



News & Notes

August 6, 2026

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Noblesville, IN



Message this Sunday...

“You Have Beautiful Feet”

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Romans 10:5-15

Pastor Ken Locke

[Click Here for the Live Service](#)

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

[Link to Sermon Manuscripts](#)

Mission Minute



Celebrating 11 Years of Art and Community at FPC Noblesville

The Annual FPC Red Geranium Artisan Market returns on **August 15!** For more than a decade, this cherished event has brought together talented artisans, friendly faces, and our wider community. Special thanks to everyone who signed up to help. We can't do it without you!

Join us for a day of shopping, fellowship, and community connection. Browse the work of **56 talented artisans and vendors** featuring handmade gifts, artwork, jewelry, home décor, and more. Be sure to stop by the beloved **PW Bake Sale**, where you'll find homemade cakes, cookies, pies, and other delicious treats.

Saturday, August 15
9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

Bring your friends, family, and neighbors to discover one-of-a-kind treasures and support local artisans. Proceeds support the church's mission programs.

Enjoy a day of fellowship, entertainment, shopping, and homemade treats while connecting with the FPC family and community. We look forward to seeing you on August 15!

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—128; Households online—28

The “Concert for Ukraine” collected \$2,226 for Last Bell Ministries!

Remember in your Prayers...



- ♥ **Tim Nash**, in ICU at Riverview Hospital
- ♥ **Jeri Griffith**, recuperating from emergency hernia surgery at Riverview
- ♥ **Larry Grabb**, at Hines VA Rehab Hospital to help him function more independently.
- ♥ **Bill Linville**, continued cancer treatment
- ♥ **Rita Popp & family**, upon the passing of her husband, **Mike Maloney**.
- ♥ **Bill McConnell**, husband of **Jan McConnell**, recuperating at home.

Remember those who are at home or in health care facilities:

Wendy Bittle

Barbara Landes

Verna Merrell

Carol Stough—*The Crossings of Noblesville*

Dorothy Etchison—*Independence Village*

Joe McGinley—*Hamilton Trace*

Rachel Morgan

Events for the Upcoming Week...

AUGUST 9 THROUGH AUGUST 16, 2026

Today	9:00 am Adult Sunday School
	10:00 am Worship
	11:15 am Fellowship Hour
	11:15 am Deacon's Meeting
	11:15 am Worship Committee Meeting
Monday	9:00 am Shepherd's Center
	11:30 am Men's Lunch – Perkins
	1:30 pm Newcomers Club
Tuesday	1:00 pm Westminster Circle
	6:30 pm Tri Kappa
Wednesday	8:30 am Women's Great Banquet Reunion Group
	8:30 am Men's Great Banquet Reunion Group
	7:00 pm Presbyterian Woman
Thursday	6:00 pm Red Geranium Setup
Friday	5:00 pm Bake Sale Setup
Saturday	8:30 am Aerobics
	9:00 am Red Geranium Artisan Market
Sunday	9:00 am Adult Sunday School
	10:00 am Worship
	11:15 am Fellowship Hour

Nursery Attendants: August 9— Barb Runyon & Laurie Szabo

August 16— LeeAnn Stein & Trish Moore

Audio / Video Team: August 9— Brian Wuerch & Rick Mayhew

August 16— Clint Gingerich & Brian Wuerch

Lay Leader: August 9— Mark Wisely

August 16— Mark Boxberger

Fellowship Hour Hosts: August 9— Jeri Griffith, Jan McConnell & Pam Wesley

August 16— Gail Ratliff & Linda Rosen

In the Office: August— Barb Runyon

September—Barb Runyon

Secretary@fpc-noblesville.org

Please note the following address changes:

Jan Bellis

Magnolia Springs
14901 Carey Road, Apt 228
Carmel, IN 46033



GG Nash

The Crossings of Noblesville
7235 Riverway Walk North, Apt 120
Noblesville, IN 46062



Larry Grabb will be at the Hines VA Hospital in Chicago until the end of August. Larry will be fitted and will learn how to use AI glasses to help him “recognize” people and things around him. You can send letters or cards of encouragement to Larry at:

Larry Grabb

Blind Rehabilitation Center (124)
Edward Hines Jr. VA Hospital Bldg. 113
5000 S. 5th Ave
Hines, IL 60141



Weekly Devotion...

Who Gets What?

Matthew 22:15-22

August 6, 2026

My Beloved -

In our text today, Jesus is teaching in the Temple complex. His messages have so upset the ruling elite that several groups of them have banded together to try and bring him down. In this instance it is the Pharisees and Herodians who are the odd bedfellows. The Pharisees were strongly opposed to the Romans who had occupied Israel and were bleeding them dry. The Herodians supported Herod, Rome's client king, and so were seen as collaborators with the Romans. They weren't friends, but at least in this instance, they were able to get long.

They begin with a nice bit of flattery. "Teacher, we know that you are sincere and teach the way of God in accordance with truth and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality." Be careful! When the devil starts using flattery you know something bad is coming.

Then, they ask their trick question. "Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?"

The tax in question was the annual census tax. This was required of all adult Jews and had to be paid with a specific Roman coin which, of course, had a picture of the emperor on it. For any observant Jew, this coin itself was idolatrous since it included the emperor's likeness.

If Jesus answered, "Yes," then he could be accused of being disloyal to God. If he answered, "No", then he could be accused of fomenting rebellion against the Roman overlords. Either way, Jesus is between a rock and a hard place.

Jesus' reply is famous. "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's."

Jesus' reply is also enigmatic. What exactly belongs to the emperor? What exactly belongs to God? Jesus does not say. Is he encouraging divided loyalties? Is he suggesting that we should give nothing to the state and run the risk of being thrown in prison? We can speculate, but we don't know for sure.

This question is a little easier for us today. We are not living in a country occupied by an oppressive foreign power. We elect our representatives to government at every level. Through the democratic process we have a say in how our taxes are used. And generally, our taxes are used well. Roads get paved. Teachers get paid. Laws are created and enforced that help us live together in relative harmony. Governments can do a lot of good with our taxes. But none of us doubt that governments can also do a lot of bad with our taxes.

I will have to leave it to you to decide what belongs to God and what belongs to Caesar. My only advice is to remind us all that in any ladder of loyalties, God must come first. Anything else is idolatry. Loving any person, thing or country; swearing greater loyalty to any person, thing or country; owing more to any person, thing or country than we do to God is idolatry.

I'm sorry I can't be more specific about exactly what we owe to Caesar. It's really a matter for your own conscience. But I can affirm again and again that our first loyalty is always to God. If we make that choice well, then I think all of the other choices will quickly fall into line.

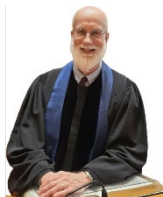
God's peace to us all,
Pastor Ken.

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](#)

Mission Study Committee Update



With our Session's guidance, the Congressional Mission Study Committee has been assembled and had their first meeting. Members are Sherry Faust, Jake Light, Paul Able, and Mark Boxberger. Pastor Ken will serve as the convener and guide.

Over the next several months, this team will put together a detailed review of our congregation. Who were we in the past, who are we now, what is our community like, what kind of Church does God want us to be, what are the attributes our next installed pastor will need in order to lead us in the right direction?

As you can imagine, this will take some time. We will be asking for your input at every step along the way. We will also report back to you on a regular basis. When we ask for your input, especially when we ask you to fill out a survey, PLEASE do it! The more information we have, the better our report will be.

Our final product, the Congregational Mission Study, will have to be approved by our session and our Presbytery's Committee on Ministry. Once they approve it, we will have permission to elect a Pastor Nominating Committee. Our Session will present a proposed list of nominees. They will be elected by all of us at a specially called congregational meeting.

Our PNC will use the mission study to put together the job description for our next installed pastor. If everyone has participated in the mission study process as we have asked, then putting the job description together will not take long. Once the job description is approved by our Session and our Presbytery's COM, we will be able to post the description on the electronic bulletin board maintained by our denomination.

These are exciting times! We really appreciate your input. The Mission Study will take several months to complete so please be patient as we are getting organized, and please keep us in your prayers!

If you any questions, please ask a member of the team and watch the video included in this email.

Yours in ministry,
Mark Boxberger
Sherry Faust
Jake Light
Paul Able

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY IN HAMILTON COUNTY?

The Shepherd's Center of Hamilton County Guardianship Program is looking for volunteers. They serve as court-appointed guardians for seniors and incapacitated adults right here in Hamilton County who have no family or friends to speak for them. First Presbyterian Church of Noblesville already actively supports the Together Today program.

We are looking to partner with local faith communities to find volunteer advocates. Our volunteers don't manage money; they simply visit a matched "protected person" once or twice a month, monitor their care, and make sure they aren't forgotten. **We have a volunteer training coming up on September 15th and 16th that could be a great opportunity for folks to get involved.** I am also attaching the training flyer for your perusal. Contact Coleen Connor at Coleen@scofhc.org or call 463-215-2452 for more information.



shepherd's center
OF HAMILTON COUNTY

Guardianship Program

**WALK BESIDE A SENIOR.
MAKE A LASTING DIFFERENCE.**

BECOME A TRAINED VASIA VOLUNTEER TO HELP
ADVOCATE FOR THOSE WHO CAN NO LONGER ADVOCATE
FOR THEMSELVES.

WHO IS A VASIA VOLUNTEER

- A person with a heart for helping people
- A person who has up to five hours a month to give
- A person who wants to truly make a difference in someone's life
- A person who loves and supports their community

VASIA VOLUNTEER TRAINING DETAILS

- September 15 & 16
- 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.
- Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center - 1 Hamilton County Square, Noblesville
- A light dinner is provided

**TO APPLY OR LEARN
MORE CONTACT:**

Coleen Connor
Coleen@scofhc.org
463-215-2452



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.

Red Geranium Bake Sale

Fire up your ovens, dig out your recipes and begin the baking. We need you all to bring homemade baked goods for our sale. **Drop off goodies at the church on Friday night the 14th, 5-7 pm or Saturday 7:30 to 9 am.** What sells best are pies, cookies, brownies or other bar treats, cinnamon rolls, breads and rolls. **If you would like to help sell on Saturday—sign up at the Welcome Center.** All proceeds go to local missions.



Pick up a beautiful plate or two in the Fellowship Hall to put your goodies on. We have found that people buy the baked goods on pretty plates first!



Operation Christmas Child - "August – TOYS"

Thank you for your donations for Christmas Shoebox Ministry in July! You all did a great job!

The month of August we are continuing to give but now concentrating on toys! Jump ropes, stuffed animals, chalks, dolls, things you are led to buy for boys and girls 2-14 We have new suggestions hanging on our tree. (Keep in mind the shoebox size) God bless you for giving to this wonderful ministry!

For more information, scan the QR Code:



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.**

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.**

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.**

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.**

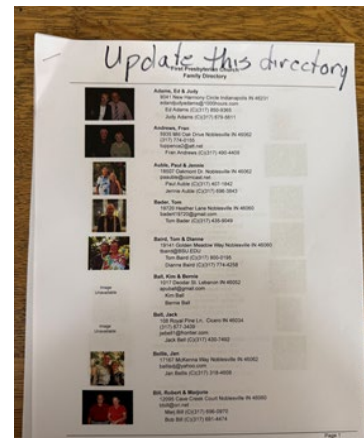
The Flat Roof Replacement is DONE!!!



IRC Roofing has confirmed that the flat roof replacement has been completed and all machinery, dumpsters, and cones have been removed from the church parking lot. There is a small amount of masonry work that needs to be repaired, and they will complete that soon. Due to rain delays it took longer than expected, but the good news - the flat roof is completely new. If you have any questions - please let me know. Steve Runyon - Property Elder

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.



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.

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.**

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>

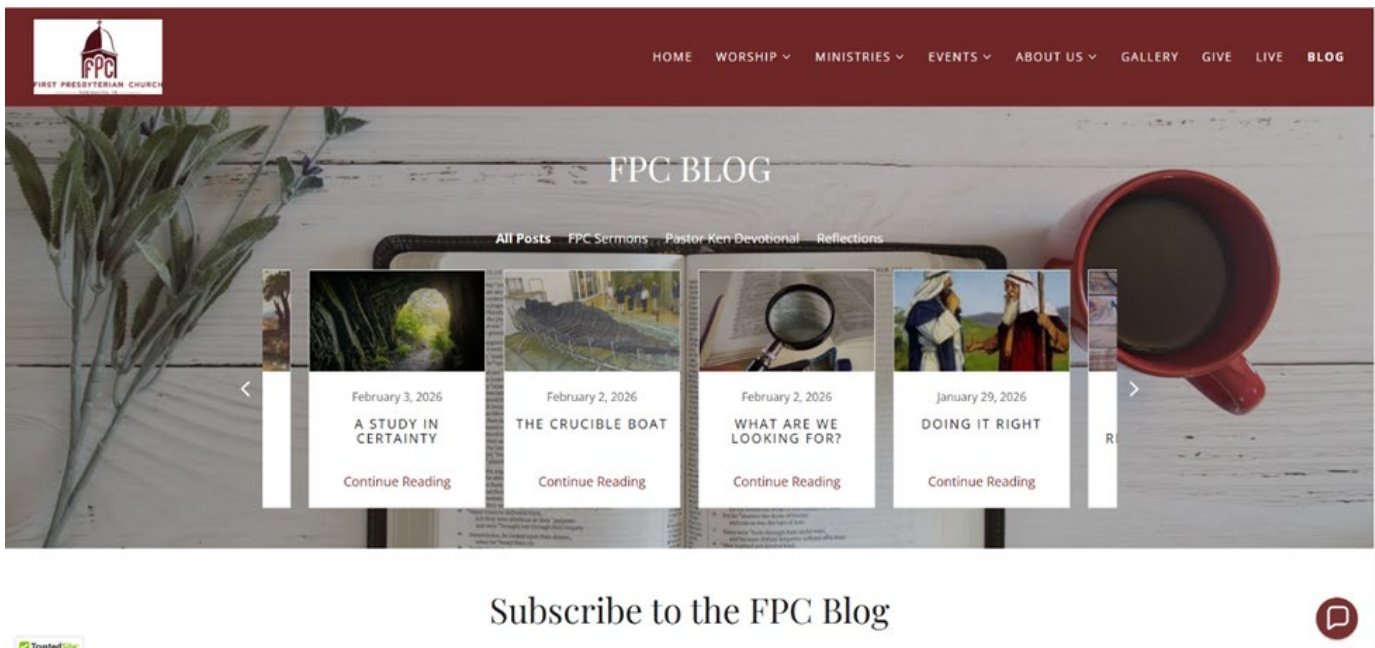


FPC BLOG

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!