

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING—NEXT SUNDAY
A Congregational Meeting, to elect new Elders & Deacons, is scheduled for Sunday, October 26, 2025, following the worship service. In addition, the congregation will vote on recent updates to the church by-laws.

ANNUAL FAMILY HAY RIDE & BONFIRE AT MARK WISELY’S FARM...
Join us for fun and fellowship Friday, October 24, 2025! We are having a pitch-in, Hotdogs & water will be provided. Bring a side dish and lawn chair. *RSVP at the Welcome Center.*
Wisely Farm: 635 W. 256th St. Sheridan, IN 46069.

TRUNK OR TREAT...
We will have our Annual Trunk or Treat event Saturday, October 25, 2025 from 5—6:30 pm in the church parking lot. Hotdog dinner will be provided. *Sign up at the Welcome Center.*

ADDITION TO OUR VETERANS' DAY OBSERVANCE...
There will be an addition to our Veteran’s Day observance this year, Sunday, November 9, 2025.
Immediately following the worship service, in the fellowship hall, each of our veterans will be awarded a Quilt of Valor!

This is being brought to your attention now as there is a way the congregation can be involved. Donations are needed to cover the cost of materials and machine quilting. That cost is \$150 for each quilt, a total of \$1800 for our twelve veterans.
Those donations can be placed in the offering plate on a Sunday morning or sent to the church office, with a QOV designation. Any donations beyond the actual cost will be used for a project of the Session's choosing.

We're hoping our entire congregation, family members, and friends will be present for both the worship service and the Quilt of Valor ceremony.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL...
We have wrapped up our series on Heaven. Will finish our series of SERMON ON THE MOUNT for a couple of weeks.

"THE CHOSEN" BIBLE STUDY
Bob and Trish Moore will be hosting a Bible based on the popular television series "The Chosen". We are studying Season 5 of "The Chosen." Anyone interested can contact Bob or Trish Moore (bobtrishmoore@sbcglobal.net) for more information.

HELP FEED OUR LITTLE YELLOW PANTRY!
For five years, FPC has partnered with **FeedingTeam.org** to serve neighboring families in our community who often fall through the cracks of traditional food assistance. Our little yellow pantry stands in our parking lot as a symbol of dignity, compassion, and community care.
As the holidays approach, the FPC Mission Team invites you to help us keep it stocked:

- **Donate non-perishables** indoors or directly into the outdoor pantry.
- **Give financially** using yellow envelopes in pew folders. Checks to FPC with “food pantry” in the memo help fund monthly shopping trips.
- Volunteer just **one day a month** to help stock shelves or shop for groceries—no long-term commitment. See Jennie Auble to join the team.

Coming Soon: Our Annual Holiday Cheese ball Sale—plan ahead for your family gatherings!

September 2025 Income/Expense Report			
	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2024 Actual
*Income Received:	\$241,560	\$244,019.81	\$240,659.24
Expenses:	\$241,560	\$235,410.50	\$255,803.42
(Deficit)/Surplus:		\$ 8,609.31	\$ (15,144.18)
* Income Received includes money from flooring not yet spent: \$17,813.00			

OCTOBER 19 THROUGH OCTOBER 26, 2025		
Today	10:00 am	Worship
	11:15 am	Fellowship Hour
Monday	11:30 am	Women’s Luncheon—Perkins
Tuesday	1:30 am	Westminster Circle
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	9:00 am	Shepherd’s Center
	6:00 pm	Hay Ride & Bonfire—Wisely Farm
Saturday	8:30 am	Aerobics
	5:00 pm	Trunk-or-Treat
Sunday	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School
	10:00 am	Worship
	11:00 am	Congregational Meeting
	11:15 am	Fellowship Hour

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

♥ Bill Linville, on the passing of his wife, Jennifer Linville, and ongoing cancer treatments.

♥ Emily Linville, on the passing of her mother, Jennifer Linville.

♥ Aaron Alberts, nephew of Sharon Moore, recuperating from surgery to remove his colon.

♥ Dick & Jana Zeiler, as Dick continues through his long recuperation journey.

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHIES...

To Jack Bell upon the passing of his wife, Suzi Bell. We will pass along arrangements once they are known.

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

Wendy Bittle

Ray / Sherry Faust

Carolyn & Joe McGinley – Hamilton Trace

Verna Merrell

Carol Stough—Five Star Residences of Noblesville

John Thomas—The Barrington of Carmel

Dorothy Etchison—Independence Village

Barbara Landes

Rachel Morgan

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Eric R. Gale, Pastor

OCTOBER 19, 2025

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

OCTOBER 19, 2025

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

RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE

Cheryl Mayhew, organist

† CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Lay Leader: Kiersten Clifford

L: The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant...it will not be like the old covenant:

P: written on stone.

L: This will be a radically new covenant, my laws will be within you

P: Written on hearts.

L: And God added these wonderful words—I am your God and you are my people.

P: Imprint these words anew on our hearts, O God, so that we know you in all your fullness, love you as you love us, and worship you as you deserve.

All: Let us worship God.

(by Moira Laidlaw, based on Jeremiah 31: 31-34)

† OPENING HYMN

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

#210

† CALL TO CONFESSION (responsive)

L: We confess we have strayed away from your Word, that we have allowed the worries of this world to drive us away from your vision for our lives. We confess that there is strife and contention all around us.

P: We cry out to you, O God! That we are powerless and have taken our focus off your Word....that we have not allowed your Word to work in our lives, yet we continue to cry out to you in times of trouble and need. Grant understanding and wisdom that we may see your vision and apply it in our lives. Hear our prayer, O God, and call us back to you. Amen!

† ASSURANCE OF GOD’S LOVE (responsive)

L: The scriptures tell us that God’s love will find us no matter how far away we are from the Word. God will find us and bring us home. It does not matter what we have done wrong, we still belong to God. This is the good news of the Gospel!

All: Thanks be to God!

(from Reformation and Reconciliation, written by LT Leticia Rouser)

† GLORIA PATRI

words on screen

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost: As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen. Amen.

CHORAL ANTHEM

“The Journey”

Chancel Choir

(arr. Joseph Martin)

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

“The Poor in Spirit”

Douglas

(Children are dismissed to Sunday School)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / THE LORD’S PRAYER		words on screen
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.		
(Please keep joys and concerns brief. This is time for prayer)		
OFFERING		
Offertory		
† Doxology	words on screen	
Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.		
† Prayer of Dedication		
HYMN OF PREPARATION	“I’d Rather Have Jesus”	#506
MESSAGE	ON A HILLSIDE FAR AWAY	Pastor Eric Gale
	“Blessed Are...!”	
	Matthew 5:1-12	
† CLOSING HYMN	“Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us”	#688
† BENEDICTION		
POSTLUDE		
†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.		
* Be sure to silence your cell phones.		
* We have a fully staffed Nursery available for newborn through 2 years old. Located in the upstairs hallway (nearest the back door), the 2nd door on the left. A changing table is available in the Nursery, as well.		
SCRIPTURE		
Matthew 5:1-12		
Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, ² and he began to teach them, saying:		
³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.		
⁴ Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.		
⁵ Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.		
⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.		
⁷ Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.		
⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.		
⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.		
¹⁰ Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.		
¹¹ “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.		

MESSAGE NOTES
Background:
Matthew 5-7 is called the Sermon on the Mount (SOTM) because Jesus gave it on a _____ near Capernaum overlooking the Sea of Galilee.
These three chapters are likely a summary of _____ of preaching and teaching.
Jesus taught what God’s _____ is meant to be.
_____, _____, and _____ are not important in God’s Kingdom.
What matters is faithful _____ to God, _____ and for God and God’s people.
All this leads to the _____ of individual people, communities, and nations.
The SOTM challenged the _____ of the day, calling them back to the messages of the Old Testament prophets who, like Jesus taught that _____ to God and _____ to others matters more than religious observance. (LAB Notes)
What does it mean to be blessed?
It has less to do with the _____ of your life and more about the _____ of those who belong to the Kingdom of God.
The blessings of God begin with the _____ of the heart!