



First Presbyterian Church

Connect



news from First Presbyterian Church – Evansville, IN
March 20, 2026

This Sunday

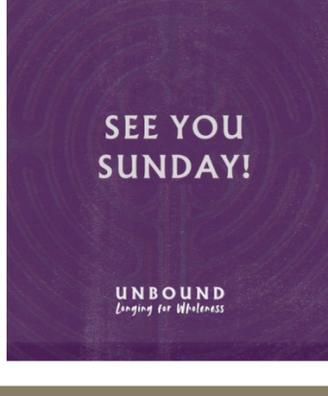
This week we enter the story of Lazarus (a complicated story full of grief and a miracle) which insists:

- that honest feelings are not obstacles to faith - they are invitations.
- that grief is not a sign of weakness; it is a sign of love.
- that tears are not a failure of trust; they are often the very place where God meets us most intimately.
- If wholeness is the opposite of being bound, then authenticity - the courage to tell the truth about our sorrow, our frustration, our longing, our disappointment - is part of how God unbinds us.

Here are some questions raised by the series' author:

- Are we hiding our grief because we think God cannot bear it?
- What emotions have we labeled as "unfaithful," even though Jesus himself wept?
- What would resurrection look like in the places we have stopped hoping?
- What graveclothes - old narratives, protective layers, practiced performances - need to be loosened or unraveled for us to step into new life?

Come to worship this Sunday in person or online! Live Stream links and the bulletin are available on the First Pres [website](#).



Lunch with Presbyterian Women



Presbyterian Women invite all to lunch...and learn with them tomorrow (Saturday, March 21), 11:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. The Women are preparing a lovely soup and salad luncheon as they welcome the Director of Meals on Wheels. Bring a friend, enjoy a (free!) lovely meal, and learn more about this longtime Evansville program with historic ties to First Pres.

March 4th Sundays

This Sunday, March 22 is our next 4th Sundays at 1st Pres from 5:30-7:00 p.m. This month's theme, "Draw Near to God" connects with the Lenten Season. Come to find more ways to connect with God, to enjoy being in community, to share an easy soup supper, and to close with a simple time of worship including communion.



If you'd like to help with supper, use this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084BA8A72FA5FEC61-62930918-soups> Thank You!

Singing Resistance Evansville

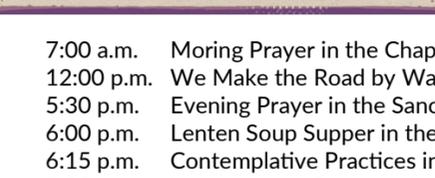
Singing Resistance Evansville is gathering on Sunday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in First Presbyterian Church's sanctuary. Many of you remember or know about justice singing, protest songs, etc. used throughout history as a form of peaceful protest or resistance. Singing Resistance is a movement that has grown out of community resistance to authoritarianism (most recently in Minneapolis). You may have seen videos on Facebook with songs sung in churches and neighborhoods in Minneapolis last month. Here's a link to an example of people gathered in Westminster Presbyterian Church in Minneapolis: <https://www.facebook.com/reel/1197315395774603>

Right now we're practicing at 7:00 p.m. Sunday evenings (there may be more times and locations in Evansville in the future). We're working toward **We The People - Community Sing and Concert next Friday, March 27 at 7:00 p.m.** and will sing at the next No Kings Rally on March 28. Our hope is that these gatherings to practice simple songs will be moving moments that can give us hope. The practices and the community sings and concerts will be places where all ages can gather and participate. Those who want to use music to stand together at rallies or protests in the community will be equipped to do that well. Those who want to be trained to do more direct action will have the opportunity to participate in that training as the movement grows.

These gatherings are open to all regardless of race, ethnic heritage, national origin, age, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, ability, or socio-economic standing (just like we are). These gatherings are open to both religious folks and non-religious folks. These gatherings are not partisan. These gatherings are for such a time as this. Talk to Rev. MB if you have questions.



Wednesday Lenten Opportunities



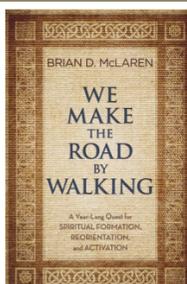
This Lent, there are multiple opportunities on Wednesdays to join in new ways to explore the themes of the season.

Consider adding a few of the opportunities below into your Lenten practice this year. There's **no** requirement to come to each session of an event, so don't let an interruption in your schedule keep you from joining in as you are able.

- 7:00 a.m. Moring Prayer in the Chapel and [online](#)
- 12:00 p.m. We Make the Road by Walking in person and [online](#)
- 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer in the Sanctuary
- 6:00 p.m. Lenten Soup Supper in the Parlor
- 6:15 p.m. Contemplative Practices in the Office
- 7:00 p.m. We make the Road by Walking in person and [online](#)

We Make the Road - Join Anytime!

Join Rev. Jerusha in a yearlong quest for spiritual formation, reorientation, and activation by participating in weekly conversation groups based around Brian McLaren's book *We Make the Road by Walking*. During Lent, the lessons lead to Resurrection. Hybrid (in-person + online) groups meet on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. and Wednesdays at Noon and 7:00 p.m. (Zoom links are on the [church website](#)). Books (\$11) are available in the church office (and on Kindle and Hoopla), and you can drop in/out as your schedule allows.



One Great Hour of Sharing



WE ARE THERE

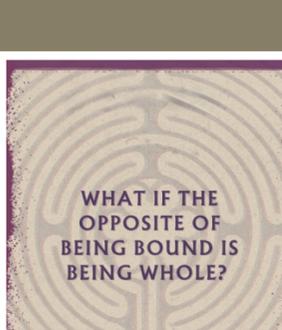
One Great Hour of Sharing is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for justice, resilience, and sustainability.

First Pres will receive the OGHS offering on Palm Sunday, March 29.

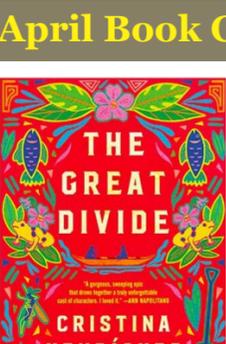
[PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY.](#)

Holy Week Opportunities

Our Lenten journey is approaching its end in **Holy Week** which begins **Palm Sunday, March 29**. Weather permitting, the 10:30 service that day will begin outdoors in the courtyard, with the congregation parading into the sanctuary. Pastor MB will lead **morning prayer** at 7:00 a.m. each day during holy week, we'll mark **Maundy Thursday** with a service in the Sanctuary at 7:00 p.m., and the building will be open for contemplation on **Good Friday** from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. We will complete this year's Lenten journey on **Easter Sunday** (April 5) with identical services in the Sanctuary at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.



April Book Group



Book Group at First Pres meets next on Monday, April 13, 6:30-8:00 p.m. in room 105. A Zoom option is available; contact [Francie Hubbard](#) to learn how to sign in.

April's book is *The Great Divide* by Cristina Henríquez, a historical fiction novel about the construction of the Panama Canal. Focusing on a stowaway migrant worker turned caregiver, an American doctor whose single goal is the elimination of malaria, and a local fisherman who resents the foreign intruders and his son who goes to work for them, the book explores themes of race, class, colonialism, and the human cost of monumental engineering projects.

Prayer Requests

- for those fearful of storms;
- for one making progress with challenging occupational therapy;
- for a wonderful turnout for the upcoming Presbyterian Women Lunch & Learn;
- for one awaiting assistance with a wheelchair, and concerned about funding cuts;
- for the loved ones of Ben Pennington, a soldier from KY, who died in the middle east last week;
- for all who mourn, especially the Bernhardt and Campbell families;
- in thanksgiving that brother Tony is out of the hospital after 8 weeks;
- for little Weston, who may have a leg/ankle fracture following a fall from his brother's top bunk;
- for a granddaughter's success in a new job as a sign language interpreter;
- for Margo, being treated for breast cancer;
- for Jason C, being treated for prostate cancer;
- in gratitude for times of rest.



More News(letter)!

First Reports

First Presbyterian Church
Evansville, Indiana



Have you ever misplaced your printed *First Reports*? Us, too! Did you know that it's also available on the [church website](#)? Click the link below for a copy of the current issue that you can read online or print out and put on your refrigerator.

<https://fpcevv.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/feb-mar-26.pdf>

Daily Readings

Taking time for a daily devotional can be a meaningful addition to a faith journey. 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.