



News & Notes

July 16, 2026

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Noblesville, IN



Message this Sunday...

“Good News About Suffering!”

Genesis 28:10–19a; Romans 8:12–25

Pastor Ken Locke

[Click Here for the Live Service](#)

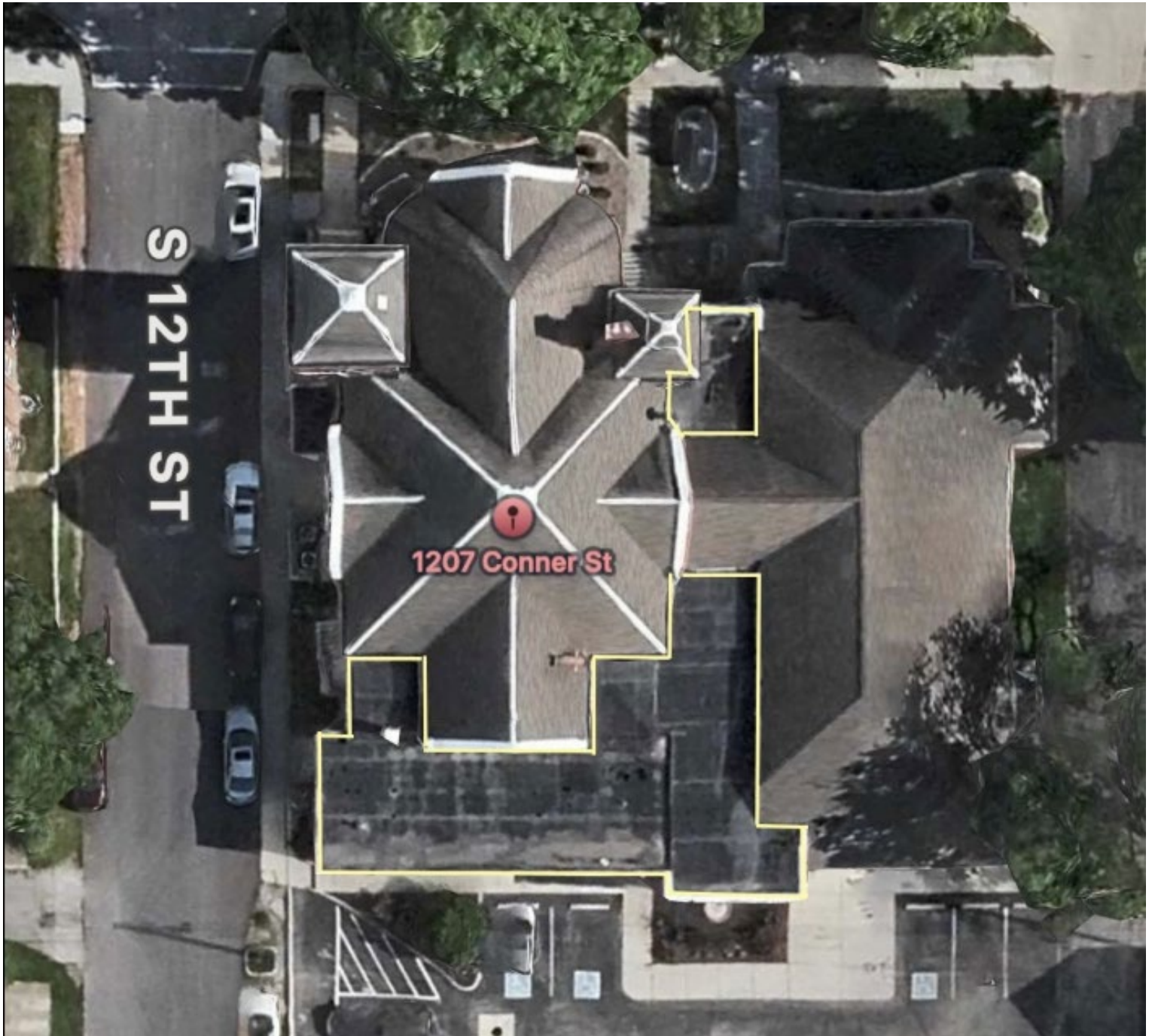
[Link to last Sunday's Service](#)

[Link to Sermon Manuscripts](#)

The Flat Roof Replacement has started...

The roof replacement project has begun. At least 11 parking spaces have been taken up for this project. Please be careful when parking in the church lot this week.

For Sunday's service – if they are not done with the project, *please consider parking at City Hall and leave the remaining spaces in our parking lot for those who aren't as mobile or need assistance.*



Annual Summer Picnic

The Annual Summer Picnic will be held on Sunday, August 2nd after the worship service in the Fellowship Hall!

The Deacons will provide hamburgers and hotdogs, buns and condiments, drinks and table service.

Please bring a side or dessert to share!

Grab a partner and sign-up for the Cornhole Tournament! You could win a fabulous prize! There is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall by the Welcome Center.

There will also be special treats for the youth.

Hope to see everyone there!



Mission Minute



Helpers Needed for the 11th Annual Red Geranium Artisan Market

It takes many helping hands to make our **FPC Red Geranium Artisan Market** a success, and we invite our church family to be part of this exciting mission event on **Saturday, August 15**. Volunteers are needed for a variety of roles, including **Thursday evening setup (August 13), vendor greeters, indoor and outdoor market helpers, announcers, “Dancing Geraniums” who welcome guests and promote the event along Conner Street, cleanup crews, and other behind-the-scenes support tasks**. Whether you can serve for an hour or most of the day, your help will make a difference in creating a warm, welcoming experience for our 57 artisans and the hundreds of shoppers who visit our church.

The Red Geranium Artisan Market is one of our most important mission fundraisers, with proceeds supporting **local, national, and international mission projects**. Volunteering is a wonderful opportunity to share hospitality, meet members of our community, and help create a welcoming atmosphere that reflects Christ’s love. No special experience is needed—just a willingness to serve and a friendly smile.

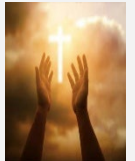
If you would like to volunteer, please contact **Mission Team member Kelly Wuerch** at **kswuerch@gmail.com** or **317-946-2733**. When signing up, please include your **phone number** so we can send a text reminder one week before the event and again the evening before your volunteer shift. Thank you for helping make this year's Red Geranium Artisan Market a fun, successful, and impactful day of mission and fellowship!

June 2026 Budget Performance Report

	<u>2026 Actual</u>	<u>2025 Actual</u>
Income:	\$154,256.33	\$169,195.53
Expenses:	\$162,702.48	\$161,781.78
(Deficit)/Surplus:	\$ (8,446.15)	\$ 7,413.75

Attendance Last week: In Sanctuary—100; Households online—22

Remember in your Prayers...



- ♥ **Michael Davis & his family, and the family of Dr. Edward Myers,** upon the passing of **Dr. Myers.**
- ♥ **Jeri Griffith & family,** on the passing of her brother-in-law, **Jonathan Griffith.**
- ♥ **Bill McConnell, husband of Jan McConnell,** in ICU at St. Vincent Hospital after suffering a stroke.
- ♥ **Bob Zabel,** recuperating at home.
- ♥ **Mike Maloney,** going home to hospice care.
- ♥ **Tom Bader,** recuperating from a recent Eye procedure and scheduling a Heart procedure.

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

Wendy Bittle

Dorothy Etchison—*Independence Village*

Barbara Landes

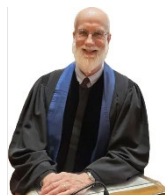
Joe McGinley—*Hamilton Trace*

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...

JULY 19 THROUGH JULY 26, 2026

<i>Today</i>	<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>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>9:00 am</i>	<i>Shepherd's Center</i>
	<i>11:30 am</i>	<i>Women's Luncheon at Perkins</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>		
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>8:30 am</i>	<i>Women's Great Banquet Reunion Group</i>
	<i>8:30 am</i>	<i>Men's Great Banquet Reunion Group</i>
<i>Thursday</i>		
<i>Friday</i>		
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>8:30 am</i>	<i>Aerobics</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<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>
	<i>11:15 am</i>	<i>Mission Team Meeting</i>

Nursery Attendants:

July 19—Lee Ann Stein & Trish Moore

July 26—Ann Green & Jennie Auble

Audio / Video Team:

July 19—Jake Light & Nathan Roe

July 26—Quinn Teage & Jake Light

Lay Leader:

July 19—Steve Burress

July 26—Tom Bader

Fellowship Hour Hosts:

July 19—Marlynn Story & Brenda Christian

July 26—Robin Rufatto & Andrea Joines

In the Office:

July—Janie Emerson

August—Barb Runyon

Give On-line through Tithe.ly:



Upcoming Changes to our Order of Worship!

Beginning this Sunday, July 19, we will be making a few changes to our Order of Worship. These changes have been reviewed by the Worship Committee and the Session and have their blessing.

We are not losing anything. Nothing is going away. We will still sing the same hymns, have a sermon, time with children, prayers of the people, and all those elements of worship that are so meaningful to all of us. They will simply be in a slightly different order.

These changes will bring our services a little closer to the outline in our Book of Order and more in keeping with our Presbyterian and Reformed theology. I will be explaining the changes every Sunday between now and July 19th so if you don't get it the first time don't worry. You'll hear it again!

Our desire, of course, is that these few changes will make our services even more meaningful and help us all draw closer to God.

God's peace to one and all,
Pastor Ken.

Weekly Devotion...

Leadership & Dry Land

Joshua 3:7-17

July 16, 2026

My Beloved -

Two items in particular strike me about today's text. The first is leadership. New leaders often need almost inordinate amounts of encouragement. (Certainly, I did.) We tell them, 'You can do it.' 'Buck up.' 'Hang in there.' 'You are stronger than you think.'

Though he served as Moses' adjutant for many years, Joshua is new to leadership. He has every right to be anxious. Not only is he following Moses – the man who thwarted Pharaoh, divided the Red Sea, led the Israelites in the wilderness for 40 years, and spoke to God as one speaks to a friend, face to face – he is also fully aware that the Promised Land is home to the Canaanites and any number of other potential enemies. It's enough to make even experienced leaders anxious!

Joshua needs encouragement, and he receives it. A lot of it. But notice that no one tells him to believe in himself. No one tells him to reach deep and pull himself up by his bootstraps.

Instead, Joshua is told to trust God. Over and over and over again he is told that God is with him and that he need not fear, only trust in God.

This is a good lesson for all of us in leadership. Whether we are leaders in our church, our home, our workplace or in the community, we should trust God. We have to do our part, but ultimately our success depends on whether God is with us or against us. Whether we are relying on God or just on ourselves.

The second item of interest is how water becomes dry land. The Israelites are crossing the Jordan River shortly after the spring rains when the river is in full flood. And yet, God stops the waters so the people can cross on dry land. The waters of chaos make way for God's people.

Immediately we recall the story of creation, how God separated the waters from the land (Genesis 1:9-10.) But we also recall the parting of the Red Sea (Exodus 14:21-22, 26-29.) In both Exodus and Joshua, we can't help but notice that the waters of chaos make way for God's people and God's chosen leaders.

Are you a leader? Are you a leader in your social group, your club, your profession, your Bible study? Do you sometimes feel you are leading your people into deep waters of roiling chaos?

Take heart! Depend not on your own wisdom and understanding but rely on God. For God is with you, leading you through the waters of great chaos to the Promised Land.

Thanks be to God!

Pastor Ken.

Westminster Circle

Circle is now meeting on the 2nd and the 4th Tuesdays of each month at 1:00 pm. We are studying the Hebrew names of God.

Note to Graduating Seniors (2025-2026 School Year)...

The FPC endowment committee offers \$500.00 scholarships to graduating seniors who are continuing any kind of further education. All that is needed is a brief letter (1-2 paragraphs) explaining your future education plans. All church members qualify. Letters need to be to the church secretary (secretary@fpc-noblesville.org) by August 7th. The Endowment Committee is looking forward to your application.

Special Music...

If you are interested in sharing your musical talents with us during a Sunday service this Summer, please contact Cynthia Fremling at (847) 293-7306 or cfremling@comcast.net.



Rainbows and Shooting Stars Summer Break!



Just a reminder that the Rainbows and Shooting Stars classes will be taking a break for the month of July, so there will be no class until the Back to School Picnic. Nursery care will be available July 19th and July 26th. We look forward to our new classes in August!

Operation Christmas Child - "Christmas in July"



We are starting our collection of items for our shoebox ministry. The month of July we hope to concentrate on school supplies like pencils, sharpeners, notebooks that fit flat in the boxes, crayons etc., as well as kids personal items and cleanliness. Each tag on the tree gives you ideas so take more than one tag! Always bring what you want! These items are just ideas.

Next month, there will be other suggestions for collecting!

If everyone could pray about their commitment to making boxes! Find sales for summer, good like new items at garage sales! Kids without aren't picky.

For more information, scan the QR Code:



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.**

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 clip board 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 clip board 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.**

Time To Update The FPC Church Directory!

In **August** we will be updating the FPC church directory. If you have any changes in your contact information or if you would like to add a picture or even change the picture that is currently in the directory—email all changes to secretary@fpc-noblesville.org.

Sunday Snuggles—Nursery Volunteer Needed!

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 for more information.



It's not too late to pay your 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 **Per Capita**, 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 covered by the Church. If you have any questions, please contact Robin Story at robin.story@fpc-noblesville.org or 317.508.4411.

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!

All Things Henderson!

Interested in hearing more about FPC adventures in Frakes, KY? Visit the Henderson page on our website to find:

- Information about upcoming trips.
- Links to “Come and See” and the FPC Devotional videos.
- List of tasks completed for 2026.
- Photo gallery
- More content being added all the time – check back often for updates!

Visit: <https://fpc-noblesville.org/henderson-1>

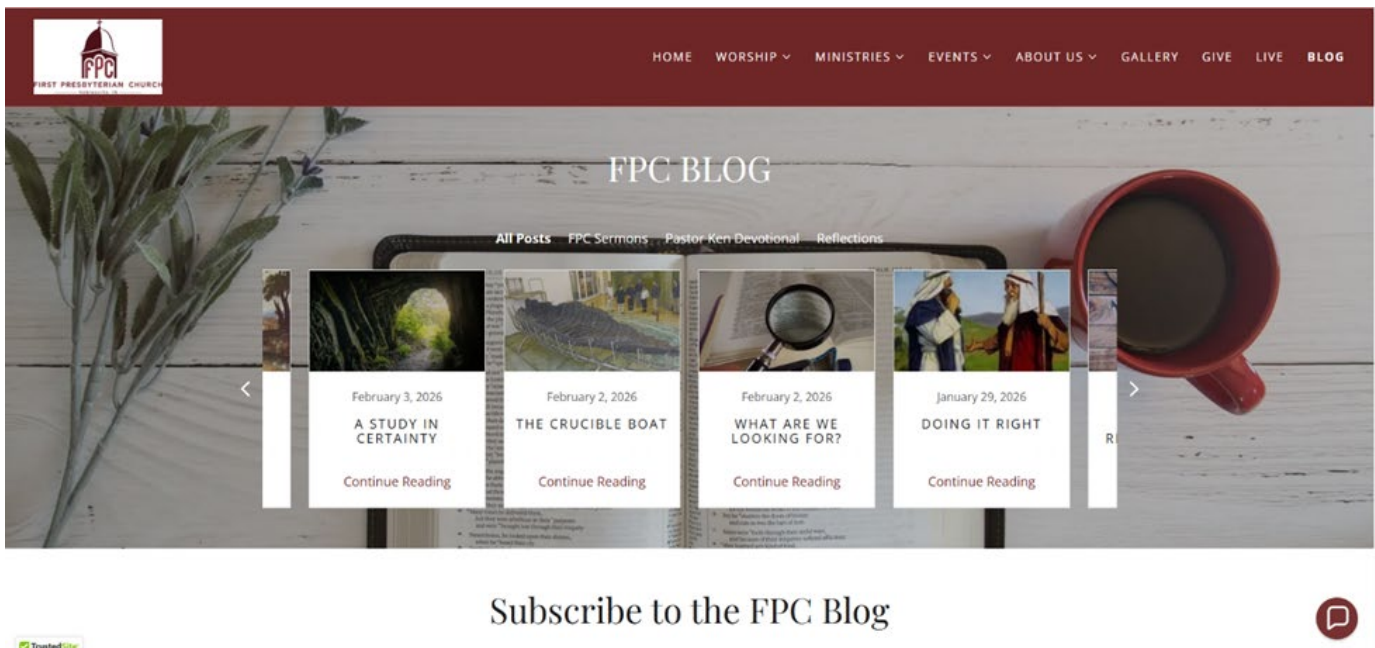


FPC BLOG

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— BEWARE OF SCAMMERS!



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!