

Friday, August 16, 2024



This Week @FirstPresFW

A publication of First Presbyterian Church, Fort Wayne, Indiana

Visit our Website

Pastor's Note



Dear First Pres Friends,

This Sunday is Church in the Park and it's going to be great! On Wednesday you received a video walk-through of the park, Conklin Pavilion, and picnic details. You can find that video [here](#). But here are the details in short:

- Music by the Phil jazz trio begins at 10:30.
- We've ordered extra chairs for those who don't do picnic tables, but if you know you want a chair feel free to bring one of your own.
- Bring a side dish, salad or desert. Everything else is provided.
- Bring your backpacks! We're blessing them.

- Rain or shine, we're covered! So don't worry if it rains.
- Wear your Hands-On Fort Wayne t-shirt.
- Invite friends! It's going to be great.

We are livestreaming, but the quality may not be very good so this is a good reason to **COME IN PERSON!**

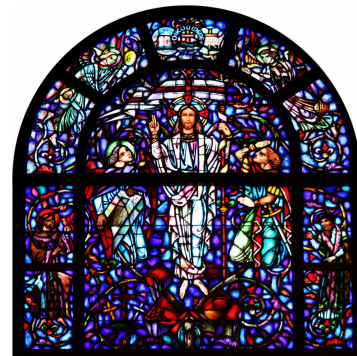
Can't wait to see you there!
Annie



Sunday Worship

English

- 11:00 AM Joint Service at Shoaff Park, Rev. Dr. Anne Epling preaching
- Watch livestream via [Website](#) and [YouTube](#)
- Public Access Channel 1 and Channel 25, Sun 4:30 PM & Mon 10:30 AM
- Public Access via [Digital Archive](#)



Bulletin

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

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

News & Events

Study Connection Tutors

FPC Study Connection Tutors: Is It Worthwhile? Recently I received a note from a former student who had been in my class several decades ago, and I brightened up with the expectation of his belated appreciation for Latin. But no. He recounted a day when I stopped him in the hall after he had served detention for smoking, and I had apparently shared a very personal and tragic story about the perils of tobacco. He wrote that he had overcome the habit then and was still grateful to me. I had no memory of the brief encounter.



I share this only as an anecdotal example of the power of simply connecting with a young person, even for an hour a week. I have witnessed the lit-up faces, the hugs, the shy smiles of our students upon entering our Study Connection room. This may be the only time in the week when an adult is waiting to greet them with a warm welcome, a snack, a book to read, and a game to play. Are there frustrations? Yes. Do they all make visible progress? No. Is it worthwhile? As worthwhile as any endeavor forged from love and hope for the betterment of our community's children.

Please join our little cadre of tutors and substitute tutors for Study Connection. Donate one hour a week (Mondays from 3:30 to 4:30, October to May) with the conviction that a kind, caring adult can benefit students' lives in ways that s/he will probably never know. Questions? Call, text, or email Kathy Adair at 260-437-0584, steveandkathya@gmail.com.

Children, Youth & Families

SUNDAY SCHOOL KICK-OFF - AUGUST 25

KINDERGARTEN THRU 5TH GRADES

Holy Moly!

Join Mrs. Rachel and Friends as we kick off another fun year of learning! Like last year, we will all go to church together, then head to Sunday School after the Time with Children!

A NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS FOR 6TH-9TH GRADES

LEVEL UP

TAUGHT BY PASTOR CARRIE AND OTHER GROWN-UPS IN THE CHURCH, WE WILL EXPLORE BIG QUESTIONS ABOUT OUR CHURCH, OUR FAITH, AND THE WORLD, SUCH AS SCIENCE, POLITICS, SOCIAL JUSTICE, AND THE ENVIRONMENT!

Please note: Sunday School classes will not meet on Communion Sundays so that we may all participate in that sacrament as a family.

FOR 6TH-9TH GRADERS
IT'S BAAAAAAACK!

YOUTH GROUP

KICKS OFF AUGUST 25TH 12:15-2:30PM
LUNCH IS PROVIDED, MEETS MONTHLY

Fine Arts



Biennial Parish Art Exhibition: Calling all First Presbyterian artists—painters and potters, poets and short story writers, sculptors and fiber artists—all you creative people! The First Presbyterian Biennial Parish Art

Exhibition will be coming this fall, opening September 8!

Start thinking about what you'd like to exhibit now! Our theme will center around finding joy in and building bridges to our neighbors in our city. Get out the paints! Fire up the kiln! Stitch, write, or photograph away! You may exhibit anything that has not been in a previous parish show! Email [Beth Iserman](#) for more

information. **You can pick up a copy of the artwork submission form in the church office!**

First Pres Theater: Step into the enchanted world of Broadway's classic, Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*, an international sensation that has been produced in 37 countries worldwide!



The classic story tells the tale of Belle, a young woman in a provincial town, and the Beast, who is really a young prince trapped under the spell of an enchantress. If the Beast can learn to love and be loved, the curse will end and he will be transformed into his former self. But time is running out. If the Beast does not learn his lesson soon, he and his household will be doomed for all eternity. Tickets are on sale now! Click the ticket button below to purchase online, or call the ArtsTix box office at 260-422-4226!



BOX OFFICE **260.422.4226**
300 W. WAYNE ST. FORT WAYNE
ORDER TICKETS ONLINE
FIRSTPRESFORTWAYNE.ORG

Tickets

Missions

Schools Team: The Mission Committee of First Presbyterian Church is once again partnering with Blessings in a Backpack to provide weekend food for the children at Washington Elementary School. By way of information, 70% of the children in Fort Wayne Community Schools struggle with food

insecurity. Blessings in a Backpack, a nonprofit organization, combats this by providing children in our schools with a nutritious bag of food in their backpacks every Friday during the school year, ensuring that children not endure an entire weekend before being fed again.

First Pres participated in this program until the pandemic forced Blessings to commercially pack and deliver the bags.



It was a very popular activity with our congregation! Every Sunday during the coffee hour long tables were set up at one end of McKay Hall, and an assembly line of volunteers filled the bags! It only took about 15 minutes to fill 200+ bags!

We need 4 or 5 volunteers to commit to one Sunday a month throughout the school year to set up the food to be assembled, supervise the filling of the bags, and cleaning up at the end. It would take probably one hour of volunteering for whatever Sunday you chose to be a team leader. We are also in need of 2 or 3 people to load the church van with the bags and deliver to Washington School on Fridays.

This is a fun and easy volunteer activity! Let us know if you if you are interested in volunteering as a team leader - or as a food deliverer – or would like to have more information. Taff Silliman 260.402.2194.

HHH: The date for August's food bank collection has changed. Please bring your contributions to church on *Sunday, August 25*. Food items may also be left at the church office during the week. Monetary donations are also greatly appreciated. Please specify your donation is for Hunger Relief.

Summer is almost over and school is starting, but hundreds of local families still depend on help from the food banks we support—Wellspring Interfaith Social Services, East Wayne Street Center, and United Faith Presbyterian Church. Hunger Relief is an important part of First Presbyterian's mission in our

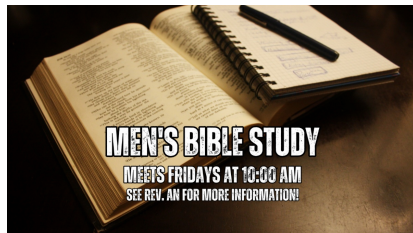
community, and your generosity makes a real difference.

The following items are especially needed:

- Oatmeal packets
- Instant mashed potatoes
- Canned soup
- Canned peaches or pineapple chunks in juice
- Canned green beans
- Cereal
- Peanut butter

Thank you so much for your participation in this important church ministry.

Fellowship



Men's Bible Study: The Men's Bible Study returns on Friday, August 23, and will meet from 10:00 AM to 11:15 AM online via Teams. They will be discussing the history of Israel through the eyes of Bible, focusing on 2 Kings.

Please contact [Rev. An](#) for more information!

Wired Word: Wired Word is preparing for its fall season. We will meet most Sundays at 10:00 AM in the Parlor on the 2nd floor. There will be no class on August 18 and September 1. Pastor Epling's classes on September 22 and 29 will start at 9:45 AM. Please come take part in our timely and thoughtful discussions!

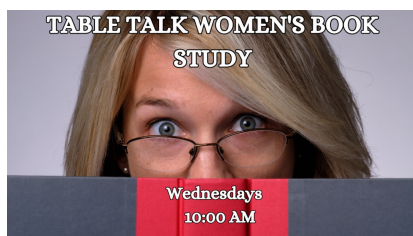
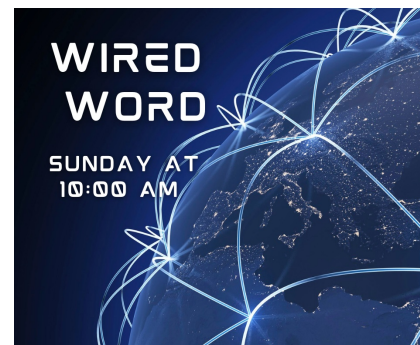


Table Talk 1 (Women's Book Study): We will begin a new book on Wednesday, September 11. The group meets online at 10:00 am. We take turns "reading around the table", so no homework is assigned.

We will be reading *Defending Democracy from its Christian Enemies* by David P. Gushee (2023). Participants obtain their own copies of the book.

If you have any questions, please contact Marj Sapp at 260-413-

Prayer List

- Mark Chasse
- Coba Burton
- Ron and Diane Gumbert
- Scott Pattison
- Ashley Lassiter

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

First Presbyterian Church | 300 W Wayne St | Fort Wayne, IN 46802 US

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