News & Notes

October 15, 2026

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Noblesville, IN



Message this Sunday…

“In a Nutshell”

Deuteronomy 34:1–12; Matthew 22:34–40

Pastor Ken Locke

Click Here for the Live Service

Link to last Sunday’s Service

Link to Sermon Manuscripts

Give On-line through Tithe.ly:

A Reminder About Giving

FPC family, we want to remind you of the importance of faithful giving. Our gifts help support the ministry, mission, and ongoing needs of our church and community.

We are grateful for every gift and for your continued generosity. If you haven't had an opportunity to give recently, we invite you to prayerfully consider doing so.

As always, thank you for your generosity and for helping support the ministry and mission of FPC-Noblesville. **Whether you give online, by check, or Tithle.y, we are grateful for your faithful support!**

Attendance Last week: In Sanctuary—82; Households online—20

Remember in your Prayers…



- ♥ **Grace Wolf, granddaughter of Dan & Marsha Coats,** was injured in the
- ♥ deck collapse in Bloomington, IN over the weekend.
- ♥ **Gretchen Fortune,** starting to decline, at 94.
- ♥ **Bob Bill,** fell and broke his hip, had surgery, and is in rehab at Riverwalk.
- ♥ **Bob Zabel,** had additional surgery this past Monday, October 5.
- ♥ **Judith Drysdale,** making progress on her recovery from knee replacement surgery.

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

Wendy Bittle
Barbara Landes
Verna Merrell
Rachel Morgan
Dorothy Etchison—*Independence Village*
Joe McGinley – *Hamilton Trace*
GG Nash – *The Crossings of Noblesville*
Carol Stough—*The Crossings of Noblesville*

Events for the Upcoming Week…

OCTOBER 25 THROUGH NOVEMBER 1, 2026

TODAY	*9:00 am*	*Adult Sunday School*
	10:00 am	*Worship*
	11:15 am	*Fellowship Hour*
Monday	*9:00 am*	*Shepherd's Center*
	7:00 pm	*SESSION*
Tuesday	*1:00 pm*	*Westminster Circle*
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*
	11:15 am	*Worship Committee*

OCTOBER 25, 2026

Audio / Video Team:	Rick Mayhew & Quinn Teague
	11/1 – Brian Wuerch & Rick Mayhew
Nursery:	Karen Perkins-Gale & Laurie Szabo
	11/1 – Barb Runyon & Susie Zabel
Lay leader:	Jill Casper
	11/1 — Kregg Swanson
Fellowship hour:	Gail Ratliff & Linda Melton
	11/1 – Mission Team - Cheeseballs
In the office:	Barb Runyon
	secretary@fpc-noblesville.org

Quilt of Valor Ceremony…

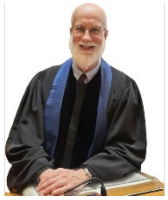
Our church recognizes veterans on a Sunday close to Veterans' Day. Last year, a Quilt of Valor ceremony was added. QOV's are patriotic quilts awarded to veterans as a means of thanking them for their service to our country. Fifteen veterans were awarded.

We know there are two veterans who will be awarded this year, but we do not want to miss anyone. ***If you are a veteran (or know of one) who has not been awarded a Quilt of Valor, please contact the church office. We need to know this soon, to obtain the necessary information.***





Keep up to date on the interim process at FPC.



Click here

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Noblesville, IN

Link to first Video from our Mission Study Team – The History of our Church

UPCOMING DATES TO NOTE:

November can be very busy and will be here soon – make sure you have these events on your calendar at home. Group in charge of each event is also listed. More information in upcoming News and Notes.

November 1: Daylight Savings Time ends (Uniform Time Act of 1966)

November 1 & 8: Order your cheeseballs (Mission team)

November 6: Chili Cookoff & Shoebox Packing Party (Youth Directors & PW)

November 7: Malawi Packing Breakfast (PW Coordinating team)

November 14: Fall cleanup and Lunch (Properties and Deacons)

November 21: Setup for Thank Offering Dinner & Making Cheeseballs (PW and Mission team)

November 22: ANNUAL CLAUDINE BADER THANKOFFERING DINNER & Cheeseball Distribution (PW and Mission team)

November 26: Thanksgiving & Church office closed

FPC Family Fun Night at Wisely Farm!! – *6:00 PM*

FAMILY FUN NIGHT IS COMING… AND IT'S GOING TO BE HAY-LARIOUS!

Mark your calendars, grab your favorite casserole dish, and prepare your family for an evening of **food, fun, fire, and fluffy Highland cows!**

Friday, October 23
6:00 PM
Wisely Farms: 635 W. 256th, Sheridan, IN

We're having a good old-fashioned **CHURCH FAMILY FUN NIGHT**, featuring:

BONFIRE — because apparently regular fires aren't exciting enough.
PITCH-IN — bring a dish to share! (And yes, we fully support the spiritual gift of going back for seconds.)
HAYRIDE — hold on tight and try not to launch Grandma into the cornfield.
HIGHLAND COWS — because every church event is better with enormous, shaggy cows who look like they're judging your potluck choices.

Bring your family, bring a friend, and **BRING A DISH TO SHARE!** Come hungry. Come ready to laugh. Come ready to make memories. And most importantly… **COME MEET THE COWS.FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23 @ 6:00 PM — WISELY FARMS!** You won't want to miss this night of **FAMILY, FELLOWSHIP & FLUFFY COWS!**







TRUNK OR TREAT TIME! *5:00-6:30 PM*

It's time to turn our church parking lot into the **BEST. TRUNK. PARTY. EVER!** And we need YOU to make it happen!

WE NEED CANDY!

Lots of it. A LOT a lot. Because apparently children can sense a candy bowl from three parking lots away.
Please start bringing in your favorite individually wrapped treats!

WE NEED DECORATED CARS!

Transform your trunk into a spooky scene, a superhero headquarters, a pumpkin patch, a jungle, a candy wonderland—or whatever creative masterpiece you can dream up!

WE NEED PEOPLE IN COSTUME!

Come dressed up, have fun, and prepare to hand out candy to our little trick-or-treaters. Bonus points for costumes that make people say, "Okay…how did you even think of that?!"

WE NEED YOU!

Whether you donate candy, decorate a trunk, dress up, help with the event, or just show up ready to have a great time, **we want you there!**

Start collecting candy. Start planning your trunk. Start practicing your best spooky voice.

Let's make this Saturday, October 24 **a night our community won't forget!**

TRUNK OR TREAT — COME READY FOR FUN, FELLOWSHIP & A WHOLE LOT OF CANDY!

Leave your candy in the tubs by the Welcome Center!







BEANS, BLESSINGS & BIG COMPETITION!

Friday, November 6 at 7:00 PM



Prepare yourselves for the most anticipated event since the loaves and fishes… **our Annual Chili Cook-Off & Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Packing Party!**

🌶️ **Think your chili has what it takes?**
Bring your best recipe, your secret ingredients, and your most convincing explanation for why *your* chili deserves the crown. Judges will be watching. Taste buds will be praying. And someone will inevitably say, "Mine isn't spicy," right before reaching for a glass of water.

Then we'll switch gears from chili to shoeboxes!
Together, we'll pack Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes to send gifts, joy, and the love of Jesus to children around the world.

Come for the chili. Stay for the shoeboxes. Leave with a full belly and a happy heart.

And remember:
There are no losers in a chili cook-off… just people who didn't win. 🏆😂

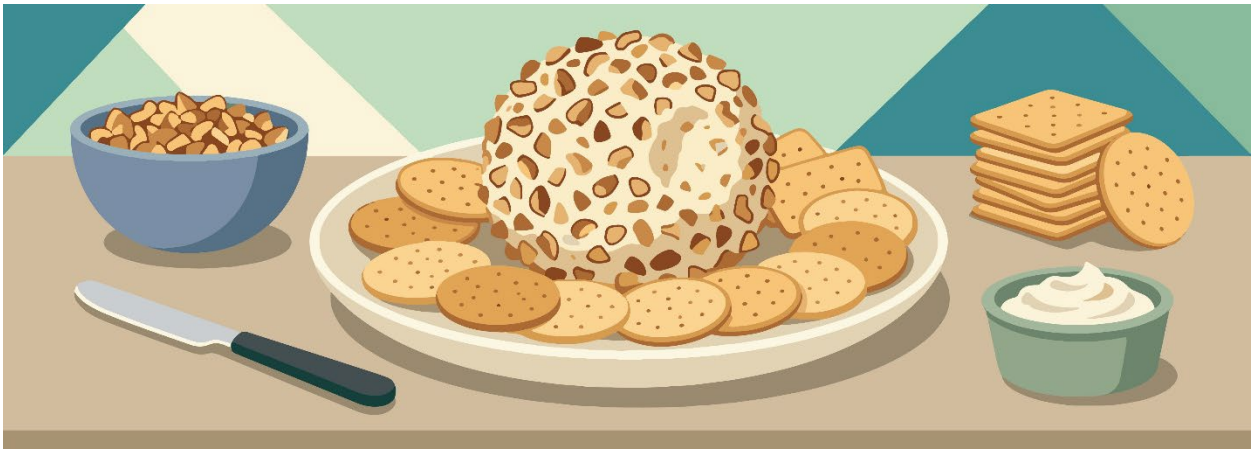
Bring your appetite, your generosity, and your competitive spirit!

Friday, November 6 • 7:00 PM
🌶️ Chili • 📦 Shoeboxes • 💙 Fellowship • 😂 Probably Heartburn





The Holiday Cheese Balls Are Coming!



It’s become one of FPC’s favorite holiday traditions, and we’re excited to bring it back for another delicious season! The Mission Team’s Annual Holiday Cheese Ball Sale is your chance to stock up for holiday gatherings, gift-giving, and festive snacking.

Choose from three crowd-pleasing favorites:

- **Classic Bacon & Onion** *(or request “no-onion”)*
- **Vegetarian**
- **Chocolate Chip Dessert**

What to expect:

- Sample all three varieties and pick your favorites during Fellowship Hour on **Sunday, Nov. 1**
- Place your pre-orders **Nov. 1-15**
- Still just **$12 each**, can be frozen and ready when you need them
- Pick up your order on **Sunday, Nov. 22** after church

Every cheese ball purchased helps support FPC mission projects, making this a delicious way to make a difference. Whether you're carrying on a family tradition or discovering a new favorite, don’t miss out, these popular holiday treats go fast!

Order Your Cheese Balls OnLine!

Weekly Devotion…

1 Corinthians 14:26-40
Doing Things Decently & in Order (For Now)

October 22, 2026

My Beloved -

Last week, we read about Paul's concerns about glossolalia, the gift of speaking in tongues. Paul's fear was that many people were speaking in tongues without someone there to translate for them. Without someone translating, their words were only drawing attention to themselves. They were not building up the community or pointing it towards God.

This week, Paul is concerned that the worship services are becoming too haphazard. Everyone is showing up with something to say. Who is going to call time on the longwinded? Who decides who gets to speak first, second, and third? How many hymns should be sung?

What should be the flow of a worship service? Should everything be higgledy-piggledy or should there be a recognized format? And who should make sure it is followed?

Paul doesn't answer the question. Instead, he gives general guidelines. Make sure that there is someone present who can interpret, otherwise those speaking in tongues should be quiet. Only let a handful of prophets speak and everyone else be quiet and listen to them.

(At this time, prophecy was not about foretelling the future. It meant bringing the word of God to the people of God. A prophecy would have been similar to our sermon.)

The point is that the service should build up the community and the best way to do that is to ensure that everything is done 'decently and in order.' After all, 'God is a God not of disorder but of peace.'

As Presbyterians, our services follow a set, though not rigid, structure. We welcome everyone and remind ourselves why we are here. We recognize that we are imperfect and confess sins, but then quickly praise God for forgiving us so that we can be at peace with God and each other. Selected scripture lessons are read, and the pastor (usually) brings a short message about how much God loves us. After the sermon, we respond to God's love by sharing in the sacraments (baptism and communion), praying with and for one another, and receiving an offering to help spread our ministries. Hymns, announcements, special music and so forth are woven into the service where appropriate.

Worship can be organized in many ways. Lots of Christians do things differently than we do. Presbyterians believe our format is both theologically sound and helpful to others.

But what really matters is that the service is designed for building up rather than showing off. Through the corporate nature of our worship, everyone has a chance to pray. Everyone has a chance to sing. Individuals have a chance to raise up their concerns for corporate prayer.

At the same time, no one starts loudly praying while the choir is singing an anthem. No one stands up and starts singing a solo while the pastor is preaching. Our children receive special attention in a manner suitable for their age and understanding.

I like to think of our services as being both traditional and relaxed. One person is clearly the leader, but leadership is always shared and there is a lot of banter back and forth. We are orderly, but not so orderly that we can't sometimes make exceptions and rearrange our service. We appreciate such High-Church trappings as choir robes, silver candlesticks on the communion table, and organ music. But our dress code is very informal, and we are NOT the 'frozen chosen.'

For now, our style of worship works well for us. But who knows? There may come a time when our style is more reminiscent of the Pentecostals. Equally, it may need to become more rigid and fixed. What matters is that our services praise God, build others up, and are 'done decently and in order.'

But Wait! What about vs 33-36?
Stay tuned. We'll address them next week.

Do you have a question for Pastor Ken?

You can reach him by email at

ken.locke@fpc-noblesville.org

Minute for Mission

URGENT: Help Care for Our Riverwood Neighbors!

We need your help! If you would be willing to prepare meals, volunteer your time, or assist in coordinating this ministry, please contact **Sue Jourdan**. **There are opportunities to furnish food for lunch next week.**

We are also collecting **$20 gift cards to local restaurants** that can be distributed directly to Riverwood residents, giving them another option for meals while they work toward returning home.

This is an opportunity for us as a church family to put our faith into action and show the love of Christ to our neighbors when they need it most. **Every meal, gift card, and helping hand can make a difference.**

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)
12	FPC Family Silly Safari at 4pm
20	Sunday School
24	Christmas Eve Service
27	Sunday School

Prayer Blanket Ministry

Guidelines for requesting a Prayer Blanket.

Who is requesting the blanket?

Who is the prayer blanket for? (First Name, Last Name)

How do you know this person?

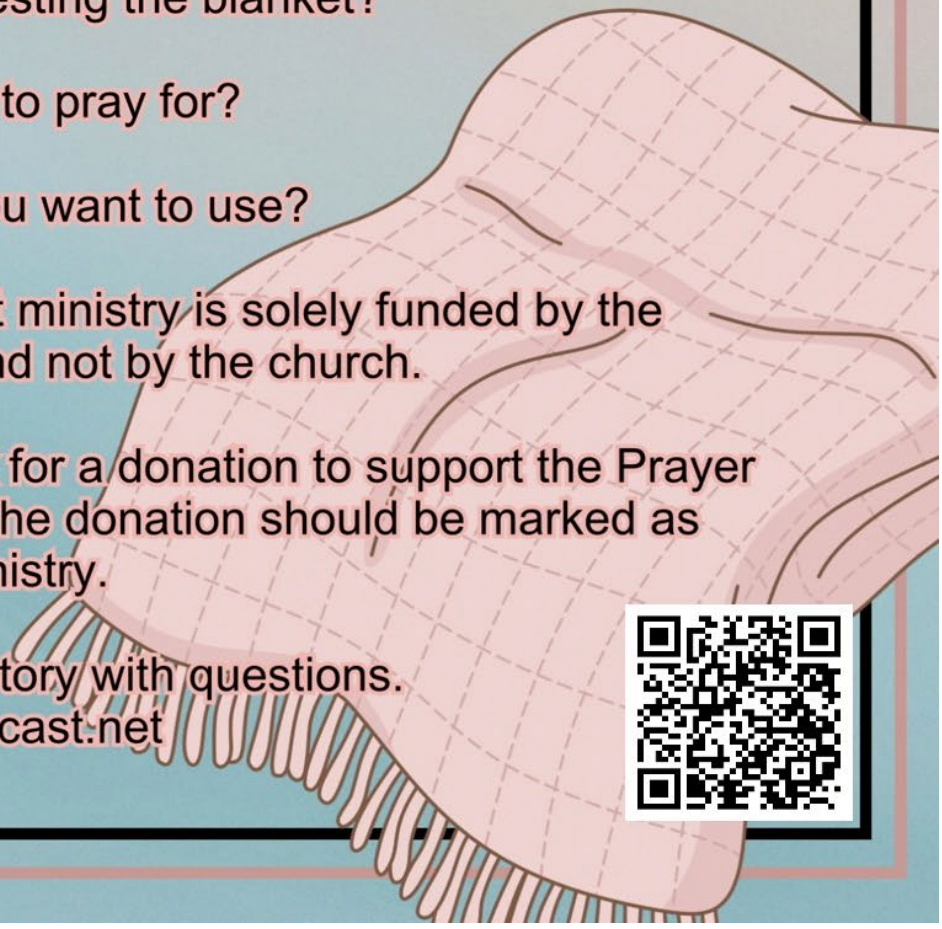
Why are you requesting the blanket?

What do you want to pray for?

Any Bible verse you want to use?

The prayer blanket ministry is solely funded by the church brethren and not by the church.

If possible, we ask for a donation to support the Prayer Blanket Ministry. The donation should be marked as Prayer Blanket Ministry.



Contact Marlynn Story with questions.
jimlynnstory@comcast.net
317 431 8467

PRESBYTERIAN CORNER

If you missed the previous articles – click the Presbyterian Corner above and you can catch up on what you missed on the FPC webpage.

What Is PW?

You may have heard the letters **PW** mentioned around the church and wondered, "What exactly is PW?" PW stands for **Presbyterian Women**, a community of women who come together to grow in faith, serve others, build friendships, and support the mission and ministry of the church. Presbyterian Women is much more than a meeting or a group on the church calendar. It is an opportunity for women of all ages and stages of life to **learn, laugh, pray, serve, and grow together**.

Through Bible study, fellowship, mission projects, special programs, and service to our church and community, PW seeks to put faith into action. Sometimes that means organizing a project to help someone in need. Sometimes it means gathering around a table for fellowship. And sometimes it simply means being there for one another with a listening ear, a helping hand, or a prayer.

At its heart, PW is about **faith, friendship, and service**. It is a place where women can connect with one another while making a difference in the lives of others.

So, if you've ever thought, *"I wonder what PW is all about?"*—come and find out! **There's always room at the table, and we'd love to have you join us.**

Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team meet monthly on the second Wednesday of each month in the church fellowship hall at 7:00 pm.

2026 Coordinating Team Members:

Co-Moderators: Catherine Byrnside & Pam Layman
Treasurer: Barb Runyon
Secretary: Trisha McDermand
Mission: LeeAnn Stein
Outreach: Jan McConnell
Rummage Sale: Cynthia Fremling
Bake Sale: Sue Jourdan
Search: GG Nash, Ann Green, Marylynn story, Sandi Blackburn
Members at large: Pam Wesley, Jana Zeiler, Jill Casper, Anne Fowler, Kelly Wuerch

Click here for more information on the **Presbyterian Women**



SUNDAY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES!

DESPERATE PLEA FOR HELP!

Calling all brave, willing, and moderately organized Presbyterians! 😄
We still have **SIX Sundays in 2026** that need Fellowship Hosts. Here are the dates:

- **October 18**
- **November 15**
- **November 29**
- **December 6**
- **December 20**
- **December 27**



We interrupt your regularly scheduled church announcements with a **DESPERATE PLEA FOR HELP!**

We are **DESPERATELY** looking for fellowship hosts for **Sunday, October 18**!

Yes… we said desperate.
Yes… we are begging.
No… we are not above bribery.

Our fellowship time is in danger of becoming a gathering of people staring awkwardly at an empty table. And nobody wants that. All you need to do is provide a little something for everyone to enjoy—coffee, snacks, treats, breakfast goodies, or whatever your heart (and grocery budget) can handle. Remember to find a friend or two or three to help!

So please, PLEASE consider signing up to host on **Sunday, October 18**. Be the hero our fellowship hour desperately needs. **Seriously. We're begging. PLEASE SAVE FELLOWSHIP HOUR.** If you can help, please let us know! **Your church family—and our empty fellowship table—thank you!**

See Catherine Byrnside in the kitchen and sign up to be a fellowship host – become the person who saves the Fellowship Hour!

Calling All Lay Leaders!!!



Do you enjoy helping with worship? We're still looking for a few wonderful folks to serve as **Lay Leaders for Sunday Worship**.

No special superpowers required—just a willing heart and a little time!

If you're willing to help lead, read, assist, or serve in worship, please let us know.

Many hands make light work—and worship is better when we all participate!

Thank you to everyone who helps make our Sunday worship special!

Sign up to be a lay leader and help make our worship service special! If interested, contact Susan Clark at sclark2428@yahoo.com.

****

"The Chosen" Small Group

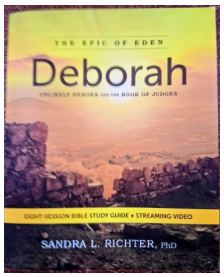
Bob and Trish Moore will be hosting a Small Group in their home based on the popular television series "The Chosen". We are now on Season 2. We will watch an episode and then follow with discussion. The meetings will be held on Tuesday evenings at 7:00pm, beginning September 15th. New members are welcome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

****

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 Catherine Byrnside at nobleswynd@yahoo.com

Adult Sunday School



For October 18, the Adult SS Class will view the 29-minute, Session 2 of the DEBORAH DVD series by Sandra Richter, PhD, entitled: "Arriving and Obeying are not the same thing".

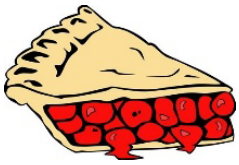
This Bible study draws you immediately into the grand story of Deborah and challenges you, as a Christ follower, to ask yourself the same questions God asked of Deborah and Barak.

The class meets in the adult classroom downstairs directly under church office at 9:00 am.

****

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 so we have an accurate count for the restaurant. All are welcome. **Remember it's free pie Monday.**

Operation Christmas Child

Thanks for all the wonderful donations!

This summer has been a great collection for the Christmas Shoebox Ministry! Thank you! **We have the month of October to really finalize the collection.** Things were gathered this week, and we found some items that might be a little short: **small writing tablets, coloring books, band-aids, comb and brushes, jump ropes, slinky, wash cloths, underwear, and socks.** Please consider purchasing a few items to complete the Shoe Boxes. If you have any questions – see Ann Green

****

For More Information Check Out Our New Community Page



AROUND TOWN

Find out what's going on in your community. From BBQs to Community Band Concerts, you can support many charitable organizations in the Hamilton County area.

https://fpc-noblesville.org/community

****

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!

Invitation: Presbyterian Theologian Lecture at Butler University



An invitation to members of your congregation to a lecture at Butler University by Rev. Dr. Jennifer Ayres, a PC(USA) pastor and theologian on the faculty of the Candler School of Theology at Emory University.

Her lecture, "What Makes Food Good? Religion, Ethics, and Sustainability," is on Tuesday, October 27th, from 6:30 to 8:00 in the Ford Salon at Robertson Hall on Butler's campus. The event is free and open to the public.

Hamilton County
GOOD SAMARITAN NETWORK
Festival of Trees

It's Time To Sign Up!

13th Annual
Hamilton County Festival of Trees

Mark your calendar for the **2026 Festival of Trees on November 21 at 6:30 PM** at **The Wellington in Fishers, IN**!

Join us for an elegant evening filled with festive décor and exciting silent and live auctions featuring custom-designed Christmas trees, holiday gifts, and decorations.

Enjoy a gourmet dinner and a few surprises, including a special visit from that jolly old man himself—and even more surprises throughout the evening. Plus, enjoy the amazing return of last year's crowd favorite, "Paint With The Artist," and the return of Charity Auctioneer Jim Miller.

Your attendance at this year's **Festival of Trees** helps at-risk families in Hamilton County. **GOOD SAMARITAN NETWORK** offers vital services like food, shelter, utility assistance, referrals, health resources, and holiday support.

RSVP NOV. 21 6:30pm

Festival of Trees 2026

Something beautiful is taking shape at the Festival of Trees and our exciting new home at The Wellington in Fishers.

- *Red Carpet Sponsors - Doors Open 5pm*
- *General Sponsors & RSVP - Doors Open 5:45*

We're pleased to welcome back Kim Harden as our 2026 Festival of Trees Event Coordinator. With years of experience, Kim brings creativity, passion, and excellence to every detail.

2026 Current Sponsors

We are extremely grateful for our wonderful sponsors who have committed to supporting this annual event benefiting hundreds of families:

THANK YOU TO OUR 2026 SPONSORS

- **GAYLOR ELECTRIC** - Diamond Presenting Sponsor
- **STEVE & TINA HOOD** - Gold Sponsor
- **SPENCER FARM** - Silver Event Sponsor
- **TMG CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMEN**T - Silver Auction Sponsor
- **JEFFREY & LESLIE SAMPSON** - Platinum Sponsor
- **MARY KNERR** - Platinum Sponsor
- **LARRY ECKERT** - Unable To Attend Sponsor
- **BEN PAULEY** - Unable To Attend Sponsor

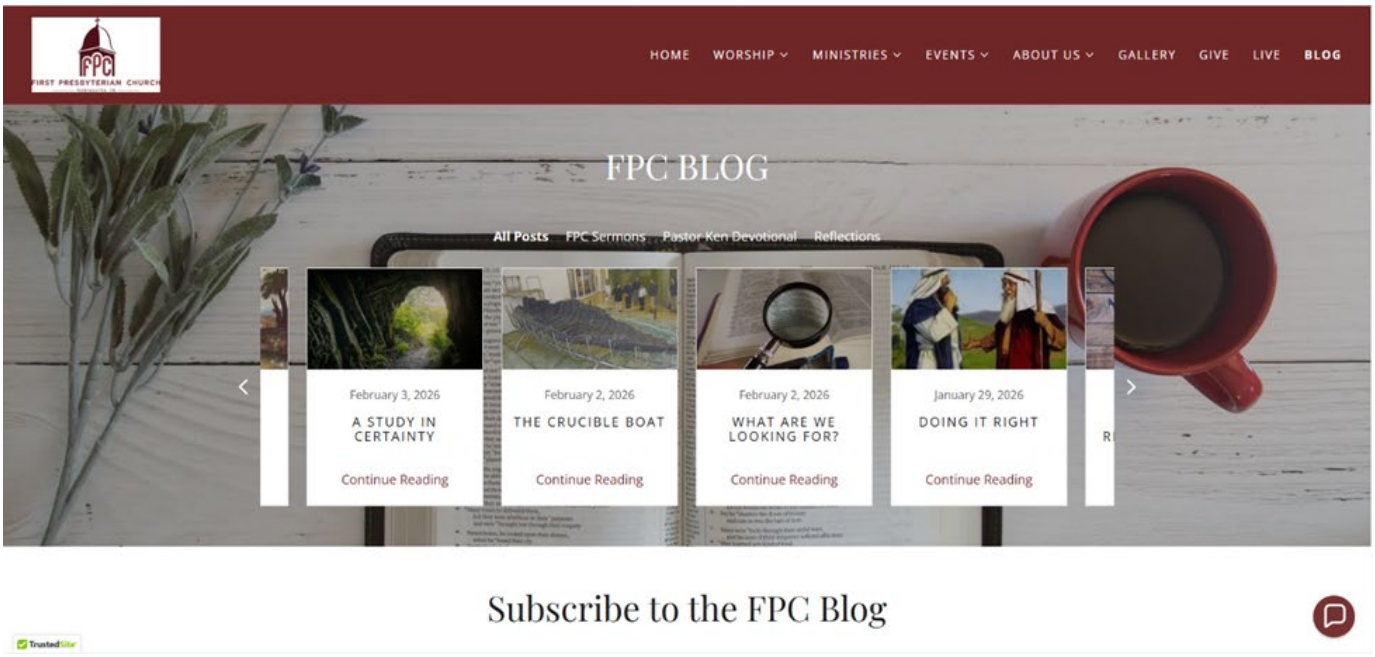
IN-KIND 2026 SPONSORS

- **DREISKE MOVING & STORAGE**
- **EN POINTE INDIANA BALLET**

SIGN ME UP! SPONSOR LINK

Together, we can create a powerful impact in Hamilton County. Why not join us as a ***sponsor*** this year? Check out our website for more details, or click the Sign Me Up sponsor link.

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, Lenton 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!