eve

4:00 p.m. Glen Buford
Leila Buford

7:00 p.m. Steve Scarborough
TBD

December 30

9:00 a.m. Jim Hubbard
Sharon Hubbard
Betty Richardson

11:00 a.m. Sheya Bennett
Leila Buford

SEXTON: Dan Higgins

ELDER ON CALL

Dec. 2 Elizabeth Monroe
16 Andrea Phillips
30 Chip Wilkes

DEACON ON CALL

Dec. 9 Jim Boys
23 Jason Gordon

COMMUNION SET UP

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2018

Mike Becker

COMMUNION SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2018

PRESENTATION/CLEAN UP:

Mike Becker

COMMUNION SET UP & CLEAN UP FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

Isabel Gordon
Jason Gordon

DECEMBER 2, 2018, COMMUNION SERVERS

Doyll Andrews *
Andrea Phillips*
Rhonda Coffin
Barry Hughes
Jerry Kahrs
Lou Ann Karabel

*denotes leaders



First Presbyterian Church of Valparaiso

CHURCH STAFF

E-MAIL ADDRESS

Janice Axmann, Organist	axmann122@comcast.net
Pastor Nancy Becker, Parish Associate.....	mnbecker3@gmail.com
Rhonda Clark, Adult Choir Director	rclark3110@gmail.com
Ken Crews, Director of CE & Youth Ministry	kencrews@fpcvalpo.org
Brad Dirks, Organist	bdirks@comcast.net
Julia Evans, Director of Youth Ministry	julia.evans@valpo.edu
Beverlee Frazee, Business Manager.....	bfrazee@fpcvalpo.org
Judy Hollar, Clerk of Session.....	churchoffice@fpcvalpo.org
Dawn Scarborough, Administrative Assistant.	dscarborough@fpcvalpo.org

Elders of Session

Ministry Team

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

*denotes Co-moderator

Moderator of Session

Pastor Nancy Becker

Clerk of Session

Judy Hollar

Per Capita

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

Financial Report

October 2018

Income	\$ 29,119	YTD Income	\$ 368,638
Expenses	____(37,052)	YTD Expenses	____(362,832)
Over/Short	\$ (7,933)		\$ 5,806



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FPCVALPO (closed)