

Friday, July 3, 2026



This Week @FirstPresFW

A publication of First Presbyterian Church, Fort Wayne, Indiana

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Pastor's Letter



Dear First Presbyterian Church Friends and Members,

This Sunday, Rev. Susan Kester will preach and lead worship while I'm away on vacation with family. Rev. An is here for pastoral care needs. I'll be back July 12, and we'll celebrate communion that Sunday.

This past week, the 227th General Assembly has been meeting in Milwaukee. My daughter, Charlotte, is serving as a Young Adult Advisory delegate, and Terry is there assisting with the plenary meeting. Because the Assembly is still in session as I write, I don't have much to report just yet. In the coming weeks, I'll share updates on actions and decisions that may be of interest to our congregation.

Wherever this week finds you, I hope you'll make time for rest, worship, and the people who renew your spirit. I look forward to

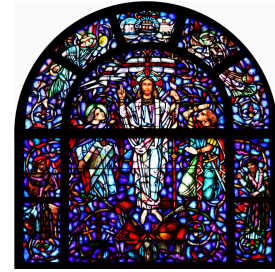
being back with you on July 12 as we gather around the Lord's Table.

Grace and peace,
Annie

Sunday Worship

English

- 11:00 AM Sanctuary, Rev. Susan Keirn Kester 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](#).
The deadline for submission is Wednesday at 10:00 am.

Please Note: The entire FPC campus will be closed on Friday, July 3, in honor of Independence Day.

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](#)

Fellowship Opportunities

New Date! Just for Fun—Summer Edition: Watch a game with us at the new soccer stadium! Fort Wayne Football Club will play the Greenville Triumph on **Saturday, July 18, at 7:30pm** in their new stadium located at 6411 Bass Road in Fort Wayne! The cost is \$25.00 per person. Please register [here](#) by **July 8**.

We are looking forward to seeing you there!

New Gallery Exhibit



FAME Festival Art Show: FAME, or the Foundation for Art and Music in Education, has highlighted musical and artistic work by local students for four decades. In the words of the Foundation, “We believe in the value and power of the arts to kindle the imagination, encourage creative thinking and enhance human development.”

Artwork from the Fort Wayne FAME Festival will be displayed in the FPC Art Gallery Sunday, July 12, until Friday, August 28. An opening reception will be held on Sunday, July 12, at 12:15 PM in the Gallery. Please join us!

Building and Grounds

SAVE THE DATE: Get ready for two days of treasure hunting at the First Pres Rummage Sale! Here are the details:



- August 14 & 15
- First Presbyterian Church in McKay Hall
- Friday, August 14 | 9:00 AM–4:00 PM
- Saturday, August 15 | 9:00 AM–3:00 PM

Discover hidden gems, browse unique finds, and enjoy delicious treats from our bake sale and concession stand! Whether you're searching for bargains or just love the thrill of the hunt, there's something for everyone!

Volunteers Needed! It takes many hands to set-up and run the rummage sale! Volunteer for the 2026 First Pres Rummage Sale, to be held on August 14-15! We need greeters, cash register attendants, and food sales attendants! We also need donated baked goods! Sign-up today by clicking the button below. Contact Bill Patterson with any questions at bpatterson@firstpresfortwayne.org.

Volunteer Sign-Up

Social Justice Team



Pride Fest 2026: Come be a part of God's vibrant mosaic!

What: Fort Wayne Pride Festival 2026
When: Saturday, July 25, 12:00 noon – 7:00 p.m.

Show your love and represent First Presbyterian at the Fort Wayne Pride Festival this year by volunteering for a 1.5 hour shift at our booth.

Volunteers will help visitors to create small pieces of art that will become a big mosaic over the course of the day. The mosaic will join an exhibition of art created by the Queer Art Club of Fort Wayne, showcased at the First Presbyterian booth.

Three to four volunteers will cover each shift so there will be plenty of time to talk, laugh, hug, and make art together.

Click the button below to sign-up for a slot! Contact [Beth Iserman](#) with any questions.

[Pride Volunteer Sign-Up](#)

Fellowship Opportunity

North Dinner Group: Be sure to join the North Dinner Group on Monday, July 13, 2026, at 5:30 pm, location is Don Hall's Factory. Please RSVP to Marj Sapp at 260-413-2639 or by email at marj.sapp@gmail.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, July 13, 2026, at 5:30 pm. We look forward to fellowship with you!

Beware of Scam Emails & Texts

We wanted to bring to your attention to an important matter regarding ongoing phishing attempts (scammers impersonating trusted organizations or people) targeting churches and their members.

If you receive any text messages or emails requesting money on behalf of the church, especially if they claim to be from Rev. Epling or any other church official or staff member, please disregard them and **DO NOT** reply or provide any personal or financial information. Also, **DO NOT** click links in random text messages or emails. If the message appears to be from someone you trust, call them directly immediately.

Legitimate organizations will rarely ask you to confirm passwords or sensitive data out of the blue! If you ever have doubts about the legitimacy of a request for donations or any other communication from the church, please do not hesitate to contact our church office directly at 260-426-7421.

Helpful tips and information on recognizing these types of scams may be found at this link: [FTC Guide to Email/Texting Scams](#)

Stephen Ministry

Care & Support: FPC is a Stephen Ministries congregation and has a dedicated group of Stephen Ministers. Stephen Ministers are lay congregation members trained to provide one-to-one care to those experiencing a difficult time in life, such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, or relocation.



The Stephen Ministry is completely confidential, and open to all FPC members. Please contact Carolyn Krebs at 956-844-3890 or Marcie Weissner at 260-312-5733 for more information.

In Memoriam

We extend our sincerest condolences to the family and friends of FPC member James (Jim) Mergenthal, who died on June 22, 2026. A memorial service was held at First Presbyterian Church last Saturday, June 27, officiated by Rev. Annie Epling. Jim's obituary can be found [here](#).

Prayer List

- Sondra Mergenthal & Family
- Sam Shepherd, staff member
- Sarah Kelley, staff member
- Tanner Hisey, nephew of Jennifer Stone
- Jennifer Kern Kelly

- Kathy Miller
- Janice Roddy
- Ashley & Marilyn Lassiter
- Joyce McGiffin
- Lisa Keirn, sister-in-law of Susan Kester
- Beth White

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

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