



News & Notes

May 14, 2026

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Noblesville, IN



Message this Sunday...

“Why Did He Have To Go?”

1 Peter 4:12–14; 5:6–11; Acts 1:1–14

Pastor Ken Locke

[Click Here for the Live Service](#)

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

[Link to Sermon Manuscripts](#)

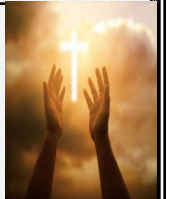
APRIL 2026 BUDGET PERFORMANCE REPORT

	<u>2026 Actual</u>	<u>2025 Actual</u>
Income:	\$107,330.26	\$113,476.68
Expenses:	\$102,315.37	\$106,353.49
(Deficit)/Surplus:	\$ 5,014.89	\$ 7,123.19

Attendance Last week: In Sanctuary — 123; Households online — 21
Special Offering this Sunday for Henderson Mission—
brought to you by the M&M's

Remember in your Prayers...

- ♥ **Sherry Faust, Dan Faust, and family**, upon the passing of Sherry's husband and Dan's father, **Ray Faust**.
- ♥ **Carol Stough**, upon the passing of her sister.
- ♥ **Karen McCord**, shoulder/arm injury.
- ♥ **Julia Keller-Welter**, broken arm and in a cast.
- ♥ **Mike Maloney**, (Rita Popp's husband) in Riverview Hospital with a respiratory virus and in isolation.



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

Wendy Bittle

Joe McGinley—*Hamilton Trace*

Rachel Morgan

Dorothy Etchison—*Independence Village*

Verna Merrell

Carol Stough—*The Crossings of Noblesville*

Keep up to date on the interim process at FPC.



[Click here](#)

Events for the Upcoming Week...

MAY 17 THROUGH MAY 24, 2026

- Sunday** 9:00 am Adult Sunday School
10:00 am Worship
11:15 am Fellowship Hour
11:15 am Pastor Ken's Class 2
2:00 pm Ray Faust Visitation
4:00 pm Ray Faust Funeral
- Monday** 9:00 am Shepherd's Center
11:30 am Women's Lunch—Perkins
7:00 pm Session
- Tuesday** 1:00 pm Circle
6:00 pm Great Banquet Gathering
- Wednesday** 8:30 am Men's Great Banquet Reunion Group
8:30 am Women's Great Banquet Reunion Group
- Thursday** 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal
- Friday**
- Saturday** 8:30 am Aerobics
- Sunday** 9:00 am Adult Sunday School
10:00 am Worship
11:15 am Fellowship Hour

Next Sunday, May 24 is Pentecost Sunday — please wear red to symbolize the “tongues of fire” that rested on the Apostles, representing the power of the Spirit.

Due to the Memorial Day holiday weekend—there will no be Sunday School for Rainbows, Shooting Stars, and the middle school youth and no nursery care. We look forward to seeing you back on May 31st!

Church office will be closed, Monday, May 25.

Things I Wish All Congregations Knew,

Part II: Leadership, Change, Bowling & Canoeing the Rockies!

In this class we will talk about the role of leadership in organizational change, what 1950s bowling says about contemporary social cohesion, and how the Lewis & Clark expedition is a perfect paradigm for our time.

THIS SUNDAY, Fellowship Hall, shortly after worship.

Looking forward to seeing everyone! Pastor Ken.

GOOD NEWS!

My Dear Ones - I am happy to share that, 60 days after her stem cell transplant, Elizabeth has been cleared to be alone and to move about on her own steam. She no longer needs a caregiver 24/7, and she can drive herself to appointments.

She still needs to be careful about being out in public. She's been advised to wear a mask, avoid crowded places and small children. And she still tires very easily.

We are hopeful that in another 6 weeks she'll be able to go grocery shopping without hesitation and that some of her old energy will have returned.

Thank you for keeping us both in your prayers. We're not out of the woods yet, but we're starting to see daylight.

God's peace to one and all, Pastor Ken

Raise The Roof Campaign!

A capital campaign for a new \$60,000 (plus) roof has started. Your help is very important in order to preserve the integrity of our beloved church. **We need to raise \$35,000 and to date we have collected \$15,202.** Please consider how you may be able to financially help with this expense. If you have any questions concerning the roof or the capital campaign talk to Steve Runyon, Property Elder or Mark Wisely, Finance Elder.

Ask FPC!

Have a question you've always wanted to ask? ***Ask FPC*** is your opportunity to submit questions and explore topics that matter to our congregation together. ***Ask FPC*** is designed to encourage conversation, learning, and connections within our church family. Submit your questions to secretary@fpc-noblesville.org, and watch future newsletters for responses from church leadership. Today's ***ASK FPC*** questions will focus on the "**Raise the Roof**" project – why it is needed, what work is being done, and how important this improvement will help preserve and protect our church home for years to come.

Q: What section of the roof is being replaced?

A: All the flat rubber sections of the roof—mainly over the south end of church (over church office and nursery). There is a diagram displayed at the Welcome Center with the roof portion being replaced colored in yellow.

Q: Why are we just now dealing with it?

A: The flat sections have never been replaced—they have been repaired but not replaced. We are seeing more water leaks in the hallway by the nursery and church office.

Q: Is the roof being replaced or repaired?

A: Yes the entire rubber roof on the flat sections will be replaced.

Q: Who is the contractor?

A: IRC Commercial Roofing, Indianapolis, IN

Q: When is the project scheduled to begin and how long will it take?

A: The project is scheduled to begin in mid June and IRC Roofing estimates it will take a week.

Q: Will it affect our parking lot?

A: Yes, they will need 5-6 parking spaces for the materials.

Q: How much money is coming from reserves, will this wipe out our reserves, and how much do we need to raise?

A: Half of the money is coming from Endowment and the other half (\$35,000) we will need to raise. We will not wipe out our reserves. Although the roof will be replaced in June you can continue giving to the "**Raise the Roof**" campaign until we reach the \$35,000 goal. You can make donations over several months.

Weekly Devotion....

Our Great Commission

Matthew 28:16-20

May 14, 2026
Feast of the Ascension
Rev. Kenneth M. Locke

My Beloved –

Matthew 28:16-20

¹⁶Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.’

Today, forty days after Easter, is the Feast of the Ascension, the day we celebrate Jesus going up to heaven. Just as Jesus spent forty days in the wilderness preparing himself for his ministry, so also Jesus spent forty days after his resurrection preparing his disciples for their new ministry.

Jesus’ actual ascension is only reported in Luke and Acts. Today’s reading has Jesus’ final instructions to his disciples. This passage is often called The Great Commission because here Jesus commissions his disciples, both then and now, to begin their ministry in the world.

Let’s look at it and perhaps we will hear it speaking to us in our time.

According to Matthew, after Jesus was resurrected from the dead he gave instructions for his disciples to leave Jerusalem and return to Galilee, where Jesus’ ministry had started. Our Scripture Lesson picks up when the disciples gather there and meet Jesus.

Right off we are told that, though they worshipped him, some

doubted. It can't be that they doubted he had been raised up. They had seen him die. They made the trek from Jerusalem to Galilee because they thought he was alive. And now, they see him in the flesh. Clearly, he is alive!

Perhaps what they doubted was their ability to obey and follow him. They must have remembered how they had all deserted him. But Jesus believes in them, or else he wouldn't have asked them to meet him and given them this charge.

Just as he did with those first disciples, Jesus trusts us even when we desert him. We don't run away when the soldiers come, but do we fail to help a child of God when we can? Do we turn our back on a brother or sister in need? Do we curse our bad luck rather than see it as an opportunity to grow closer to God? Given our backgrounds, it's OK to doubt our ability to follow Jesus' Great Commission. Even the disciples did.

But like the disciples, we know who Jesus is and that he has won. The devil had offered Jesus authority over all the kingdoms of the world if only Jesus would worship him **(Mt. 4:8-11)**. But Jesus had refused the devil's easy offer and instead had faithfully waited until he had been given that authority by God. "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me" **(Mt 28:18b)** by God, not the devil.

Only Jesus has the authority to send us out into the world. We can trust him when he sends us on a lifetime mission.

How far will the disciples, and all of us, need to go in pursuing this ministry? In case anyone had missed it, we are reminded that God is not just the God of Israel. God is also the God of all nations. No nation or group of people is exempt from God's lordship. Therefore, all of us are to go to all the nations, baptizing them into the death and resurrection of Jesus and so make them citizens of his death-defying kingdom.

Living in that kingdom, worshiping our God, is to live a life faithful to Jesus' teachings. Therefore, Jesus commands his disciples, and us, to teach new disciples how to live such a life. Jesus' death and resurrection cannot be separated from the way he taught us to live. One without the other is much less than a whole.

Yes, Jesus left us to return to heaven. And on his way out, he gave us all a lifelong, worldwide task. But Jesus did not leave us alone. By the power of the Holy Spirit, he is still with us and will be with us until the end of the age that began with his birth, ministry, death and resurrection.

Go ahead and doubt if you wish. It's a big ministry Jesus gave us before he left. But remember he didn't leave us alone. God the Holy Spirit is with us all in both this world and the next.

Thanks be to God!

Pastor Ken.

Arrangements for Ray Faust

Visitation and Service for Ray Faust will be at First Presbyterian Church, this afternoon. **Visitation from 2:00-4:00 pm, with the service immediately following the visitation at 4:00 pm.**

Dan Faust's address: 4844 Rustling Ridge Court, Noblesville, IN 46062

Sherry's address: 1384 Maple Ave, Noblesville, IN 46060

Spirit Wear Sale!

The "Spirit" wear has arrived! T-shirts & quarter-zips will be distributed up on the balcony this Sunday and next Sunday. If you have not paid for your order, please bring your check or cash payment to collect your shirt. If you have any questions, call or text Jennie @ 317-696-3843.

Great Banquet Gathering Is Tuesday!

The Great Banquet Gathering is Tuesday, May 19 at 6:00 pm in the fellowship hall. Please bring a covered dish to share, meat and drinks will be provided. If you have any questions please see Jim Story.

Annual Outdoor Service—June 7, 2026 at Forest Park

Our annual outdoor service will be at **Forest Park (Shelter #3)**, this year. **The service is on June 7, 2026 and will begin at 10 am, with a pitch-in lunch to follow.** Bring a dish to share and your table setting. Dress casually! **Meat and drinks will be provided.** Forest Park is located at 701 Cicero Rd. (S.R. 19), Noblesville.

Adult Sunday School...

This Sunday, the Adult Class will continue discussion on Lee Stroble's book, "The Case for Easter". Did Jesus REALLY die on the cross? Did Jesus REALLY rise from the tomb? What are the medical, historical and cultural truths revealed in the scriptures. Come and see!

Thank You!

Thank you to our dedicated 2026 Lenten readers for bringing the Word to life and guiding our congregation through this season of reflection, prayer, and renewal: Kiersten Clifford, Jake Light, Mark Wisely, Azenwi Ndofor, Lum Ndofor, and David McCord

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 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.**

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 : bob-trishmoore@sbcglobal.net for more information.



Men's Fellowship Luncheons

The FPC men's luncheons are the 2nd 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. 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 3rd 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. 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 46050	
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>	

Welcome our New Members to FPC Noblesville

Anne Fowler

10206 Adler Ct
Noblesville, IN 46060
(432) 557-6541
jimoranne@sbcglobal.net

Tanner and Kelsey McCaw

317-879-6241 is Tanner's cell
574-261-6238 is Kelsey's cell
Tanner.mccaw@gmail.com
Jackson (age 3)
Brooks (age 1)

Bob and Susie Zabel

1405 Cottonwood Cir.
Noblesville, IN 46062
317-489-2501 is Bob's cell
317-413-4726 is Susie's cell
thezabels@msn.com

Jon and Maureen Schreibfeder

11715 Flynn Place
Noblesville, IN 4060
214-695-4367 is Jon's cell
214-668-4261 is Maureen's cell
jonsintx@aol.com



*Welcome to
your new
church home!*

W e l c o m e !

2026 CREATIVE & PERFORMING ARTS CAMP

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Camp is coming up, and we need some awesome humans to help make it a success!

You can **sign up for a shift** (because we respect your need for snacks, naps, and normal life), or go **full camp legend and stay all day**—your choice!

If you're willing to lend a hand, bring the energy, and maybe embrace a little organized chaos, we'd love to have you.

Reach out to Marlee for Volunteer Interest!



JUNE 1 - 5, 10AM-4PM

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

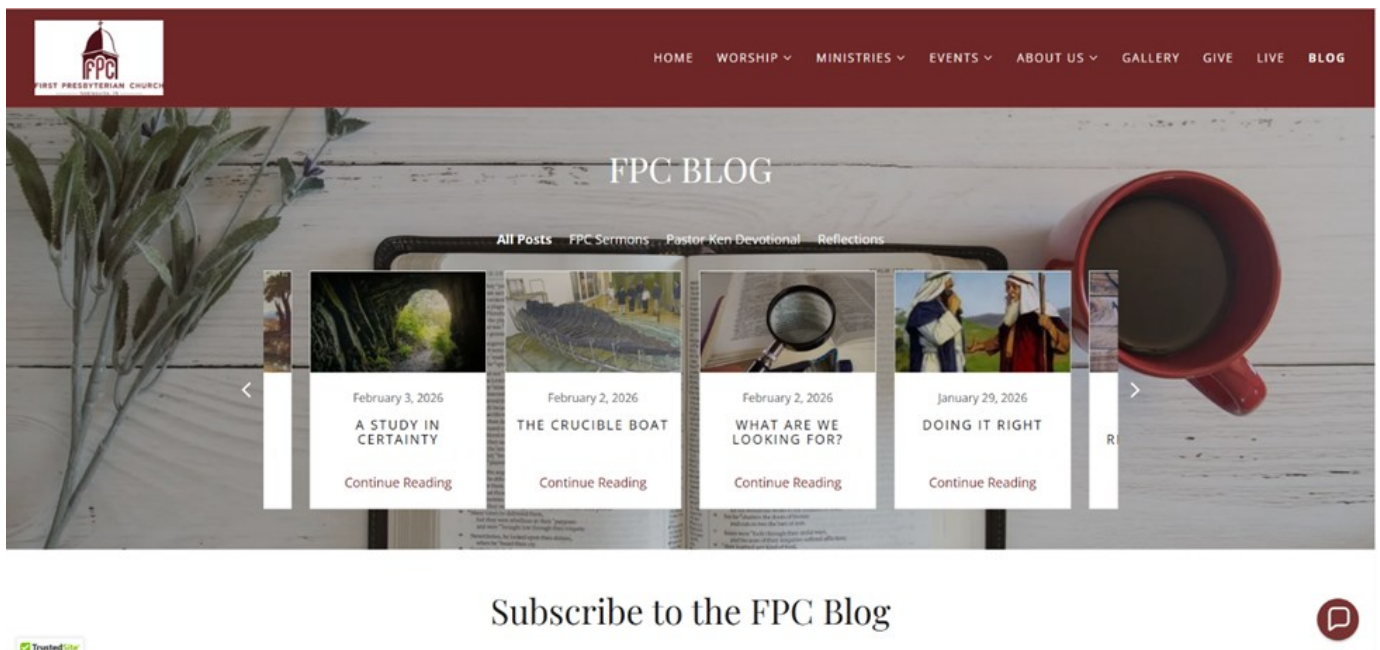
For more information about Last Bell Ministries visit <https://lastbell.org/>

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. 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 are continuing to receive 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!