

Friday, September 6, 2024



This Week @FirstPresFW

A publication of First Presbyterian Church, Fort Wayne, Indiana

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Pastor's Note



Dear First Pres Friends and Neighbors,

This Sunday I begin my sermon series “Who Is My Neighbor?” This is the question Jesus posed to the lawyer in the parable of the Good Samaritan, and even though the parable is about 2000 years old, the question remains as relevant today as it ever did.

Most of us when reading the story think of ourselves as the Samaritan. We’re the hero of the story, the one who stops to help the guy in the ditch. After all, who wants to be the guy in the ditch left for dead? For that matter, who wants to be the priest or Levite who walk on by? But, where we see ourselves in the story is important and says something about who we are. And no

matter who the person in the ditch is, and what they did to get there, we're called to do more than walk on by.

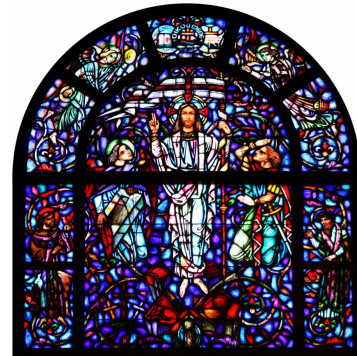
There's more to this parable, and I hope you'll take part *in-person* for the series. Come and be a neighbor. Leave your home if you can, and be with others, worship with others, and sit and break bread with others. For this is how we heal from the division that afflicts us.

See you Sunday,
Annie

Sunday Worship

English

- 11:00 AM Communion Service in the Sanctuary, 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](#)



Korean

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

Bulletin

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

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

News & Events

[Weekly Announcements](#)

[Event Calender](#)



who's your
NEIGHBOR?

New Sermon Series
Starts September 8

Welcome Day Sunday



Be A Tourist In Your Own Hometown!

FPC will be hosting **Be a Tourist in Your Hometown** this Sunday, September 8, from 12:00-4:00 PM. The Art Gallery will be hosting the opening reception for the 2024 Parish Art Exhibit, and we'll have an open rehearsal for *Beauty and the Beast* in the theater. Organ demonstrations, church tours, face painters, and Travelin' Toms Coffee Truck will also be available! Light refreshments will be served in the Gallery and in McKay Hall. Please join us as we welcome visitors from around the Fort Wayne community to First Pres!

Touchy Topics Book Club

Touchy Topics Resumes in September:

The latest Touchy Topic Book Study will be held Sundays, September 22 and 29, at 10:00am in the Parlor. Join Annie Epling as she leads a book study on The Book of Obligations: The Ten

Habits of Good Citizens. In The Bill of Obligations, bestselling author Richard Haass argues that, to solve our climate of division and safeguard our democracy, the very idea of citizenship must be revised and expanded. The Bill of Rights is at the center of our Constitution, yet the most intractable conflicts often emerge from cases that, as former Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer pointed out, “are not about right versus wrong. They are about right versus right.”



There is a way forward: to place obligations on the same footing as rights. The ten obligations that Haass introduces here re-envision what it means to be an American citizen, to commit to our fellow citizens and counter the growing apathy, anger, and violence that threaten us all.

You can purchase a book at a local bookseller or online. We hope to see you there.

Church Data Updates

First Presbyterian's Member System – Realm: Cheri Umphrey is in the process of updating FPC's member system, Realm. You may have received an email and/or a phone call from Cheri asking for information to update your individual member profile. This request for information is legitimate. Typical information needed are a picture, full address, email, phone/cell numbers, date of birth (including year of birth), marital status and/or any other pertinent information that you wish to be included on your profile.

You can email Cheri the requested information at cumphrey@firstpresfortwayne.org or call FPC at 260-426-7421 ext. 111. Thank you for your help completing this project!

Day School Cookie Fundraiser

Volunteers Needed: The First Pres Day School will again be selling cookies at Johnny Appleseed this year! Volunteers are needed to make and bake the cookies from Monday, September 16 through Friday, September 20, anytime between 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM! Look for the sign-up sheet in the small dining room this Sunday!

Missions

Rescue Mission Meal: The September sign-up for Cookies & Cornbread is now available in the church office. Please drop off your cookies (3 dozen) or cornbread (36 pieces) on September 15. Contact [Bill Patterson](#) with any questions!

Food Collection: The date for the September Food Bank collection is September 15th. Please bring your food items to church on Sunday or they can be left at the church office

throughout the week. Monetary donations are also greatly appreciated. Please specify your donations is for Hunger Relief.

School has started and fall is around the corner. Many families depend on the help that is provided from the food banks that we support. Hunger Relief is an important part of First Presbyterian's mission in our community. Your generosity makes a real difference.

The following items are especially needed:

- Peanut Butter
- Canned Soup
- Cereal
- Applesauce cups
- Pasta
- Canned Spaghetti Sauce
- Baked Beans

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

Fine Arts



Congregational Reception: Everyone is invited to the FPC Gallery on Sunday, September 8, after worship for the opening of the biennial Parish Art Exhibition. The Gallery will showcase the art of members of the First

Presbyterian community of all ages. Artists will exhibit their creativity in painting, drawing, stitchery, weaving, sculpture, pottery, photography, and more. Coffee and cookies will be served.

Fellowship

North Dinner Group: Be sure to join the North Dinner Group on Monday, September 9, 2024, at 5:30 pm, location is Don Hall's Factory. 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: Please join the South Dinner Group for dinner at Hall's Tavern at Coventry (5747 Coventry Lane) on Monday, September 9, 2024, at 5:30 pm. We look forward to

fellowship with you!

Faith, Fibers, and Fellowship: Fiber crafters meet on Mondays 3-5 pm, in Room 302, as long as the church is open (closed holidays and sometimes in severe weather). 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? Contact Marj Sapp at 260-413-2639 or marj.sapp@gmail.com, or Marcie Weissner at 260.312.5733 or marcie5073@aol.com.

Prayer List

- Mark Chasse
- Coba Burton
- Ron and Diane Gumbert
- Joyce McGiffin
- John Ruble
- Susan Kester

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

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