

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
OF HIGHLAND



# THE LARGER VIEW

Volume 13 Issue 8



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**A note from Rev. Tyler**

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Dear All,

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

Over the past several weeks we have been digging into the stories of Abraham, Sarah, Hagar, Ishmael, Isaac, Rebekah, Esau, Jacob, and Rachel. I never cease to be amazed by how the lives of people thousands upon thousands of years ago ring with so much resonance to our lives today. We humans are remarkable in our consistency! We mess up. We hurt each other. We wallow in guilt. We run away when we don't want to take responsibility for our actions. We worry. We fear. We love. We serve each other. We have incredible resilience. We do miraculous things when working together. We are creative. We survive. In short, we are complicated creatures navigating a complicated world. And things are getting more and more complicated by the day! When I look back at Abraham's big, messy family, though, I see one thing shining through with simple clarity: God's love. God was there for every single member of that family—when they were at their worst, when they were at their most vulnerable, when they were fighting for survival, and when they were at their best. God loved all of them in their complexities. God loved the world in which they lived in all of its complexities. That truth continues to shine today with its simple clarity. God loves all of *us* in our complexities. God loves the world in which *we* live in all of its complexities.

It is difficult to understand much of anything right now. A dense fog of uncertainty has settled in, much like the oppressive humidity that has closed in on us this summer. It is easy to get disoriented and lost in this fog, just as the members of Abraham's family seemed so lost so often.

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***

Even when this fog is at its heaviest, though, the light of God's love pierces through it with bright force and clarity! All we have to do is open our eyes to see its brilliance and free our skin to feel its warmth. Look for the light of God's love and feel its warmth. With so much going on around us and within us, these simple things are the most significant things we can do.

Over the past month, I have seen the light and felt the warmth of God's love most strongly in the beautiful family of FPCH! Family members have fed the hungry with "Sackurday" meals and dinners prepared for the shelter. Family members have delivered kitchen supplies to newly housed individuals who have been without housing for years. Family members have lifted their voices and put their bodies to work in proclaiming that Black lives matter. Family members have engaged in hard but necessary conversations for the sake of softening hearts and transforming minds. Family members have called each other and sent each other cards to show care and kindness. Family members have worn masks to worship. Family members have worshiped from home when that decision has made sense. Family members have prayed for each other and for those who are suffering most across the world. Family members have given of their resources. And looking forward, these same expressions of love will continue along with so many more. For example, during the first week of August our young disciples will be gathering together to do local missions at the church and in the community. Dear FPCH family, thank you for BEING the light of God's love for so many!

We have no way of knowing what August will hold. We have no way of knowing what even tomorrow will hold. But no matter what, we can be absolutely certain that every second of every minute of every hour of every day is shining with God's love. May we focus on that simple truth!

In Christ,

*Rev. Tyler Orem*



# SESSION SHORTS

The Session of FPCH met on July 6th.

We voted to OPEN the church for worship on July 12th with an outdoor service and will have outdoor services whenever weather permits. We are asking you to bring your own masks and chairs. You are also invited to bring a copy of the bulletin with you if you do not want to use the copies we make. If weather does not permit outdoor worship, then we will worship indoors following the protocols set up by the task force on reopening. Virtual and mailed worship options will be maintained.

We voted to allow meetings to be held in the church building, with the provision that the groups follow the guidelines that have been set up for building usage. They are to wear masks, maintain physical distance, and avoid having food products.

We are requesting a grant from the Endowment Fund for \$ 567.03 for our share of the Technology Grant we recently received.

We are reinstating Communion as of our August 2nd worship. This will not be a traditional passing of the elements but will be set up to maximize health.

Barb Dye's Memorial Service for July 18th was postponed until a yet-to-be-determined date.

Remember, to keep OUR church functioning we still need to keep up our pledges.

In God's Peace  
Lois



## TREASURER'S REPORT

For the Month of  
June 30, 2020

	Month of June	Monthly Budget	Year to Date
Operating Revenue	\$7,073.90	\$10,553.00	\$70,804.07
Operating Expenses	7,955.10	13,424.00	66,407.14
Excess (Deficit)	(\$881.20)		\$4,396.93



**Gift given in the month of July to the Endowment Fund include:**

In Memory of: Dr. Lowell Steen

**This gift was given by the following donor:**

Mr. and Mrs. Victor Szurgot

**A Gift was given:**

To the Food Pantry by Christine Small



## Food Pantries, Food Banks, Meals that are offered in the area

### **Catholic Family Services - Hammond, Munster and Highland residents**

6919 Indianapolis Blvd., Hammond, IN

Ms. Joanne Pivarnick

(219) 844-4883

Rent, mortgage, NIPSCO and food pantry.

### **Family Christian Center**

340 W. 45th Street, Munster, IN 46321

Pastor Steve Munsey

work (219) 838-2295

cell (219) 688-3356

Operation Care provides food boxes and clothing at 1300 N. Broad Street in Griffith 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays and from 9 a.m. to noon Fridays. Back entrance distribution only.

### **First Presbyterian Church**

8727 Delaware Highland, IN 46322

FPCH@FPCHighland.org

(219) 838-6850

Food Pantry from 8 a.m. to noon Monday thru Thursday; Drive up sack lunch meal Saturdays 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

### **Greater Hammond Community Services**

824 Hoffman Street, Hammond, IN 46327

(219) 932-4800

Energy and NIPSCO assistance, food and clothing pantry.

### **Love In The Name of Christ**

aka Love INC. of Greater Hammond

P.O. Box 557, Griffith, IN 46319

Anne Bawinkel – Executive Director

(219) 923-2775

Furniture, household linens, personal care/hygiene products, diapers/ wipes, household cleaning products, cooking/dining items and food.

If you need help, call LOVE INC to begin the helping process. A trained volunteer will complete your intake over the phone. This will take about 30 to 40 minutes. They will review the nature, extent and legitimacy of your request. LOVE INC is not a same-day service and they do not assist with rent or utility bills. Must be legal residents of Hammond, Munster, Highland or Griffith. There is no fee.

Office hours: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday.

Voice-mail may be left if lines are busy or if the office is closed.

### **North Township Trustee's Office – Frank J. Mrvan**

5947 Hohman Avenue, Hammond, IN 46320

(219) 932-2530

2105 Broadway, East Chicago, IN 46312

(219) 398-2435

Provides food and household item assistance through application process.

### **St. James Food Pantry**

**924-4220**

Rev. Keith M. Virus

9640 Kennedy Avenue, Highland, IN 46322

### **St. John Bosco Church, Rev. Richard Orlinski**

**844-9027**

7113 Columbia Avenue, Hammond, In 46324

Food distribution once a month (Columbia Center). Clothing give-a-way in the month of July. Thanksgiving and Christmas food baskets during the holidays (Columbia Center).



## Food Pantries, Food Banks, Meals that are offered in the area Cont'd

**St. Joseph Soup Kitchen** 932-0059  
5304 Hohman Avenue  
Hammond, IN 46320-1808

**St Timothy's Episcopal Church** 838-8379  
1115 N. Cline Ave., Griffith , IN 46319  
Food pantry open on the third Sat. of every month from 10-12. No preregistration necessary

**Salvation Army, Janet Charleston** 838-0380  
8225 Columbia Avenue, Munster, Indiana 46321  
Rent/Mortgage Assistance, Utilities, Clothing and Food assistance  
We will consider any request and reply on a case by case

**Society of St. Vincent de Paul**  
7132 Arizona Avenue, Hammond, IN 46323  
Coordinator Diane McKern  
(219) 933-0100  
Provides temporary emergency assistance to help people in need.  
Food pantries open year round. Also provides financial assistance for utilities, rent, mortgage, water, medicine, etc.

**United Way**  
(219) 980-1777  
Food Bank of Northwest Indiana.

### Thank you

A huge thank you to Carolyn Ham for all the hours she has spent helping me with the Karing Kitchen. She is always there for me to help put things away, sort, gather and deliver items whenever the need comes up!!

I also have had the assistance of Nancy Engel.  
Thank you Carolyn and Nancy, I couldn't do it without your help!

*Cheryl*





**July Shelter Report**

We are still continuing the protocol set up by the shelter for delivering food for the 40 residents and making 20 box lunches for the guests that don't live there.

This month I had my usual side-kick Judy Toren helping me shop and cook. We also have added a nurse friend of mine and her sister to our regulars. They have been kind enough to work with us the last 4 months so I'm hoping we can now call them regulars.

It does take extra hands to do 2 different meals, one for 40 and one for 20. The meals left outside can't be hot and you have to be careful of things like mayonnaise that can't be left sitting in the sun!!

The good news is that again the residents of the shelter have all tested negative for the virus. GOOD JOB guys!!!!!! And it has come to my attention that we will be losing 2 of our regulars because they are getting apartments!!!

Through our work with Love Inc. and having the gap kitchen housed in our church I am going to be supplying the needed items for their kitchens.

Hope you enjoy your new digs guys!!!

*Cheryl Steen*





Our Blessing Box has gained even more importance in this season of pandemic. Economic impacts are on the rise, and the most vulnerable in our midst are the most harmed. 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.



Thank you to all who prepared and delivered the sack lunches. It was such a nice surprise and I really appreciated it!

*Yvonne Suroviak*



**AUGUST BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 Vince Catania  
Carolyn Ham  
Yvonne Suroviak
- 7 Judy Toren  
Marie Smith
- 13 Suzanne Goldsmith
- 19 Bonnie Perryman  
Cara Scott
- 22 Jeff Savage
- 24 Will Kerber
- 25 Delaney Rae Toren
- 27 Jesse Kikkert
- 30 Lewis Owen
- 31 Marjean Reed





Prayers for all the teachers, students and staff as they return to school



### Ongoing Prayers

The Prayer Circle prays for the people on this list, and for all other concerns named at that time. Please include the persons listed here in your daily devotional time. Thank you.

- Beth (Casiano)
- Anthony - Suzanne Gruoner's son
- Alaina (Callaway)
- Marge Ashton
- Avery
- Bapst Family (Callaway)
- Mike Bennett
- Betsy (Rev. Tyler)
- Curtis Black
- Brady Vanes
- Sonny Buono
- Carol Callaway
- Ina Chappell
- I Sun Chong (Oprea)
- Sarah Cichoeki
- Connor (L. Fozkos)
- Danielle
- Dave
- Don Dekker
- Ruth Dekker
- Laura Buono Domsic
- George Griner
- Guy (B. Perryman)
- Susan Handley (Studer)
- Gracie Helmer
- Bill Holmes
- Daniel Litwicki (Catania)
- Frank (K. Scott)
- Jessica (Abernethy)
- Josh Orem
- Shirley McKnight and family
- Mildred (B. Perryman)
- Jill Muller (Steen)

- Jeanne Nestor
- Karen (Casiano)
- Mary & Gary (T. Oprea)
- Rev. Tyler Orem
- Kathy Pumnea
- Rena's cousin
- Rodney (J. Toren)
- Calvin Scott
- Sebastian (Casiano)
- Jay Smith
- The Family of Jeannine Strom
- Bonita Sutton (Nolen)
- Steve & Melinda
- Family of Jeannine Strom
- Gary Studer
- Tarsha (Perryman)
- Richard Terpstra
- The Family of Chierno Vah
- Dennis VanKooten
- Mattie Welch (Rena Martinez)
- Cindy Waltz Family

\*\*\*\*\*  
 Due to federal regulations about privacy, ***we are no longer called by hospitals*** about patient admissions. Even if they ask you for your church affiliation when checking in, they do not call. If you or your loved one would like a visit while hospitalized, or would like a home visit, please call the church office at 219-838-6850. Thank you!  
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- 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 our country.
- We pray for first responders and front-line medical workers who are risking their lives for our health
- 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 those who are traveling.
- We pray for those we hold silently in our hearts.
- 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 in each new day.
- We pray for our home-bound.

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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 (838-6850).