



News & Notes

August 27, 2026

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Noblesville, IN



Message this Sunday...

“Dirty Feet”

Exodus 3:1-15; Romans 12:9-21

Pastor Ken Locke

[Click Here for the Live Service](#)

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

[Link to Sermon Manuscripts](#)

Jon and Maureen Schreibfeder are new members at FPC Noblesville. **Jon is the Board President of Inspiring Better Business and presented his ministry on Sunday, August 23 during the Minute for Mission.** Below is his presentation. If you have any questions, please email Jon at the email link provided at the end of the presentation.



Inspiring Better Business is a development ministry that has three possible purposes:

- Recovery
- Rehabilitation
- Development



What is Inspiring Better Business (IBB)?

- Our goal is to empower individuals to become financially stable creating Biblically-Based businesses.
- They in turn mentor others to “break the chains of poverty” in their country and build God’s kingdom
- We are also developing Biblically-Based money management and retirement guides for developing nations so that people will not be reliant on hand-outs and charity.

IBB does not provide money to individuals.

- We do develop and provide:
 - Training materials
 - Education
 - Advice
 - Encouragement to use the talents God has provided each person, as well as our experience, to lead people to success!

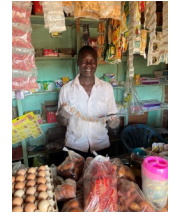


God gave us a mighty toolbox

- The tools God provides each of us include:
 - All of the gifts and talents he has given you.
 - The Holy Spirit to guide you through life and all of the decisions you must make.
 - 168 hours every week.
 - The greatest business guide ever created: The Bible!

We promote a Godly mindset

- Start with what people have and where they are
- Discover the talents and capabilities God has provided
- Work Hard
- Keep Learning
- Invite God into every corner of our lives



We need you – Travel is not necessary!

- Teach classes and provide advice via Zoom and What'sApp (free applications).
- Help us develop teaching materials, our web site, and coordinate IBB activities throughout the world.
- Provide funds to translate our materials into more languages, and distribute communications equipment where necessary

Please ask yourself...

- Are you ready to use the gifts God has given you to transform people's lives?
- Would you like to build relationships with brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the world?

No major time commitment is necessary (usually 1 – 2 hours per week) but we will adjust to your available time!

If you have any questions, contact Jon Schreibfeder

www.InspiringBetterBusiness.com

Jon Schreibfeder

BoardPresident@InspiringBetterBusiness.com



IMMEDIATE FLOOD DISASTER HELP!!!

How can I contribute cleanup supplies? **The FPC Mission Team will have a collection zone here at church and accept items through next Sunday August 30th.** Supplies will be delivered to Good Samaritan Network on Monday Sept 1.

ITEMS NEEDED: Buckets, mops, brooms, floor squeegees, scrub brushes, heavy-duty sponges, heavy-duty 55+ gallon trash bags, bleach, multi-purpose cleaning products, and safety gear such as rubber or heavy-duty work gloves.



➔ **Volunteer** with SERVE Village: <https://www.servevillage.org/>



➔ **Donate** to Hamilton County Community Foundation: <https://hamiltoncountycf.org/donate/>
After entering your donation amount and selecting "Next," choose "Hamilton County Relief Fund." If you prefer to write a check to FPC with Noblesville Flood Relief on the memo line, we will get it to the foundation for you.



➔ **Donate items** to Good Samaritan Network of Hamilton County: <https://www.gsnlive.org/>

If you would like to help with cleaning up flood damage in Hamilton County call: 317-645-3261.

Finding Amazing Grace Through the Storm



Reflections on the 11th Annual Red Geranium Artisan Market

As the congregation sang *Amazing Grace* during worship on Sunday morning, the words carried special meaning. After a weekend marked by historic rainfall, flooding, uncertainty, and countless last-minute decisions, we were reminded once again that God's grace often shines brightest in the midst of life's unexpected challenges.

The 11th Annual Red Geranium Artisan Market was shaping up to be another wonderful community event. As always, preparations by our Mission Team had been months in the making. By Friday afternoon, 16 indoor artisans were beautifully set up throughout Fellowship Hall, the balcony, and the parlor. Several outdoor vendors had already erected their tents in the parking lot, and the sunshine suggested we were headed for another successful market day.

Then Mother Nature had other plans.

By Friday evening, weather forecasts began predicting heavy storms and significant flooding throughout Hamilton County. Almost immediately, our planning team, led by Jennie Auble and supported by Kristin Roe, Debbie Wilson, Sherry Minton, Ann Crispin, and Kelly Wuerch, shifted into full-scale "Plan B" mode.

Vendors were notified of the changing forecast and encouraged to make decisions that prioritized their safety and protected their handcrafted products. Throughout the evening, cancellations began coming in as artisans weighed the risks posed by the worsening weather. Before dawn on Saturday morning, the difficult decision was made to cancel all outdoor market activities while continuing with an indoor-only event.

What could have been a disappointing cancellation became a powerful example of resilience, teamwork, and faith.

Despite being a scaled-down version of our traditional event, the "Mini Red Geranium" was a tremendous success. The Mission Team raised \$3,350 through booth rentals, while the Presbyterian Women Bake Sale generated an additional \$1,700-plus. Several vendors reported some of their strongest sales ever, and shoppers enjoyed a warm, welcoming indoor experience while the rain continued outside. Many visitors also took advantage of an impromptu tour of First Presbyterian Church led by Brian Wuerch, learning more about our church and its ministries.

Most importantly, this success would not have been possible without the dedication of nearly 50 church volunteers. Your flexibility, servant hearts, and willingness to adapt to rapidly changing circumstances reflected the very best of our church family.

While the storms created challenges for our event, they also brought hardship to many throughout Hamilton County. As our community begins recovery efforts, we are grateful for opportunities to support neighbors in need and share Christ's love in meaningful ways.

A portion of the proceeds from this year's event will support local mission efforts assisting individuals and families affected by the flooding in Noblesville, providing a tangible way for our church and community to come together in care and compassion.

The story of this year's Red Geranium Artisan Market is not really about bad weather. It is a story of faithful volunteers, supportive vendors, creative problem-solving, and a church community that refused to let difficult circumstances overshadow its mission. Through uncertainty and change, God provided exactly what was needed.

Indeed, amid historic flooding and a weekend full of surprises, we found Amazing Grace.



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:	\$ (16,670.88)	\$ 9,467.50

Attendance Last week: In Sanctuary— 129; Households online— 21

Remember in your Prayers...



- ♥ **Janie Emerson**, recovering from hernia surgery.
- ♥ **Anne Burress**, Thank you for the prayers after my surgery last week.
- ♥ **Jana and Dick Zeiler**, on the passing of Jana's father, John Shoaf.
- ♥ **Judith Drysdale**, will be having left knee replacement on 9/1 at Riverview.
- ♥ **Elizabeth Story**, in a car accident, recovering from wrist surgery.
- ♥ **Jeri Griffith**, Thank you for the prayers, calls, cards, and visits while recovering from surgery and in rehab at Harbour Manor.
- ♥ **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. Meal train information for McConnell family in the current News and Notes.

Continue to 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

GG Nash – The Crossings of Noblesville

Rachel Morgan

Carol Stough—The Crossings of Noblesville

Events for the Upcoming Week...

AUGUST 30 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

Today	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School today
	10:00 am	Worship
	11:15 am	Fellowship Hour
Monday	9:00 am	Shepherd's Center
	6:30 pm	Bridge Group
Tuesday		
Wednesday	8:30 am	Women's Great Banquet Reunion Group
	8:30 am	Men's Great Banquet Reunion Group
Thursday	7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Friday		
Saturday	8:30 am	Aerobics
Sunday	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School
	10:00 am	Worship
	11:15 am	Fellowship Hour

AUGUST 30, 2026

Audio / Video Team:	Jake Light & Nathan Roe
	9/6— Quinn Teague & Jake Light
Nursery:	Robin Story & Karen Perkins-Gale
	9/6— No Nursery
Lay leader:	Paul Auble
	9/6— Ann Green
Fellowship hour:	Alto Section of Choir
	9/6— No Host Scheduled 🙄
In the office:	August & September —Barb Runyon
	secretary@fpc-noblesville.org

September 6, No Youth Sunday School - all ages.

Church office will be closed on Labor Day, Monday, September 7.

Volunteer Opportunity: Lay Leaders Needed:

Are you looking for something to do on Sunday at FPC-Noblesville? We need Lay Leaders for Sunday morning. It's easy, you lead the congregation through the service. If you are interested, contact Susan Clark at sclark2428@yahoo.com.

SUNDAY SCHOOL & FPC FAMILY EVENTS

CALENDAR

FALL & WINTER 2026

AUGUST

- 2** Recognition & Picnic
- 9** Sunday School
- 16** Sunday School
- 23** Sunday School
- 30** Sunday School

SEPTEMBER

- 6** (No Sunday School ALL AGES)
- 13** Sunday School
- 20** Sunday School
- 27** Sunday School (6-12 Hosting Fellowship Hour)

OCTOBER

- 4** (No Sunday School 6-12)
- 11** Sunday School
- 18** Sunday School
- 23** FPC Family Bonfire
- 24** Trunk or Treak
- 25** Sunday School

NOVEMBER

- 1** (No Sunday School 6-12)
- 6** FPC Family Chili Cook Off
- 8** Sunday School
- 15** Sunday School
- 22** Sunday School
- 29** Sunday School



DECEMBER

- 6** (No Sunday School 6-12)
- 13** FPC Family Silly Safari at 4pm
- 20** Sunday School
- 24** Christmas Eve Service
- 27** Sunday School

Dear Congregation -

My tremendous thanks to everyone who had anything to do with the wonderful celebration of the 29th anniversary of my ordination during fellowship time last Sunday. If you bought, if you prepared, if you set food out and monitored the supply, if you arranged it in such beautiful shapes, if you made drinks, if you cleaned up afterwards, if you came downstairs and ate and enjoyed a few minutes with friends old and new, my tremendous thanks. You made the day so very, very special for me. My special thanks to Catherine Byrnside for so graciously agreeing to the project and being my go-between. What a gift and a blessing.

May God continue blessing FPC's spiritual gift of gracious hospitality and continue making our church a bright light on a dark hill.

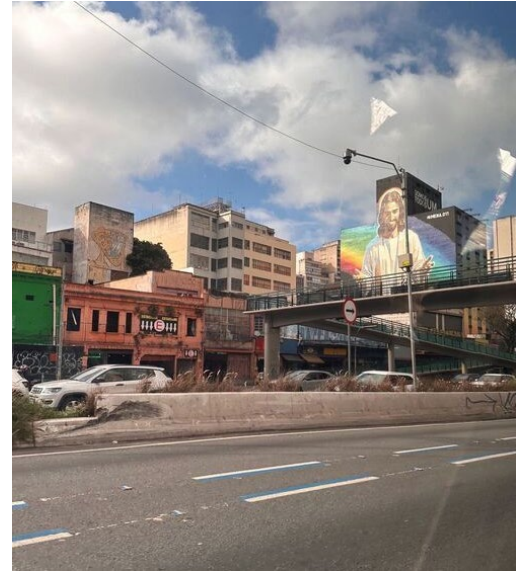
God's peace be with you all,

Pastor Ken.



Follow our Mission Team in Brazil on the FPC Blog

Lamar Ziegler and Sue Jourdan are in Londrina, Brazil doing much needed work on the Londrina Bible Seminary. They will return on August 30. In the meantime, you can follow their daily activities with pictures on our Blog. While you're there, be sure to subscribe to the blog and receive notifications of our regular posts like sermons and devotionals.



<https://fpc-noblesville.org/blog?blogcategory=Brazil+Mission+Team>



AUGUST SESSION RECAP

Bob Moore opened the meeting with devotion and prayer. **Pastor Ken** led our discussion on the Book of Order. He asked session what does our Book of Order say about Fraternal, civic, and military rites at a funeral? Pastor Ken reported that the Mission Study Team has met twice and will meet again on August 27. The team is doing great work. **Presbyterian Women** reported that the bake sale for the Red Geranium made \$1,968. **Evangelism** (Barb Runyon) reported that the **New Member/Inquirer class will be Sunday, September 13 at 8:30 am** in the church Library. It was also reported that the subcommittee, Church Usage, has completed reviewing and editing multiple documents for members and non-members that want to “use” our church. **Personnel/Nominating** (Peggy Deacon) reported that she will be getting her nomination team together soon. **Christian Education** (Laurie Szabo) reported that promotion Sunday with mini “Agnes” went great and Sunday School is back in session. **Worship** (Rick Mayhew) reported that we need more Lay leaders. **Mission** (Jennie Auble) reported that the Red Geranium was a success even with 17 vendors. If anyone is interested, Lamar Ziegler is taking a fall Henderson Mission trip (October 18-23) this year. **Holiday Cheeseball Fundraiser will begin November 1.** **Finance** (Mark Wisely) reported that Elders need to have 2027 budgets turned in by September 7. And he reminded us that giving is down. **Properties** (Steve Runyon) reported that water damaged ceiling tiles will be replaced soon and that handrails were installed in men’s restroom. His team is looking into changing out the toilets in the restrooms off the Fellowship Hall with taller/handicap toilets. **Planning** (Bob Moore) celebrated with us his first day of retirement!!! Congratulations Bob! His subcommittee on revising staff job descriptions and contracts will be meeting again soon. **New Business:** FPC Noblesville received a “Lion and the Lamb” wall hanging in memory of Don Bellis. The wall hanging will go in the adult Sunday school classroom. As a team we reviewed upcoming calendar dates. In **Executive Session** Pastor Ken gave his Initial Observation Report to Session. And as Ken states, “The First Presbyterian Church of Noblesville, IN is a good church doing good ministry.”

Weekly Devotion...

Before You Can Show Up, You Have to Go Away!

Many people were coming and going, so there was no time to eat. He said to the apostles, “Come by yourselves to a secluded place and rest for a while.” They departed in a boat by themselves for a deserted place.

(Mark 6:31-32, NRSV)

August 27, 2026

My Beloved -

“Showing Up is the hardest part.” I’m sure we’ve all heard that maxim more than once. And I’m sure we’ve all reminded ourselves of it when faced with something daunting.

Sometimes, what we are showing up for is a lot of fun. School, parties, backyard BBQs with family or friends. But sometimes what we’re showing up for is hard, or even unpleasant. Losing a pet, getting caught up in an argument with a loved one, caring for someone who is sick.

No matter whether it’s a joy or a sorrow we’re showing up for, we can’t just show up. We have to show up ready. Ready to let our hair down and have a little fun. Ready to take on a burden for someone else. Ready to gaze into our souls and face what’s really bothering us.

Maybe being ready means getting a good night’s sleep or having a little food in our stomachs. Maybe we need to square our shoulders and pray for strength. Maybe we need to sit in silence and clear our minds.

It’s not enough just to show up. We have to be ready.

The disciples know all about this. They were still reeling from the death of their friend, John the Baptist. They are busy, hungry, and hurting. And Jesus is about to tell them to feed 5,000 people.

But before he makes the big ask, Jesus invites them to come away with him. Come away with him to a quiet place. A place where they can relax, be still, pray, renew their relationship with God.

Our lives as Christians, sharing the good news of how much God loves us, run the entire spectrum of emotions. Exhilarating to mundane. Joyful to depressing. Easy-as-pie to overwhelming.

To live our Christian lives to the full, we can’t make a habit of running on empty. We can’t drain our cup dry and only then seek a refill. We have to be doing it all along. Moments out of our day. Time set aside for thoughtful Bible reading and prayer. Time earmarked for worship and fellowship with like-minded friends.

Jesus knows what we need, just like he knew what the disciples needed. Less noise, more nourishment and community. And just like he did with the disciples, Jesus is inviting us to get in the boat with him and seek a secluded place where we can rest for a while. At odd moments and at scheduled times, Jesus is inviting us to go with him and be renewed. And he even brings the boat!

Q: Is there a particular place or time you've specifically set aside to be with Jesus? What does it look like, what time is it?

Prayer: Gracious God of activity, rest, and recuperation, please keep inviting me to step away for a just a bit. Help me to make relaxing and renewing a regular part of my life. So that when I show up, I will be ready to live the good news of your love for one and all. Amen.

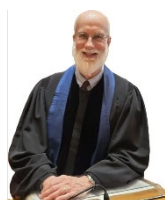
God's peace to us all,
Pastor Ken.

Do you have a question for Pastor Ken?

You can reach him by email at

ken.locke@fpc-noblesville.org

Keep up to date on the interim process at FPC.



[Click here](#)

Raise Your Hand If You Like to Eat!

Now, raise your hand if you like to **eat, fellowship, and serve your church family!** 😊
We're looking for some wonderful volunteers to help **host Fellowship Hour after worship.** This includes bringing some food to share, helping get things ready, enjoying time with our church family, and—yes, the part nobody puts on the postcard—**helping clean up afterward!** 😊

It's a simple way to serve, connect with others, and make sure Fellowship Hour continues to be a special part of our Sundays.

So, if you've ever thought, *"I can bring a dish and wipe down a table,"* **this is your moment!** 😊

Please consider signing up to host a Fellowship Hour. **Bring the food, bring the fun, and leave the fellowship hall better than you found it!**

Volunteers are greatly appreciated—and very well-fed! ❤️

If you would like to sign up so that fellowship hour continues this fall, please see Catherine Burnside or Sondra Pearson in the kitchen or Barb Runyon at the Welcome Center.



No Youth Sunday School On September 6

There will not be Sunday School for Rainbows and Shooting Stars on **September 6th**. Nursery care will not be available as well. We look forward to seeing you back on September 13th!

"The Chosen" Small Group

Bob and Trish Moore will be hosting a Small Group in their home based on the popular television series "The Chosen". We are now on Season 2. We will watch an episode and then follow with discussion. The meetings will be held on Tuesday evenings at 7:00pm, beginning September 15th. New members are welcome to join us at any point in the series! If you are interested in joining, please email bobtrishmoore@sbcglobal.net for more information.

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.**

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 or call/text 317-407-4170.

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.**

Men's Fellowship Luncheons

The FPC men's luncheons are on the 2nd 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. 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 on the 3rd 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 an accurate count for the restaurant. All are welcome. **Remember**



Learn How to Play Bridge

Have you ever wanted to play bridge? We have a bridge group that meets at FPC once a month on Monday evenings. They would be happy to teach you bridge. If interested, contact Pat Crimans at pat.crimans@gmail.com.

Emmanuel United Methodist Church hosts:
BACKYARD BBQ, BAND, AND BIBLE
FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 25TH
16000 Cumberland Road, Noblesville, IN
6:30PM Gather for food and fellowship.
Music begins at 7:00PM

\$5 BBQ
Sandwiches. Any funds raised will be used for our food pantry!

Bring your own chairs and drinks!

The background of the flyer is a photograph of a backyard. In the foreground, there are two orange plastic Adirondack chairs facing each other with a small table between them. On the table is a bottle of water and some food. The ground is covered in green grass and weeds. In the background, there are trees and a fence.

Operation Christmas Child

Thanks for all the wonderful donations for the month of August!

September we will keep the toys coming. Look for summer end sales!

Thank you for spending a few dollars, each month, to make this ministry such a huge success for all of God's children's happiness!

Westminster Circle

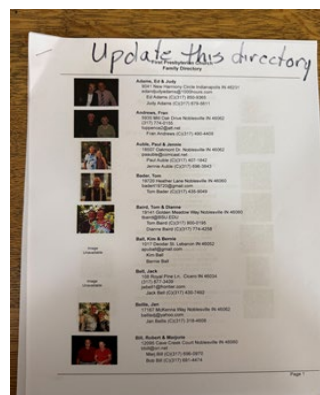
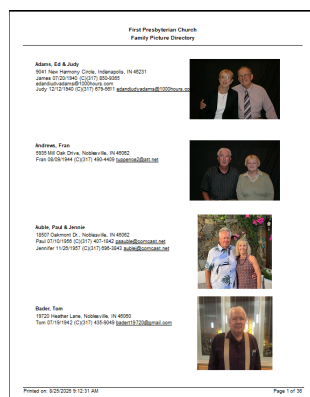
Circle is now meeting on the 2nd and the 4th Tuesdays of each month at 1:00 pm. We are studying the Hebrew names of God. If you would like to join the Circle or have questions, please contact Catherin Byrnside at nobleswynd@yahoo.com

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. There is a directory on the Welcome Center that you can also update. Any questions, ask Barb Runyon at the Welcome Center.

We are changing the format in the directory – instead of 9 families per page we will have just 4 families per page. Those of you with bouffant hairstyles and poodle skirts may want to send an updated picture 😊

New directories will be available by the end of September at the Welcome Center.



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!

Meal Train For Bill McConnell

We are adjusting to having my dad back home. Trying to figure out what we want for dinner every night, getting my dad to his doctor's appointments and then having in-home physical therapy, occupational therapy, a speech therapist, and a home health care nurse has been an adjustment to our lives. We could use some assistance with meals during the week and one day on the weekend until we can get a little more adjusted. Please see the information below and thank you so much. This is the Meal Train for Bill and Jan McConnell:

<https://mealtrain.com/3rm8vw>

LOST ITEMS IN CHURCH OFFICE

Our Church Office has collected a few **lost & found treasures** that are patiently waiting to be reunited with their rightful owners. If you've misplaced something, please stop by the **Church Office** and take a look. Your long-lost item may be sitting there wondering when you're coming back for it!

 **Please claim your items soon!**

After a reasonable amount of time, the unclaimed treasures may have to find a new home. Come check it out before your missing belongings decide they like the Church Office better than they like you! 😊

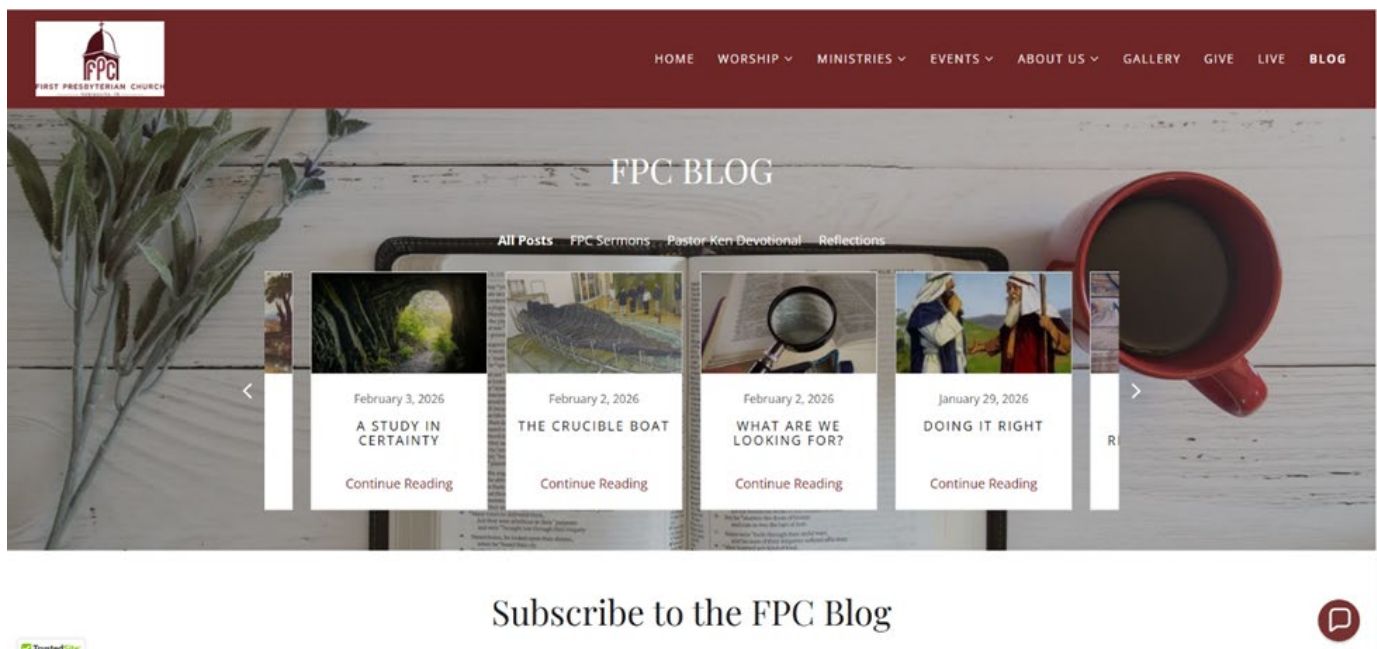


FPC BLOG

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!