



TIDINGS

First Presbyterian Church

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Valparaiso, IN 46383

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Mission Statement: Building Disciples; Growing in Faith; Serving in Christ's Name

Fourteen of us went to Cuba and fourteen of us returned from Cuba! That is always the goal. Go, see and come back! We did it!

Wow! What a trip! What a fantastic group of brave missionaries from FPCV!

First Presbyterian Church took its first mission trip since I arrived at FPCV to the country of Cuba. We had an incredible journey. God touched each of our lives in a different way.

Sometimes it is hard to put into words what takes place on a mission trip. God works in so many ways. I will try and give you some of my impressions of this trip.

First, I was completely and utterly amazed at the warmth of the Cuban people. I have been on many missionary journeys some of which include Iraq, Syria, and the Hezbollah-controlled region of southern Lebanon. I have witnessed great animosity toward Americans to the point of having armed guards present 24/7. Frankly, I expected some of this as I travelled to Cuba. After all, much has been written in the United States over the years about this communist country. Most of what has been written has not been very favorable in my opinion. There has been the mention of Fidel Castro, the Bay of Pigs, the Cuban Missile Crisis and a lot of anti-America verbiage. About the only good mentioned that I can remember were Cuban cigars. Yet my experience with the people of Cuba found no trace of anti-American rhetoric. Instead, our group was warmly embraced, incredibly fed and richly treated during our stay. We visited eight churches and were amazed by the resiliency of the Cuban people. We enjoyed great Cuban music, visited stunning historical Cuban sites and ate lunch along its rich and pristine beaches. With direct flights beginning this month from Midway to Havana, I am glad to know that I can be among the friendly Cuban people in such a short period of time. Still I am left with an overwhelming sense of being loved by these people.

Second, I was surprised by the work of a few dedicated Christians in Cuba. Much is actually being done in Cuba

for the cause of Christ by a few passionate people. We met an 84 year old woman by the name of Mercedes Cardenas Hodelins. This amazing woman was determined to keep her church open during one of the most difficult times in Cuban history (the 1990's with the fall of the Soviet Union and the collapse of the Berlin Wall is referred to as the Special Period in Cuba when help and support from the government was dramatically reduced). The church where Mercedes was a member has not had a pastor for many years. So Mercedes has carried out the ministries of the church and preached each Sunday. Two other people came to worship during the most difficult days, yet today worship attendance has increased to 34 each Sunday. The congregation feeds as many as 60 homeless people each Sunday now. I found Mercedes filled with love for her Lord and willing to stand in the gap during good times and bad to carry out the ministry of the church.

Third, as in other places, I found great need in Cuba. Along the eastern shore of Cuba, the National Council of Churches in Cuba states that there is an urgent need for Bibles. We can help! The seminary in Matanza is in need of laptop computers. We brought five laptops with us. More are needed. A congregation in Sabanilla in central Cuba needs funds for a new church site. The session will consider this matter at its stated meeting on November 28th. Do you want to be part of birthing a church? Beidy Casas Aragón, Moderator and nearby pastor who helps supervise the church in Sabanilla ate dinner with Toby and me while we were in Cuba. Beidy asked us for help. Everywhere we went in Cuba there was great need.

I could go on and on. Suffice it to write that God is doing a new thing in and among our congregation. The Spirit has opened the door to Cuba for us. Do you want to help? Do you want to go to Cuba? More trips are planned. Thank you to all who help support our efforts in Cuba. More to come... all to the glory of God.

Blessings!
Mark

Session Synopsis of November 28, 2016

As a result of the church Mission Trip to Cuba several weeks ago as well as the general business and overload of the holiday season, Pastor Mark suggested Session combine their November and December meetings into a single meeting. It made for a jam-packed agenda, more than six motions, and lots of good discussion! It also makes for a long Session Synopsis, so I hope you will bear with me as I try to communicate all that happened at our meeting!

One of the highlights was a final report from the Stewardship Team. Moderator Craig Johnson gave a huge thank-you to all for the cooperation their great team received throughout this year's campaign. It seems clear that FPC has turned a corner in many ways now that Pastors Mark and Toby have joined our church family. We are growing in numbers, in missions, in spirit, and in giving.

The Stewardship success led directly to the success of the Finance Team in creating a balanced budget for 2017. Ministry Teams were told to "Dream Big" in their plans for next year's programming, and after many hours of crunching the numbers, Moderator Fred Grosick and his Team were able to create a budget that provides for most of those dreams! Session approved the budget enthusiastically with thanks to God for the generosity of our congregation.

A visible sign of our growth is the fact that there are many individuals who are eager to become members of FPC. In the past, we have held New Member classes twice a year and asked interested individuals to wait for those classes to become members, but that isn't always practical. Therefore, Session approved a motion to allow Pastor Mark to call together small teams of Elders to meet with prospective new members and thus allow them to join our fellowship and then attend the classes at a later date. As a perfect example of this, Session approved the baptism this Sunday, December 4, 2016, for Justin, Lindsay, and Jeremiah Giles to be followed by their reception as new members.

The recent Mission Trip also changed the lives of all those who traveled to Cuba. They returned with an even stronger desire to help the hard-working but needy Presbyterians they had met; therefore, it was moved, seconded, and approved to use this Advent season to begin fundraising efforts to help them. Greatest needs are for Spanish Bibles (\$10 each, hopefully purchased in Cuba so we don't have to pay for ship-

ping!), funds for Seminary Training (any amount to assist the training of pastoral leadership), and funds to purchase a building for the Sabanilla Congregation (total cost is \$15,000). Any of these missions would greatly appreciate your donation! (Please make out checks to FPC noting the specific mission you would like to support! Tax deductible, of course!)

Henry Hoham presented Elders with an overview of his Eagle Scout project to provide landscaping around the Pavilion. Session endorsed Henry's plan and encouraged him to begin advertising for funds and volunteers. You should begin to see his plan take shape once the snow melts in the spring!

Following a review of the Elder-Elect and Deacon-Elect interviews, a motion was made to approve the examinations of each of the candidates whom you elected at our October Congregational meeting. These individuals will be Ordained and/or Installed on January 8, 2017: Elders ~ Rhonda Coffin, Barry Hughes, Jerry Kahrs, and Audrey Rossetti; and Deacons ~ Julie Golding, Ron Izynski, Valarie Smart-Higgins, Destiny Vargas, and Trenton Olling.

We are currently in need of a new liaison between the church and the Boy Scout and Cub Scout troops which FPC sponsors. Because of our desire to help the scouts and their families become more involved in other church activities, it was decided to move this liaison from the oversight of the Christian Education Team to that of the Building Disciples Team.

Many reports were approved including a revision to Endowment Policy #F2, the adoption of the computer software program ACS Realm, and a new Building Usage Fee Schedule, all of which should help streamline church operations. Worship Team set Christmas Eve services this year at 3:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m., and 8:00 p.m. They also received approval for several fundraisers in 2017 for replacement and updating of musical instruments. Building and Grounds Team received approval for repair, replacement, and installation of security lighting around the church, and other new fixtures as needed. The upgraded church sign should also be completed within about three weeks. A Hospitality/Lunch Team was formed to host an upcoming Presbytery Meeting to be held at FPC in late February. Hopefully many volunteers will be available to help in hosting this event which is important in our Presbytery.

Session Synopsis of November 28, 2016, continued

The Personnel Team reported that Performance Evaluations have been completed for all paid staff, and the feedback has all been positive! We are blessed with a wonderful staff, and we hope everyone expresses even more appreciation for all the hard work they do at this time of year! Session approved the recommended compensation increases/changes for our administrative assistant, custodians, organist/pianist, and business manager. Session also approved the Performance Evaluation for Pastor Mark and voted to extend an end-of-year monetary gift to him as a symbolic thank-you for the outstanding work he has done this year at FPC.

If you would like more information, remember that you can read the detailed minutes that are always available (once approved) in the Session book in the front office near the receptionist's desk. Also feel free to contact any of the Elders and/or the Clerk if you have questions or are interested in further details.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Hollar, Clerk

Christian Education

Adults Learn, 10:00 a.m.

Adult Christian Conversations in Room 101:

Led by Monica Conrad

Pastor's Class in the Friendship Room:

December 4 and 18—Advent

Led by Pastor Mark Mueller

No class 12/18, 12/25/16 or 1/1/17

Please join us on December 18, 2016, for the children's puppet presentation!

2016 Contributions Dated by December 31, 2016

Please submit 2016 contributions (dated by December 31, 2016) to the church office no later than January 5, 2017. Thank you.

Saints

December already---where did the year go? In keeping with tradition, our Wednesday, December 7, SAINTS program will again have a Christmas theme. Our August in-house program was enjoyed and appreciated, so the concept will be repeated in December. Again, we'll share something about ourselves in order to learn more about each other. This time, however, the focus will be on holiday customs you and your family observe; or you could tell us about your ethnic background in relation to Christmas practices. As before, you are encouraged to bring a *concealed* item to show everyone. Join your friends as you get into the Christmas spirit at SAINTS!

Please join us for the noon luncheon. Since our meals are catered, it is important that you call the church office at 464-4985 by the Wednesday before each monthly gathering to make your reservation. If you must cancel, please be sure to do so by the Monday before the program. Otherwise (except for an emergency), you will be asked to cover the \$9.00 cost since we have to pay the caterer for your lunch.

Christian Sympathies

We extend our heartfelt Christian sympathies to the following:

To the Sharon and Ken Passe and Linda and Carl Anderson family upon the death of Sharon and Linda's mother, Mary Ellen Evers.

To the Hough family and friends upon the death of Margaret Hough.

To the Sawtell family and friends upon the death of Kate Sawtell.

To Marilyn and Don Owens upon the death of Don's nephew, Kenneth Drake.

Men's Breakfast

Please join us for the next Men's Breakfast on Sunday, December 11, at 8:00 a.m. in the Friendship Room as we celebrate Christian fellowship and a delicious meal!

First Friday Friends

First Friends Friday for December will be parents and kids together for Holly Days downtown Valpo from 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

"Second Sundays" New Young Adult Group!!

Second Sundays
(meets on the second Sunday
of each month)

Join Pastors Mark and Toby at their home on Sunday, December 11, 2016.

4:00 p.m.—Please RSVP to Pastor Toby,
tmueller@fpcvalpo.org

Mitten Tree

The Mitten Tree will be located in the narthex after November 20, when the church is decorated for the Christmas season. This has been an ongoing project for many years for our church and your contributions are greatly appreciated! Please place new gloves, hats and mittens (no scarves, please) on the tree. At the end of the holiday season, the donations will be picked up by a school social worker and given to any child in the Valparaiso schools who is in need of them.

As Tiny Tim said, "God bless us everyone!"

Prayer & Praise Ministry

If you desire prayer support for yourself or loved ones, don't hesitate to call on our 100+ Prayer Warriors through our Prayer & Praise Ministry hotline. Know that your requests can be held in strict confidence for your privacy, or we can also add your request to our Sunday announcements and/or printed Prayer Sheet. God is always listening! To begin the prayer hotline, please contact Pastor Toby Mueller at :

tmueller@fpcvalpo.org

or

256-425-3181

Christian Food Pantry

October provided food for 242 families which totaled 573 people. Shelves are empty. The following items are needed:

- Bathroom Tissue
- Canned Fruit
- Cereals
- Corn
- Cranberries
- Green Beans
- Instant Mashed Potatoes
- Jell-O®
- Mac & Cheese
- Mixed Vegetables (cans)
- Peanut Butter
- Pork 'n Beans
- Rice
- Saltines
- Soups
- Spaghetti
- Spaghetti Sauce (cans)
- Tuna

The first annual October Grub Run was well attended which provided an awesome and much appreciated donation for our pantry.

Any and all kinds of donations are helpful and appreciated.

—Nan, Anne, Sharon

Attendance Sheet

Worship Services	Oct. 16	Oct. 23	Oct. 30	Nov. 6
9:00 AM	115	98	118	102
11:00 AM	75	72	87	48
TOTAL:	190	170	205	150
Christian Education				
Little Ones	4	2	5	4
JAM	11	7	19	17
Pre-Confirmation	5	5	6	6
Confirmation	2	4	5	4
Senior High	2	2	2	3
TOTAL:	24	20	37	34

DEACONS

CLASS OF 2016

Stacey Buehler

Janet Helsper

Daniel Higgins

Sharon Kinsey*

Christina Kukler

CLASS OF 2017

Mary Brown

Matthew Byerly

Rhonda Coffin

Carolyn Hughes

Melissa Klancer

Tanya Parker

Andrea Phillips

CLASS OF 2018

Ginger Boys

Jim Boys

Carla Evans

Kathy Evans

Jason Gordon

Jacki Phillips

Ron Phillips

Mary Jayne Shurr

YOUTH DEACONS

CLASS OF 2016

Allison Skadberg

*denotes Moderator

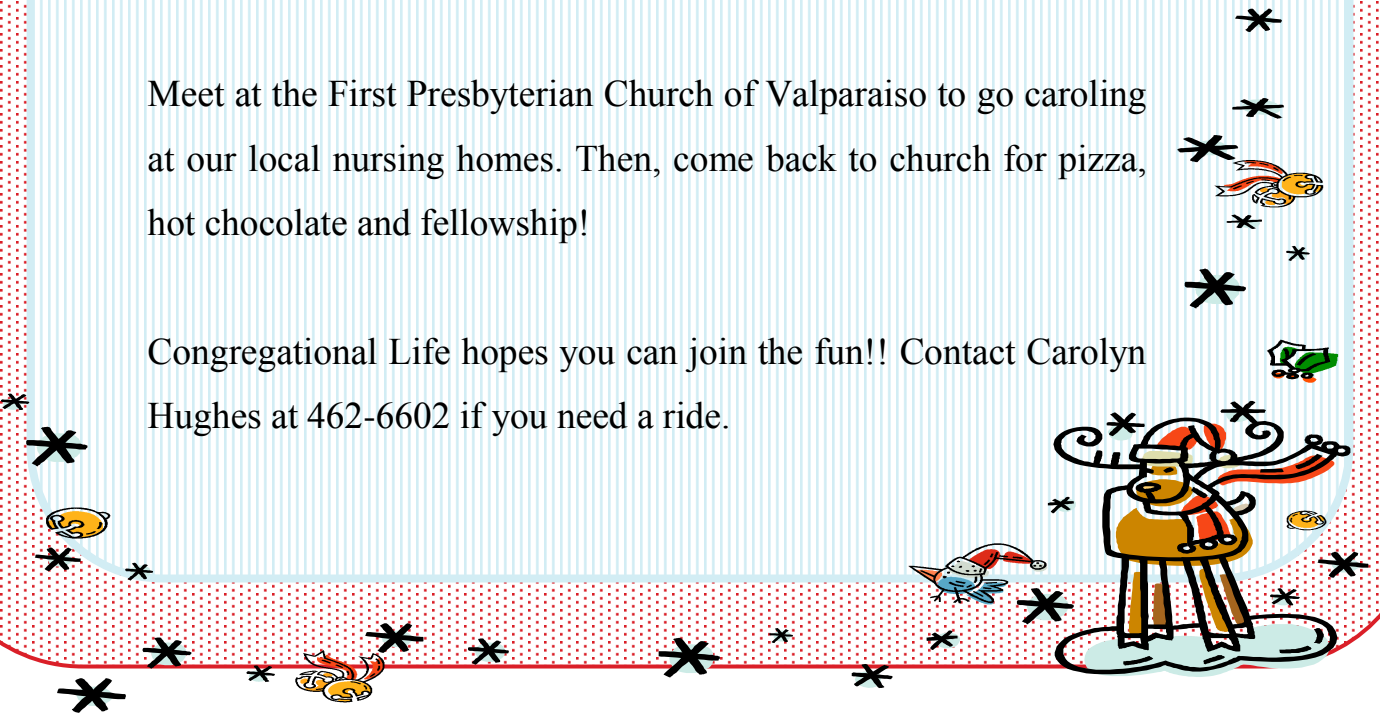
Christmas Caroling

Help us spread Christmas cheer by singing loud for all to hear!

December 18, 2016, at 3:30 p.m.

Meet at the First Presbyterian Church of Valparaiso to go caroling at our local nursing homes. Then, come back to church for pizza, hot chocolate and fellowship!

Congregational Life hopes you can join the fun!! Contact Carolyn Hughes at 462-6602 if you need a ride.



Poinsettias

It's that time of year again! If you would like to order poinsettias for this Christmas Season, please forward the following information to the church office by December 12. Colors to choose from are Traditional Red or White. The price is \$9.50 per plant with any profits going to a local charity, which will be decided by Worship.

Name: _____

In honor of: _____

In memory of: _____

Number of Traditional Red plants: _____

Number of White plants: _____

Christian Education News

The Christian Education Team reminds you to keep these December events in mind:

- Advent Calendars have arrived. Please take one home for your family worship during advent.
- The PWNS Book Fair will be held at Barnes and Noble on December 4. Our Children's Choir will sing at 1:00 p.m. and art by our children will be on display.
- Our Children's Choir under the direction of Rhonda Clark will be singing at the 11:00 service on December 11.
- The Youth Puppet Ministry will present a Christmas play in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00 on December 18. The congregation is invited to attend and support our puppeteers!
- Our Confirmand Class traditionally sells (\$6) calendars to raise money for a charity which they will support. Please stop by their table in the Narthex between services during Advent.

Library Links with Sunday Schoolers

Georgia Coyle, chair of our church library, has begun a children's story time for pre-schoolers through 5th grade. Each group has been invited on a particular November Sunday during their class time. The new comfortable floor cushions for kids are perfect for settling in to listen to a children's book, read by Mrs. Coyle.

A recent book at story time was The Boy and the Ocean, by Max Lucado. The 2nd 3rd graders enjoyed the text and beautiful illustrations that connect a boy, the ocean, the mountains and the night sky with God's special love.

Families are invited to stop by before or after church to browse the shelves. It's easy to check out materials. Look for the yellow paper on the library desk, and follow the simple directions. Happy reading!

Sunday School

We have had a very busy fall with Christian Education. Sunday school is in full swing, and we are excited to have two new Presby leaders. We also had a fantastic turnout at our annual Trunk-or-Treat event. We had about 150 children at this year's event! Thank you to everyone for your support. The children in JAM also visited the church's library in November for a story with Georgia Coyle.

December will be another exciting month for CE. Please mark your calendars for these events that you will not want to miss! On December 4th the Children's Choir will be singing at Barnes & Noble at 1:00 p.m. Come on out to do some Christmas shopping and support our church's mission fund and PWNS. Our children ages 3-5th grade will perform their Christmas program during the 11:00 a.m. service on Sunday, December 11th. This year the program is titled "Santa Gives Back Christmas." The church's puppet ministry will perform a Christmas program at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, December 18th. We hope to see you at one of these events!

As a reminder, there will be no Sunday school on December 25th or January 1st. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Confirmation Class

The Confirmation Class will begin selling 2017 calendars between services on Sunday, December 4, December 11 and December 18. The cost of the calendars is \$6.00. Profits from the calendar sales will be donated to a charity selected by the Confirmands. Please stop by and purchase a calendar while supplies last.

DECEMBER

Thursday, December 01, 2016

9:30 AM	The Comfort Stitchers	154, 155
6:30 PM	Praise Band	Sanctuary

Friday, December 02, 2016

5:00 PM	First Friday Friends - Holly Days*	Downtown Valparaiso
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Saturday, December 03, 2016

9:30 AM	InterPlay Workshop	Fellowship Hall
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Sunday, December 04, 2016

9:00 AM	Liturgical Service of Worship	Sanctuary
9:45 AM	Coffee Fellowship	Hospitality Center
9:45 AM	Tone Chime Choir	141
10:00 AM	Adult Christian Conversation	101
10:00 AM	Sunday School	CE Rooms
10:00 AM	Congregational Life Team	Friendship Room
10:05 AM	Adult Bible Study	Friendship Room
10:45 AM	Children's Choir	141
11:00 AM	Contemporary Praise Service	Sanctuary
1:30 PM	Cub Scouts	Fellowship Hall
6:00 PM	Presbys Youth Group	100
6:00 PM	The Leftovers	101

Monday, December 05, 2016

8:30 AM	Retired Presbyterian Men	Off-site
5:00 PM	Journeys of Faith	101
7:00 PM	Boy Scouts	Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, December 06, 2016

8:00 AM	M&M Bible Study	101
10:00 AM	Staff Team Meeting	Workroom
5:00 PM	Men's After Work Bible Study	101

Wednesday, December 07, 2016

10:00 AM	Women's Bible Study	101
12:00 PM	Saints Luncheon	FR, 154, 155
3:00 PM	Reformation Ringers	148, 149
3:45 PM	Disciples Bible Study	101
4:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
6:15 PM	Building Disciples Team	Workroom
6:30 PM	B.S. ('Bible Study') Teen Boys	Off-site
7:00 PM	It's them again...	155
7:00 PM	PADS	FR, FH

Thursday, December 08, 2016

9:30 AM	The Comfort Stitchers	154, 155
6:30 PM	Praise Band	Sanctuary

Friday, December 09, 2016

Saturday, December 10, 2016

9:00 AM	Children's Choir Practice	Sanctuary
10:30 AM	Choir Practice	Sanctuary

DECEMBER

Sunday, December 11, 2016

8:00 AM	Men's Breakfast	Friendship Room
9:00 AM	Liturgical Service of Worship	Sanctuary
9:00 AM	Deacon Cookie Walk Fundraiser	Hospitality Center
9:45 AM	Tone Chime Choir	141
10:00 AM	Adult Christian Conversation	101
10:00 AM	Sunday School	CE Rooms
10:05 AM	Adult Bible Study	Friendship Room
10:45 AM	Children's Choir	141
11:00 AM	Contemporary Praise Service	Sanctuary
1:30 PM	Cub Scouts	Fellowship Hall
4:00 PM	Second Sundays Group	Off-site
6:00 PM	Presbys Youth Group	100
6:00 PM	The Leftovers	101

Monday, December 12, 2016

11:30 AM	Presbyterian Resale Shop Ministry	Off-site
5:00 PM	Journeys of Faith	101
7:00 PM	Boy Scouts	Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, December 13, 2016

8:00 AM	M&M Bible Study	101
10:00 AM	Staff Team Meeting	Workroom
5:00 PM	Men's After Work Bible Study	101
6:30 PM	Moms on the Go!	101

Wednesday, December 14, 2016

10:00 AM	Women's Bible Study	101
3:00 PM	Reformation Ringers	148, 149
3:45 PM	Disciples Bible Study	101
4:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
6:30 PM	B.S. ('Bible Study') Teen Boys	Off-site
7:00 PM	It's them again...	155
7:00 PM	PADS	FR, FH

Thursday, December 15, 2016

9:30 AM	The Comfort Stitchers	154, 155
1:00 PM	Pines Communion*	Off-site
6:30 PM	Praise Band	Sanctuary
6:30 PM	Cub Scouts	Fellowship Hall

Friday, December 16, 2016

Saturday, December 17, 2016

DECEMBER

Sunday, December 18, 2016

9:00 AM	Liturgical Service of Worship	Sanctuary
9:45 AM	Coffee Fellowship	Hospitality Center
9:45 AM	Tone Chime Choir	141
10:00 AM	Adult Christian Conversation	101
10:00 AM	Sunday School	CE Rooms
10:00 AM	Puppet Presentation	Fellowship Hall
10:05 AM	Adult Bible Study	Friendship Room
10:45 AM	Children's Choir	141
11:00 AM	Contemporary Praise Service	Sanctuary
1:30 PM	Cub Scouts	Fellowship Hall
3:30 PM	Christmas Caroling	Meet at FPC
3:30 PM	Presbys Youth Group* - Caroling	Meet at FPC
6:00 PM	The Leftovers	101

Monday, December 19, 2016

5:00 PM	Journeys of Faith	101
7:00 PM	Boy Scouts	Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, December 20, 2016

8:00 AM	M&M Bible Study	101
10:00 AM	Staff Team Meeting	Workroom
5:00 PM	Men's After Work Bible Study	101
6:30 PM	Moms on the Go	101
7:00 PM	Boy Scout Committee	154, 155

Wednesday, December 21, 2016

10:00 AM	Women's Bible Study	101
10:30 AM	Widows' Group	Friendship Room
3:00 PM	Reformation Ringers	148, 149
3:45 PM	Disciples Bible Study	101
4:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
6:30 PM	B.S. ('Bible Study') Teen Boys	Off-site
7:00 PM	It's them again...	155
7:00 PM	PADS	FR, FH

Thursday, December 22, 2016

9:30 AM	The Comfort Stitchers	154, 155
6:30 PM	Praise Band	Sanctuary

Friday, December 23, 2016

Saturday, December 24, 2016

3:00 PM*	Christmas Eve Worship Service**	Sanctuary
5:00 PM*	Christmas Eve Worship Service**	Sanctuary
8:00 PM*	Christmas Eve Worship Service**	Sanctuary

Sunday, December 25, 2016 - Merry Christmas!

10:00 AM	Service of Worship	Sanctuary
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Monday, December 26, 2016

5:00 PM	Journeys of Faith	101
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DECEMBER

Tuesday, December 27, 2016

8:00 AM	M&M Bible Study	101
10:00 AM	Staff Team Meeting	Workroom
5:00 PM	Men's After Work Bible Study	101
6:30 PM	Moms on the Go!	101

Wednesday, December 28, 2016

10:00 AM	Women's Bible Study	101
3:00 PM	Reformation Ringers	148, 149
3:45 PM	Disciples Bible Study	101
4:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
6:30 PM	B.S. ('Bible Study') Teen Boys	Off-site
7:00 PM	It's them again...	155
7:00 PM	PADS	FR, FH

Thursday, December 29, 2016

9:30 AM	The Comfort Stitchers	154, 155
6:30 PM	Praise Band	Sanctuary

Friday, December 30, 2016

Saturday, December 31, 2016

Looking Ahead: There will be one service at 10:00 a.m. on New Year's Day, Sunday, January 1, 2017. **

* Denotes rescheduled date and/or time

** We invite the children to be present in worship as there will not be childcare available.

Presbyterian Weekday Nursery School ("PWNS")

November moved along quickly as we were busy with many seasonal activities. Our Pre-K class made good use of our kitchen making Stone Soup and baking pumpkin bread for their families. The children earned feathers for an Indian headband by doing kind and helpful deeds at home. They also made drums and necklaces for Native American Week. The month ended with our annual Fruit Feast. The children were excited to share some fall songs and poems with their families before sitting down to a delicious "feast."

Our 3-4 year old class also baked pumpkin bread for their families. They learned the nursery rhyme of "Old Mother Hubbard" and brought in food items for our "cupboard" as a community outreach program. Thanks to the generosity of our PWNS families, we were able to donate over 75 items to the Christian Food Pantry.

We are very excited for the Christmas season. Look for our handprint tree and family Christmas projects decorating the halls and bulletin boards of our PWNS classrooms.

Thank you to the Knauff family for the monetary donation in memory of Sandi Roth's mother.

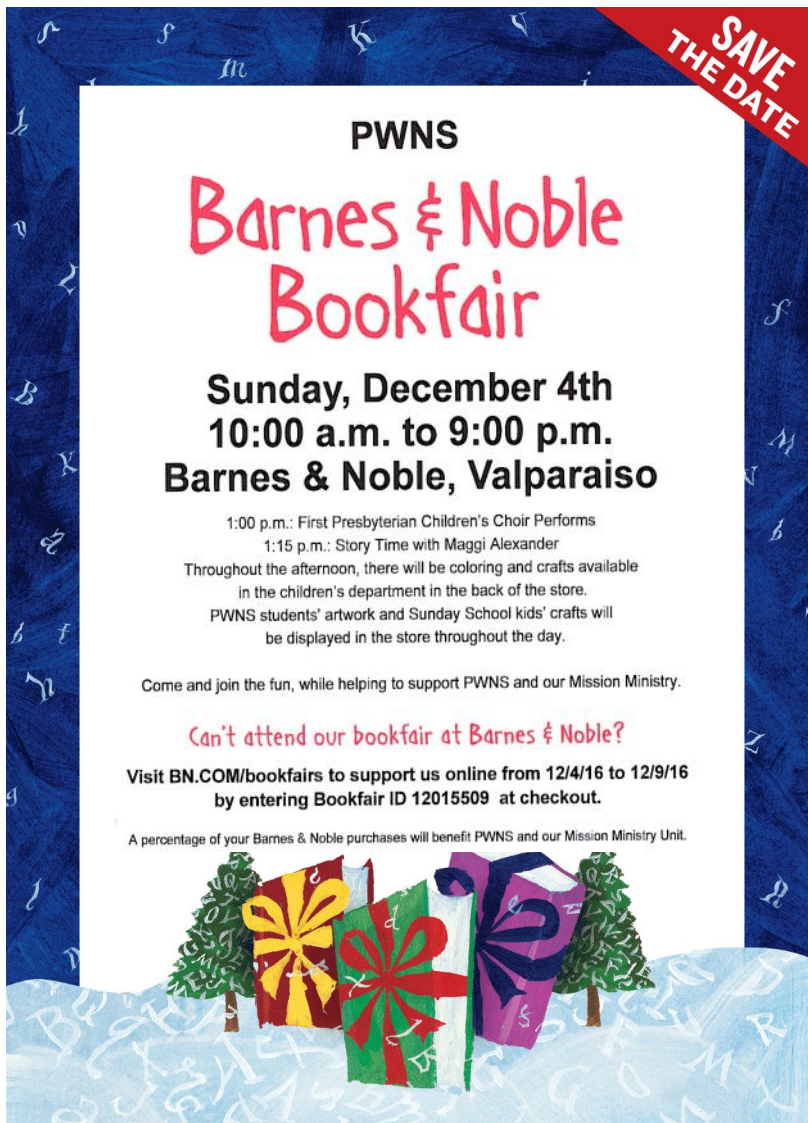
We continue to collect Campbell's Labels for Education in the final year of this program.

Please join us for our 10th annual Barnes & Noble Bookfair, Sunday, December 4th.

Merry Christmas!

Sheya Bennett
309-5873

Ann Skadberg
405-7188



PWNS

Barnes & Noble Bookfair

Sunday, December 4th
10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Barnes & Noble, Valparaiso

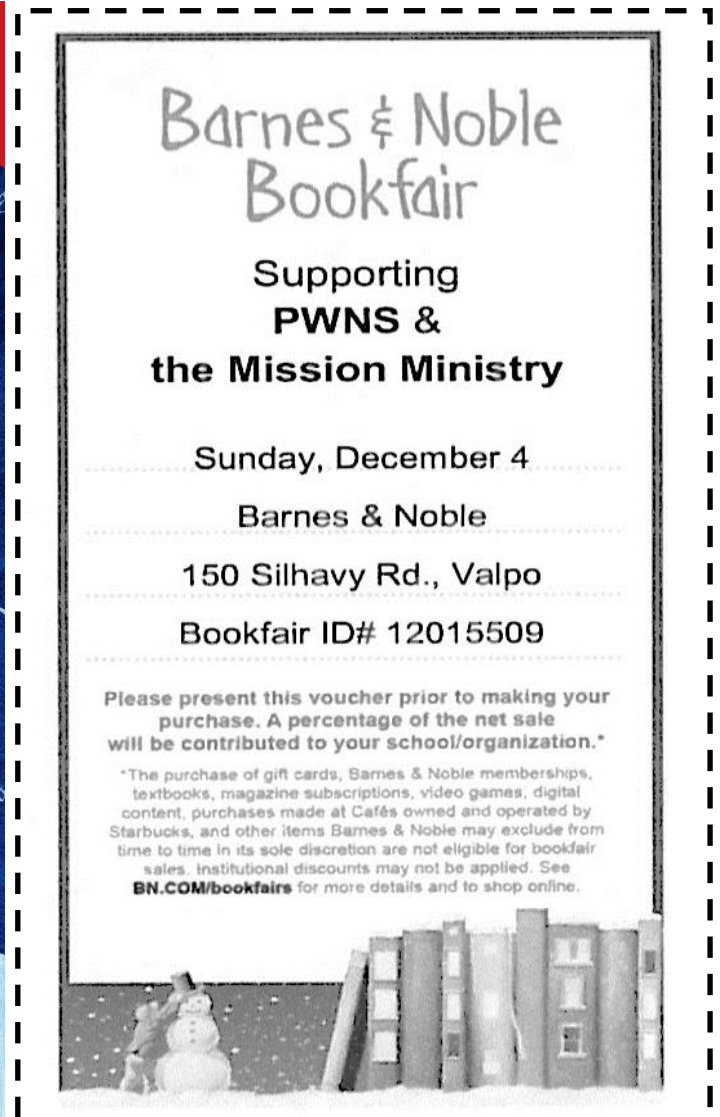
1:00 p.m.: First Presbyterian Children's Choir Performs
1:15 p.m.: Story Time with Maggi Alexander
Throughout the afternoon, there will be coloring and crafts available in the children's department in the back of the store.
PWNS students' artwork and Sunday School kids' crafts will be displayed in the store throughout the day.

Come and join the fun, while helping to support PWNS and our Mission Ministry.

Can't attend our bookfair at Barnes & Noble?
Visit BN.COM/bookfairs to support us online from 12/4/16 to 12/9/16 by entering Bookfair ID 12015509 at checkout.

A percentage of your Barnes & Noble purchases will benefit PWNS and our Mission Ministry Unit.

SAVE THE DATE



Barnes & Noble Bookfair

Supporting PWNS & the Mission Ministry

Sunday, December 4

Barnes & Noble

150 Silhavy Rd., Valpo

Bookfair ID# 12015509

Please present this voucher prior to making your purchase. A percentage of the net sale will be contributed to your school/organization.*

*The purchase of gift cards, Barnes & Noble memberships, textbooks, magazine subscriptions, video games, digital content, purchases made at Cafés owned and operated by Starbucks, and other items Barnes & Noble may exclude from time to time in its sole discretion are not eligible for bookfair sales. Institutional discounts may not be applied. See BN.COM/bookfairs for more details and to shop online.

Mission at Work - "Mission Is the Purpose of the Church"

Our church has an opportunity to do mission for EVERYONE!

These mission opportunities continue for everyone at First Presbyterian Church Valparaiso.

- FILL YOUR LIFE – Love is Feeding Everyone. We encourage everyone to fill their red grocery bag with items for the food pantry and bring it to church each Sunday.
- Habitat for Humanity –There are many new homes being worked on this year. Contact Brian Johnson to volunteer at brian@bcjohnson.net
- PADS: We are hosting at our church. Every Wednesday through April. If you know you would like to help this fall/winter, please let Beth Germann know 477-9964. Needs include:
 - 1) Volunteers for meals (dinner on Wednesday evenings and breakfast on Thursday mornings) Great for families to do together!
 - 2) Working the shift from 1:30 AM – 5:00 a.m. Thursday mornings
 - 3) Do laundry once a month
 - 4) Intake from 6:45-9:00 on Wednesday evenings

NEW MISSIONS: Mission has funds if you have a specific mission you want us to become involved in. Please contact Beth Germann or any Mission team member. We want to hear what missions you are passionate about!

CUBA MISSION TRIP: 13 people went on this amazing Mission Trip. They will be sharing their experiences and mission opportunities with the church very soon. Feel free to ask any of them about the mission trip – they have so much to share!

HOLY LAND MISSION TRIP: May 2017

Kenya R.E.A.L. – A thank you note was received for our donations. The May 2017 Mission Trip is postponed due to the election being held in Kenya. See Ken McAloon if you are interested in helping with this mission.

SOUPERBOWL Food Drive – February 5, 2017. Stay tuned for more details!

Praise Items: Second Mile and Mission Offerings Collected:

- January – \$762.00 was donated for Family House
- February – \$771.00 was donated to PADS
- The concert for PADS raised \$469.00
- March – \$1437.00 was donated to One Great Hour of sharing
- April – \$533.00 was donated to Kairos Outside
- May – \$853.00 was donated to Kid's Alive
- June – \$857.00 was donated for Mission Helping Mission
- July – \$792.00 was donated for Disaster Relief
- August – \$1167 was donated for PWNS Scholarships
- September - \$556.00 for our Foundation.

Total given this year = \$7,340!!

A new collage age mission group has started up. Contact Christine McAloon if you are interested in joining them. They are setting up activities for the 2016 – 2017 school year.

Thank you for being Jesus' hands and feet here in Valparaiso, in Indiana, in the United States and in the World! We are blessed to share our blessings! If you have ideas for future mission opportunities, please contact Beth Germann 464-3608 or we meet the first Monday of the month at 6:30. You are welcome to join us!

Happy Birthday!

December 1
Kathleen Spitler

Barbara Baker
Leanne Grant

December 16
Tom Lazar

December 30
Elizabeth Monroe

December 2
Susan Blohm
Matthew Johnson
Robert Meyer

December 8
Michael Byerly
Joan Johnston

December 23
Ken Kukler

December 3
Gerrit Carlson

December 10
Diana Richardson

December 25
Lillian Bianco
Marc Buehler
Gavin Kukler
Natalie Miller
Jean Patton

December 4
Paige Hughes

December 11
Nicole Arney

December 28
Richard Trapp

December 5
Audrey Rudzinski
December 6

December 12
Harley Money
Tim Reyna

If we inadvertently
missed your birth-
day,
please contact the
church office.
Thank you.

Building and Grounds

North door/pillar drainage project is completed!

Special thanks to those who assisted:

Wes Chubb
Zane Cole
Dan Higgins
Judy Johnson
Ken Koch
Pastor Mark Mueller

From the Building & Grounds Ministry Team

SECOND MILE OFFERING AND CHRISTIAN FOOD PANTRY

December's Second Mile Offering will be received for the Joy Offering. You will find envelopes in the slots on the back of the chairs for your convenience.

If you would like to donate items to the food pantry, there is a basket in the entryway for that purpose.

Advent Candlelighters

Dec. 4	9:00 a.m.	Personnel Team Jim Hubbard Chip Wilkes
	11:00 a.m.	Mission Team Beth Germann Lisa Pavlopoulos
Dec. 11	9:00 a.m. Contact:	Presbyterian Resale Shop Carolyn Dye
	11:00 a.m. Contact:	Stewardship Team Craig Johnson

Dec. 18	9:00 a.m.	Building & Grounds Team Dan Higgins Tom Swihart
	11:00 a.m.	TBD
Dec. 24	3:00 p.m. Contact:	Congregational Life Team Leila Buford
	5:00 p.m. Contact:	Worship Team Mike Croarkin
	8:00 p.m.	Christian Ed Team Cathy Cole Zane Cole

Resale Shop – December 2016 Schedule

Dec. and Jan.: Carolyn Dye – 219-464-8878

Closed on Sundays and Mondays – 462-4281

Tuesdays through Saturdays – 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

www.firstpresbyterianresale.com

Tues	Wed	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
		1 Linda Flory Pam Skaltsas ----- Nancy Pedersen Star Ruwersma	2 Valerie Dussich Carolyn Dye ----- Sue Durnell Pat Tuerff	3 Jackie Bernal Pat Tuerff ----- Don & Marilyn Owens
6 Pat Blanco Joan Johnston ----- Beth Germann Karen Huguenard	7 Ken & Sharon Passe ----- Carol Bonvissuto Judy Hollar	8 Betty Richardson Rose Ross ----- Debbie Shaw Karen Simerlein	9 Jill McGonigle Pat Tuerff ----- Bob & Sandy Sopata	10 Barbara Aungst Leanne Grant ----- Linda Hartlerode Marilyn Owens
13 Marilyn Mohr Bonnie Swarner ----- Carolyn Dye Laura Tucker	14 Sally Hawke Joan Johnston ----- Kay Exley Karen Kelly	15 Pat Puffer Betty Richardson ----- Pat Buckwell Judy Kendrick	16 Ruth Eskilson Mary Henrichs ----- Sue Durnell Karen Simerlein	17 Carol Flanagan Carol Funkhouser ----- Don & Marilyn Owens
20 Janice Reichard TBD ----- Paul Knauff Pat Tuerff	21 Peggy Caprous Mary Jayne Shurr ----- Carol Bonvissuto Judy Hollar	22 Becky Bluhm Pat Skaltsas ----- Carolyn Lelek Pastor Mark Mueller	23 Rose Cummins Alexa Olling ----- Doug & Carolyn Dye	24 Closed for Christmas Eve
27 Barbara Aungst Nancy Pedersen ----- Carolyn & Doug Dye	28 Peggy Caprous Mary Jane Shurr ----- Kay Exley Karen Kelly	29 Mary Brown Mary Henrichs ----- Cheryl Keach Pastor Toby Mueller	30 Ginger & Jim Boys ----- Carol Bonvissuto Mary Hendrichs	31 Closed for New Year's Eve

HARRIET DRAPIER / MARY CROSBY CIRCLE – NEXT MEETING

Date: March 16, 2017 **Hostesses:** Janice Reichard
Dottie Staats
Time: 10:00 A.M. **Lesson:** Dottie Staats

PW Resale Shop Ministry

Moderator: Carolyn Dye
Treasurer: Pam Skaltsas
Secretary: Sue Durnell

Ministry Roster

If there are any changes, please find a substitute and notify the church office as soon as possible to facilitate bulletin printing. Thank you for your time and ministry.

USHERS SCHEDULE

December 4

9:00 a.m. David Goodwin
Jim Hubbard
Sharon Hubbard
Phoebe Klapp

11:00 a.m. Doug Hollar
Judy Hollar
Julie Golding

December 11

9:00 a.m. Cathy Cole
Zane Cole
Fred Grosick
Susan Grosick

11:00 a.m. Ginger Boys
Jim Boys
Susan Williams

December 18

9:00 a.m. Cathy Greenawald
Don Owens
Marilyn Owens
Catherine Harvey

11:00 a.m. Beth Germann
Debbie Shaw
Pete Shaw

Christmas Eve – December 24

3:00 p.m. Ashley Johnson
Judy Johnson
Matt Johnson

5:00 p.m. Karen Huguenard
Connie Knauff
Paul Knauff
Destiny Vargas

8:00 p.m. Bob Bernal
Jackie Bernal
Sandy Hardlerode
Jim Knopf

Christmas Day – December 25

10:00 a.m. Chris Hoham
John Rittel
Tammy Rittel

SEXTON:

December	4	Jim Hubbard
	11	Jim Hubbard
	18	Jim Hubbard
	24	Michael Williams
	25	Michael Williams

COMMUNION SET UP, SATURDAY, DEC. 3, 2016

Melissa Klancer
TBD

COMMUNION SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2016

PRESENTATION/CLEAN UP:

Matthew Byerly
TBD

COMMUNION ON CHRISTMAS EVE, DEC. 24, 2016

PRESENTATION/CLEAN UP:

3:00 p.m.	Jason Gordon
5:00 p.m.	TBD
8:00 p.m.	TBD

DECEMBER 4, 2016, COMMUNION SERVERS

9:00 a.m.	Fred Grosick – Team Leads Craig Johnson – Team Leads Doyll Andrews Monica Conrad Lou Ann Karabel Michael Williams
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ELDER ON CALL

December	4	Sterling Miller
	18	Cathy Cole

DEACON ON CALL

December	11	Jason Gordon
	24	Dan Higgins
	25	TBD

Per Capita

Please prayerfully consider paying your Per Capita. The more per capita paid by each member, fewer funds will come out of our operating budget. The cost is \$40.00 per member.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VALPARAISO

In case of a pastoral emergency, please call Pastor Mark Mueller at (256) 425-3152.

To contact the Prayer Teams for emergency prayer, please contact
Pastor Toby Mueller via email at tmueller@fpcvalpo.org or via phone (256) 425-3181.

CHURCH STAFF

E-MAIL ADDRESS

Janice Axmann, Organist.....	axmann122@comcast.net
Pastor Nancy Becker, Parish Associate	mnbecker3@gmail.com
Rhonda Clark, Youth Choir Director	
Christopher S. Ebert, Director of Music	cebert@fpcvalpo.org
Julia Evans, Jr. High Youth Leader	julia.evans@valpo.edu
Beverlee Frazee, Business Manager	bfrazee@fpcvalpo.org
Walker Johnson, Sr. High Youth Leader	william.walker.johnson@gmail.com
Pastor Mark Mueller, Pastor/Head of Staff	mmueller@fpcvalpo.org
Pastor Toby Mueller, Associate Pastor	tmueller@fpcvalpo.org
Dawn Scarborough, Administrative Assistant	dscarborough@fpcvalpo.org
Lisa Thomas, Director of Children's Ministries	lthomas@fpcvalpo.org

Elders of Session

Doyll Andrews
Leila Buford
Cathy Cole
Monica Conrad
Mike Croarkin
Beth Germann
Fred Grosick
Jim Hubbard
Craig Johnson
Lou Ann Karabel
Sterling Miller
Michael Williams

Moderator of Session

Pastor Mark Mueller

Clerk of Session

Judy Hollar

FINANCIAL REPORT

October 2016

Income	\$38,101	YTD Income	\$401,144
Expenses	<u>39,573</u>	YTD Expenses	<u>346,898</u>
Over/Short	(\$1,472)		54,246



First Presbyterian Church Valparaiso (public) and
FPCVALPO (closed)