



News & Notes

July 9, 2026

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Noblesville, IN



Message this Sunday...

“The Cure for Zombiism”

Genesis 25:19–34; Romans 8:1–11

Pastor Ken Locke

[Click Here for the Live Service](#)

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

[Link to Sermon Manuscripts](#)

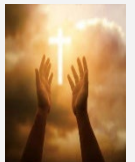
MAY 2026 BUDGET PERFORMANCE REPORT

	<u>2026 Actual</u>	<u>2025 Actual</u>
Income:	\$131,649.59	\$138,528.15
Expenses:	\$132,173.25	\$134,193.84
(Deficit)/Surplus:	\$ (523.66)	\$ 4,334.31

Attendance Last week: In Sanctuary —125; Households online — 28

Raise The Roof Campaign— \$32,264!

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,** fighting sepsis and the side effects of the antibiotics.
- © **Mike Maloney,** at Kindred Transitional Care & Rehab in Castleton.
- © **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

Joe McGinley—*Hamilton Trace*

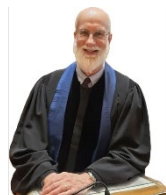
Rachel Morgan

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...

JULY 12 THROUGH JULY 19, 2026

<i>Today</i>	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School
	10:00 am	Worship
	11:15 am	Fellowship Hour
	11:15 am	Deacon's Meeting
<i>Monday</i>	9:00 am	Shepherd's Center
	11:30 am	Men's Luncheon at Perkins
	1:30 pm	Newcomers Club
<i>Tuesday</i>	1:00 pm	Westminster Circle
	6:30 pm	Tri Kappa
<i>Wednesday</i>	8:30 am	Women's Great Banquet Reunion Group
	8:30 am	Men's Great Banquet Reunion Group
	7:00 pm	PW Just Desserts
<i>Thursday</i>		
<i>Friday</i>		
<i>Saturday</i>	8:30 am	Aerobics
<i>Sunday</i>	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School
	10:00 am	Worship
	11:15 am	Fellowship Hour

Nursery Attendants:

July 12—Nursery Closed

July 19—Lee Ann Stein & Trish Moore

Audio / Video Team:

July 12—Nathan Roe & Clint Gingerich

July 19—Jake Light & Nathan Roe

Lay Leader:

July 12—Anne Burress

July 19—Steve Burress

Fellowship Hour Hosts:

July 12—Jill Casper & Debbie Wilson

July 19—Marlynn Story & Brenda Christian

In the Office:

July—Janie Emerson

August—Barb Runyon

Give On-line through Tithe.ly:



Presbyterian Women's Just Desserts Party

Wednesday, 7-15-26



The women of the church are invited to attend our annual Presbyterian Woman's Just Dessert Party. Please feel free to bring a friend. Join us for fellowship and dessert.



The Story of Lydia in the Bible

What: Just Desserts

When: Wednesday, July 15th at 7pm

Where: Fellowship hall

Presentation: The Story of Lydia and how she represents a key example of female leadership, faith, and hospitality in the early church.

Please bring: Please bring an item to donate to the Malawi Mission Project. For example: baby receiving blankets, onesies, nursery hats, sanitary napkins, large garbage bags, large size Ziplock bags, quart size Ziplock bags, wrapped bar soap, wash cloths, diapers, umbilical cord clips, or an inspirational item to place in the bags for the mothers.

RSVP by 7-10-26 to Trisha McDermand at tmcdemand@comcast.net or call 317-514-8623.

Upcoming Changes to our Order of Worship!

Beginning 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...

You Mean It's OK to Eat That?

Acts 10:1-16

July 9, 2026

My Beloved -

The Book of Acts is a book of new beginnings and changes of direction. It's about conversions and outsiders becoming insiders. A mass crowd hears and believes at Pentecost. By the power of the Spirit, an Ethiopian official becomes a believer while traveling along a wilderness road. A young man named Saul, going out of his way to persecute the nascent church, is blinded by God's love and becomes Paul the Apostle. And Cornelius, a decent man but also an officer in the occupying army, is converted by listening to Peter's proclamation.

But as well as being a story about outsiders becoming insiders, Acts also recounts how the insiders had to make concessions to win over the outsiders. Jewish dietary laws were not just a matter of hygiene or obedience to ancient laws. They were at the very heart of Jewish self-identity. They were what set them apart from everyone else. A little bacon here, a few crawfish there, and pretty soon the insiders would no longer have been distinctive, set apart, separate from other people. Their self-identity would be gone.

But those same dietary laws that made insiders insiders were also keeping outsiders out. They were a stumbling block, a wall separating Gentiles who wanted to follow Jesus from Jewish Christians who insisted on keeping to the old ways. They were an obstacle neither side could surmount. The only way to achieve true unity was by removing them altogether.

To let the outsiders in, the insiders would have to let go of what made them distinctive.

This is God's message to Peter. Remove the dietary restrictions, the barriers keeping the outsiders away. Let them in.

As you'll find by reading a little further, that's what Peter did. It caused some initial pain, especially among the Old Guard in Jerusalem, but it was the right thing to do.

But by removing these barriers, something marvelous happened. Both parties changed. They merged together to become one entity: the followers of Jesus, the Church. Without these barriers separating them, there were no longer Jewish Christians and Gentile Christians. There were simply Christians, all united in trusting Jesus and following his teachings.

Of course, these stories are more than just ancient history. We read them to remind us of the mighty acts of God, but also because they are models of how God wants us to live today. Are there rules that we insiders, the church, may have inadvertently put in place that are keeping would be followers from uniting with us? Are we adhering to outdated restrictions and rules that are sacred to our self-identity, but which are keeping others from merging with us?

What walls have we built up, walls we may not even see anymore, but which are obstacles to others? If God were to lower a sheet from heaven, what would be on it? Our times for worship? Our ways of doing outreach? Our parking lot? Our need to control the placement of the chancel furniture? I honestly don't know. These are simply examples I've experienced in other churches.

What I do know is that even the best churches have some obstacles in place that are so ingrained they are almost impossible to spot. It takes lots of prayer and careful listening to ferret them out.

I'm sure it was hard for the Jewish Christians to let go of their dietary laws and other restrictions that they regarded as essential to who they were. But the church didn't grow because they kept these restrictions in place. The church grew because they dropped their restrictions and forged one common identity with the Gentiles: followers of Jesus.

Inspired by their practices, may we do the same.

God's peace to us all,

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>



Ask FPC?

Who are the Presbyterian Women?

Presbyterian Women (PW) is an inclusive and caring community of women, committed to working toward God's promise of wholeness for all people.

Who can belong to Presbyterian Women?

If you are a female member or a regular attender of Noblesville, First Presbyterian Church, you are a member of PW.

What is the PW Coordinating team?

The Coordinating team are the officers and committee members for our local PW.

When does the coordinating team meet?

We meet the second Wednesday of each month in the Fellowship hall at 7 pm.

Can I become a PW Coordinating team member?

Absolutely! PW is ALWAYS looking for women that want to head up committees, be an officer, or work on a project.

Who are the current PW Coordinating team members?

Officers: Moderator – Catherine Byrnside, Co-Moderator – Pam Layman, Treasurer – Barb Runyon, Secretary – Trisha McDermid

Committee Chairpersons: Giving Tree – LeeAnn Stein, Operation Christmas Child – Sue Jourdan and Ann Green, Bake Sale – Sue Jourdan, Rummage Sale – Cynthia Fremling, Outreach – Jan McConnell, Thankoffering dinner – Barb Runyon, Just Desserts – Trisha McDermid and GG Nash, Search – GG Nash, Ann Green, Marlynn Story, and Sandi Blackburn

Members at Large: Pam Wesley, Jana Zeiler, Jill Casper.

What is the “Just Desserts” event?

This is an annual event held annual in July. This year *Just Desserts* will be held on Wednesday, July 15 at 7 pm. PW will have desserts and a presentation. All women are encouraged to attend! Bring a friend!

The *Just Desserts* event asks us to bring an item to donate to the Malawi Mission Project. What is this?

PW Coordinating team collects items for the Malawi Baby Pack Project which is part of the Malawi Mission Project. This major relief group operates a nationwide distribution in Malawi and accepts assembled baby packs at its distribution centers (such as Lebanon, Indiana). The Baby Pack Project focuses on health outreach and distributes Healthy Baby Kits that include both baby clothes and nutritional support for breastfeeding mothers.

If I have more questions about PW, can I attend the next Coordinating team meeting?

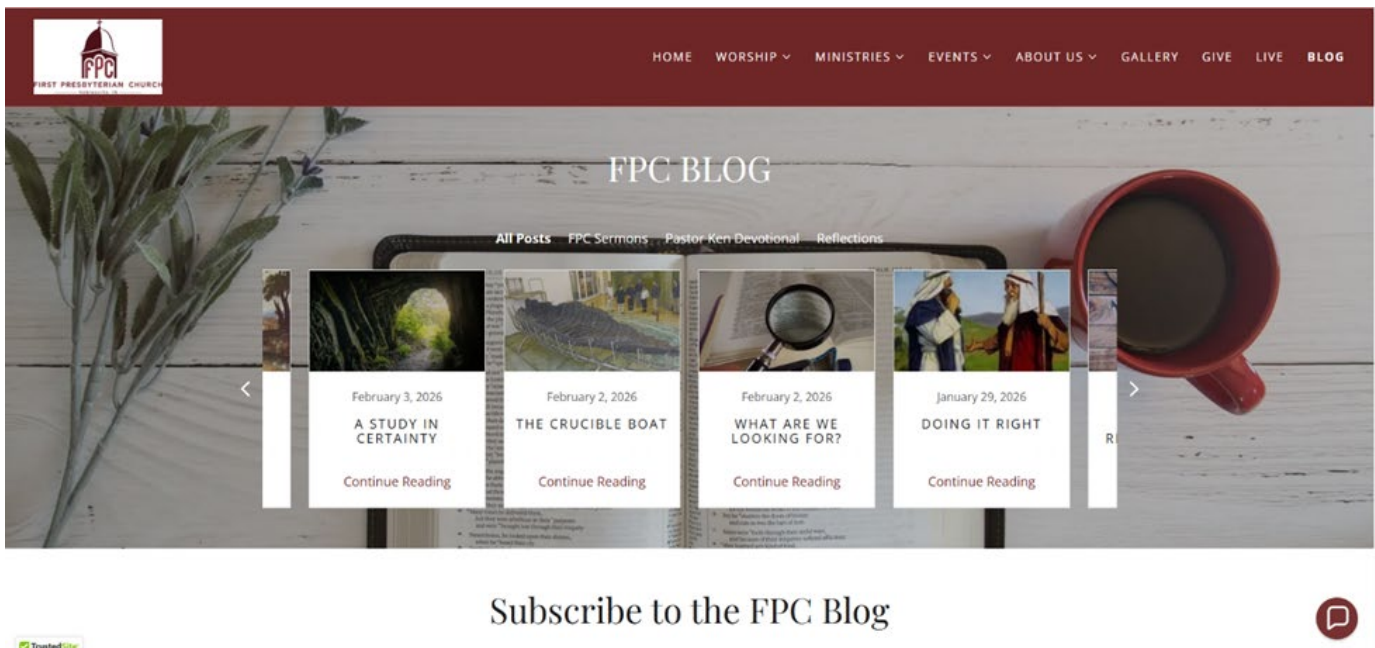
Yes, you can. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, August 12 at 7 pm.

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!