



News & Notes

April 2, 2026

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Noblesville, IN



Easter Sunday / Communion Sunday

Message this Sunday...

“What’s It All About?”

Matthew 28:1-10

Pastor Ken Locke

[Click Here for the Live Service](#)

[Link to last Sunday’s Service](#)

[Link to Sermon Manuscripts](#)

A Note From the Church Office— The Scammers are back!



Members of the congregation have received 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!

Weekly Devotion....

Old Habits Are Hard to Shake!

1 Corinthians 11:17-34

April 2, 2026

My Beloved –

Today is Maundy Thursday. Today we celebrate the time Jesus, in an unprecedented act, washed his disciples' feet (**John 13:1-15**). That night, he also gave them a new commandment (Latin: *mandatum*) that they should love one another (**John 13:34-35**). That is, they should treat each other with radical equality. They should create unity.

Such unity was a radical concept in the ancient world, especially in areas like Corinth where Roman values held sway. In the Roman world, there was no such thing as equality or loving each other. Instead, they dominated each other. In the Roman world, men had the absolute right to dominate women. Masters had the absolute right to dominate slaves. The father of a household had the absolute right to dominate everyone in that household. Local and regional governors had the same power, and the emperor had the absolute right to dominate everyone in the empire.

No one ever considered whether or not this was right or wrong. It would never have occurred to them question it. Domination as an organizing principle was as natural for them as breathing.

Not surprisingly domination, complete acceptance of total inequality, found its way into the early church. No one questioned it. They just did it. It was as natural for them as breathing.

(We should remember that these early Christians did not have the benefit of years of biblical commentary and Sunday school curriculum to teach them differently. Paul's letter was probably written in 53/54 AD, a full decade before the first for the four Gospels was written. All they knew about Christianity was what they gleaned from various letters, the teachings of itinerant evangelists like Paul, and the developing Christian oral tradition.)

Paul is extremely upset at the Corinthians because their actions are not matching their words. Instead of creating community, being one in the body of Christ, they are inadvertently highlighting their differences. When they gather for their communal meal, some are so poor that they go hungry. Others are so wealthy that they visibly overindulge.

While equality, being one in Christ, is not a radical concept for us, are we perhaps unintentionally or inadvertently creating divisions among us? Perhaps by how we dress? What we choose to share about our vacation? Creating cliques? Are long-time members being treated with great deference while newer members are treated as probationers?

I honestly don't know. I haven't been here long enough to discern. But I know that I have seen these practices in other churches. And I know that old habits die hard. Inequality is so ingrained in us that it's hard to shake.

My friends, as we once again draw to close to Easter, let us seek to be as radical as Jesus. Let us be on the lookout for ways in which inequality may be subtly expressing itself among us. As Jesus taught us, let us practice true equality. As Jesus loved us enough to die for us, let us look for ways to meaningfully serve others. And so may we love one another as Jesus loves us. Amen!

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 13th 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...

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

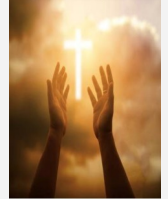
February 2026 Income/Expense Report

	<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—137; Households online—20

Remember in your Prayers...

- ♥ Ray Faust, at Home.
- ♥ Jan Bellis and family, upon the passing of her husband, **Don Bellis**.
- ♥ The Family of Carolyn McGinley (wife of Joe McGinley), upon her passing. Arrangements will be forthcoming.
- ♥ Bill Linville, dealing with multiple health issues.
- ♥ 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)

**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.

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.

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.**

Adult Sunday School...

Easter Sunday the Adult Class will look at the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus, drawing from resources by Max Lucado and Lee Stroebel. Kay and Lamar Ziegler will be presenters.

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 for more information.

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 for more information.



Men's Fellowship Luncheons

The FPC men's luncheons are the 2nd 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. 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 3rd 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.**

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!

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 1st—May 17th

2026 CREATIVE & PERFORMING ARTS CAMP

REGISTER MARCH 1 - MAY 17



<https://forms.gle/iH2rSRiK4yiux2VK7>



JUNE 1 - 5, 10AM-4PM

MUST HAVE COMPLETED 1ST 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

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!

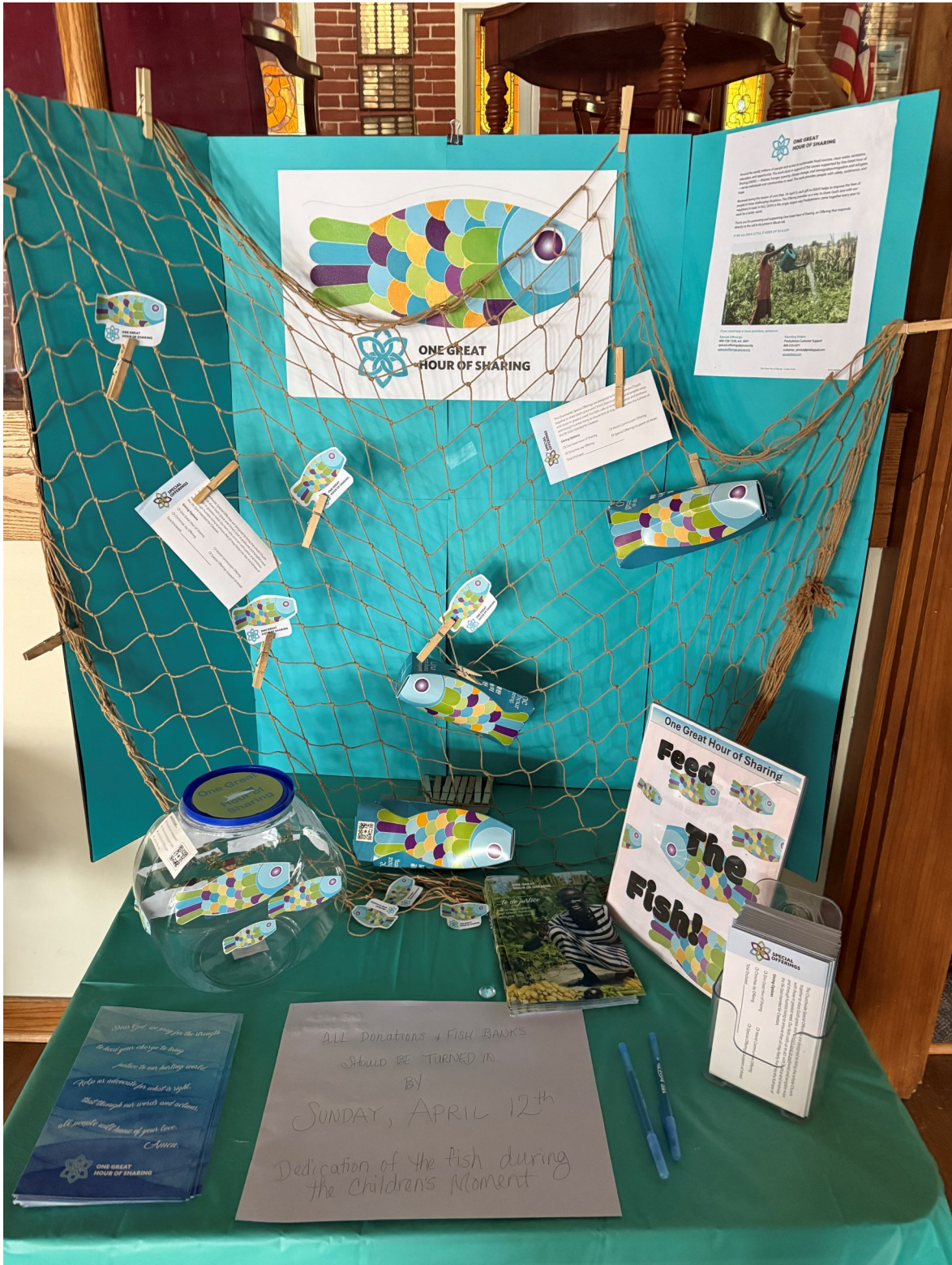
We Need Volunteers!

Piano—Looking for a good home...



Fish banks and fish bowl donations for One Great Hour of Sharing are due back Sunday, April 12, 2026

All children will be able to participate in a “netting” of the fish banks during the children’s moment. Extra fish banks are available at the display in Fellowship Hall. See attached photo.



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**  **LAST BELL**
MINISTRIES
SUNDAY JUNE 14 4:00
Dr. Warren Fremling, Baritone and Philip Orem, Piano

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

Are YOU a FAN of FPC?

Show your pride by wearing our new 2026 "Spirit" Wear!

The mission team is sponsoring a T-Shirt & Quarter Zip Sale to raise money for our June work camp trip to Henderson Settlement in Frakes, Kentucky. All team members pay their own room & board as part of their service to the people of Henderson Settlement. **But we will still need \$2500 for materials needed to complete our work camp jobs**

Shirts are ultra-soft, high-quality, & designed by our own Marlee Light!

- T-shirts - \$20 (\$22 2XL & 3XL)
- Quarter Zips - \$35 (\$37 2XL & 3XL)
- Sample sizes: available to try on at the sales table in Fellowship Hall
- Orders: Taken through May 1 In person on Sundays or online
online: <https://forms.gle/k4QFeiUmoph7tmHEA>
- Payment Accepted: Checks written to FPC, memo church, Venmo, or Cash



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!

