

First Reports

First Presbyterian Church
Evansville, Indiana



OCT/
NOV
2023
www.firstpresevansville.com

From the Pastor

Dear Friends,

I want to thank you for your active participation in the book study. I've been hearing that there have been good ideas coming out of the discussions. Once the study is done, the Session will compile the ideas and then the committees will discuss how they can implement some of those ideas now or in the future. The finalized compilation will also be something the PNC can show prospective pastoral candidates when talking about the direction the congregation is interested in going in.

I hope you will choose to continue to meet during October for discussion on Generosity - the giving of our time, talent, and material resources to the glory of God. The discussions will be based on a daily devotional that will be sent to your email or will be available to be sent to you, if you're not a computer person. The theme of this year's Generosity Campaign is "For where your treasure is, there will be your heart will be also" (Matt. 6:21). Also, Paul tells us that "...the fruit of the Spirit is...kindness, goodness, faithfulness..." (Gal. 5:22). We will explore all of this more through our discussions and sermons during October. Again, I believe these discussion are important, not just in thinking about the financial needs of the church, but in what ways your gifts of time and talents might be used to benefit this congregation or the ministries First Pres is involved in within the community and beyond.

I also hope that these discussions will create in you a desire to participate in more study groups. There will be an Advent study in December, and next year a Lenten study. Other studies being planned include a writing group to explore your life moments with God, healing spiritual hurts, and a delve into prayer. More about these groups will be forthcoming in the next couple of newsletters.



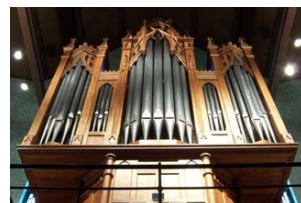
Finally, I will be heading over to Japan on October 10 to see my Navy son, Elijah. It will have been four years and three weeks since I last saw him in person. I know the church is in good hands with Parish Visitor Jerusha Van Camp and the Elders. Filling in for me during worship will be Jerusha on October 15 and 29, Elder Andy Hubbard on October 22, and Elder Steve Wylie on November 5. I know you will be blessed by the sermons of each of these faithful servants of God.

I am so looking forward to seeing my son and having some time away. I thank you for allowing me the time off at this busy time of the year. Jerusha and Elders will be available for pastoral care while I am away.

Blessings,
Anna

First Friday Concerts Return

The music department is happy to announce the restart of a pre-pandemic concert series on selected First Fridays throughout the year. The first of these concerts is Friday October 6 and features Owen Tellinghuisen, a Senior Organ Major at the IU Jacobs School of Music. Owen is no stranger to us, having been our Organ Scholar at the Midwest Choir Festival hosted by First Pres in 2022. Owen is a first-class performer and skilled improviser. Owen's program includes popular works by Bach, Brahms, and more at 7:00 p.m. in our historic Sanctuary.



Invite your friends and neighbors downtown to kick off your "First" weekends in October and November with music!

Pastor Nominating Committee - Moving Forward

The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) has been formed, and we're in the middle of the congregation-wide book study, so what happens next in our journey forward?

The PNC will soon be able to get to work, but first they have to first meet with our Executive Presbyter, Susan McGee, which will happen in November. At the same time, Session will be finishing the tasks they need to accomplish in making some important decisions in regard to the details in calling a pastor. The PNC will then be able to begin their work by mid-November. Their first order of business will be writing what is called a Ministry Information Form, which tells about the church, what we believe, the work the church is involved in and hopes to be involved in, and what gifts, talents, and experiences they are looking for in a new pastor. Once that is written, it needs to be approved by the Committee on Ministry at Presbytery. It will next go to Presbyterian Leadership Connection in Louisville where computer-generated matches will be made and sent to the PNC. Hopefully, that work will be complete by February or March. Once the matches come back, the work of discussion and discernment begins as the PNC goes through the Pastor Information Forms and decides who to interview. Please be patient and continue to pray for the PNC and the potential candidates. This is not a quick process. You will continue to get periodic updates as the process moves forward.



Silent Movie Night

With earlier sunsets, pumpkins on porches, and trick-or-treating around the corner, it's time to put up the big screen and invite all to the twelfth annual Silent Movie night. This year Robert is accompanying *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* (1920) on Saturday, October 21. As pure and good as Dr. Jekyll is, he is tempted by his peers to explore the darker side of humanity and transforms into the foul Mr. Hyde! The 7:00 p.m. showing is free and has open seating; donations will be gratefully accepted at the end of the evening.

This year, we are also offering a first-come, first-served "Dinner and a Movie" special for \$20 starting at 5:45 p.m. with a comedy short, Charlie Chaplin's *Easy Street*, followed by home cooked (by the choir) soups and breads in Fellowship Hall, and preferential seating for the 7:00 p.m. feature presentation. Make your reservations now by using the QR code below!



5:45 p.m.
Easy Street.
Soup Supper.
reserved seating
for *Jekyll/Hyde*

Reservations (\$20)
required by using
the QR code
on the right or
calling 812-423-6297





7:00 p.m.
Free Admission
Donations gratefully accepted



The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper:

World Communion Sunday, October 1

All Saints' Sunday, November 5

8:30 and 10:30 a.m. services

First Light Doings

First Light, our group for Junior-and Senior-High School youth, is keeping extremely busy this fall with activities ranging from service at the United Caring Shelters to a Day Trip to Mammoth Cave and a November Youth Retreat at Camp Pyoca in Brownstown, IN.

Currently the group is collecting items for the Young and Established Food and Hygiene Pantry, located within the center at 1308 Vann Avenue. The congregation is invited to join them First Light in donating these simple and necessary items. On Sunday, October 22, collection boxes will be in the entrances for your donations of new full size hygiene products (soap, hand soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, laundry detergent, etc.), new white socks or underwear of any size, or non-perishable food products. You can check out the Young and Established webpage at <https://www.youngandestablished.com> to see all of the positive things that the Young and Established Center is doing for our community.



Generosity Season



Fall has just arrived, and while we don't want to rush past any of the wonderful events and activities that the season brings, it also prompts us to begin thinking about the new year. Which is a long way to say that Generosity season has also arrived! Throughout October, our worship and discussions in the *Five Practices* groups will focus on Generosity, previously known as stewardship. Our theme this year is "generosity is a gift of the heart". In addition to the discussions and worship, you'll receive informational letters from our Generosity Committee and a digital devotional that you can use in your daily practices. We hope that all these resources will help us embody the message in Matthew 6:21: "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Count Your Blessings and Help Others!

October is a busy time of year here in Evansville. We kick off the month with the Fall Festival, which is a time to see old friends, eat food that you otherwise should not, and support local non-profits that do so many wonderful things in our community.

Autumn is also the time of year when we begin to take stock of the many blessings in our lives and give thanks for them. Bountiful gardens, cooler days, and time to start thinking ahead to the end-of-year holidays and opportunities to be with family and friends.

Here at First Pres, it is the time that the Mission Committee focuses on raising awareness and support for the annual CROP Walk, which is a worldwide movement to eliminate hunger wherever it is found.

ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME

2023
CROP HUNGER WALK

BUILDING global RESILIENCE

Join other First Pres members and families in a "Count Your Blessings" activity that will help you focus on simple blessings that we may take for granted and that many others in our community do not share. This activity provides financial support for the annual CROP WALK activity that contributes to local food service organizations who serve the less fortunate in our community. This year, the funds raised and canned goods collected will help our friends at Patchwork Central who operate a food pantry in our neighborhood.

Use the "Count Your Blessings" activity calendar on the next page or pick one up in the church lobby or narthex and see what simple blessings you have for which you can give thanks.

Children's Sunday School and Nursery

Sunday School for ages 5-11 happens during 10:30 a.m. worship at First Pres. Attendees are dismissed after the children's moment to attend Sunday School in the Education wing. After the service, parents may pick up their young ones in room 107.

Childcare is available for infants through age 4 in the Nursery (room 109 in the Ed Wing) weekly during the 10:30 service.

October 2023

Count Your Blessings

Count the blessings all around you. Calculate your change each day and see how quickly small blessings add up.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 10¢ for every fall holiday decoration currently in your home. <input type="text"/> \$	2 \$1 if you are planning to attend the Fall Festival this week. <input type="text"/> \$	3 25¢ for every ProntoPup you eat this week! <input type="text"/> \$	4 \$1 if you purchase a Half Pot ticket at Fall Festival. Good luck! <input type="text"/> \$	5 \$1 if you are planning on eating a brain sandwich this week. 🧠 <input type="text"/> \$	6 25¢ for every different non-profit booth you supported this week. <input type="text"/> \$	7 25¢ for every day you attended the Fall Festival this week. <input type="text"/> \$
8 3¢ for every canned food item in your kitchen pantry. <input type="text"/> \$	9 25¢ for every warm blanket in your home. <input type="text"/> \$	10 \$1 for every frozen food item in your freezer. <input type="text"/> \$	11 10¢ for every pair of shoes or boots in your closet. <input type="text"/> \$	12 50¢ for every television set in your home. <input type="text"/> \$	13 20¢ for every computer, tablet or Ipad you own. <input type="text"/> \$	14 Time to clean out your pantry of unneeded canned goods. Bring them to church. <input type="text"/> \$
15 5¢ for every doctor appointment you had this year. <input type="text"/> \$	16 25¢ for every snack food item in your house. <input type="text"/> \$	17 5¢ for every year of education you have attended or completed. <input type="text"/> \$	18 5¢ for every e-mail or text you sent today! <input type="text"/> \$	19 Did you go grocery shopping this week? Donate 1% of the total you spent. <input type="text"/> \$	20 \$1 if you shopped online this week. <input type="text"/> \$	21 Time to clean out your pantry of unused canned goods. Bring them to church. <input type="text"/> \$
22 25¢ for every warm winter coat in your closet. <input type="text"/> \$	23 75¢ if you have a washing machine in your home. <input type="text"/> \$	24 75¢ if you have a clothes dryer in your home. <input type="text"/> \$	25 25¢ for every home cooked meal you prepared this week. <input type="text"/> \$	26 25¢ for every pumpkin you have turned into a Jack-o-Lantern. <input type="text"/> \$	27 10¢ for every time you ate out during the past week! <input type="text"/> \$	28 Total up all your blessings \$\$, place in attached envelope and bring to church. <input type="text"/> \$

Bake (and more!) Sale

Circle November 12 on your calendars and plan to stock up on your favorite Bake Sale items (including savory breads and hearty soups) as the choir raises funds for children and youth to participate in special worship and music events. You might be looking for a simple dish to pull out of the freezer that doesn't have turkey in it for later in the month, or perhaps need a cookie or two that don't make it home! You'll find lots of variety and the well-known cooking and baking of the choir to enjoy as we prepare for Thanksgiving.



Harvest Home Service



The choir is preparing special music for our annual Harvest Home celebration in worship on November 19. The Sunday before Thanksgiving has become one of First Pres' beloved hallmark services, and a time when we make an effort to invite friends, extended family, co-workers, and neighbors to join us to sing Thanksgiving hymns and be lifted into a state of gratitude via extra music from the choir. Our youngest chimers will help prepare our hearts for worship and our wonderful Flute Choir will play for us too!

Happy October and November Birthday!

OCTOBER

Karen Kuykendoll	1
Lynn Kyle	1
Diane Reynolds	1
Katie Ruthenburg	1
Gina Ungar	2
Peter Ungar	3
Eddie Erickson	4
Jane Bernhardt	5
John Althoff	8
Joey Hubbard	8
William Nicholls	8
Marilyn Moore	9
Austin Boyle	10
Mary Fuchs	11
Laura Haywood	12
Miles Moore	12
Glen Ogle	12
Pat Wu	12
Analisa Hein	14
Susie McCool	15
Barb Witte	16
Lillian Montgomery	17
Sandy Ehlen-Martin	20
Beth Mottley	23
Art Mengon	24
Hugh McKinney	25
Caroline Haynie	26

Tom Stein	27
Mary Colvin	28
Lisa Jones	28
Regan Stein	29



NOVEMBER

Lydia Fleming	1
Abigail Fleming	1
Joanna Fleming	1
Luca Cirignano	2
Matteo Cirignano	2
Mia Cirignano	2
Judy Althoff	4
Emily Boyle	5
Michelle Haywood	5

Suzanne Aiken	6
Kathryn Van Camp	6
Chris Moore	7
Reagan Ball	9
Juliette Cirignano	9
Gail Riecken	9
Brian Uhde	9
Connor Boyle	11
Jessica Montgomery	11
Phil Tooke	11
Caitlin Hein	12
Daniel Mottley	12
Emily Rosenquist	12
Marylu Sonntag	12
Elliot Apple	14
Nell Clay	15
Lilly Singleton	16
Bev Attinger	17
Lisa Boyle	20
Lily McReynolds	20
William Cross	21
Connie John	21
Elesha Downs	24
Ron Attinger	27
Sarah Mottley	28
Mike Wolf	28
Jingle Hagey	29
Suzanne Rosenquist	29



"November's sky is chill and drear, November's leaf is red and sear."

– Sir Walter Scott

Generosity Celebration November 5 - Save the Date!

Our Generosity campaign will conclude on November 5 with a special service celebrating the faithfulness of saints in the past and those present, as we lay the groundwork to witness and reach new members through our generosity now, so that future generations will continue to find a church family here at First Pres. After the service, we will celebrate this Commitment Sunday with a thanksgiving luncheon following the 10:30 service. Bring a side dish or dessert to share - the protein and beverages will be provided. So come hungry: ready to eat and enjoy the fellowship of your church family!

Generosity

A GIFT OF THE HEART

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