



First
Presbyterian
Church



news from First Presbyterian Church – Evansville, IN
December 26, 2025

This Sunday

Join us at 9:30 a.m. this Sunday morning for *One Worship Service* in Fellowship Hall. We've planned an engaging, fun and meaningful journey through the 12 Days of Christmas using the Carol by that name. The service will include the Lord's Supper. Wear your favorite holiday sweater (or family appropriate) Christmas PJs and come a bit early to get your donuts, bacon, and coffee!

Join us in person or online! Live Stream links and the bulletin are available on the First Pres [website](#). (There will not be worship at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. on 12/28)



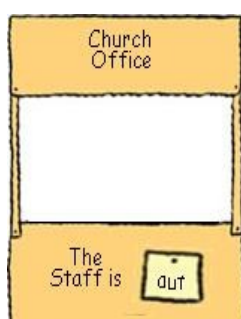
Kitchen Help?



Sue Schriber and Jake Kohlmeyer are looking for a few folks to help with clean up in the Kitchen following the December 28 worship service. If you can lend a hand (many hands make light work!), please [email](#) or text Jake with the subject line "clean up help"! (sayheyjake@gmail.com; 812-598-9845) Thank you!!

Holiday Office Hours

The church office, normally open Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. will observe holiday hours into January. In addition to Christmas Day, the office will be closed December 28-January 1. The office will reopen January 5 with somewhat unpredictable hours as some staff use vacation time. Designated staff will monitor voice- and e-mail messages remotely. If you need access to the building or have specific questions, please contact us by email or leave a message. You may reach out to Pastor MB directly during this time mb@fpcevv.com or 812-872-4882 (voice or text) - leave a message indicating the urgency of your need. She'll get back to you asap!



"I Can Do That!"

As we begin to look forward to a new year, we give thanks for all our "church mice" ! From ushering and greeting, to making coffee on Sunday mornings, to straightening



the pews, to alphabetizing the nametags and more, these folks have done and continue to do so many small but important tasks around First Pres. And new "church mice" are always welcomed **and needed!** If you are looking for a way to give your time on a routine or occasional basis, contact the [church office](#) with the note "I Can Do That!" (firstpres@fpcevv.com; 812-423-6297) Your offer of time is deeply appreciated!

Merry Christmas and Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who gave to the Christmas Eve offering at Wednesday's worship service. The entire offering is going to the Tri-State Food Bank, which is improving the quality of life for our community's insecure families and children by providing adequate food and nutrition through our network of local charities and organizations feeding the hungry. Our Christmas Eve collection of over \$2,000 will be doubled by a matching gift at the Food Bank. Thank you for your generosity!



First Light @ Player Two



First Light, our group for Junior and Senior High aged youth, will gather on Sunday, January 4 from 5:30 to 7:00 at High Score Player Two (2814 Mt. Vernon Avenue, Evansville) for an evening of fun, snacks, and games! (Parents: drop off and pick up at Player Two)

Our Future Needs You!

Thank you to everyone who has turned in a pledge as part of our *Hope for Our Future* campaign! We are almost two-thirds of the way to meeting our goal of \$1.5 million over three years for the **operating budget**, and we are right at our goal of \$1 million over three years for the *Future Hope* giving. We are gratefully excited by your faithful generosity!



Even with all this good news, we are still expecting to hear from a considerable number of current supporters. Perhaps a three-year commitment is a big challenge at this time - that's OK - feel free to mark your pledge as a one-year commitment! Maybe you're not sure about making two separate pledges - that's OK, too - right now we are most in need of learning about your continued commitment to the operating budget for 2026 so that we can finalize the 2026 budget. (You can make a pledge or gift - one time or over several years - to *Future Hope* giving at anytime.) We welcome your questions and are glad to help you figure out your best way to support First Pres. Don't hesitate to reach out to Pastor MB, any of the Future Hope committee, or Church Administrator Lora Blaylock! If you simply want to call (812.423.6297) or [email Lora](#) to continue or increase your current level of giving, that is fine!

There is still time to join us in this vision of *Hope for Our Future*. You can put your completed card in Sunday's offering plate, mail it to the church, contact [Lora](#) in the church office, or fill out an electronic pledge card [HERE](#). Thank You!

Faith Voices for Justice

Mark your calendar for *Faith in the Face of Fear*, a rally and workshop day at the Indiana Statehouse on January 8. In a moment when many are feeling anxious or isolated, this gathering is designed to bring people together across traditions - and beyond them - to lift our voices, learn practical tools, and strengthen the courage we need for the work ahead. We'll begin with a public rally at the Statehouse to ground our day in shared values of dignity, justice, and hope. Following the rally, participants can join a series of skill-building workshops led by community partners, offering practical strategies for advocacy, coalition-building, and care for our neighbors.



INDIANA FAITH
VOICES FOR JUSTICE

Whether you're part of a congregation, a campus, a community group, or simply someone who wants to help, you are welcome. Bring friends, colleagues, and questions. Come to connect, be inspired, and leave with concrete next steps and new partners. Details, schedule, and accessibility information are available at inaithvoicesforjustice.org.

Pastor MB is serving on the Steering Committee for Indiana Faith Voices for Justice and will be participating in the Rally and Workshops on January 8. Contact her if you would like to participate with her. mb@fpcevv.com.

Prayer Requests

- for Terri, whose husband died suddenly this past week;
- with joy for a friend's good report following a biopsy;
- for safe travels;
- for Tristan, still in Louisville receiving treatment for AML;
- for families struggling with mental illness and drug addiction;
- for those serving in our armed forces, in harm's way, while their families await their return;
- in gratitude that Murray is on the mend;
- for those who are experiencing their first holiday without a loved one;
- for Boo's very dear friend Lesha and her husband, following his stage 4 incurable cancer diagnosis;
- for G, as she recovers from an infection;
- for a family whose mother was diagnosed with stage 4 cancer;
- for one recovering from surgery;
- for Brad, recovering from an emergency appendectomy;
- for those feeling overwhelmed;
- for Crystal, whose brother is receiving hospital care for an undiagnosed illness, and whose cousin is struggling with the side effects of chemo- and radiation- therapy;
- for those feeling like they don't have enough energy to accomplish what they feel is necessary;
- for a family whose sone is incarcerated in Texas and who are facing further legal issues;
- for Joe and Jenny, as they face some difficult medical possibilities;
- in gratitude for the caring First Pres family.



Daily Readings



As we begin a new year, we share with you a different resource for daily readings. The link below will take you to the PC(USA)'s website, which offers multiple readings for every day. The readings that you will see immediately when you click the link will be for the current day, but you can pick readings for a specific day, print out readings, and sign up for a daily email of lectionary readings.

<https://pcusa.org/daily/devotion>

Items to be considered for inclusion in Connect should be submitted to the church office by the Wednesday prior to publication.

Please contact the church office at 812-423-6297 or firstpres@fpcevv.com with comments, questions, or to unsubscribe.