

November 2025 Income/Expense Report			
	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2024 Actual
Income Received:	\$295,240	\$272,068.04	\$279,395.01
Expenses:	\$295,240	\$289,236.20	\$304,805.96
* (Deficit)/Surplus:		\$ (17,168.16)	\$ (25,410.95)

**SHOW APPRECIATION TO OUR CHURCH STAFF—LAST DAY TO GIVE!**  
Our paid staff works very hard to keep our Church running smoothly. We would like to give them an extra thank you during this giving season. This is your opportunity to show your appreciation for their continued dedication to our church. I ask you to consider a special gift this Christmas season. We would like to distribute this to the staff before Christmas. **It will be greatly appreciated if your gift is received TODAY. Please use the staff bonus envelope, if you use giving envelopes, or there are envelopes at the back of the Sanctuary. Mark your checks with “staff bonus”.**  
Thank you so much! *Peggy Deakyne, Personnel & Nominating Elder*

**GIVING TREE GIFTS...**  
**Reminder! TODAY is the pickup day for our families on the giving tree. Please have your wrapped and tagged gifts at church TODAY so we can sort them and have them ready for our families.**  
Thank you so much for your generosity!

**2026 GIVING ENVELOPES**  
The 2026 giving envelopes are now available by the back door on the table. Please take only one book per family.

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL...**  
“WHAT DID MARY KNOW & WHEN DID SHE KNOW IT?”  
Mark Lowry Interview & Song  
**Join our Sunday Morning Bible Study: 9am Before Worship Service.**

**FPC, YOU’RE ANSWERING THE CALL—THANK YOU!**  
We are grateful for your food and financial gifts to our *Little Yellow Food Pantry*, helping neighbors who often fall through the cracks of traditional assistance this holiday season. Thanksgiving was a success, and with Christmas coming, let’s keep the momentum going by donating non-perishables or giving through yellow pew envelopes.  
**Your kindness is making a real difference.** Consider volunteering a little of your time to help restock shelves, shop, or organize storage beginning in January—look for the sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center in Fellowship Hall.

**LAST CHANCE FOR POINSETTIA ORDERS...**  
**We purchased a few extra Poinsettias! If you would still like to purchase a poinsettia, fill out the form on the table in the back of the sanctuary and place it in the offering plate or give it to Jim Story. You can place your order and pay later if you don’t have the \$10 today. Make checks payable to *First Presbyterian Church* and put *Poinsettia* on the memo line.**

DECEMBER 21 THROUGH DECEMBER 28, 2025		
Today	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School
	10:00 am	Worship
	11:15 am	Fellowship Hour
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday	6:00 pm	Christmas Eve Service
Thursday		Merry Christmas!
Friday		
Saturday	8:30 am	Aerobics
Sunday	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School
	10:00 am	Worship
	11:15 am	Fellowship Hour

**CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS**  
**DECEMBER 24, 2025—6 PM**  
Christmas Eve is a joyous time at FPC, and all are invited as we celebrate the birth of Christ. The Sanctuary will be alive for our annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Service featuring traditional lessons and carols of Christmas, and the Chancel Choir. The evening concludes with our much-beloved “Silent Night, Holy Night” candlelight closing as we share the light of our individual candles with one another, signifying that light will overcome darkness with the arrival of Jesus on earth.  
Overflow parking is available at City Hall, one block west of church

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

♥ Lamar Ziegler, on the passing of his aunt, Lois Templeton (99).

♥ Kay Ziegler, on the passing of her next older sister, Jeanne, she was 81.

♥ The family of Michael Rogers upon his passing.

♥ Bob Wesley, recuperating from shoulder replacement surgery.

♥ Bob Wesley, on the passing of his sister (San Jose, CA).

Continue to remember those who are at home or in health care facilities:

Wendy Bittle

Ray Faust—*Harbor Manor*

Carolyn & Joe McGinley – *Hamilton Trace*


Verna Merrell

Carol Stough—*Five Star Residences of Noblesville*

Dorothy Etchison—*Independence Village*

Barbara Landes

Rachel Morgan



1207 Conner Street, Noblesville, IN  
317.773.2383 • [fpc-noblesville.org](http://fpc-noblesville.org)  
Eric R. Gale, Pastor

DECEMBER 21, 2025  
4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SESSION		DEACONS
Laurie Szabo	Christian Education	Susan Clark, Co-Moderator
Barb Runyon	Evangelism	Andrea Joines, Co-Moderator
Mark Wisely	Finance	Johnathan Baker
Jennie Auble	Mission	Anne Burress
Bob Moore	Planning	Brenda Christian
Peggy Deakyne	Personnel /Nom.	Clint Gingerich
Sue Jourdan	Properties	Gail Ratliff
Karen McCord	Clerk	Robin Rufatto
Eric R. Gale	Moderator	Joe Sullivan
		Quinn Teague
		Debbie Wilson

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 21, 2025

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

As you arrive for worship, greet each other with a smile and soft words, but please remember there are those who cherish a time of quiet before worship.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kiersten Clifford

RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE

Cheryl Mayhew, organist

Lani Smith

“Fantasia on “Adeste Fidelis”

ADVENT READING

Reader: Kiersten Clifford

L: We all know the story about the birth of Jesus. Most of us will spend not only large amounts of money but large amounts of time the month of December preparing for Christmas – buying gifts, going to parties, attending or participating in Christmas programs, decorating our homes and traveling to be with friends and family. But are we preparing our hearts for the real Christmas?

So, let’s simplify what this big deal is all about. There was a baby born to Mary and Joseph in a manger, witnessed by several animals and sought out by shepherds and wise men who followed a star to Bethlehem. While we are at it, we can throw in a few angels to our story. Can we think of the power of God through these simple things?

Ahh, the “angels”, who are so crucial to this entire story, weave their way throughout the birth of Christ. The Bible tells us of many times where God sent His angels to make big announcements. It is written in Luke 1:25-28, “...the angel Gabriel was sent from God to the city of Nazareth to a virgin whose name was Mary who was espoused to Joseph from the lineage of the House of David” and Luke also wrote in 1:30-31, “And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary; for thou hast found favor with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shall call his name JESUS”. But it wasn’t just Mary that needed a warning and assurance; Joseph was visited by an angel in his dream. In Matthew 1:20-21, the angel of the Lord said, “Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife; for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shall call his name JESUS”. So, the message was similar but there was not quite the JOY that most of us would feel when we find out we are having a baby. However, the angels weren’t finished with this story. And written in Luke 2:8-10, a passage which Handel’s Messiah made very familiar, “And there were in the same county shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks at night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were so afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great JOY, which shall be to all people.”

Reader: Judy Sauers

L: And what about the “manger”? Paraphrased from a sermon by Rev. Robert Clark (Susan’s Dad)...”The manger was the first to know of this wonderful birth and where Jesus was laid, wrapped in warm clothing and showered with LOVE by Mary and Joseph. You don’t hear much about the manger, other than in a few Christmas hymns, because it was not very attractive and once it was used it had no continuing religious value. But the manger in its’ own special way provided the “room” for LOVE to be born into this world. The manger had the honor of protecting the King of Kings, Lord of Lords, the Prince of Peace! Most of us are not stars, shining in the night or donkeys carrying the precious cargo of Mary and ultimately Jesus or angels, singing the praises of God throughout the world. But the manger was the small and significant place that witnessed God’s gift of LOVE into our lives.”

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE OF JOY

Reader: Kiersten Clifford

L: We light this third candle of Advent, the candle of JOY, to acknowledge that not only angels announced the great JOY of the birth of Jesus but we, too, as Christians should be doing the same.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE OF LOVE

Reader: Judy Sauers

L: We light this fourth and last candle of Advent, the candle of LOVE, to be like the manger by protecting the LOVE from God and sharing our faith. With HOPE, PEACE, JOY and LOVE, we can be as significant as the manger by housing God in our hearts.

† OPENING HYMN

“Away in a Manger”

#262

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Dear Lord, forgive us when we feel that we are not important and that what we do doesn’t matter. Remind us, just like the manger, that God has a plan for us. Help us to remember all year long, not just during Advent, that Jesus was sent, as promised, to fulfill the great gift of salvation from our sins. Give us this glorious news every day of our lives. Amen.

† WORDS OF ASSURANCE (responsive)

L: Let us celebrate the coming birth of Christ and let us share our LOVE of Him with the world.

P: Let us accept this generous gift from God and celebrate the birth of Jesus.!

All: Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen!

† GLORIA PATRI

words on screen

CHORAL ANTHEM

“Silent Night”

Chancel Choir

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

“What’s Real About Christmas?”

Douglas

(Children are dismissed to Sunday School)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / THE LORD’S PRAYER

words on screen

(Please keep joys and concerns brief. This is time for prayer)

OFFERING

Offertory

† Doxology

† Prayer of Dedication

“Cradle Song”

Arr. by Roger C. Wilson

words on screen

CHORAL REFLECTION

“Come to the Manger”

Chancel Choir

(Richard Kountz)

MESSAGE

Chaplain Derek Hansen

“A Baby Changes Everything”

Isaiah 9:6; Luke 2:8-14; John 1:9-14; Revelation 3:20

† CLOSING HYMN

“Love Has Come!”

#256

† BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Petite Noel”

Carl Simone

†Please stand if you are able.

Join us in Fellowship Hall following the service for coffee and refreshments.

\* Please sign and date the attendance pad.

Thank you to Claudia MacRae who is authoring our Advent Readings this season.

We welcome **Chaplain Derek Hansen** to the pulpit today.

SCRIPTURE & MESSAGE NOTES

Isaiah 9:6 (NIV): "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace".

Luke 2:8-14

<sup>8</sup> And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. <sup>9</sup> An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup> But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. <sup>11</sup> Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup> This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” <sup>13</sup> Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup> “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

John 1:9-14

<sup>9</sup> The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. <sup>11</sup> He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. <sup>12</sup> Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— <sup>13</sup> children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God. <sup>14</sup> The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Revelation 3:20

<sup>20</sup> Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me.

\*\*\*\*\*

What difference has the birth of Jesus made in \_\_\_\_\_?

-

-

-

He is the incarnate Son of God, *Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.*

What difference has He made in \_\_\_\_\_ history?

What difference has He made in your life?

**2 Corinthians 5:17, *Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.***

This Advent season reminds us that Jesus brings **Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love**, so that we, too, may share this with the world around us.