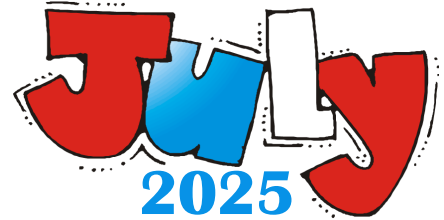

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF HIGHLAND



THE LARGER VIEW



Volume 18 Issue 7

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Letter from Rev. Tyler

Scripture in the Park

Summer Prayer Wall

Mission Shorts

**Main Square Fourth of July
Festival**

Salad Sale

Prayer List

Dear All,

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Last week, Vima and I had the blessing to serve as chaplains at Camp PYOCA in southern Indiana, where we got to be with our younger sisters who were campers. We had the blessing of spending all of those hot, humid days surrounded by over one hundred elementary schoolers, middle schoolers, high schoolers, and recent graduates. Needless to say, we welcomed the rain! As chaplains, we were charged with leading daily chapel services in the marginally cooler evenings. Our chapel space was an open pavilion looking out upon a campfire circle, trees, and a lake. We were joined in worship by bullfrogs, birds, and plenty of bugs. We even had a hummingbird visitor! I was reminded of that joyful ole song by Bill Staines:

*All God's critters got a place in the choir
Some sing low, some sing higher
Some sing out loud on the telephone wire
And some just clap their hands, or paws or anything they got now!*

*Listen to the bass, it's the one on the bottom
Where the bullfrog croaks and the hippopotamus
Moans and groans with a big to do
And old cow just goes 'moo'!*

Summer is a great time to hear the glorious sounds of Creation singing out, to be reminded that all creatures of our God are indeed part of the choir!

First Presbyterian Church
of Highland
8727 Delaware Street
Highland, IN 46322



*The Mission of First Presbyterian Church of Highland
is to be
the HEART, HANDS, and FEET of Jesus Christ*

I never cease to be amazed by how refreshing weeks like this can be—yes, even in the midst of the heat! We were active all day every day and exhausted by the end of each day, but there is so much true rest in opportunities to simply play and worship. There is so much rejuvenation in the renewed hope that comes with witnessing the power of children to understand and embody the love to which God calls us—something that we adults so often struggle with.

We are in the midst of the season of Pentecost, when we celebrate the truth that God's Spirit is alive within each and every one of us and throughout God's Creation. God's Spirit is the manifestation of God's love at work in the world. This Spirit is within the very air we breathe, and so we are constantly filled with God's love. This means that we should also be at work in this world spreading love. God knows the world needs it right now! We all know the world needs it right now!

I encourage you to spend some time outside listening to the choirs of nature this season. I hope that you can breathe in and know that you are filled with God's Spirit, filled with God's love. I pray that you will be inspired to understand and embody that love with the same power that children do!

I leave you with the closing words of the song:
*Everybody here is a part of the plan
We all get to play in the great critter band
From the eagle in the sky to the whale in the sea
It's one great symphony!*

*All God's critters got a place in the choir
Some sing low, some sing higher
Some sing out loud on the telephone wire
And some just clap their hands, or paws or anything they got now!*

In Christ and with Love,

Rev. Tyler





Treasurer's Report

For the Month of
May 31, 2025

	Month of May	Monthly Budget	Year to Date
Operating Revenue	\$6,005.46	\$9,677.50	\$74,372.77
Operating Expenses	13,009.52	15,141.42	70,343.35
Excess (Deficit)	(\$7,004.06)		\$4,029.42



Stewardship: Taking Care of Each Other, Taking Care of Our Church, Taking Care of the World

Yellow Flowers

By Lois Fozkos

After worshipping in the garden in June, I looked around for those yellow flowers that are prevalent in my yard.

Yes, the lowly dandelion.

I know there are seeds in our gardens, some we plant and some just come up on their own.

Flowers and vegetables we plant with the hope they will bring beauty or food for our enjoyment.

Then there are the weeds. Back to how they get there, on the winds, with help from birds and squirrels, or they stick to our clothing.

Remember when you were younger and it was so much fun to blow on a puffy dandelion that had fully matured, and you watched it fly away? What fun! Then you get to cottonwood trees and maple trees that like to use the wind to their advantage.

To help get rid of the weeds, we pull them up, dig them out or spray them with weed killer.

All these small seeds seem to go away for a while, then surprise! we find yellow flowers or small saplings in places we do not want them to be.

Amazingly, nature takes small things and makes them into bigger plants.

Sometimes we need to be like Mother Nature and make small things increase.

So remember to enjoy the gifts God gives us, and remember to share them like Mother Nature does!



SCRIPTURE IN THE PARK

NEW THIS SUMMER While our regular Bible study groups are on a break, we're offering a special opportunity called "Scripture in the Park." It will be a 6-week informal Bible study group that will meet from 6:30-7:30 pm on Thursday evenings from July 10 to August 14. Our first meeting will be at Redar Park in Schererville (217 Gregory St, Schererville, IN), at the picnic shelter. "Scripture in the Park" will be a combined group of folks from our church and Immanuel Presbyterian Church. Bring a Bible and a water bottle, and join us in July and August for great discussion and wonderful friends new and old! If you have any questions, please contact Heather Casiano.

The background of the flyer is a photograph of a park with many tall, green trees. Sunlight is streaming through the branches, creating a warm, golden glow. The grass is a vibrant green.

Scripture in the Park

6 week Summer Bible Study

Thursdays, July 10-Aug. 14 6:30-7:30 pm

Redar Park, 217 Gregory St, Schererville

Near the picnic shelter

Bring a Bible, water bottle, and a lawn chair (if you have one)

***Partnership between Immanuel Presbyterian Church, First Presbyterian Church of Highland. Friends welcome!**

A close-up of a brown leather Bible. The words "HOLY BIBLE" are embossed on the cover in a serif font. The Bible is positioned in the bottom left corner of the flyer.

SUMMER PRAYER WALL

This summer we have a prayer station located inside door D (by the church office) for everyone to participate in. This “Prayer Ribbon Wall” uses different colors of ribbons to represent our prayers.

A piece of chicken wire hangs on the wall, and there are multiple colors of ribbons on a table each representing a type of prayer. Choose one or more ribbons that represent the type of prayer you want to lift up at the time, and then tie the ribbon(s) onto the chicken wire. There is nothing to write down, and all prayers remain anonymous except to our God, who knows our needs even before we do!

Over time, the ribbons will fill in the wire and become a beautiful piece of prayer art. Everyone is invited to say a prayer for all the ribbons already tied on and the needs they represent, regardless of whether you add your own ribbons or not. If you have any questions about this interactive prayer station, contact Heather Casiano.

** If you are not able to come to the church but would like to participate, you can create a prayer ribbon station in your home. Gather some different colored strings, ribbons, strips of old fabric, or cut strips from colored plastic table cloths. When you have a prayer need or praise for yourself or others, choose a “prayer ribbon” from

your collection. Tie it somewhere you’ll see it, like on a cupboard knob or drawer pull, on a fence or flag pole outdoors, or another space you have available. After adding your ribbon, say a prayer. You can add as many ribbons as often as you feel the need to pray. Every time you see the ribbons, you can be reminded of God’s faithfulness to you and those you care about.



SUMMER HIATUS

Both of our Bible study and discussion groups are on a summer hiatus. The Bible in Today’s World and BYOB (Bring Your Own Bible) are taking a break for a few months, and will resume meeting in September. Thank you to all who have participated and those who have facilitated these groups!



Ministry of Mission Shorts

Love INC.

The Ministry of Mission has recently helped several clients of Love INC by way of the Karing Kitchen. Mission continues to distribute the items currently housed in the Karing Kitchen to clients in need, while Love INC continues to look for another church to take over the Karing Kitchen.

Zandstra Flower Voucher Fundraiser

The Flower Voucher Fundraiser has ended, and the Ministry of Mission would like to thank everyone for their support of this important fundraiser. Mission does not have a total from Zandstra's Greenhouse yet; however, we are excited about the number of vouchers sold.

Peace & Global Witness Special Offering

This special offering has concluded, and \$250.00 was raised. 75% of the funds raised went to the PC (USA), and 25% went to Mission for use within the community. Mission decided the funds from this special offering were to go to the Boys and Girls Club of East Chicago.

Tradewinds NW Indiana

Mission recently supported the "Summer & Functional Skills Day Camps for Children and Youth of All Abilities" with a monetary donation of \$500.00.

Area Career Center Hammond – RTV

Mission recently supported the RTV Program for the Skills USA Nationals Competition, which our own Robbie Casiano competed at, with a monetary donation of \$500.00.

4th of July Parking Lot Fundraiser

Mission's Annual Parking Lot Fundraiser is set to begin on Wednesday, July 2nd, and continue through Sunday, July 6th. Volunteers are still needed to fill the time slots during this 5-day event. If you would like to sign-up, please contact Tracy Oprea @ (219) 616-7181. There are many slots still available.



July Liturgists:

7/6: Tracy Oprea
7/13: Carol Callaway
7/20: Hunter Balczo
7/27: Karen Lounsbury



July LiveStreaming

7/6: Tristan Casiano
7/13: Robbie Casiano
7/20: Peter Churitch
7/27: Tracy Oprea



Fourth of July

FESTIVAL AT MAIN SQUARE

Wednesday, July 2nd: 5:00PM –10:30 PM
Thursday, July 3rd: 2:00PM –10:30 PM
Friday, July 4th: 2:00PM –10:30 PM
Saturday, July 5th: 2:00PM –10:30 PM
Sunday, July 6th: 2:00PM –9:00PM

PARADE

The 4th of July Twilight Parade begins at 6:30 PM,
Thursday, July 3rd. The “All-American Mile Run”
kicks off the Twilight Parade and will begin at 6:30
PM.

FIREWORKS

Sunday, July 6th at 9:00 PM

News from the Pews



HELP STOCK OUR PANTRY!

Please pick up a beautifully decorated grocery bag in the narthex to help the church's food pantry. We'd love to have you take a bag home, place some non-perishable food items in the bag, and bring it back to the church to help keep our pantry stocked!



Please continue to place items in the Blessing Box and take items if you are a person in need! Items most commonly donated: canned goods with pull tabs, socks, toilet paper, non-perishable foods, small snacks, toiletries, baby wipes and diapers.

Please do not donate homemade or perishable items.



The Prayer Shawl Ministry will be meeting on Tuesday, July 22nd at 1:00 PM.



REMINDER TO OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Vacation season is here, and many of us will be travelling and visiting. Please be mindful that even in your absence, your place here will be cooled, lit, and the water will still be flowing. Our church relies solely on the pledges and generosity of our members and friends to operate.

Please give prayerful consideration to keeping your pledges and contributions current because your church's expenses continue, even when your schedule does not permit your attendance in worship.



SALAD SALE

The Salad Sale will be on Sunday, July 27th. Come prepared that day to get a delicious salad and contribute to our general fund. It's a win-win situation!



The Per Capita for 2025 is \$44.66 per member.



Bulletins

Will you be traveling and attending Worship from afar? If so, please bring back a bulletin with you so it can be displayed on the bulletin board. We'd love to see where you have visited!!



- | | |
|----|----------------------|
| 1 | Mary Jo McGee |
| 8 | Grace Helmer |
| 10 | Kelly LaFlech |
| | Jake Toren |
| 11 | Marilyn Shuck |
| 22 | Dakotah Olah |
| 24 | Lee Ann Cheesebrough |
| 30 | Nancy O'Donnell |
| 31 | Tom Porter |



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

If you don't already follow First Presbyterian Church of Highland on Facebook and Instagram, please start doing so and sharing our posts with your friends! @firstpchighland



Anthony
 Brady Vanes
 George Griner
 Guy Hendricks
 Bill and Anettia Holmes
 David Markley
 Pat & David Kingen
 Diana and Ray Mendoza
 Janet Orem
 Cindy Waltz and Sister
 Yvonne Suroviak
 Georgette Sknerski
 Jakob Holden
 Denise Matthys
 Jan Oprea
 Florance Cody
 Laura Buono Domsic
 Annie & Mike Windstrup
 Kevin Windstrup
 Loved Ones of Ruth Dekker
 Rick Parker
 Gary Everhart
 Ella P.
 Melissa J
 Keren, Zuriel & Gedeon
 Darlene O'Brien
 Charles
 Robin
 Dustin
 Noreen
 Jane
 Tyler Gall
 Dustin
 Phil

Barbara Morton
 Caroline Studer
 Doug and Sue Matthews
 Janet Terpstra
 Glen Nahler
 Tom
 Jana Tolley
 Larry & Bonnie Perryman
 Delta Rose
 Winnie Owen
 David Hamblin
 Breeanne
 Mom Bechtler
 Victor
 Marian Clayton
 Lou Ann Sulowski
 Edie Delgano
 Katie
 Rita Stromczek
 OGB
 Edna Cruz
 Jerry & Rena Martinez
 Betsy
 Jean
 Kim
 George
 Mary Ellen Edeus
 Pastor Jane
 Jessica
 Nicole
 Greg
 Jane & David
 Lodean
 Suzanne
 Jalen
 Flora R

- We pray for migrants in this country and across the world.
- We pray for the people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Colombia, Lebanon, Haiti, Palestine, Sudan, and Ukraine.
- We pray for victims and survivors of gun violence.
- We pray for peace and peacemakers!
- We pray for those undergoing treatment for cancer, the mentally ill and their families, those recuperating, those undergoing treatments and those waiting for transplants.
- We pray for first responders and front-line medical workers
- We pray for the health and safety of our service men and women as we pray for an end to the wars that put them at risk
- We pray for the unemployed, the under employed and the homeless.
- We pray for all children in the world.
- We pray for the work of the Holy Spirit within the life of FPCH and within each of us, that we may indeed be and make disciples each new day.
- We pray for our home-bound loved ones.

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In order to keep the prayer list current, we need your input. If there are people you would like to have added or if there is someone who can be taken off the list, please call the Church Office (219-838-6850).