

Friday, November 14, 2025



This Week @FirstPresFW

A publication of First Presbyterian Church, Fort Wayne, Indiana

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Acting Director of Drama Ministry



Dear Friends,

The United States has not seen a chasm between the wealthy and the poor as it is today since the turn of the 20th century. The Gilded Age was simply that- it wasn't golden, it was veneer that covered legions of hungry people that generally went unseen. The Gift of the Magi is a small personal tale of the pain poverty places on well-meaning, hard-working people. We at First Presbyterian Theater want to speak to our moment in time through the message of the Magi.

The real tragedy of such circumstance is our willingness to be distracted and bedazzled by extravagant ballrooms and white marble powder rooms. Della and Jim remind us that our faith calls us to hold up, support, and bring relief to the least of those among us. For as scripture reminds us, when we lift up the least of those among us, we lift up the tenants of Christianity. To turn our heads away from the

suffering puts us in the role of a tragic queen who says, “Let them each cake”.

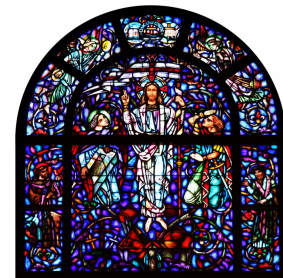
Our intent with this production of the O. Henry folktale is to encourage us to feed the hungry before we build palaces. To do anything less is to be betray who we profess to be. Our heartfelt thanks go out to Maestro Nance and the artists he has assembled to bring this story to you. The show runs for one weekend only and opens tonight. Please consider showing your support by attending a performance this weekend. Tickets are available by calling ArtsTix at 260-422-4226, or online [here](#). I'll see you at the theater!

Rev. Dr. John Tolley
Acting Director of Drama Ministry

Sunday Worship

English

- 11:00 AM Sanctuary, Dr. Rev. 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](#)

Gallery Opening Tonight

Art of Hope: Join us for the opening of the new



FPC Gallery exhibit, Art of Hope, TONIGHT, Friday, November 14, from 6:00-7:30 PM. Mental Health America of Northeast Indiana's Art of Hope is an art exhibit highlighting local artists and sharing inspiring stories about recovery, healing, and hope. Enjoy light refreshments while viewing the art and meet the artists behind the work. The event is free and open to the public!

Interfaith Food Drive

FWAIC-PFW Fall Food Drive: Please return your filled your bags this Sunday, November 16, before worship! Purdue Fort Wayne students will be returning to collect, weigh, and deliver all donations as we join with the Fort Wayne Area Interfaith Cooperative to help reduce food insecurity in our city!



Join us in making a real difference! Fill your bag generously, and help feed our neighbors in need!

Trans Day of Remembrance



Save the Date: Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR) is an annual observance on November 20 that honors the memory of the transgender people whose lives were lost in acts of anti-transgender violence. TDOR was started

in 1999 by transgender advocate Gwendolyn Ann Smith as a vigil to honor the memory of Rita Hester, a transgender woman who was killed in 1998.

In honor of those in our community and the world who have suffered violence or death, several local congregations and community organizations will join us for a special spoken-word and candle-lighting vigil held on November 20, at 6:30 PM in the McKay Hall Foyer. All are welcome.

KLM Thanksgiving Dinner

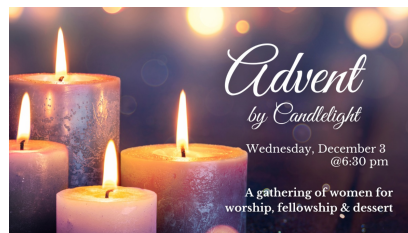
A Special Invitation to Veterans: KLM's annual Thanksgiving Dinner will be held on Sunday, November 23, after worship in McKay Hall. This year, we will especially take time to express our gratitude for the service and dedication of all veterans within our church community.

Please find an invitation to share in the bulletin!

Advent by Candlelight Service

Wednesday, December 3rd at 6:30pm in the Parlor. Music & Readings in the Chapel at 7:15pm!

An evening of fellowship, music and reflection in the midst of the season of preparation. Members are welcome to bring a dessert to share if you would like, but you do not need to! Please sign-up in the church office or on Realm. We welcome you to invite friends and family to join us!



Performing Arts

Opening Tonight at First Presbyterian Theater: *The Gift of the Magi*

Experience the warmth and wonder of the season with *The Gift of the Magi*, a touching operatic retelling of O. Henry's beloved Christmas story. Running for one weekend only, November 14–16, this intimate production follows Jim and Della, a poor married couple who long to give each other meaningful Christmas gifts, only to discover that love itself is the greatest gift of all.



Directed by Maestro Robert Nance and featuring talented singers from Heartland Sings, this cherished American chamber opera captures the humor, tenderness, and timeless beauty of selfless devotion.

Join us for *The Gift of the Magi*, a heartfelt celebration of love, generosity, and the true spirit of Christmas! Tickets are available by clicking the button below, or by calling ArtsTix at 260-422-4226. See you at the theater!

Theater Tickets

Stewardship 2026

Five in Faith: Stewardship Update

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who has already submitted your

pledge for 2026! Your generosity and faithfulness help us plan for the year ahead with confidence and hope. Our pledges so far total \$391,814.00!

If you haven't yet turned in your pledge, there's still time! Pledge cards are available in the pews, the church office, and online at.... Every response, no matter the amount, makes a meaningful difference in our shared ministry.

A quick note: we've received a few pledge cards without names. If you turned in your card but haven't received a thank-you letter, please contact Sarah in the church office so we can ensure your gift is properly recorded.

Make your 2026 pledge at the link below:

<https://onrealm.org/FirstPresbyter78353/AddPledge/2026pledgeinfait>
[h](#)

The 2026 giving envelopes are also now available for pick up in the small dining room for those who prefer to use the weekly envelopes. Together, we're stepping forward...by faith, not by sight!

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Come Celebrate Our Community of Communities

Tuesday, Nov 25 @ 7:00 pm
5200 Old Mill Road, Fort Wayne

2025

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Hosted by Congregation Achduth Vesholom

Participating Congregations

- Amistad Presbyterian Church
- Baha'i Community of Fort Wayne*
- Beacon Heights Church of the Brethren*
- Congregation Achduth Vesholom*
- First Presbyterian Church*
- Fort Wayne Stake, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
- Indiana Buddhist Temple
- Miami Tribe of Oklahoma
- Plymouth Congregational Church*
- St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church*
- Trinity Episcopal Church*
- Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fort Wayne*
- Universal Education Foundation Mosque*

*indicates sponsoring congregation

**Open to all. Reception Immediately Follows.
Freewill Offering for Alive Community Outreach.**

Prayer List

- Cormac Wallace
- Kelly Leach
- Kathy Miller
- Jim & Sondra Mergenthal

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



Try email marketing for free today!