

Friday, September 19, 2025



This Week @FirstPresFW

A publication of First Presbyterian Church, Fort Wayne, Indiana

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Pastor's Letter



Dear First Presbyterian Friends,

This Sunday I am returning to the pulpit a little earlier than expected, and I couldn't be more grateful to be with you again in worship. I have missed worshipping in-person! I welcome your prayers as I continue to recover from my stroke and prepare for an upcoming outpatient heart procedure. I am grateful for God's sustaining care and the support of this community as I take these steps.

Because the procedure has been delayed to September 25, I will not be with you on September 28, as originally planned. I will, however, be back on October 5 for World Communion Sunday, when we celebrate together as a community united at the table. As I return, my focus will be on worship, preaching, and reconnecting with you. This Sunday we'll begin a new three-part sermon series, *Practices of Faith for Daily Life*, inspired by Dorothy Bass's book Practicing Our Faith, starting with the practice of *Honoring the Body*. Life brings both

extraordinary challenges and everyday stresses, and together we'll reflect on how these practices help us live faithfully, grounded in God's love.

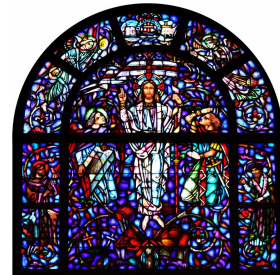
I look forward to seeing you this Sunday and sharing in worship together.

With hope and gratitude,
Anne

Sunday Worship

English

- 11:00 AM 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 [August Burger](#).

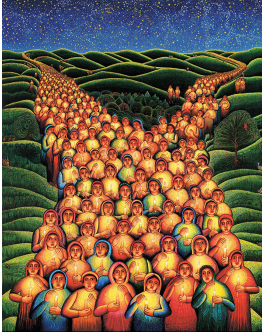
News & Events

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

Weekly Announcements

New Sermon Series

Practices of Faith for Daily Life begins September 21!



Life brings both extraordinary challenges and everyday stresses. How do we live faithfully in the midst of them? This three-part sermon series, inspired by Dorothy Bass's *Practicing Our Faith*, explores practices that help us embody our faith in daily life. Together we'll reflect on honoring the body, saying yes and saying no, and sustaining community—practices that ground us in God's love, guide our choices, and remind us we don't walk

alone.


Join Pastor Annie Epling for this three-part series on September 21, October 5, and October 12!

Children, Youth, & Families

Sunday School Kick-Off: September 21!

Get ready for a brand-new year of faith, fun, and friends! This Sunday, September 21, we launch Holy Moly! (Kinder–5th grade) and Level Up (6th–12th grade). Both classes begin in worship with their families and head to class after the Time with Children. *Please note, Sunday School does not meet on Communion Sundays, so we all participate together.


And for our teens, mark your calendars! Youth Group for 6th–12th graders meets on the 3rd Sunday of the month for games, service, and food! Bring a friend or two, and don't miss it!



Holy Moly!
FOR KINDER THRU 5TH GRADES

Sunday School kicks off on September 21!

We all start off in church together, then head to Sunday School after the Time with Children! Please note: Sunday School classes will not meet on Communion Sundays so that we may all participate in that sacrament as a family.



LEVEL UP
FOR 6TH–9TH GRADES



FOR 6TH-12TH GRADES

YOUTH GROUP

3RD SUNDAYS
12-2PM

LUNCH INCLUDED!

Missions

Hunger Relief: The date for the September Food Bank Collection will be September 21st. 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 for "Hunger Relief."

The following items are requested:

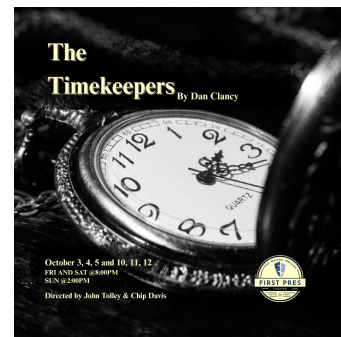
- Rice- white or brown (1-2 lbs. bags preferred)
- Canned Soup
- Canned Fruit - Fruit Cocktail or Pineapple chunks
- Peanut Butter
- Canned Vegetable - Green Peas or Corn
- Instant Oatmeal - Packets
- Instant Mashed Potatoes

Thank you for your contributions and help with the Hunger Relief ministry. 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.

Fine & Performing Arts

FP Theater: *The Timekeepers* by Dan Clancy
Opens October 3!

A world in chaos. Two men, one bold, young, and flamboyant; the other old, conservative, and guarded, thrown together by fate. What could they possibly have in common? Dark humor, a love of opera... and something deeper.



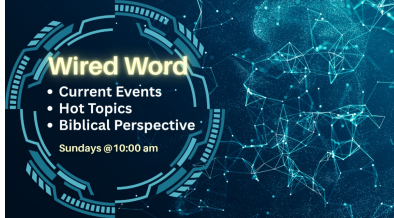
This powerful, unexpected friendship will make you laugh, cry, and think twice about the walls we build, and how music, wit, and heart can break them down. Directed by John Tolley and Chip Davis. Please note this production is for mature audiences for language and sexual content.

Tickets are available at the button below! See you at the theater!

[Theater Tickets](#)

Adult Fellowship

Wired Word: On September 21, Bill



Shassere will lead a discussion on the future of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the church during Wired Word, in the second-floor parlor at 10:00 am. This is a topic that will affect all of humanity within 5 to 10 years, as AI will become smarter than man

and could bring a dramatic change to our world. How will this affect religion and the church? Imagine a virtual Jesus standing before the congregation and delivering the sermon, not just a robot, but a realistic image with power of thought and consciousness. For some, this could create a new religion. Not to be missed.

Project 216

Volunteers Needed: On Wednesday, October 15, we will once again be packing meals for Project 216! Sign up as an individual or a team this Sunday after Worship in the small dining room, or click the button below to sign up online! Learn more about the mission of Project 216 [here](#).

Project 216 Sign-Up



FIGHT HUNGER. GIVE HOPE.

Hunger Service Project



“Make a difference by packaging meals that fill tummies and give hope!”

Date: Wednesday, October 15

Event time: 5:30 PM – 8:00 PM (Pizza at 5:30 PM)

Place: McKay Hall

Packed meals will go to Mission of Hope again or to Feed the Hungry to feed children throughout the world

Sign-up for this fun event is in the small dining room



For more information about Project 216, visit us at www.Project-216.org

FPC Day School

Join the fun! The FPC Day School is hosting their annual Family Pumpkin Party on Thursday, October 9! Pumpkins, mums, and cookies (our Johnny Appleseed recipe!) are being sold as a fundraiser, and may be pre-ordered through September 26 at 5:30 PM this link: [Order Form](#)

Event details are listed below! Bring the family and help support the Day School!



Prayer List

- Rev. Dr. Annie Epling & Family
- Jim & Sondra Mergenthal
- Dana & Les Gurney
- Scott Pattison
- Kathy Miller

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



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