

Friday, August 15, 2025



This Week @FirstPresFW

A publication of First Presbyterian Church, Fort Wayne, Indiana

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Pastor's Letter



Happy Friday, friends!

Earlier this week, I was flipping through my planning calendar and realized...we have so much to look forward to together as a faith community!

First up: Church in the Park! What a joy to take a worship-filled field trip into the fresh air, complete with great music, fellowship, and food, under the Conklin Pavilion at Shoaff Park (6401 St Joe Rd, Fort Wayne, IN 46835). Our jazz band will kick things off with a prelude at 10:30 AM, followed by worship at 11 AM.

It's also the perfect occasion to wear your Hands On Fort Wayne shirts and to bring backpacks, laptop bags, briefcases, and diaper bags for our Blessing of the Backpacks. Just bring your bags, your friends, a side dish or dessert to share, and your love for God—we'll take care of the rest!

And that's only the beginning. We'll soon be kicking off Sunday School, Youth Group, Chancel Choir, and packing even more *Blessings in a Backpack* bags. We'll be welcoming Annie back (YAY!!), meeting our new Directors of Music Ministry and Drama Ministry (once they're on board), enjoying the fall Music Series concert, seeing *The Timekeepers* in the theatre, and visiting the upcoming Art Gallery show. We'll even get to enjoy the comfort of a brand-new boiler! And, in October, celebrate the First Presbyterian Foundation, Inc.'s Centennial birthday! Phew. That's a lot to be excited about!

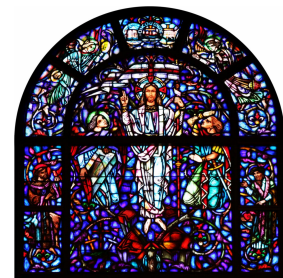
What an incredible season to be part of this congregation. May we keep our hearts tuned to the great things God is doing among us... now and in the days ahead.

Blessings on your day, and I'll see you at the park!
Carrie

Sunday Worship

English

- 11:00 AM Joint Service at Shoaff Park, Rev. Dr. Youngsoo An preaching. *Please note: there will be no livestream for this worship service.*



Bulletin

- The complete weekly bulletin may be found [here](#).
*E-News submissions should be sent to [Jenny Conrad](#).
Bulletin submissions should be sent to [August Burger](#).*

Wired Word will not meet on August 17 or 31. Our last summer class will be August 24. Our fall Wired Word season begins on September 7, 10:00 AM, in the Parlor on the second floor. Come join our lively discussions!



News & Events

Click the buttons below to read past editions of the e-news and to see a calendar listing of upcoming events!

[Weekly Announcements](#)

[Event Calender](#)

Join the FPC Choirs

Join FPC's Chancel and Handbell Choirs:
Rehearsals begin September 4, at 5:30 PM (handbells) and 7:00 PM (chancel choir). New



members are always welcome! Contact the church office at 260-426-7421 for more information!

Church in the Park 2025



Church in the Park returns! Join us as we kick off our program year this Sunday, August 17, at 11:00 am with Worship in the Conklin Pavilion at Shoaff Park! A jazz ensemble will provide the music, and we'll bless the backpacks! We'll have a potluck lunch after church, so please

bring a salad, side dish, or dessert.

The pavilion is covered and completely accessible with parking and sidewalks leading to the pavilion, and we will have a golf cart available for anyone needing a lift!

Wear your Hands-On Fort Wayne t-shirt or other First Pres swag! There is plenty to do at Shoaff Park after lunch. So, gather some fellow church friends for Frisbee golf, the splash pad, or golf! You won't want to miss this fun day!

Please note: there will be no livestream for this worship service.

Missions



Monthly Food Collection: The date for the August Food Bank Collection will be **August 24th**. This is a week later than normal since the 3rd Sunday service will be at the park! Please bring your contribution to the church on Sunday. Food items can be dropped off at the church office throughout the week. Monetary donations are greatly

appreciated too. Please specify your donation is for "Hunger Relief."

The following items are requested:

- Rice- white or brown (1-2 lbs. bags preferred)
- Canned Soup

- Canned Fruit - Pears or Peaches
- Cereal - Toasted Oats or Corn Flakes
- Peanut Butter
- Scalloped or Au Gratin Potatoes
- Canned Tuna or Chicken

Hunger Relief is an important part of First Presbyterian's mission to our surrounding community. We support three food banks: Wellspring Interfaith Social Services, United Faith Presbyterian Church, and East Wayne Street Center. Thank you for your contributions and help with the Hunger Relief ministry.

Schools Team: FPC is once again partnering with Blessings in a Backpack to provide weekend food for the children at Washington Elementary School. Seventy percent 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.

Starting Sunday, August 24, during fellowship time, we need an assembly line of volunteers to fill the bags! This is a fun and easy volunteer activity! Please contact Taff Silliman at 260-402-2194 if you are interested in volunteering as a team leader - or as a food deliverer – or would like to have more information!

Centennial Celebration Event

Save the Date Sunday, October 19: Join us for a centennial celebration of the First Presbyterian Church Foundation in McKay Hall after worship on Sunday, October 19, for light hors d'oeuvres, coffee, punch, and cake.



For the past 100 of the church's 194-year existence, the Foundation has served many key purposes, programs. We'll also pay tribute to members who helped make the foundation a cornerstone of First Presbyterian Church. Please join us in celebrating the past and looking forward to the future!

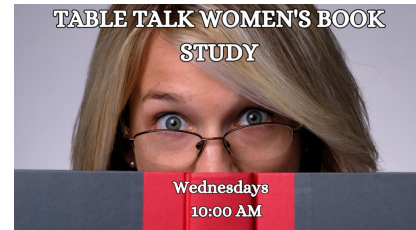
The Foundation Board invites individuals to commemorate the milestone with a gift of \$100 to the Centennial Fund. You may give online by clicking the button below, or by cash/check at the church office.

Adult Fellowship



Wired Word: Wired Word will not meet on August 17 or 31. Our last summer class will be August 24. Our fall Wired Word season begins on September 7, 10:00 AM, in the Parlor on the second floor. Come join our lively discussions!

Table Talk 1 (Women's Book Study) meets online on Wednesdays at 10:00 am. We take turns "reading around the table", so no homework is assigned. Participants obtain their own copies of the book. The group will resume on Sept. 3.



We will be reading *The Red Tent* (1997) by Anita Diamont. This historical fiction novel is based on the biblical story of Dinah, the daughter of Jacob and Leah. The book explores the traditions and challenges of ancient womanhood through the voice of Dinah and her mothers.

ZOOM Meeting ID: 870 6712 2177

ZOOM Passcode: 260 426 7421

If you have any questions, please contact Marj Sapp at 260-413-2639 or Marcie Weissner at 260-312-5733.

Vote for Readers' Choice Awards 2025

Let's make our voices heard! The *second* round of Fort Wayne Newspaper's Readers' Choice Awards voting opens **tomorrow, August 16**, and runs until August 24! We need your daily support to shine a spotlight on the incredible work of First Pres, First Pres Theater, and the Day School! *Cast your vote daily* for First Pres, First Pres Theater, and the FPC Day School at the links below:

FPC:

<https://www.fortwayne.com/promo/?id=5482#/gallery/500455230>

FPT:

<https://www.fortwayne.com/promo/?id=5482#/gallery/500455177>

FPCDS:

<https://www.fortwayne.com/promo/?id=5482#/gallery/500455373>

Prayer List

- Rev. Dr. Annie Epling & Family
- Family of Bill Fish
- Jim & Sondra Mergenthal
- Dana & Les Gurney
- Jane Gastineau for safe travels
- Scott Pattison

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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