

First NEWS & VIEWS

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Christmas Workshop

This year's Christmas Workshop will take place as an at-home event. The first 100 kids to register can pick up their free kit to make crafts at home.

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November 2020
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Mission statement defines FPC and our vision for the future

We have been hard at work these past three years as a congregation, discerning who and what God is calling us to be as a congregation.

We have had church events where we gathered data around our theology, our religious practices and preferences. We have tried hard to listen to one another. And there always was purpose behind what we did to learn and to collate that information to discern our calling as a congregation.

Last month, the session approved a new vision statement, adding to the missional priorities we set last year.

The missional priorities, or areas we are focusing on as a congregation, are: dynamic, traditional worship; intergenerational faith formation; and honoring our diversity. None of this has come out of the blue, but rather was the result of the quiet faithful

and diligent work of so many of you as you answered surveys, discerned what you wanted and needed in a pastor, right-sized the budget and

looked at our community to see how we could best serve. The end result is something that will help guide leaders and the rest of the congregation in the next few years.

"Honoring our heritage,
we are a dynamic body
welcoming all
to Christ's spacious table,
illuminated to serve God
with imagination and love."

*Approved by the Session,
September 24, 2020*

Here is a little background on the vision statement.

Honoring our heritage: We are not a new start-up congregation, but value where we have come from, as Presbyterians, as Christians, as a people with a story. Not that we have to celebrate every piece of it, because like all congregations, we have had our share of hardship and conflict, but we can always honor and appreciate what it has taught us and what we can learn from it.

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Faith Formation

Character Builders

The Character Builders Adult Bible Study Class will meet on Sunday mornings in Room 209 following the 9:30 a.m. worship service.

The theme for November is Godly Love Among believers.

Nov. 1: Loving by Serving, John 13:1-35

Nov. 8: Abiding Love, John 15:4-17

Nov. 15: Confident Love, 1 John 3:11-24; 2 John 4-11; 3 John 5-8

Nov. 22: Sharing Love, Acts 4:32 - 5:11

Nov. 29: James 2

Class participants and guests will serve as discussion leaders.

A warm welcome is extended to all who wish to come at any time.

We will continue to abide by the current guidelines for safety during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Adult seminars

Adult Seminars are conducted every Sunday after worship at 10:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall and recorded on Facebook.

Nov. 1: Celebration of 20 years of Habitat for Humanity in Hancock County - This program began in our church. Come hear the story and learn the results of our current involvement with Wendy McCormick, director and speaker.

Nov. 15: Dr. Ratnasamy, head of infectious disease at Blanchard Valley Health System, will speak on Covid 19 and our county's health.

Nov. 22: Sarah Clevidence, director of the Findlay Hancock Public Library, will tell us what is happening at the downtown facility.

Nov. 28: Bill Treadway, FPC's new pastoral assistant, will speak about the beginning of Advent.

Worship and Music Ministry



I met with David Beck who is doing the work to restore our wonderful Sanctuary pipe organ, and I am thrilled with the work he has done and is continuing to do.

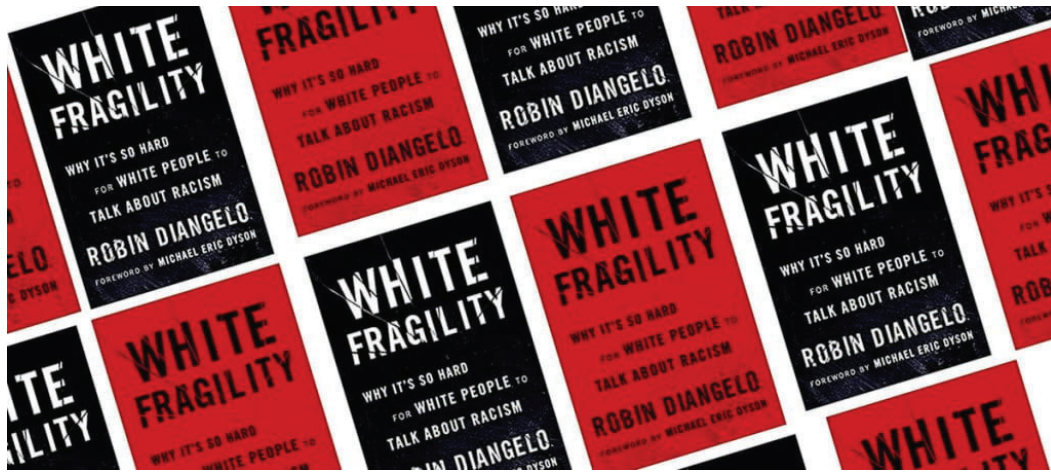
You should hear some of the progress in the next two months as we hope to have all of the new organ ranks installed and playing by Christmas at the latest (barring any delays related to the pandemic).

Once the new pipes are all installed, David will do some "re-voicing" of some of our existing pipes to balance the overall instrument to accommodate for the new pipework.

I'll be playing organ literature to feature these new additions as they come into play so you'll get to hear first hand what changes have been made.

- Clinton Miller





Dialogue on White Fragility coming in January

During the summer, a group of members met virtually once a week to discuss the book "White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism" by Robin DiAngelo.

Our talks were about the issues of racism in our country and unique perspectives each of us brings to the topic.

After several weeks of deep discussion, and personal revelations for all of us, the group unanimously decided that this discussion needed to be opened up to the greater congregation.

"If I believe that only bad people are racist, I will feel hurt, offended, and shamed when an unaware racist assumption of mine is pointed out. If I instead believe that having racist assumptions is inevitable (but possible to change), I will feel gratitude when an unaware racist assumption is pointed out; now I am aware of and can change that assumption."

- Robin DiAngelo, "White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism"

We would like to invite you to take part in a dialogue in January centered around the concepts outlined in White Fragility and the greater topics of racism and race relations within the United States.

All perspectives are welcome.

Over the next few months, we will be providing easily digested resources to get you thinking.

Keep an eye out for further details.

Email Anita Doseck (anitadoseck@gmail.com) with any questions.

50-year celebration recognizes longtime members

In October FPC recognized those with 50 or more years of membership in this church.

Normally we offer a luncheon so everyone can visit and take a group photo. Instead, because of the pandemic this year, a card, flower bouquet and First Presbyterian Church logo candy bar were delivered to those who are celebrating their 50th year of membership.

50-year members include: Susie Chesebro, Peggy Lobb, Cora and Carroll Kerr, Robert McCleave, Mike Needler, Jack and Nancy Winters.

Also recognized were the following 65 members who have more than 50 years of membership: George Bjorling, Dick Blake, Linda Brondes, Don Buckles, Ann Buis, Sally Buis, Bob and Kay Chesebro, Velma Coy, Jack Croy, Dick Deerhake, Jane Ann and Tom Deter, Tom Donnell, James

and Kathleen Federici, Beth Flowers, Marie and Ron Gallaher, Dee Gardiner, Mary Lee Haas, Gene and Nancy Hall, Betty Hardesty, Jane Harris, Dave and Suzi Healy, Al and Janet Holtzsch, Joan Hunt, Robert Irons, Mary James, Gene Kelsey, William Kirkwood, Don and Connie Kramp, Frances Longberry, Chuck and Peggy Lyon, Joan Marshall, Lark McCormick, Marilyn Meyers, Jane Minard, Nancy Moorhead, Bea Neuman, Norm Nicholson, Jane Peschel, Pat Reed, James and Patricia Roberts, Anna Scarbrough, Carol and Rollie Smith, June Sterling, Jim and Sharon Thomas, William Thomas, Dee Waaland, Mary Wanamaker, Ann Warner, Linda Weaver, Merlin Withrow, Patsy Woolley, Joan Work and Shirley Young.

Thank you to all for building and maintaining this church in structure and body, allowing it to serve others and creating many relationships.



On Sept. 29, members and staff from First Presbyterian Church participated in a Habitat for Humanity build project.





Christmas

WORKSHOP FROM HOME

PICK UP YOUR BAG
OF PRE-ASSEMBLED KITS
WITH EASY INSTRUCTIONS
TO MAKE CHRISTMAS GIFTS
FOR FAMILY & FRIENDS!

KIT DISTRIBUTION AT FPC
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15 AT 10:30 A.M.
OR FROM 2-3 P.M. AT THE PORTICO.
FPC NURSERY SCHOOL STUDENTS
WILL RECEIVE KITS
IN SCHOOL ON NOVEMBER 16.

GIFTS TO MAKE:

CANDY CANE MICE
POPSICLE STICK BIRD FEEDER
TISSUE PAPER CANDLE HOLDER
SNOWMAN CANDY BAR WRAPPER
CHRISTMAS TREE ORNAMENT

PLUS A TREAT TO NIBBLE ON
WHILE YOU'RE CREATING YOUR GIFTS!

RSVP

WWW.SIGNUPGENIUS.COM/GO/10C0D4BACAE2CA1FAC07-CHRISTMAS

THIS IS A FREE EVENT
FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY.

SIGN-UPS ARE LIMITED
TO THE FIRST 100 CHILDREN
TO RSVP.



Serve



November calendar

Sunday, November 1

8 a.m.
Spiritual Formation, L

9:30 a.m.
Worship, S, FH

10:30 a.m.
Seminar, FH

10:30 a.m.
Character Builders, 209

Monday, November 2

9:30 a.m.
Women of Faith, 211

7 p.m.
Bible Study, 206

Tuesday, November 3

1:30 p.m.
GatherRing, 202

Wednesday, November 4

6:30 p.m.
Chamber Choir, S

7 p.m.
Chancel Choir, Z

Saturday, November 7

8 a.m.
Community Dinner Prep, GRK

Sunday, November 8

8 a.m.
Spiritual Formation, L

9:30 a.m.
Worship, S, FH

10:30 a.m.
Seminar, FH

10:30 a.m.
Character Builders, 209

11 a.m.
Community Dinner, GR

Monday, November 9

9:30 a.m.
Book Club, Z

9:30 a.m.
Women of Faith, 211

10:30 a.m.
Christian Education Comm., 209

6:30 p.m.
Symposium, FH

Tuesday, November 10

2 p.m.
GatherRing, 202/FH

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We are a dynamic body: In tension with our past, is our present, where we understand our congregation as dynamic and engaged, not static. We are a community that is energized.

Welcoming all to Christ's spacious table: Over the past few years, the metaphor of the table has become something important to us—both as a sacrament we celebrate as well as a literal place where we can break down walls as we gather to share meals.

The table of Jesus Christ is not ours, but Christ's job, and ours, is to welcome all people, not to a building, but to a relationship with Christ and the community of faith, where we gather with those who have come before and those who will come after. It is a table where we are fed with God's love and peace.

Illumined to serve with imagination and love: After we gather around the table where we learn, share, celebrate and feast, we leave illumined by the God's Spirit, and head into world to serve — with all of who we are and characterized by our imaginations, our minds and, with love, our hearts.

We hope you find time to quickly memorize this statement and use it to describe who we are when people ask you "what is First Presbyterian Church doing these days?"

This is a statement we hope will guide us and inspire us as we continue to be the congregation God calls us to be. Thanks be to God for God's faithfulness to us and for the faithful of all the generations that have led us to this place.

- Pastor Jessie

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Wednesday, November 11

7 p.m.
Chancel Choir, Z

Thursday, November 12

5:30 p.m.
Worship Committee, 206

5:30 p.m.
Stewardship & Finance, 209

6:30 p.m.
Mission Committee, 211

7 p.m.
Trustees, 214

Friday, November 13

9:30 a.m.
KnitWits, FH

Sunday, November 15

8 a.m.
Spiritual Formation, L

9:30 a.m.
Worship, S, FH

10:30 a.m.
Seminar, FH

10:30 a.m.
Character Builders, 209

10:30 a.m.
Christmas Workshop Pick-up, P

Monday, November 16

9:30 a.m.
Women of Faith, 211

10:45 a.m.
Godly Play, GR

7 p.m.
Bible Study, 206

Tuesday, November 17

11 a.m.
Godly Play, GR

1:30 p.m.
GatherRing, 202

6 p.m.
Personnel Committee, 116



Wednesday, November 18

6:30 p.m.
Chamber Choir, S

7 p.m.
Chancel Choir, Z

Thursday, November 19

7 p.m.
Session, 209

Sunday, November 22

8 a.m.
Spiritual Formation, L

9:30 a.m.
Worship, S, FH

10:30 a.m.
Seminar, FH

10:30 a.m.
Character Builders, 209

Monday, November 23

9:30 a.m.
Women of Faith, 211

7 p.m.
Deacons, 209

Tuesday, November 24

2 p.m.
GatherRing, 202

Wednesday, November 25

6:30 p.m.
Chamber Choir, S

7 p.m.
Chancel Choir, Z

Thursday, November 26

Thanksgiving
church office closed

Friday, November 27

Thanksgiving
church office closed

Sunday, November 29

8 a.m.
Spiritual Formation, L

9:30 a.m.
Worship, S, FH

10:30 a.m.
Seminar FH

10:30 a.m.
Character Builders, 209

Monday, November 30

9:30 a.m.
Women of Faith, 211

C - Chapel; CR - Choir Room; FH - Fellowship Hall; GR - Great Room; GRK - Great Room Kitchen; L - Library; P - Parlor; NS - Nursery School; S - Sanctuary; PL - Parking Lot; Z - Zoom.



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Sharon Vaas, *Nursery School Director*

Matt Pfirsch, *Facility Manager*

Amy Ring, *Head Custodian*

John Reitman, *Communications Coordinator*

Church Transportation

Dave Reynolds will be the bus driver on Sundays.

Please call (419) 423-4243, if you need a ride.

Financial Results

September 2020

	Actual YTD	Budget YTD
Revenue:	\$439,568	\$451,476
Expenses:	\$510,270	\$562,774
Income(Deficit):	(\$70,702)	(\$111,298)

These numbers are tentative and are pending approval.

If you would like a large print newsletter, please contact the church office.

Sunday Morning

9:30 a.m. Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary

Sunday Schedule

November 1: Rev. Jessica Commeret, Matthew 5:1-12.

November 8: Rev. Jessica Commeret, Matthew 25:1-13.

November 15: Rev. Jessica Commeret, Matthew 25:14-30.

November 22: Rev. Jessica Commeret, Matthew 25:31-46.

November 29: Bill Treadway, Mark 13:24-37.