October 2025 Income/Expense Report			
	2025 Budget	<u>2025 Ac</u> tual	2024 Actual
Income Received:	\$268,400	\$250,524.07	\$258,660.75
Expenses:	\$268,400	\$257,374.25	\$278,611.12
* (Deficit)/Surplus:		\$ (6,850.18)	\$ (19,950.37)

^{*} Includes computer expenses and 1/2 of flooring.

LAST CHANCE FOR POINSETTIA ORDERS -TODAY!

Poinsettias purchased in memory or in honor of loved ones are placed in the sanctuary on the Sunday before Christmas and left through the Christmas Eve Service. You may take your plant(s) home after the service on Christmas Eve. If you would like to purchase a poinsettia, fill out the form on the table in the back of the sanctuary and place it in the offering plate or give it to Jim Story. You can place your order and pay later if you don't have the \$10 today. Make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church and put Poinsettia on the memo line. The last day for orders is TODAY!

FPC Family Silly Safari Christmas Party...

December 13, 2025, at 3:30 pm in Fellowship Hall, FPC RSVP at the Welcome Center.

SHOW APPRECIATION TO OUR CHURCH STAFF...

Our paid staff works very hard to keep our Church running smoothly. We would like to give them an extra thank you during this giving season. This is your opportunity to show your appreciation for their continued dedication to our church. I ask you to consider a special gift this Christmas season. We would like to distribute this to the staff before Christmas. It will be greatly appreciated if your gift is received by December 14th. Please use the staff bonus envelope, if you use giving envelopes, or there are envelopes at the back of the Sanctuary. Mark your checks with "staff bonus".

Thank you so much! Peggy Deakyne, Personnel & Nominating Elder

GIVING TREE 2025

Please take a moment and stop by the 2025 Giving Tree! It is beautifully decorated and is full of gift tags. This year, FPC is assisting five families for the Christmas season. If your heart leads you, choose a tag (or two), purchase the gift on the tag, wrap it and return it to church by Sunday, December 21. The families will be here that day to pick up the gifts. Thank you for your generosity and kindness. FPC's support of these families truly reflects our spirit of giving and love of community.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL...

THAT YOU MAY BE CERTAIN: THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Join our Sunday Morning Bible Study: 9am Before Worship Service.

Now renowned singer/songwriter and gifted teacher Michael Card introduces you to the brilliant physician, slave, and world traveler who wrote the longest of the four gospels.

HOLIDAYS ARE COMING. HELP FEED OUR YELLOW FOOD PANTRY!

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.

DECEMBER 7 THROUGH DECEMBER 14, 2025

Today	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School
	10:00 am	Worship
	11:15 am	Fellowship Hour
Monday	1:30 pm	Newcomer's Club
Tuesday	6:30 pm	Tri-Kappa
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
Saturday	8:30 am	Aerobics
	4:00 pm	Silly Safaris
Sunday	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School
	10:00 am	Worship
	11:15 am	Fellowship Hour

Altar flowers, today, are in memory of Gary Griffith from Jeri & Michael Griffith.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING-TODAY...

A Congregational Meeting is scheduled TODAY, following worship, to dissolve our Pastoral Call with Pastor Eric, effective December 31, 2025. We will be electing a new deacon, as well. Erin McGee, Lead Presbyter, Whitewater Valley Presbytery will be preaching during the service that day and will moderate the meeting.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

- ♥ Curtis Bittle, eye problems.
- **▼ Ray Faust,** at Harbor Manor.
- ▼ **LeeAnn Stein**, recuperating from knee replacement surgery.
- ▼ Lamar Ziegler, recuperating from knee replacement surgery.
- **▼ The family of John Thomas** upon his passing.

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHIES...

To the family of Michael Rogers upon his passing.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR MICHAEL ROGERS...

Visitation will be held on Friday, December 5, 2025, from 4pm – 8 pm EST at Conkle Funeral Home, 76 N. Avon Ave., Avon, IN 46123.

The funeral service will follow on Saturday, December 6, 2025, at 11:30am EST also at Conkle Funeral Home in Avon, concluding with an interment ceremony at West Ridge Park Cemetery, 9295 W. 21st St. Indianapolis, IN 46234. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Indy Hoor Flight in Michael's honor: https://www.indyhonorflight.org.

Cards & Notes for **John Thomas** can be sent to:

Jane Hoover 5290 Arapaho Court Carmel IN 46033

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

Wendy Bittle Dorothy Etchison—Independence Village
Barbara Landes Carolyn & Joe McGinley – Hamilton Trace

Verna Merrell Rachel Morgan Carol Stough—*Five Star Residences of Noblesville*



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1207 Conner Street, Noblesville, IN 317.773.2383 ● fpc-noblesville.org

Eric R. Gale, Pastor

DECEMBER 7, 2025 COMMUNION SUNDAY / 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SESSION

Laurie Szabo
Barb Runyon
Mark Wisely
Jennie Auble
Bob Moore
Peggy Deakyne
Sue Jourdan
Karen McCord
Eric R. Gale

Christian Education
Evangelism
Finance
Mission
Planning
Personnel /Nom.
Properties
Clerk
Moderator

DEACONS Susan Clark, Co-Moderator Andrea Joines, Co-Moderator

Johnathan Baker
Anne Burress
Brenda Christian
Clint Gingerich
Gail Ratliff
Robin Rufatto
Joe Sullivan
Quinn Teague
Debbie Wilson

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH **DECEMBER 7. 2025 COMMUNION SUNDAY / 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

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 "The First Noel" James Moffatt

ADVENT READING Reader: Jake Light

L: We all know the story about the birth of Jesus. Most of us will spend not only large amounts of money but large amounts of time the month of December preparing for Christmas – buying gifts, going to parties, attending or participating in Christmas programs, decorating our homes and traveling to be with friends and family. But are we preparing our hearts for the real Christmas?

So, let's simplify what this big deal is all about. There was a baby born to Mary and Joseph in a manger, witnessed by several animals and sought out by shepherds and wise men who followed a star to Bethlehem. While we are at it, we can throw in a few angels to our story. Can we think of the power of God through these simple things?

Can you imagine, a "donkey", an animal of PEACE, would not only carry a very pregnant Mary to Bethlehem but would also witness the birth of the would-be King, Jesus Christ. But this was not the only time that God would use a donkey, the most lowly and humble creature, for His great glory. In 1 Kings 1:33, it was written that the lineage of Jesus, King David, at the end of his life, had his son Solomon paraded into the city on a donkey. This was done to assure the people that his son was the true heir. How ironic that Jesus, too, would choose a donkey colt, pure in spirit, to ride into Jerusalem in time for Passover. The donkey was chosen to portray Jesus as a ruler, just as King David had his son do. But more importantly, the donkey was also there to witness God's prophecy of the Messiah who would bring salvation and PEACE to mankind.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE OF PEACE

L: We light this second candle of Advent, the candle of PEACE, to witness the news of the birth of God's Son just as the donkey did in the manger and to be carried to salvation.

† OPENING HYMN

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

#249

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Dear Lord, remind us of how fortunate we are to be chosen by you, just like the donkey was chosen to serve You. Forgive us if we stray from Your will and don't share the PEACE that You promised through the birth of Your Son. Help us to remain humble and grateful just as the donkey who was willing to be used to ensure Your great plan for us. Give us the courage to be PEACE-keepers and messengers of the good news. Amen.

† WORDS OF ASSURANCE (responsive)

L: We are God's people who are given the task to keep PEACE and share God's word.

P: Let us celebrate the birth of Christ and share this good news!

All: Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen!

† 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

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Chancel Choir

(R. Thygerson)

(Children are dismissed to Sunday School)

OFFERING

Offertory "Bring a Torch Jeannette, Isabella" Christopher Uehlein † 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

"Emmanuel"

MESSAGE "Be Brave and Have Hope" Rev. Dr. Erin McGee

Isaiah 40:3-5: Matthew 3:1-12

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

- -Apostle's Creed (Green hymnal-inside cover)
- -Prayer of Thanksgiving
- -Serving of the Elements
- -The Lord's Prayer
- -Servers: Mark Wisely, Clint Gingerich, Paul Auble, Claudia MacRae

† CLOSING HYMN

"Away in a Manger"

#262

#243

† BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Arr. by Harold DeCou

†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.

Thank you to Claudia MacRae who is authoring our Advent Readings this season.

We welcome Reverend Dr. Erin McGee, Transitional Lead Presbyter of White Water Valley Presbytery, to the pulpit today. She will moderate the congregational meeting following our worship service.

SCRIPTURE & MESSAGE NOTES

Isaiah 40:3-5 (NRSV)

A voice cries out:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up,

and every mountain and hill be made low;

the uneven ground shall become level,

and the rough places a plain.

⁵Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,

and all flesh shall see it together,

for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

Matthew 3:1-12 (NRSV)

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." ³This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord;

make his paths straight."

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶ and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? 8Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, 9and do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹ "I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."