



Beloved siblings in Christ,

Life has always been a rhythm of separation and togetherness, exile and return. We see it in biblical stories like the Garden of Eden, Jonah and the parable of the prodigal son and in the exile of the biblical nations of Judah and Israel. We experience it in our lives in many forms. Often, the “return” is more enjoyable and satisfying, but that doesn’t mean discord isn’t part of the story. Jesus and his followers were separated by betrayal and death, and then reunited by forgiveness and newness of life.

As members and friends of First Presbyterian Church, we experience this pattern as we try to be faithful to God's call for unity and hope, even during times of division and conflict. We've endured times of conflict, times of separation after the fire in the 50s and during the pandemic, and yet maintained our witness to God's love in Jesus Christ for all people.

And here’s the greatest point: thanks to this history, over time our faith — and our church — have been built to help us live through such seasons with grace and hope. We are a community of return and renewal. A place to come home to, again and again. A congregation in which we can tangibly experience God’s ancient promise to “bring you back to this place,” and “give you a future with hope.”

At our core, First Presbyterian Church, Findlay, is a community of reunion, homecoming, and return. Now more than ever, in a world full of exile, our congregation stands as a beacon of hope, welcome and radical hospitality.

With all of this in mind, we invite you to join us in giving thanks for all the resources — spiritual, theological, physical, and financial — that support this indispensable work. Enclosed you’ll find a special prayer. We invite you to pray this prayer daily over the coming weeks. Additionally, we invite you to bring the enclosed pledge card to worship on October 27, Commitment Sunday. You may also submit your pledge card via snail mail or fill out the digital pledge card on our website at findlyfpc.org.

Together, let's celebrate God’s beautiful gift of “a future with hope.”

Blessings,

Your Stewardship and Finance Committee:

Julie Anderson
Beverly Dowling
Stephanie Bryan

Brandi Clark (chair)
Howard Elliott
Marna Weaver

Jessica Commeret
Al Holtzscher

Matt Croy
PJ Milligan