



# News & Notes

March 26, 2026

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Noblesville, IN



**Palm Sunday**

**Message this Sunday...**

“What Kind of King?”

Zechariah 9:9-10; Matthew 21:1-11

**Pastor Ken Locke**

[Click Here for the Live Service](#)

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

[Link to Sermon Manuscripts](#)

## A Note from Pastor Ken...

My Dear Congregation:

Elizabeth and I are very happy to report that the doctors have declared her 'fully engrafted.' They plan to release her from the hospital tomorrow about noon. Both our basset and I will be very glad to have her home.

Elizabeth will need someone with her 24/7 for the next 6-8 weeks. She will need to go to the hospital several times per week for treatments, and there needs to be someone with her should she suddenly spike a fever.

Our session has graciously allowed me to take the first two weeks as vacation. I will start my vacation time on March 30 and will be back in my study at the church April 13th. I will not be checking my email, but our Office Administrator knows how to reach me in an emergency.

However, barring some sort of unforeseen disaster, I will be here for services on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

Thank you for your prayers and many acts of kindness over these last several weeks. We both appreciate them so very, very much.

God's peace to us all,  
Pastor Ken.

# Weekly Devotion....

## **Exodus 10:21-11:8** **Groping Towards the Light**

March 26, 2026

My Beloved –

Last week, we looked at the first of the famous 10 Plagues of Egypt: the water in the Nile River became blood. Over and over we were told that the Egyptians did not have any water. The Israelites, presumably, had plenty.

This week, we are reviewing the 9<sup>th</sup> plague and here the message is explicit. For three days, Egypt is covered in darkness. This is not just any old darkness, the darkness of a cloudy night or a deep cave. This is deep, primordial, pre-creation darkness. For three days the Egyptians can only grope about, hoping to stumble on what they need. And give up any hope if you drop what you have found or accidentally misplace what you had sought. You won't be seeing it again anytime soon.

But the Israelites, we are told, have plenty of light. The Israelites can go about their business. The Israelites can worship and praise God. The Israelites are living in the constant, steady presence of God's light.

Isn't this the story of oppression? Those who insist on mistreating the powerless, making fun of the refugees, refusing to show mercy to the fearful are living in perpetual, primeval darkness. They are living in the darkness of their prejudice, their hearts, their minds. Those who insist on the way of power become so fixed on seeing things their own way and accomplishing their own goals of total domination become blind to their actions and their consequences.

Only those who trust in God have light to live by. Only those who acknowledge God as the God of both light and darkness are able to see their way through life. Those who open their hearts and minds to God are able to find the way to meaning, purpose, and the God who loves us in this world and the next.

Sadly, things have come to an impasse, an impasse that will only be broken at the cost of great pain for the innocent. This is the way of the world, isn't it? When leaders are blind to everything but their own ambition the innocent will always suffer.

May God protect us from such leaders in our world, our country, our businesses, our church, and our families.

May God's protection and peace be with us all,  
Pastor Ken.

## Holy Week Is Upon Us!

Once again, we will celebrate Holy Week with two special services: Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.

**Maundy Thursday (April 2nd, 7:00 pm, Sanctuary)** remembers the night when Jesus, to impress the importance of self-sacrifice and service, washed his disciples' feet. He then gave them "a new commandment (Latin: *mandatum*), that you love one another as I have loved you."

Our service will include hand-washing, Scripture, hymns, and an audio-visual meditation: "He Gets Us". (Not a ripoff of the Super Bowl adds. Jesus 'got us' long before the invention of television advertising.) The service will conclude with the ritual stripping of the sanctuary.

On **Good Friday (April 3rd, 7:00 pm, First Christian Church)** we will gather with other Christians in our community to celebrate the Seven Last Words of Christ. As well as a powerful service in its own right (our choir will help by providing special music and sing with the combined choir at the end), Good Friday is a strong witness to the unchurched that Christians don't all hate each other, we are not hopelessly divided, Christians have a range of views and we are all in service to the one God and Father of us all.

As its name suggests, Good Friday Worship is not a community concert. (In 13<sup>th</sup> century English, the word *good* meant *holy*.) It is a chance to engage in a genuinely communal service of worship for almighty God. Please join us as we worship God and make a powerful statement of our unity to our community.

As always, friends and relatives are invited. We hope that you will join us for one, if not both services.

God's peace to us all,  
Pastor Ken.

### Holy week schedule 2026...

**Palm Sunday**—Sunday, March 29, 2026, 10:00 am

**Maundy Thursday** – Thursday evening, April 2, 2026, 7 pm

**Good Friday Community Service** – Friday evening, April 3, 2026, 7:00 pm  
**First Christian Church, 16377 Herriman Boulevard, Noblesville**

**Easter Sunday Worship** – Sunday, April 5, 2026, 10:00 am

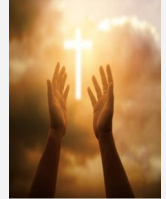
## February 2026 Income/Expense Report

	<u>2026 Budget</u>	<u>2026 Actual</u>
Income Received:	\$ 54,028.54	\$ 58,058.90
Expenses:	\$ 54,028.54	\$ 40,421.79
* <i>(Deficit)/Surplus:</i>		\$ 17,637.11

**Attendance Last week:** In Sanctuary—109; Households online—24

### Remember in your Prayers...

- ♥ Jan Bellis and family, upon the passing of her husband, **Don Bellis**.
- ♥ Bill Linville, dealing with multiple health issues.
- ♥ The Family of Carolyn McGinley (wife of Joe McGinley), upon her passing. Arrangements will be forthcoming.
- ♥ Jan McConnell, recuperating from a fall.
- ♥ Susan Clark, on the passing of her mother, **Mary Clark**.



#### Arrangements for Mary Clark...

**Visitation: Friday, April 17, 2026 from 4pm-6pm**

**at Parkview United Methodist Church, (1785 Indiana 19, Peru, IN 46970)**

**Service: Saturday, April 18th, 2026 at 11am**

**at 1785 Indiana 19, Peru, IN 46970**

**Lunch: after the service - all are welcome,**

**but RSVP is appreciated ([sclark2428@yahoo.com](mailto:sclark2428@yahoo.com))**

**Graveside Service for burial of both Bob and Mary: Saturday, April 18th**

**at 2:30pm at Mount Hope Cemetery, (411 North Grant Street, Peru, IN 46970)**

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

**Wendy Bittle**

**Ray Faust—Harbor Manpor**

**Joe McGinley—Hamilton Trace**

**Rachel Morgan**

**Dorothy Etchison—Independence Village**

**Barbara Landes**

**Verna Merrell**

**Carol Stough—The Crossings of Noblesville**

## 2025 Contribution Statements

**2025 Contribution Statements have been mailed.** If you have not received your statement, please contact Robin Story at [robin.story@fpc-noblesville.org](mailto:robin.story@fpc-noblesville.org).

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## 2026 PER CAPITA REMINDER

**Collected to date \$6,016.54 out of \$10,446.54**

**If you have already paid your portion, we THANK YOU for your timely payment.** If you haven't, could you please kindly submit your Per Capita for 2026 portion as soon as possible, we would greatly appreciate your giving. Remember, **the Per Capita for 2026 is \$46.02 per member.**

We will be paying this invoice by the end of March and would like to decrease the difference as much as possible before then. **Regardless if the funds are received, we have to pay the full amount.**

**If you have any questions regarding the Per Capita, please feel free to contact Robin at 317.508.4411.**

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## 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.**

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## Adult Sunday School...

This Sunday the Adult Class will review class notes from Video 5 of Max Lucado's series. "WHAT HAPPENS NEXT". This video covers the Second Coming of Christ, the Battle of Armageddon and the Millennial Kingdom.

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## The Chosen Small Group

**Bob and Trish Moore are hosting a Small Group in their home based on the popular television series "The Chosen".** We are starting back at the beginning with Season 1. We will watch an episode, and then follow with discussion. **The meetings are held on Tuesday evenings at 7:00.** New members are welcome to join us at any point in the series! If you are interested in joining, please email [bob-trishmoore@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bob-trishmoore@sbcglobal.net) for more information.

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## Sunday Snuggles!

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](mailto:bobtrishmoore@sbcglobal.net) for more information.



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## Men's Fellowship Luncheons

The FPC men's luncheons are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at Perkins Restaurant. Any questions see Stephen Craig. Sign up sheet will be on a clip board at the welcome center, or you can email Stephen at [sacraig071347@gmail.com](mailto: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 the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at Perkins Restaurant. Any questions see Marlynn Story. Sign up 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.**

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## 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](mailto:secretary@fpc-noblesville.org). In addition, to receive important updates by text, text FPC to 317-537-0124.

Stay connected, stay inspired!

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## Rummage Sale...

# *COMING SOON!* **RUMMAGE SALE**

**APRIL 18, 2026**

**8:00AM-2:00PM**

Gather all those unused, but useable items from your closets, kitchens, basement & garage. Box & bag them...

...then start bringing them to church after 1:00PM on Sunday April 12!

## **We Need Volunteers!**

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## Piano—Looking for a good home...



## Mission Minute...

### A Decade of Faithful Support for Last Bell Ministries



For over ten years, our congregation has supported Last Bell Ministries through financial gifts, donations of winter coats, clothing and basic needs, and two mission trips to Ukraine for English Camp. Most importantly, FPC has faithfully prayed for Last Bell Ministries and the people of Ukraine and continues to do so.

#### **2026 has two great opportunities for you to continue to help our friends at Last Bell**

The **“Sharing Our Love”** donation drive will focus on teens and young adult orphans and their families.

- Gently used or new, warm winter coats, shoes, and clothing.
- They love American fashions, especially hoodies and T-shirts with logos.
- There is also a love of baseball and softball, but no athletic equipment for those sports is sold in Ukraine.
- More info and a collection zone will be set up in Fellowship Hall early May. Items will be shipped to Ukraine in early fall.

#### **Free Concert to Benefit Last Bell Ministries**

Dr. Warren Fremling will be hosting a concert on **Sunday, June 14 at 4:00 in the FPC Sanctuary**

Mark your calendars for this wonderful benefit. Ask Warren or a mission team member how you can help with this special event.

**FREE CONCERT**  
TO BENEFIT  
 **UKRAINE**   
**SUNDAY JUNE 14 4:00**  
Dr. Warren Fremling, Baritone and Philip Orem, Piano

For more information about Last Bell Ministries visit <https://lastbell.org/>

# Sunday School Calendar

Grades 6 - 8

~~MARCH  
8  
DURING SERVICE  
Sunday School  
The Story~~

~~MARCH  
15  
DURING SERVICE  
Sunday School  
The Story~~

~~MARCH  
22  
DURING SERVICE  
Sunday School  
The Story~~

APRIL  
12  
DURING SERVICE  
Sunday School  
God in Narnia

APRIL  
19  
DURING SERVICE  
Sunday School  
God in Narnia

APRIL  
26  
DURING SERVICE  
Sunday School  
God in Narnia

MAY  
8  
FELLOWSHIP HALL  
6-8PM  
Cinco de Mayo Game  
Night

MAY  
10  
DURING SERVICE  
Sunday School  
God in Narnia

MAY  
17  
DURING SERVICE  
Sunday School  
God in Narnia

MAY  
24  
DURING SERVICE  
Sunday School  
God in Narnia

MAY  
31  
DURING SERVICE  
Sunday School  
God in Narnia

## Creative & Performing Arts Camp...

Camp will be held June 1-5

Registration is \$60 per child and will be open March 1<sup>st</sup>—May 17<sup>th</sup>

# 2026 CREATIVE & PERFORMING ARTS CAMP

REGISTER MARCH 1 - MAY 17



<https://forms.gle/iH2rSRiK4yiux2VK7>



**JUNE 1 - 5, 10AM-4PM**

**MUST HAVE COMPLETED 1<sup>ST</sup> GRADE**

**\$60 PER CHILD DUE MAY 17 TO SECURE SPOT**

**MUST FILL OUT THE FORM LINKED FOR EACH CHILD**

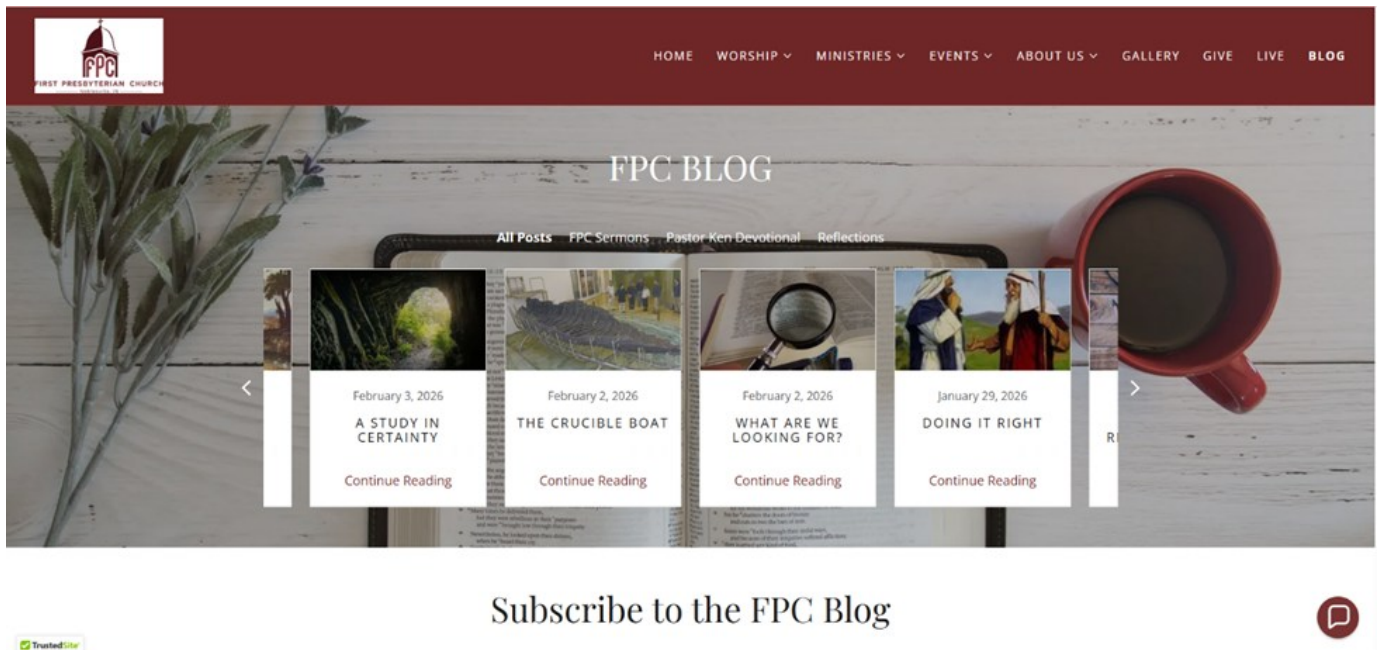
**CONTACT US AT [SUMMERCAMPFPC@GMAIL.COM](mailto:SUMMERCAMPFPC@GMAIL.COM)**

## 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](mailto: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!



## Around our Community...

Hello Friends, Our Church, **Bethel Missionary Baptist**, would love to extend a hearty invitation for your congregation to come and worship with us at our revival services **March 27th—29th**. Please see the flier below and feel free to copy and distribute.

God's grace to you!

In the love of our Savior,

Ben Stafford, Pastor, BMBC in Noblesville



The flier features a scenic background of a mountain valley at sunset with a large wooden cross in the foreground. A large five-pointed star is visible in the bottom left corner. The text is arranged as follows:

**SPRING '26**  
**REVIVAL**

**MARCH**

27 <sup>TH</sup>	28 <sup>TH</sup>	29 <sup>TH</sup>
FRIDAY 7PM	SATURDAY 7PM	SUNDAY 11AM

**SISTER CHURCHES SINGING**

**BRO. RANDY PHILLIPS**  
EVANGELIST

**BRO. RICK TOWE**  
SOLOIST

**BETHEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
11818 STATE ROAD 32 E. NOBLESVILLE, IN 46060