



# News & Notes

August 13, 2026

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
Noblesville, IN



## Message this Sunday...

**“WWJH/WWJS”**

Genesis 45:1-15; Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

**Pastor Ken Locke**

[Click Here for the Live Service](#)

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

[Link to Sermon Manuscripts](#)

# Men for Mission – Brazil – Commissioning!

Please join us on Sunday as we commission Lamar Ziegler and Sue Jourdan for their mission trip to Londrina, Brazil. They will be part of the Men for Mission Organization, an affiliate of One Mission Society (OMS). Lamar and Sue will be in a group of 9 and will be doing electrical wiring and wall painting on the second floor of the Londrina Bible Seminary.

**DO** whatever God ask!

**GO** wherever God asks you to go!

**GIVE** whatever God asks you to give!

For more  
information about  
Men for Mission  
scan the code



The team will be working on the second level of the ISBL seminary in Londrina, Parana, Brazil. For years, One Mission Society and now CONIM (a ministry partner and Brazil church denomination) trains young men and women here for serving in ministry all over the vast land of beautiful Brazil. The first floor of the seminary is where a majority of the teaching and training take place, but more space is needed. Unfortunately, work needs to be done on the second floor for that to happen. That work will include replacing the old electrical system/wiring with new wiring, plug-ins, and panels. The work will also include some painting projects and clean up.

## What do you need to know?

### Cost:

Estimated cost for this team to Londrina, Parana, Brazil is \$3000.

### When can you go?

August 21-30, 2026



## General Schedule:

- Depart on Friday evening
- Arrive on Saturday
- Attend church service on Sunday
- Work on the project Monday - Thursday
- Tourism/culture day on Friday
- Leave country on Saturday
- Arrive home on Sunday evening



## Mission Minute



### **Celebrating 11 Years of Art and Community at FPC Noblesville**

**The Annual FPC Red Geranium Artisan Market** returns on **August 15!** For more than a decade, this cherished event has brought together talented artisans, friendly faces, and our wider community. Special thanks to everyone who signed up to help. We can't do it without you!

Join us for a day of shopping, fellowship, and community connection. Browse the work of **56 talented artisans and vendors** featuring handmade gifts, artwork, jewelry, home décor, and more. Be sure to stop by the beloved **PW Bake Sale**, where you'll find homemade cakes, cookies, pies, and other delicious treats.

**Saturday, August 15**  
**9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.**

Bring your friends, family, and neighbors to discover one-of-a-kind treasures and support local artisans. Proceeds support the church's mission programs.

**Enjoy a day of fellowship, entertainment, shopping, and homemade treats while connecting with the FPC family and community. We look forward to seeing you on August 15!**

Give On-line  
through Tithe.ly:



## July 2026 Budget Performance Report

|                    | <u>2026 Actual</u>    | <u>2025 Actual</u> |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Operating Income:  | \$169,647.60          | \$196,149.90       |
| Operating Expense: | \$186,318.48          | \$186,682.40       |
| (Deficit)/Surplus: | \$ <b>(16,670.88)</b> | \$ 9,467.50        |

**Attendance Last week:** In Sanctuary— 126; Households online— 27

The “Concert for Ukraine” collected \$2,226 for Last Bell Ministries!

### Remember in your Prayers...



- ♥ **Elizabeth Story**, in a car accident and has a broken wrist, will need surgery.
- ♥ **Jeri Griffith**, continued prayers for healing.
- ♥ **Larry Grabb**, at Hines VA Rehab Hospital to help him function more independently.
- ♥ **Bill Linville**, continued cancer treatment.
- ♥ **Tim Nash**, in ICU at Riverview Hospital.
- ♥ **Bill McConnell, husband of Jan McConnell**, recuperating at home, continued prayers for healing.

**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*

## Events for the Upcoming Week...

### **AUGUST 16 THROUGH AUGUST 23, 2026**

|                  |                 |                                          |
|------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------------|
| <b>Today</b>     | <b>9:00 am</b>  | <b>Adult Sunday School</b>               |
|                  | <b>10:00 am</b> | <b>Worship</b>                           |
|                  | <b>10:00 am</b> | <b>Commissioning of OMS Mission Trip</b> |
|                  | <b>11:15 am</b> | <b>Fellowship Hour</b>                   |
| <b>Monday</b>    | <b>9:00 am</b>  | <b>Shepherd's Center</b>                 |
|                  | <b>11:30 am</b> | <b>Women's Lunch – Perkins</b>           |
|                  | <b>7:00 pm</b>  | <b>Session Meeting</b>                   |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   |                 |                                          |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | <b>8:30 am</b>  | <b>Women's Great Banquet Reunion</b>     |
|                  | <b>8:30 am</b>  | <b>Men's Great Banquet Reunion Group</b> |
| <b>Thursday</b>  |                 |                                          |
| <b>Friday</b>    |                 |                                          |
| <b>Saturday</b>  | <b>8:30 am</b>  | <b>Aerobics</b>                          |
| <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>9:00 am</b>  | <b>Adult Sunday School</b>               |
|                  | <b>10:00 am</b> | <b>Worship</b>                           |
|                  | <b>11:15 am</b> | <b>Fellowship Hour</b>                   |

#### **Nursery Attendants:**

**August 16—** LeeAnn Stein & Trish Moore

**August 23—** Laurie Szabo & Jennie Auble

#### **Audio / Video Team:**

**August 16—** Clint Gingerich & Brian Wuerch

**August 23—** Nathan Roe & Clint Gingerich

#### **Lay Leader:**

**August 16—** Moffett Craig

**August 23—** Kregg Swanson

#### **Fellowship Hour Hosts:**

**August 16—** Gail Ratliff & Linda Rosen

**August 23—** Pastor Ken Locke in Honor of his Ordination  
on 8/18/1997

#### **In the Office:**

**August—** Barb Runyon

**September—** Barb Runyon

**[Secretary@fpc-noblesville.org](mailto:Secretary@fpc-noblesville.org)**

**Please note the following address changes:**

**Jan Bellis**

Magnolia Springs  
14901 Carey Road, Apt 228  
Carmel, IN 46033



**GG Nash**

The Crossings of Noblesville  
7235 Riverway Walk North, Apt 120  
Noblesville, IN 46062



**Larry Grabb** will be at the Hines VA Hospital in Chicago until the end of August. Larry will be fitted and will learn how to use AI glasses to help him “recognize” people and things around him. You can send letters or cards of encouragement to Larry at:

**Larry Grabb**

Blind Rehabilitation Center (124)  
Edward Hines Jr. VA Hospital Bldg. 113  
5000 S. 5<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Hines, IL 60141



## Weekly Devotion...

### Hebrews 12:1-2

***Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup>looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 12:1-2, NRSV)***

**August 13, 2026**

My Beloved –

I freely confess that I am a mild introvert. I enjoy people. I enjoy chatting and getting to know all kinds of people. But as much as I enjoy it, I also find it very tiring. A true extrovert is energized by being in a crowd, working the room. People like me enjoy it just as much but we're not energized by it. Instead, it makes us want to take a nap.

That's one of the reasons I enjoy working alone. I've preached a few collaborative sermons, and I've served on plenty of committees. But it's not the kind of thing I would want to do every day.

To put it another way, I've always enjoyed running my own race. I don't want to run as part of a team. I have no desire to be part of a relay race. I like to set my own pace and be guided by my own inclinations.

Our author today likens the Christian life to a race. He tells us to drop all our excess baggage and run with perseverance the race that is in front of us. Don't go trying to find an easier route. Don't cut corners or, even worse, cut off other runners. Run the race that is in front of you.

But he also tells us to rely on the great cloud of witnesses who are there to help us. The saints of the church who gave generously so that we have financial reserves. The Sunday School teachers who first taught us how to find our place in the Bible and to make sense of the chapters and verses. We are to rely on those running beside us, encouraging us to remain faithful, even when we feel exhausted. Grab a cup of water or energy bar from a heartfelt conversation with a friend. Prepare ourselves for the steep climb just ahead through extra time in prayer and Bible study. And when we feel like life has shoved us one time too many and we just can't go on, be buoyed up by the hymns, prayers and sacraments of the worship service.

The Christian life is not a sprint. It's not even a marathon. The Christian life is a race we run every day for the rest of our lives.

It's not a race we're meant to run totally alone, all by ourselves. Nor is it a team or a relay race. The Christian life is a ***rely*** race. We are meant to draw support, energy and nurture from both the saints who went before us and the

saints running alongside us who are whispering words of encouragement. Most of all, we rely on the presence of the Holy Spirit to give us the energy we need to run smoothly and well, day in and day out, until this earthly race is over and we rest in God's loving embrace.

May we all run well the race that is set before us.

God's peace to us all,

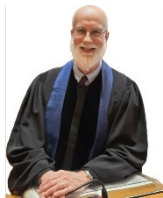
Pastor Ken.

**Do you have a question for Pastor Ken?**

**You can reach him by email at**

**[ken.locke@fpc-noblesville.org](mailto:ken.locke@fpc-noblesville.org)**

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



**[Click here](#)**

# Mission Study Team Update



With our Session's guidance, the Congressional Mission Study Team has been assembled and had their first meeting. Members are Sherry Faust, Jake Light, Paul Auble, and Mark Boxberger. Pastor Ken will serve as the convener and guide.

Over the next several months, this team will put together a detailed review of our congregation. Who were we in the past, who are we now, what is our community like, what kind of Church does God want us to be, what are the attributes our next installed pastor will need in order to lead us in the right direction?

As you can imagine, this will take some time. We will be asking for your input at every step along the way. We will also report back to you on a regular basis. When we ask for your input, especially when we ask you to fill out a survey, PLEASE do it! The more information we have, the better our report will be.

Our final product, the Congregational Mission Study, will have to be approved by our session and our Presbytery's Committee on Ministry. Once they approve it, we will have permission to elect a Pastor Nominating Committee. Our Session will present a proposed list of nominees. They will be elected by all of us at a specially called congregational meeting.

Our PNC will use the mission study to put together the job description for our next installed pastor. If everyone has participated in the mission study process as we have asked, then putting the job description together will not take long. Once the job description is approved by our Session and our Presbytery's COM, we will be able to post the description on the electronic bulletin board maintained by our denomination.

These are exciting times! We really appreciate your input. The Mission Study will take several months to complete so please be patient as we are getting organized, and please keep us in your prayers!

If you any questions, please ask a member of the team and watch the video included in this email.

Yours in ministry,  
Mark Boxberger  
Sherry Faust  
Jake Light  
Paul Able

## ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY IN HAMILTON COUNTY?

The Shepherd's Center of Hamilton County Guardianship Program is looking for volunteers. They serve as court-appointed guardians for seniors and incapacitated adults right here in Hamilton County who have no family or friends to speak for them. First Presbyterian Church of Noblesville already actively supports the Together Today program.

We are looking to partner with local faith communities to find volunteer advocates. Our volunteers don't manage money; they simply visit a matched "protected person" once or twice a month, monitor their care, and make sure they aren't forgotten. **We have a volunteer training coming up on September 15th and 16th that could be a great opportunity for folks to get involved.** I am also attaching the training flyer for your perusal. Contact Coleen Connor at [Coleen@scofhc.org](mailto:Coleen@scofhc.org) or call 463-215-2452 for more information.



**shepherd's center**  
OF HAMILTON COUNTY

**Guardianship Program**

**WALK BESIDE A SENIOR.  
MAKE A LASTING DIFFERENCE.**

BECOME A TRAINED VASIA VOLUNTEER TO HELP  
ADVOCATE FOR THOSE WHO CAN NO LONGER ADVOCATE  
FOR THEMSELVES.

**WHO IS A VASIA VOLUNTEER**

- A person with a heart for helping people
- A person who has up to five hours a month to give
- A person who wants to truly make a difference in someone's life
- A person who loves and supports their community

**VASIA VOLUNTEER TRAINING DETAILS**

- September 15 & 16
- 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.
- Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center - 1 Hamilton County Square, Noblesville
- A light dinner is provided

**TO APPLY OR LEARN  
MORE CONTACT:**

Coleen Connor  
[Coleen@scofhc.org](mailto:Coleen@scofhc.org)  
463-215-2452



# Employment Opportunity

## Administrative Assistant

**Whitewater Valley Presbytery** is seeking a full-time Lead Administrative Assistant to provide essential administrative leadership and support for the Presbytery's staff, committees, congregations, and ministries.

Our mission and vision guide our work:

*God is calling us to be a catalyst for equipping leaders to inspire healthy, bold, and Christ-centered communities.*

The Lead Administrative Assistant is often one of the first points of contact with the Presbytery. The successful candidate will combine strong organizational and administrative abilities with excellent communication, hospitality, discretion, sound judgment, and a commitment to supporting the mission of the church.

### Position Details

- **Position:** Administrative Assistant
- **Status:** Full-time, 40 hours per week
- **Location:** Whitewater Valley Presbytery office, 1100 W 42 St, Suite 210, Indianapolis, IN
- **Anticipated start date:** October 1, 2026
- **Reports to:** Lead Presbyter/Head of Staff

### Primary Responsibilities

- **Support Presbytery leaders and committees with Administration**
- **Coordinate Logistics for Presbytery Assembly meetings**
- **Support congregations and church leaders**
- **Provide general office administration**
- **Collaborate with the staff team**

### Qualifications

The successful candidate will demonstrate:

- Strong administrative, organizational, and time-management skills.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Careful attention to detail and the ability to manage multiple responsibilities and deadlines.
- Discretion and the ability to maintain confidentiality.
- A welcoming and hospitable approach to people from a variety of congregations and backgrounds.
- Proficiency with commonly used office technology, including email, word processing, spreadsheets, databases, online registration systems, websites, and videoconferencing platforms.
- The ability to work independently while also functioning collaboratively as part of a staff team.
- Familiarity with Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) structure and polity, or the willingness and ability to learn.

Experience working in a church, nonprofit organization, denominational office, membership organization, or similar setting is preferred.

## Compensation and Benefits

Whitewater Valley Presbytery offers:

- A competitive salary of \$43,500 - \$47,500 annually, depending on qualifications and experience.
- Paid benefits in addition to salary:
  - Medical insurance through the Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).
  - Pension, death, and disability benefits through the Board of Pensions.
  - A health reimbursement arrangement.
  - Paid vacation, holidays, and other leave as provided by Presbytery personnel policies.

## How to Apply

Please submit the following:

- A résumé.
- A brief cover letter explaining your interest in the position and the experience and gifts you would bring to the role.
- References will be requested from finalists.

Application materials should be emailed to:

**Rev. Dr. Erin McGee**  
**Lead Presbyter**  
**[emcgee@whitewatervalley.org](mailto:emcgee@whitewatervalley.org)**

Please use the subject line: **Lead Administrative Assistant Application**

Applications received by **August 23** will receive priority consideration. The position will remain open until filled.

Whitewater Valley Presbytery is committed to building a staff that reflects the breadth of the church and encourages applications from qualified candidates of diverse backgrounds.

## 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.

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## Red Geranium Bake Sale

Fire up your ovens, dig out your recipes and begin the baking. We need you all to bring homemade baked goods for our sale. **Drop off goodies at the church tomorrow night from 5-7 pm or Saturday 7:30 to 9 am.** What sells best are pies, cookies, brownies or other bar treats, cinnamon rolls, breads and rolls. **If you would like to help sell on Saturday—sign up at the Welcome Center.** All proceeds go to local missions.



### PLATES ARE STILL AVAILABLE FOR THE BAKE SALE.

Pick up a beautiful plate or two in the Fellowship Hall to put your goodies on. We have found that people buy the baked goods on pretty plates first!



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## Operation Christmas Child - "August – TOYS"

Thank you for your donations for Christmas Shoebox Ministry in July! You all did a great job!

The month of August we are continuing to give but now concentrating on toys! Jump ropes, stuffed animals, chucks, dolls, things you are led to buy for boys and girls 2-14 We have new suggestions hanging on our tree. (Keep in mind the shoebox size) God bless you for giving to this wonderful ministry!

For more information, scan the QR Code:



## Adult Sunday School

The Adult class will continue their series on Samuel. Everyone is welcome to join. **The class meets in the adult classroom downstairs directly under church office at 9:00 am.**

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## Men's Fellowship Luncheons

**The FPC men's luncheons are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at Perkins Restaurant.** Any questions see Stephen Craig. Signup sheet will be on a clip board 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.**

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## Ladies Luncheons



**The FPC women's luncheons are on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at Perkins Restaurant.** Any questions see Marlynn Story. Signup 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.**

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## 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](mailto:cfremling@comcast.net).**

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## Choir Will Be Back Soon!

Hard to believe but summertime is almost over and choir season will begin again in just a few weeks. **Choir will begin rehearsing regularly on Thursday nights beginning September 3. The Choir will return to singing in service the Sunday after Labor Day which is September 13 this year.**

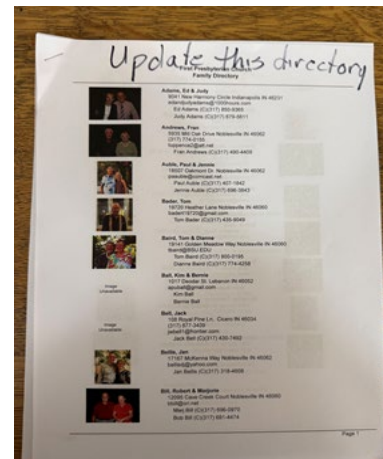
## New Member/Inquirers Class

**Are you interested in joining First Presbyterian Church, Noblesville or would you like more information about our church?** The fall New Member/Inquirers class will be on **Sunday, September 13 at 8:30 am in the church library.** At the class you will be able to ask questions about our church and meet other leaders. If you would like more information before the class or would like to sign up, please contact Barb Runyon at [bsrunyon@yahoo.com](mailto:bsrunyon@yahoo.com) or call/text 317-407-4170.

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## Time To Update 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](mailto:secretary@fpc-noblesville.org). There is a directory on the Welcome Center that you can also update. Any questions, ask Barb Runyon at the Welcome Center.



## 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](mailto:bobtrishmoore@sbcglobal.net) for more information.



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## 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](mailto:robin.story@fpc-noblesville.org) or 317.508.4411.

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## 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.**

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## 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.

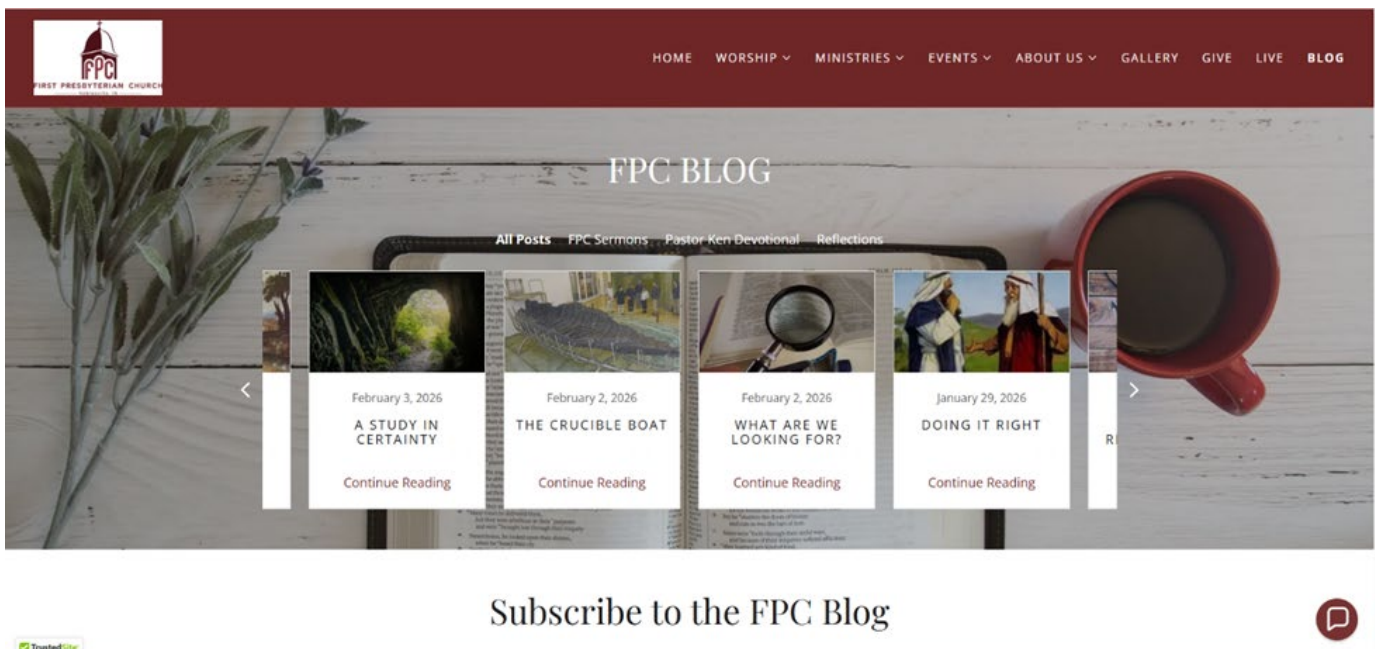
Stay connected, stay inspired!

## 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— 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!**