

Friday, July 31, 2026



This Week @FirstPresFW

A publication of First Presbyterian Church, Fort Wayne, Indiana

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Pastor's Letter



Dear First Pres Friends,

This Sunday, following worship, we'll have a special fellowship time with KLM. Join us for pizza and a bounce house in McKay Hall. If you've been away this summer, it would be great to see you in church. This is also a communion Sunday.

I'll conclude my brief summer sermon series on Genesis. We'll conclude with the story of Joseph, son of Jacob, grandson of Isaac, great grandson of Abraham.

We have important dates to put on your calendar! Ian Clarke, our Resident Pastor, begins August 16. Please try to be here to welcome him. That in-person greeting means a lot when starting a new ministry. August 9, we'll bless the backpacks. And of course, on August 23, we'll kick-off our program year with the

Get Connected Ice Cream Social. Come and learn about everything your church offers, and how you can get connected.

See you in worship.
Annie

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](#).
The deadline for submission is Wednesday at 10:00 am.

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](#)

Special Fellowship Time After Worship

Following this Sunday's worship service, we will be having a joint fellowship for both the Korean and English congregations. Everyone will gather together in McKay Hall for fellowship right after the service for pizza. We'll also have an inflatable bounce house for the kids! Everyone is welcome to join us!

Get Connected! Ice Cream Social

Save the Date! August 23 | 12:15 pm

Looking for ways to connect with others, serve your community, or discover a new opportunity to get involved? Join us for our Get

Connected! Ice Cream Social on Sunday, August 23, at 12:15 PM, immediately following worship.

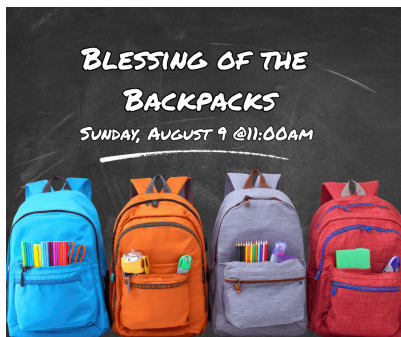


Enjoy an ice cream treat while exploring the many ministries, programs, and volunteer opportunities that make First Presbyterian such a vibrant community. From serving our neighbors and supporting local outreach to music, theater, art, education, and fellowship, you'll have the opportunity to meet the people who make these ministries happen, ask questions, and discover where your interests and gifts can make a difference.

Whether you've attended First Pres for years, you're new to the area, or you're simply looking for a welcoming community where you can connect and serve, we'd love to meet you.

Everyone is welcome!

Backpack Blessing



Start the school year with a special blessing!

Join us for our annual Blessing of the Backpacks during 11:00 AM Worship on Sunday, August 9, as we pray for a year filled with learning, growth, and courage.

Whether you're heading to preschool, college, the classroom, or the school office, we'd love to send you with a blessing for the year ahead. Students of all ages, teachers, administrators, and school staff are invited to participate! Bring your backpack, tote, briefcase, or whatever accompanies you each day! Everyone is welcome!

Sunday School Resuming

We're excited to welcome children back to Sunday School beginning Sunday, August 16!



Following the Children's Message in worship, children (Pre-K through 5th grade) are invited to join us for a fun and engaging time of Bible stories, hands-on activities, and growing together in faith. Whether your family has been with us for years or you're joining us for the first time, there's a place for every child.

As a new school year begins, we look forward to learning, laughing, asking big questions, and discovering God's love together. We can't wait to see you on August 16!

Help Shape a Child's Faith This Year!

One hour. A few Sundays. A lasting difference. As we prepare to begin Sunday School on August 16, we're looking for a few more volunteers to serve with our Kindergarten–5th Grade and LEVEL UP (Middle School) classes.

Teaching K–5 is easy! Everything you need is provided—lesson plans, activities, and supplies. You don't have to be a Bible scholar or a professional teacher. Just bring a caring heart and a willingness to spend time with our children.

And what about middle schoolers? Despite their reputation, they're actually one of the most rewarding groups to teach. They're thoughtful, funny, full of questions, and eager for adults who will listen, encourage, and help them explore their faith. Whether you can teach once a month or a few times during the year, we'd love to have you on the team. Investing in the next generation is one of the most important ministries of our church.

Sign up here: [Sunday School Volunteer Sign-Up](#)

Study Connection Tutors Needed



As many of you know, our Study Connection group, which had supported South Wayne Elementary for more than a decade, lost their “home” when South Wayne was closed. At that time, a number of tutors decided that it was a natural time to “retire” after many years of enriching the lives of students.

The small group of tutors remaining are planning to merge with the Rotary tutors at Washington Elementary, a school with which we already enjoy a connection through Blessings in a Backpack and our Schools Team support there. We would love to have a few more tutors to serve as many students as possible, so please watch the accompanying FWCS video that explains the program. You can view the video at this link:

<https://www.fortwayneschools.org/families/face/study-connection>

We will be meeting at Washington Elementary at around 3.30-4:30 pm on Tuesdays, and we have substitutes for those times when you can't be there. Thanks for considering this worthwhile activity with children in our church neighborhood. If you have questions, call or text Kathy Adair, (260) 437-0584.

Rummage Sale

Bake Sale Volunteers Still Needed! Please consider donating your tastiest baked goods! Sign-up today by clicking the button below or contact Bill Patterson at bpatterson@firstpresfortwayne.org.

Volunteer Sign-Up

New items are arriving daily: Two days of treasure hunting are coming up 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!

Fellowship Opportunities

North Dinner Group: Be sure to join the North Dinner Group on Monday, August 10, 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, August 10, 2026, at 5:30 pm. We look forward to fellowship with you!

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 Jubilee member Barbara Kerch, who died on July 19, 2026.

A memorial service will be held on Wednesday, August 12, at 11:00 am, in the Chapel. You can find her obituary [here](#). Please keep the family in your prayers.

Prayer List

- Barbara Kerch & Family
- Ashley Lassiter & Family
- Sam Shepherd, staff member
- Tanner Hisey, nephew of Jennifer Stone
- Jennifer Kern Kelly
- Janice Roddy
- Joyce McGiffin
- Lisa Keirn, sister-in-law of Susan Kester
- Beth White
- Carolyn Krebs
- Donna Jesse

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

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