



# News & Notes

April 23, 2026

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Noblesville, IN



## Message this Sunday...

“Ear Training”

1 Peter 2:20-25; John 1:1-10

**Pastor Ken Locke**

[Click Here for the Live Service](#)

[Link to last Sunday's Service](#)

[Link to Sermon Manuscripts](#)

# Weekly Devotion....

## **Don't Be Deceived!**

### **2 John:1-13**

23 April, 2026

My Beloved -

At first glance, the second letter of John is pretty unimpressive. Only 13 verses long, less than a single page, it's hard to imagine why it's even in the Bible. And yet, this anonymous letter, sent to an unknown person, with its cryptic ending and general air of defensiveness, has spoken to Christians over the centuries and still speaks to us today.

First, it stresses the importance of loving each other. Bible study, prayer, worship, generosity: they all matter. In fact, I have a hard time imagining anyone being a Christian without them. But if they do not lead to love, we have missed the point.

In today's ugly society, where casually dismissing other people's concerns and disrespecting their feelings is increasingly common, verses 4-6 yank us back to what matters. Loving one another, treating each other the way Jesus treats us, is crucial. We can talk about returning to a time of civil engagement where disagreements are respected, but until we love each other it's about as likely as finding a unicorn in a forest.

Second, this letter addresses something that is increasingly on my mind. Periodically, someone comes along with a different version of Jesus. They want to rebrand him, if you will. They want us to embrace a different Jesus from the Jesus we see in the gospels.

In the early church, a group called the Gnostics were actively and widely preaching a different Jesus. They said, among other things, that Jesus was never actually human. He was pure spirit. They wrote gospels wherein Jesus did not get hungry, walked through walls, did not leave footprints in the sand, and never died on the cross. They said that the Jesus who died on the cross was only an illusion, not a real human being.

The early church pushed back hard against this heresy. They

stressed that Jesus was not just divine but also human. When he was hungry, his stomach rumbled. When he stubbed his toe, it hurt. More importantly, Jesus experienced human feelings. He knew what it was to be loved. He knew what it was to be hated and vilified. He knew about being betrayed by those who said they loved him and he knew about dying a grisly, painful death. Jesus may not have lived our lives, but Jesus can relate to our feelings.

Today, there is a different rebranding effort that is so pervasive it is almost ubiquitous. Instead of the Jesus of the gospels, this heresy wants us to think of Jesus as a man of violence. It wants us to believe that Jesus embraced ridicule and bullying.

Anyone who reads even a little of the gospels knows this is not true. Jesus was not violent. Jesus did not glorify in violence and destruction. Jesus never claimed that the people in his country were superior to every other country. Jesus never considered one race to be superior to another. He never advocated one political system over another. He never rejoiced in anyone's death. He never prayed that violence be done against anyone.

(We need to stop and remember that Jesus was living in an occupied country. The Romans who controlled them were brutal, oppressive overlords. The temptation towards violence must have been very strong.)

Anyone who preaches a violent, cruel, uncaring Jesus is a deceiver and the antichrist. They are not to be believed. Do not be seduced by such a person, losing what you worked for both in this life and the next.

Second John isn't very big, but it packs a big punch.

God's peace to us all,

Pastor Ken.

## March 2026 Income/Expense Report

	<u>2026 Budget</u>	<u>2026 Actual</u>
Income Received:	\$ 81,042.81	\$ 89,706.79
Expenses:	\$ 81,042.81	\$ 79,078.07
* <b>(Deficit)/Surplus:</b>		<b>\$ 10,628.72</b>

### One Great Hour of Sharing Offering Received:

Kids—\$329 Adults—\$626

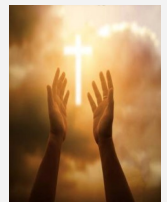
**Easter Offering Received: \$811.80**

Family Promise of Hamilton Co—\$405.90 Third Phase—\$405.90

**Attendance Last week: In Sanctuary — 107; Households online — 31**

### Remember in your Prayers...

- ▼ **Ray Faust**, at home under hospice care.
- ▼ **Karen McCord**, shoulder/arm injury.
- ▼ **Jan Bellis and family**, upon the passing of her husband, **Don Bellis**.
- ▼ **The Family of Carolyn McGinley (wife of Joe McGinley)**, upon her passing. Arrangements will be forthcoming.



#### ARRANGEMENTS FOR DON BELLIS

Visitation 11:00 am

Memorial Service 12:00 pm

Luncheon for family and friends after the service at First Presbyterian Church

Remember those who are at home or in health care facilities:

Wendy Bittle

Dorothy Etchison—*Independence Village*

Joe McGinley—*Hamilton Trace*

Verna Merrell

Rachel Morgan

Carol Stough—*The Crossings of Noblesville*

**Keep up to date on the interim process at FPC.**



[Click here](#)

## Events for the Upcoming Week...



### ***APRIL 26 THROUGH MAY 3, 2026***

<b><i>Sunday</i></b>	<i>9:00 am</i>	<i>Adult Sunday School</i>
	<i>10:00 am</i>	<i>Worship</i>
	<i>11:15 am</i>	<i>Fellowship Hour</i>
<b><i>Monday</i></b>	<i>9:00 am</i>	<i>Shepherd's Center</i>
<b><i>Tuesday</i></b>	<i>6:00 pm</i>	<i>Historical Society</i>
	<i>7:00 pm</i>	<i>The Chosen Small Group</i>
<b><i>Wednesday</i></b>	<i>8:30 am</i>	<i>Men's Great Banquet Reunion Group</i>
	<i>8:30 am</i>	<i>Women's Great Banquet Reunion Group</i>
<b><i>Thursday</i></b>	<i>7:00 pm</i>	<i>Choir Rehearsal</i>
<b><i>Friday</i></b>		
<b><i>Saturday</i></b>	<i>8:30 am</i>	<i>Aerobics</i>
	<i>11:00 am</i>	<i>Visitation — Don Bellis</i>
	<i>12:00 pm</i>	<i>Memorial Service — Don Bellis</i>
<b><i>Sunday</i></b>	<i>9:00 am</i>	<i>Adult Sunday School</i>
	<i>10:00 am</i>	<i>Worship</i>
	<i>11:15 am</i>	<i>Fellowship Hour</i>

## Did you know...

### It's not too late to pay your 2026 Per Capita?

***Although the Church has paid the \$10,446.54 Statement, we only collected \$6,135.58 from members.*** If you have paid your portion, we thank you for your payment. If you have not, **individual per capita is \$46.02.** Please consider giving as soon as possible to help reduce the \$4,310.96 paid by the Church. If you have any questions, please contact Robin Story at [robin.story@fpc-noblesville.org](mailto:robin.story@fpc-noblesville.org) or 317.508.4411.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Help Host Fellowship Hour!

We are looking for volunteers to host Fellowship Hour after church! Hosting is a simple and meaningful way to serve—just bring some light refreshments, help set up, and tidy up afterward. You can sign up individually or with a friend or group. If you're willing to help create a welcoming space for fellowship, please consider signing up today! **If you have questions please see Catherine Burnside or Sondra Pearson in the kitchen or Barb Runyon at the Welcome Center.**

\*\*\*\*\*

## Adult Sunday School...

For **Sunday, April 26**, the class will review the notes from Max Lucado's series "**WHAT HAPPENS NEXT**", and answer discussion questions: How Heaven minded are you. How will you live your life differently now?

For **Sunday, May 3**, the class will begin a study of Lee Strobel's book, "**THE CASE FOR EASTER**". Did Jesus REALLY die on the cross. Did Jesus REALLY rise from the dead. What are the medical, historical and cultural truths revealed in the scriptures? Come and see!

\*\*\*\*\*

## The Chosen Small Group

**Bob and Trish Moore are hosting a Small Group in their home based on the popular television series "The Chosen".** We are starting back at the beginning with Season 1. We will watch an episode, and then follow with discussion. **The meetings are held on Tuesday evenings at 7:00.** New members are welcome to join us at any point in the series! If you are interested in joining, please email [bob-trishmoore@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bob-trishmoore@sbcglobal.net) for more information.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Sunday Snuggles!

Our church family is growing, and with that comes the blessing of more little ones! We would love to have 1 more volunteer to cuddle and play with our youngest visitors and members. By serving in the nursery just once a month, you can make a big impact for our families! If you have a heart for kids and baby snuggles, please see Trish Moore or send an email to : [bobtrishmoore@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bobtrishmoore@sbcglobal.net) for more information.



\*\*\*\*\*

## Mother's Day Carnation Orders - Due Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>!

*We need to get your orders in SOON!*

You may pick up a form on the table at the back of the sanctuary to place your Mother's Day Carnation order. Please turn these in, with your check, by **Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>**. You may give your order to Jim Story or put it in the offering plate.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Meet Your Deacon, Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>!

*During Fellowship Hour*

\*\*\*\*\*

## April Session Recap!

Meeting started with a welcome dinner for new members Jon and Maureen Schriebfeder. Pastor Ken is having a second class on leadership, organization anxiety, and how to be the church now that the landscape on which we are operating as radically changed on Sunday, May 17 immediately following fellowship hour. Presbyterian Women reported that the rummage sale brought in \$4,300. Deacons reported that the Meet The Deacon fellowship hour will be Sunday, May 3. Christian Ed reported that there is just one space left for the Performing Arts Camp in June. Worship reported that the annual outdoor service will be Sunday, June 7 at Forest Park, Shelter 3. Look for more information on the outdoor service coming soon. Mission reported that they have the largest group going to Henderson in June and various fund raising activities are planned for May. Planning reported that they are currently working on job descriptions for church staff. Properties reported that many small issues are being repaired throughout the church but the flat sections of the roof need to be replaced. They are currently looking at bids to replace the roof. More information to come in the next couple of months.

## Men's Fellowship Luncheons

The FPC men's luncheons are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at Perkins Restaurant. Any questions see Stephen Craig. Sign up sheet will be on a clipboard at the welcome center, or you can email Stephen at [sacraig071347@gmail.com](mailto:sacraig071347@gmail.com). Your phone number is requested in the event the luncheon is canceled. If you bring a friend please sign them up also so we have an accurate count for the restaurant. All are welcome. **Remember it's free pie Monday.**



## Ladies Luncheons

The FPC women's luncheons are the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at Perkins Restaurant. Any questions see Marlynn Story. Sign up sheet will be on a clipboard at the welcome center. Your phone number is requested in the event the luncheon is canceled. If you bring a friend please sign them up also so we have an accurate count for the restaurant. All are welcome. **Remember it's free pie Monday.**

\*\*\*\*\*

## Stay Informed...

Do you want to know what is happening in the life of our church? Join our email list to get weekly updates on:

- Upcoming Events
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Spiritual Encouragement/ Sermon Highlights

Send your email information to [secretary@fpc-noblesville.org](mailto:secretary@fpc-noblesville.org). In addition, to receive important updates by text, text FPC to 317-537-0124.

Stay connected, stay inspired!

\*\*\*\*\*

## Purchases & Reimbursements...

If you make a purchase for the church, please turn in your receipts. Put them in an envelope and include your name & the purpose of the purchase. Place them in Robin's mailbox. If you want to be reimbursed for the purchase, use the forms in the payment voucher mailbox (top row, second from the right).

PAYMENT VOUCHER	
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 1207 Corner St., Noblesville, IN 46060	
Date:	_____
Made Payable to:	_____
Invoice or Statement No.:	_____
Description of Purchase or Need:	_____
Total Amount Due: \$	_____
Category:	_____ Account: _____
Approved By:	_____ Amount: _____
<small>Only authorized Elders or Moderators may sign vouchers. Please attach to the original bill or invoice for processing and place in the Business Manager's mailbox.</small>	

# Sunday School Calendar

Grades 6 - 8

~~MARCH  
8  
DURING SERVICE  
Sunday School  
The Story~~

~~MARCH  
15  
DURING SERVICE  
Sunday School  
The Story~~

~~MARCH  
22  
DURING SERVICE  
Sunday School  
The Story~~

~~APRIL  
12  
DURING SERVICE  
Sunday School  
God in Narnia~~

~~APRIL  
19  
DURING SERVICE  
Sunday School  
God in Narnia~~

APRIL  
26  
DURING SERVICE  
Sunday School  
God in Narnia

MAY  
8  
FELLOWSHIP HALL  
6-8PM  
Cinco de Mayo Game  
Night

MAY  
10  
DURING SERVICE  
Sunday School  
God in Narnia

MAY  
17  
DURING SERVICE  
Sunday School  
God in Narnia

MAY  
24  
DURING SERVICE  
Sunday School  
God in Narnia

MAY  
31  
DURING SERVICE  
Sunday School  
God in Narnia

# Creative & Performing Arts Camp...

Camp will be held June 1-5

Registration is \$60 per child and will be open March 1<sup>st</sup>—May 17<sup>th</sup>

**There is ONE spot left.**

**Volunteers are needed for camp**, please consider giving a hour, a day, or a couple of days to the children. Contact Marlee Light at marleelight@gmail.com or stop by the Welcome Center.

# 2026 CREATIVE & PERFORMING ARTS CAMP

REGISTER MARCH 1 - MAY 17



<https://forms.gle/iH2rSRiK4yiux2VK7>



**JUNE 1 - 5, 10AM-4PM**

**MUST HAVE COMPLETED 1<sup>ST</sup> GRADE**

**\$60 PER CHILD DUE MAY 17 TO SECURE SPOT**

**MUST FILL OUT THE FORM LINKED FOR EACH CHILD**

**CONTACT US AT SUMMERCAMPFPC@GMAIL.COM**

## Mission Minute...

### A Decade of Faithful Support for Last Bell Ministries



For over ten years, our congregation has supported Last Bell Ministries through financial gifts, donations of winter coats, clothing and basic needs, and two mission trips to Ukraine for English Camp. Most importantly, FPC has faithfully prayed for Last Bell Ministries and the people of Ukraine and continues to do so.

#### **2026 has two great opportunities for you to continue to help our friends at Last Bell**

The **“Sharing Our Love”** donation drive will focus on teens and young adult orphans and their families.

- Gently used or new, warm winter coats, shoes, and clothing.
- They love American fashions, especially hoodies and T-shirts with logos.
- There is also a love of baseball and softball, but no athletic equipment for those sports is sold in Ukraine.
- More info and a collection zone will be set up in Fellowship Hall early May. Items will be shipped to Ukraine in early fall.

#### **Free Concert to Benefit Last Bell Ministries**

Dr. Warren Fremling will be hosting a concert on **Sunday, June 14 at 4:00 in the FPC Sanctuary**

Mark your calendars for this wonderful benefit. Ask Warren or a mission team member how you can help with this special event.

**FREE CONCERT**  
TO BENEFIT  
 **UKRAINE**  **LAST BELL**  
MINISTRIES  
**SUNDAY JUNE 14 4:00**  
Dr. Warren Fremling, Baritone and Philip Orem, Piano

For more information about Last Bell Ministries visit <https://lastbell.org/>

# Are YOU a FAN of FPC?

Show your pride by wearing our new 2026 "Spirit" Wear!

The mission team is sponsoring a T-Shirt & Quarter Zip Sale to raise money for our June work camp trip to Henderson Settlement in Frakes, Kentucky. All team members pay their own room & board as part of their service to the people of Henderson Settlement. **But we will still need \$2500 for materials needed to complete our work camp jobs**

**Shirts are ultra-soft, high-quality, & designed by our own Marlee Light!**

- T-shirts - \$20 (\$22 2XL & 3XL)
- Quarter Zips - \$35 (\$37 2XL & 3XL)
- Sample sizes: available to try on at the sales table in Fellowship Hall
- Orders: Taken through May 1 In person on Sundays or online  
online: <https://forms.gle/k4QFeiUmoph7tmHEA>
- Payment Accepted: Checks written to FPC, memo church, Venmo, or Cash

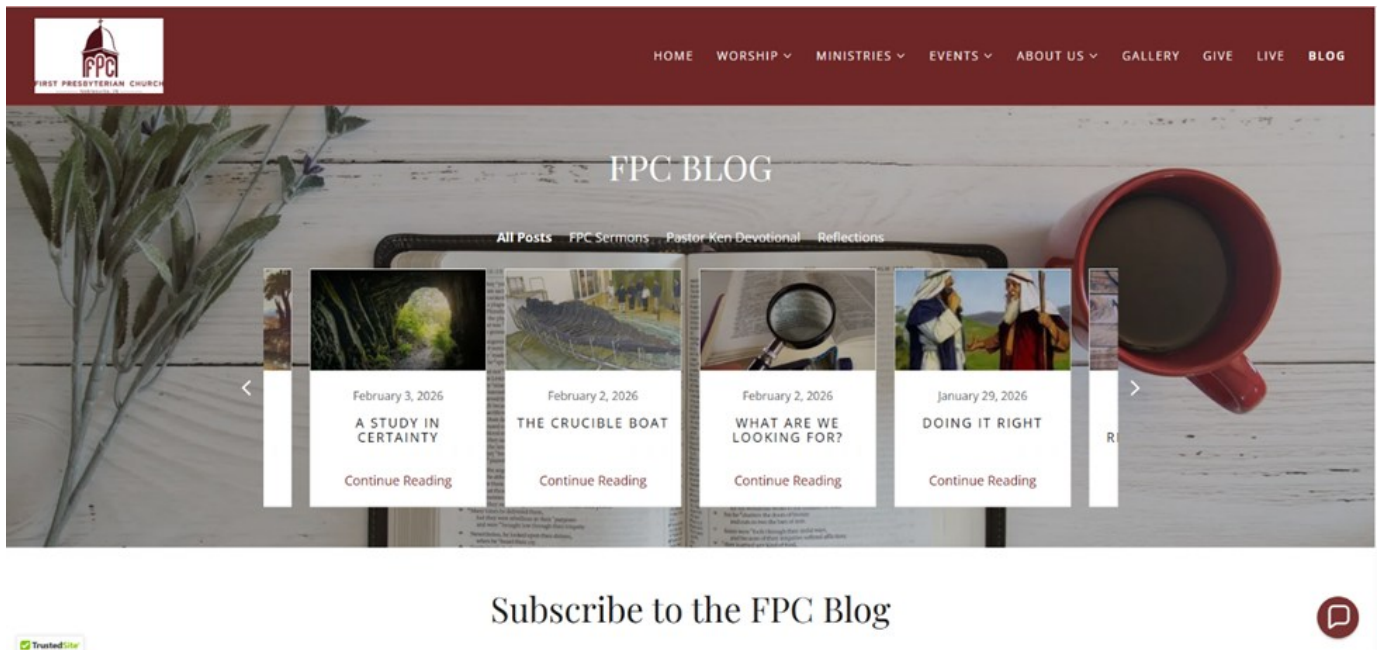


## FPC BLOG

If you have not visited our website lately, you're missing out! Along with weekly updates, announcements, sermon teasers, and an event calendar, **we've added a blog page.** Blogs are a type of regularly updated web page that provide insight into certain topics. The word blog is short for "weblog" (a combined version of the words "web" and "log").

A link to the blog page appears in the main menu of our website. Current topics include weekly devotionals by Pastor Ken, a written version of weekly Sunday sermons, Lenten and Advent readings, and a members category called "reflections". The devotionals and sermons also provide links to scripture references through Bible Gateway.

If you enjoy writing and would like to have your reflection included in the FPC blog, submit your piece to Brian Wuerch at [brian.wuerch@fpc-noblesville.org](mailto:brian.wuerch@fpc-noblesville.org). All submissions are subject to approval. An example has already been posted, so feel free to check that out here: <https://fpc-noblesville.org/blog>. HAPPY BLOGGING!



## A Note From the Church Office— The Scammers are back!



Members of the congregation have received what looks like an email from our Interim Pastor, Ken Locke.

If you look at the email this is sent from, it shows a “gmail.com” address. **This is not an official FPC email. All emails from an FPC address will be from “*Person@fpc-noblesville.org.*”**

**Please ignore & delete any emails from bad email addresses.**

**Thank you!**