

Friday, November 3, 2023



This Week @FirstPresFW

A publication of First Presbyterian Church, Fort Wayne, Indiana

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Pastor's Note



Dear Friends,

This Sunday we will mark All Saints' Day. We will read the names of those in our community who have died since this time last year. During communion you'll have the opportunity to light a

candle in memory of your saint.

Reminders: Don't forget to turn your clocks back an hour Saturday night. Also – there is no Sunday School for children because it's a communion Sunday.

All Saints is one of my favorite services of the year: the candle

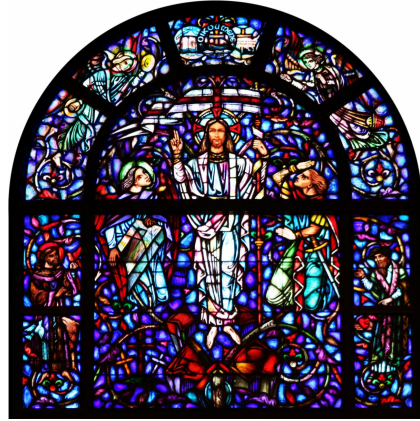
lighting, the robust singing of For All the Saints, and a time to celebrate our saints – it's a great day to come to church. I hope to see you here.

Blessings,
Annie

Sunday Worship

English

- 11:00 AM in the Sanctuary, Rev. Annie Epling, Pastor, preaching
- Watch livestream via [Website](#) and [YouTube](#)
- Public Access Channel 1 and Channel 25, Wed 7:00 PM & Thurs 11:00 AM
- Public Access via [Digital Archive](#)



Korean

- 11:00 AM Chapel Rev. Youngsoo An preaching
- Live Stream via [Website](#), and [YouTube](#)

Bulletin

- The complete weekly bulletin may be found [here](#).

E-News submissions should be sent to [Jenny Conrad](#).

**Reminder! Time changes on Sunday, November 5!
Set your clocks back one hour!**

Fall Back

1 Hour

Sunday, November 5!



News & Events

[Event Calendar](#)

[Weekly Announcements](#)

Stewardship 2024

Stewardship 2024 supports the work and mission of First Presbyterian Church, including:

- Welcome and engage the Fort Wayne Community and beyond
- Seek to glorify God through worship and all ministries
- Provide meaningful Christian faith formation, education and fellowship opportunities
- Enrich our faith through the arts
- Feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and care for those in need as commanded by Jesus Christ
- Sustain the integrity of the building and grounds so that we can fulfill our mission

The Session and the Finance Committee have begun planning and budgeting for 2024. The Stewardship 2024 campaign has to date raised \$463,983.00. If you have not yet turned in your pledge

card, please prayerfully consider making a pledge, helping to ensure that we can maintain our worship services, support our outreach programs, and provide a welcoming and nurturing environment for all. Every contribution, no matter the size, is invaluable! Stewardship 2024 informational brochures, pledge cards, and return envelopes are available in the Narthex.

Here's how to submit your pledge:

Online: [2024 Stewardship Online Giving Link](#)

Follow the simple steps to pledge securely.

In Person: Drop off your pledge card at the church office during office hours or worship.

By Mail: Mail your completed pledge card to the church.

First Presbyterian Church exists for the purpose of transforming lives through the love of Jesus Christ. Together, we are fulfilling a future of hope for current generations and beyond. Your pledge matters!



First Presbyterian Church

Fulfilling a Future of Hope

Grace & Gratitude

Join the 30 Days of Grace and Gratitude Facebook Group:

Are you ready to embark on a transformative journey of gratitude and grace? Join us in the "30 Days of Grace and

Gratitude" Facebook group, where we will explore the incredible power of thankfulness and the beauty of grace in our lives. What to Expect:



- **When:** Starting November 1st for 30 days **Join anytime!**
- **Why:** To cultivate gratitude and experience the grace that surrounds us.

In Our Group, You Will:

- **Receive Daily Gratitude Prompts:** Each day, we'll share prompts to help you discover moments of grace in your life and express gratitude.
- **Connect and Share:** Engage with a community of like-minded individuals who are on this journey with you. Share your insights, reflections, and stories.
- **Support and Encouragement:** Find support and encouragement from fellow group members as we all navigate the challenges and joys of practicing gratitude.

How to Join:

- Click this link: [Grace and Gratitude | Facebook](#)
- Click "Join Group."
- Get ready to begin your 30-day journey with us!

This group is open to everyone who is eager to explore gratitude and grace in their lives. We believe that the practice of gratitude can bring about profound positive changes, and we're excited to have you on board.

Touchy Topics Book Club

New Book: The Touchy Topics Book Club is continuing conversation, study, reading and learning about all those issues that we know we need to talk about, but that can be hard to discuss. Join us in November when we read *This Is How It Always Is*, a story about five-year-old



Claude who wants to be a girl when he grows up and his family, who move across the country to keep Claude's secret until one day it explodes. Touchy Topics meets Wednesday, November 15, 6:30-7:30. Cookies and coffee will be set out at 6:00 if you want to come early for a time of fellowship. You can find the book locally at Barnes and Noble, on Amazon, or the library. No need to RSVP.

Fine & Performing Arts



Auditions November 5: Open auditions for FPT's production of ALMOST MAINE will be held on Sunday, November 5, from 5:00 PM-8:00 PM! The show will be directed by our own Todd Sandman Cruz! Only a few time slots remain, so click the button below to read character breakdowns, sides, and sign up for an audition time!

[Audition Sign Up](#)

Music Series: Clara Gerdes Bartz was named the winner of the 61st Round of the National Organ Playing Competition in March of 2022. She will present a recital of varied works on the 1956 Aeolian-Skinner Organ in the beautiful FPC Sanctuary. Winning this competition holds high prestige in the organ world and many past winners have gone on to have distinguished careers nationally and internationally. The concert is free and open to the public.

A portrait of Clara Gerdes Bartz, a young woman with long, wavy brown hair, smiling warmly. She is wearing a dark, possibly velvet, V-neck top and small hoop earrings. The background is dark and out of focus.

Clara Gerdes Bartz

*National Organ Playing
Competition Winner (2022)*

Ocean of Influences Gallery Exhibit Opens November 17:

Join us for the opening reception of "Ocean of Influences", featuring the work of Sayaka Ganz and Gbenga Adeku at the FPC Art Gallery on Friday, November 17, from 5:30-7:00 PM.

Sayaka Ganz of Fort Wayne, IN, is a Japanese sculptor. She was born in Yokohama, Japan and grew up living in Japan, Brazil, and Hong Kong. Sayaka identifies a strong Japanese influence in her work. Using reclaimed metal and plastic objects, Sayaka's recent sculptures depict animals in motion with rich colors and energy. She describes her style as "3D impressionism", creating an illusion of form using plastic objects as brush strokes that become visible upon observation from close proximity.

Gbenga Adeku of Osun State, Nigeria, grew up an apprentice at his father's Olokun art gallery and studio, mastering traditional printmaking and painting, and eventually training in sculpture and graphic art. He is an award winning upcycle artist and is currently on apprenticeship with Sayaka Ganz in Fort Wayne.

Sayaka Ganz



with
Genga Aduku



Ocean of Influences Art Exhibition

November 17-January 5, 2024

First Presbyterian Art Gallery

Missions

Social Justice Team: Plymouth Congregational Church and First Presbyterian Church are co-hosting an interactive, hour-long training on moral messaging on Sunday, November 12, at 2:00 PM with Faith Choice Ohio's Rev. Terry Williams. Anyone interested in learning more about how to approach reproductive rights from a positive religious perspective is welcome to attend. Feel free to email Beth Iserman bdiserman@gmail.com with any questions.

Fellowship

North Dinner Group: Call me, but don't call me late for dinner! Be sure to join the North Dinner Group on Monday September 11, 2023, at 5:30pm for dinner at The Factory Restaurant (5811 Coldwater Road). Please RSVP to Sondra Mergenthal at (260)437-9892 or by email at lisoninc@aol.com. We look forward to seeing you!

South Dinner Group: Do you hear that? It's the sound of the dinner bell! Please join the South Dinner Group for dinner at Hall's Tavern at Coventry (5747 Coventry Lane) on Monday, September 11, 2023, at 5:30pm. We look forward to fellowship with you!

Downtown Dinner Group: It's that time again! Dinner Time! The

Downtown Dinner Group will meet on Monday, July 10, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. at Henry's (536 W. Main St.). Please RSVP to Joyce McGiffin at (260) 409-2426 or by email at krinks52@hotmail.com. All are welcome, and we hope to see you there!

Table Talk (Women's Book Study) The group meets on Wednesdays via Zoom at 10:00 am. We are reading *Jesus and John Wayne: How White Evangelicals Corrupted a Faith and Fractured a Nation* by Kristen Kobes De Mez (2021). If you have any other questions, please contact Marj Sapp at 260.413.2639 or Marcie Weissner at 260.312.5733.



Zoom Meeting ID: 241 730 827 Passcode: 260 426 7421.



Faith, Fibers, and Fellowship: Fiber crafters meet on Mondays 3-5 pm (except holidays), in Room 302. Bring your own project to knit, crochet, embroider, cross stitch, weave, needlepoint, quilt, hem, etc. If you enjoy a beverage, be sure it has a secure lid!

Questions? Call Marj Sapp at 260-413-2639, or email her at marj.sapp@gmail.com, or contact Marcie Weissner at marcie5073@aol.com or by phone at 260-312-5733.

Prayer List

- Mark Chasse
- Bob and Coba Burton
- Nancy Adams
- Jim & Sondra Mergenthal
- Kasey Arvold
- Shannon Timmons
- Scott Pattison

If you are in need of prayer or an encouraging word, [let us know!](#)