

Friday, October 23, 2026



This Week @FirstPresFW

A publication of First Presbyterian Church, Fort Wayne, Indiana

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Resident Pastor's Message



Greetings, friends!

Fall is a season of change – of transition, where nature begins its cycle of renewal, and begins to start the process of a long rest. The colors are vibrant, the air is fresh and brisk, and we can feel the coziness setting into our bones.

Transition, renewal, and rest – these are themes which the Christian faith holds as foundational. We are in a season where nature becomes a model for our own faith, and where our faith hopefully mimics the created world.

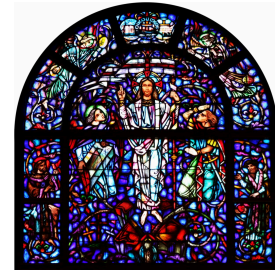
These are also timely given this Sunday's position on the Liturgical calendar – this week is Reformation Sunday! We remember Martin Luther's boldness in reminding the Church of his day how important renewal was for its own life!

This Sunday's passages are Psalm 1, Romans 3:21-26 and Matthew 22:34-46, with the topic being faithfulness – both ours and God's - and how it takes shape during times of transition, change, renewal, and even rest.

I look forward to worshipping with you all. See you Sunday!

Grace & peace,
Ian Clarke

Sunday Worship



English

- 11:00 AM Sanctuary, Resident Pastor Ian Clarke 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 and bulletin submissions should be sent to [Jenny Conrad](#).

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](#)

Stewardship 2027

Tell Me Something Good — and Be Part of It



Thank you to everyone who has made a pledge for 2027! As we continue our *Tell Me Something Good — and Be Part of It* stewardship campaign, we're grateful for the generosity and commitment that make our ministry possible. So far, 99 households have pledged a total of \$387,725, an increase of more than \$40,000 over their pledges for last year!

If you haven't yet made your pledge, there's still time to be part of the good God is doing through First Presbyterian Church. Every pledge helps sustain our worship, care for one another, and ministry in the heart of our city. We hope you'll join us in supporting our shared mission in 2027.

Pledge cards are available at church, or you can make your pledge online at [church pledge webpage]. Thank you for being part of the good things happening at First Presbyterian!

Make your pledge or set up your gift now using the buttons below!

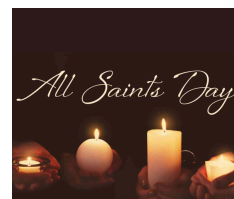
Stewardship 2027 Pledge

Online Gift Portal

All Saints Remembrance

All Saints Worship Service - Submit Names for Remembrance by Monday, October 26!

As we prepare for our All Saints worship service on Sunday, November 1, we invite you to submit the names of friends and loved ones you wish to have remembered during the service. Please submit names by Monday, October 26. You can do so by emailing [Julia Epling](#) or turning in your name(s) to the office on Sunday morning. Let us honor their memory together in this special time of reflection and gratitude.



Interfaith Food Drive

FWAIC-PFW Fall Food Drive: With the support of the Fort Wayne Area Interfaith Cooperative, we're joining other faith communities to help reduce food insecurity in our city.



On Sunday, November 8, PFW students will join us in worship to speak about the project and distribute paper bags with lists of needed items. Please fill your bag and return it the following Sunday, November 15. Most donations will go toward feeding people in need, but we're also collecting food for animals cared for by Fort Wayne Animal

Care and Control. The students will return to collect, weigh, and deliver all donations.

This effort reflects the shared values of the diverse faith communities within FWAIC, and we believe we are better together! From September through November, our community-wide food drive aims to fill 18 barrier-free Forward Indiana food pantries across Fort Wayne. Each pantry takes about 250 pounds to fill for one day. Together, we hope to collect 4,500 pounds of food to meet that goal.

Join us in making a real difference! Pick up a bag, fill it generously, and help feed our neighbors in need!

Green Team



Volunteer Opportunity: Join the Green Team on Wednesday, November 4, from 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM at Hop River Brewing Company for an evening of stewardship and volunteering! We'll be working on a volunteer project in support of the Little River Wetlands Project to grow native seeds for planting on Eagle Marsh!

This project is a great way to support the Little River Wetlands Project and a local brewery. Hop River is an all-ages venue, so children are welcome. If you don't enjoy beer, that's okay, they have plenty of great food (especially the wings!) and non-alcoholic beverages too. Please contact [Josh Spencer](#) if you are interested in participating!

Stephen Ministry Resource Library



Easy Access Resource Library Now Available!

The Stephen Ministry resource library is open to browse in the small dining room! The books deal with a range of issues, including grief, mental health, aging, dementia,

and end of life planning. The full list of books available below, or simply browse through the bookshelf at your convenience and borrow the books of interest to you!

A clipboard is available for signing out books. Borrowers are requested to return the books to the small dining room and reshelve the books alphabetically by the author's last name. Additional books are available in the Stephen Ministry office, and can be accessed by contacting [Marcie Weissner](#) or [Carolyn Krebs](#).

Book List

The Arts at FPC

***Middletown* is back on stage this weekend First Pres Theater!**

Experience the humor, heart, and honesty of *Middletown*, a moving and deeply relatable story about life, love, and lasting friendship.



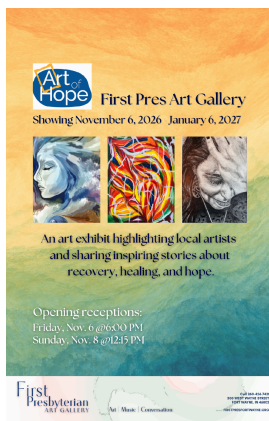
This comedy-drama follows two couples, the Hogans and the Abrams, as they reflect on 33 years of shared experiences, recounting the moments that shaped their lives and their bond. Through witty, fast-paced dialogue filled with sharp one-liners and familiar truths, their story unfolds with both humor and emotional depth.

Told in a unique style, the couples turn the pages of their own lives, and perhaps our own as well. What emerges is a powerful, cathartic journey that captures life's highs, the lows, and everything in between.

At once funny, poignant, and universal, *Middletown* is a celebration of friendship, love, and the connections that carry us through a lifetime. Directed by John Tolley.

Performances on Friday, October 23, and Saturday, October 24, at 7:30pm, and Sunday, October 25, at 2:00pm. Tickets are \$20.00, and are available by calling ArtsTix at 260-422-4226, or click the button below to buy online!

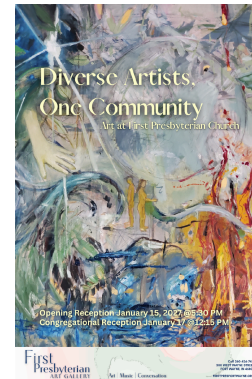
Middletown Tickets



Art of Hope: Join us for the opening of the new FPC Gallery exhibit, Art of Hope, on Friday, November 6, 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!

Open call for parish artwork!

Our biennial parish show, “Diverse Artists, One Community” is coming up in January 2027 and the gallery should be filled with your work! We are looking for any craft, art, poetry, writing, spoken word, anything creative, that has been made entirely by you (not from a kit or paint-by-number, etc.).



The gallery will accept work starting now until the deadline of Friday, January 8, 2027. Please drop off your artwork in the front office. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to email [Beth Iserman](mailto:Beth.Iserman@firstpres.org).

Small Groups

Wired Word Adult Group

Looking for a place to connect current events with your faith? Wired Word dives into trending topics, while exploring how Scripture speaks to the issues shaping our world today. Each week is a fresh, stand-alone topic, so you can jump in anytime! Come join the conversation on Sundays at 10:00 am!

Men's Bible Study

Men's Bible Study meets online every Friday from 10:00 AM to 11:15 AM via Microsoft Teams.

Started in 2019, this ongoing Bible study takes us on a journey through the history of Israel through the reading of Scripture. Having covered the entire Old Testament—beginning from the Book of Exodus—we will now explore the history of the New Testament through the Gospel of John. In addition, we will use

The Bible in the Early Church by Justo L. Gonzalez as a supplementary text to learn about how the Bible came to be formed.

Everyone is warmly welcomed! If you are interested in joining, please contact Rev. An at ysan@firstpresfortwayne.org or our group communicator, Steve Weissner, at stevewwmew@gmail.com.

Women's Bible Study

This Zoom group will be resuming on Friday, September 11, at 1pm. During the the 2026-2027 season, the group will be reading: *United through Christ, Bound to Each Other, a study of Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians* by Rhonda Mawhood Lee. There is no preparation required as the group reads through the study together. All women interested in studying the Bible as a group are welcome. For more information, please contact Susan at keirnsusan@aol.com or at (260)445-5475.

Table Talk (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 begin a new book on September 9.

We will be reading *Braving the Truth* by Rachel Held Evans. It is a compilation of more than 10 years of Evans' posts, which are as honest, brilliant, funny, and timely as she was. It offers a courageous faith that addresses contemporary faith issues.

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.

Pastoral Care & Prayer Requests

Prayer and Care: We want to be there for you when you need us. If you or someone in your family is in the hospital, moving to a rehabilitation facility or nursing home, would like a pastoral visit, or simply needs someone to talk with, please let us know.

We don't always know when someone is experiencing a difficult time or has been hospitalized. Hospitals, nursing homes, and rehabilitation facilities do not notify the church when one of our

members is admitted or transferred, even if you've told them you're a member of First Pres. (HIPAA laws and all!) So please don't assume that we know.

If you would like a pastor to visit, pray with you, talk with you, or simply be present, please reach out and let us know.

For pastoral care, please contact Rev. Dr. YoungSoo An, Associate Pastor, at 260-426-7421. We want to walk with you through life's joys and challenges. Let us know how we can be there for you.

Prayer List

- Nancy Sites & Family
- Barbara McCants & Family
- Judy Ruoff
- Kathy Miller
- Penny Pulz
- Janice Roddy
- Wendell Cree
- Jennifer Kern Kelly
- Joyce McGiffin
- Lisa Keirn
- Beth White
- Carolyn Krebs
- Bob & Kathy Beatty
- Ashley Lassiter
- Scott & Joan Pattison
- Kip & Mary Jane Ormerod

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

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