

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF HIGHLAND



THE LARGER VIEW



Volume 13 Issue 1

2020

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Special points of interest:

AED Training Classes

Winter Camp Out

Read-A-Long and Book Discussion

Poinsettias

Annual Congregational Meeting

2020 Per Capita

JANUARY 5

Adult Study - 9:00 AM
 K-8th Grade Church School - 9:00 AM
 Worship (Comm)- 10:30 AM
 Coffee Fellowship - 11:30 AM
 Faith Development - 11:45 AM
 Youth Group 12 to 2 PM

JANUARY 12

Adult Study - 9:00 AM
 K-8th Grade Church School - 9:00 AM
 Worship - 10:30 AM
 Coffee Fellowship & SOUP SALE- 11:30 AM
 W & M - 11:45 AM

JANUARY 19

Adult Study - 9:00 AM
 K-8th Grade Church School - 9:00 AM
 Worship - 10:30
 Coffee Fellowship - 11:30 AM
 Shine the Light Committee - 11:45 AM

JANUARY 26 - ANNUAL MEETING

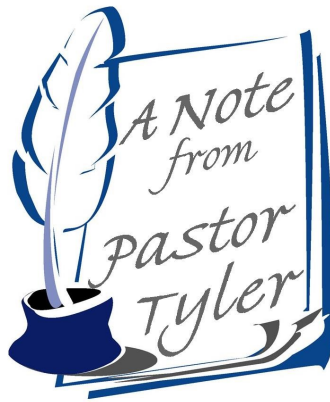
Adult Study - 9:00 AM
 K-8th Grade Church School - 9:00 AM
 Worship - 10:30
 Coffee Fellowship & SOUP SALE- 11:30 AM



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*



Dear All,

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! This is a new day, a new month, a new year, a new decade! A blessed aspect of our faith is the good news that we have new life every moment of every day. Ours is a faith of renewal—of grace and forgiveness and resurrection. Many people would probably be surprised to hear that we Presbyterians have a rich history of revival in our tradition, with Presbyterian minister Charles Grandison Finney named the “Father of Modern Revivalism” for his major role in the Second Great Awakening. I encourage you to research him!

“Revival” comes from the Latin *vivere*, to live. It means living again or living anew. I pray that the Church of Jesus Christ focuses on revival this year and decade! Our world is in desperate need of the good news of the love of God, the good news of new life, the good news of resurrection. We Presbyterians are often wary of words like “evangelism” and “revival” because of their association with historical and contemporary movements within Christendom that we may not agree with. Beloved ones, it is time for us to do some reclaiming!

Charles Grandison Finney led revivals based on seeking pure love of God and pure love of other people. He lived revival in his life through his activism for the abolition of slavery, promotion of the Underground Railroad, and advocacy for the equality of women in the 1800s. Let us also be evangelists and revivalists! Let us boldly love our God. Let us boldly love others. Let us boldly give new life to the world by seeking to create a just society on the principles of the Kingdom of Jesus, God’s beloved. Let us commit to these things in this new season.

This month we are learning about the baptism of Jesus, when God claimed him as the Son, the beloved. The Holy Spirit descended as a dove and alighted upon him. This was the beginning of his public ministry—the period of his proclaiming, teaching, miracle working, healing, exorcising, meal sharing, table flipping, hierarchy shattering, world changing activities that we know so much about. These are the ways that Jesus evangelized and revived. These are the ways that Jesus brought good news to the poor, proclaimed release for the imprisoned, recovered sight for the blind, and let the oppressed go free.

Evangelism. Revival. Spreading love. Giving new life. Let’s do this!

In Christ,

Rev. Tyler Orem

SESSION SHORTS

- Trustee President Eason Engle reported on projects that are in the works: a new elevator door has been ordered, the window on the north side of the south building has been replaced, and painting of the meeting room and stairway will begin in January.
- Session approved a request from Trustees to send a letter to the Smock Foundation Grant investigating possibilities to improve accessibility to the different levels of the church building.
- Treasurer Vince Catania presented the proposed deficit budget for 2020 and Session approved it, with plans to update the income portion as more pledges are received through mid-January.
- Session voted to fund the new Faith Development position (Family and Children Program Coordinator) through a distribution from Vanguard fund in 2020.
- Session thanked Vince Catania for his detailed work and explanation of the budget and the current state of our finances.
- Elder Peter Churitch presented the newly revised church brochure available to visitors and also in the narthex. Session commended the Hospitality Ministry for their work on this.
- Elder Charlotte Abernethy reported on upcoming Faith Development activities: December 22nd – Cookie Bake and Caroling, January 18th – Quirky Quarters:
- Intergenerational Winter Campout meal and activities at 4pm followed by a youth overnight, and March 8th – Book discussion with possible speaker open to all.
- Clerk Jean Smith presented an update to the church rolls, which Session approved.
- Rev. Orem thanked those who are rotating off of Session this year: Peter Churitch, Jean Smith and Cheryl Steen. He also thanked Charlotte Abernethy who will be returning on Session.



TREASURER'S REPORT

For the Month of
November 30, 2019

	Month of November	Monthly Budget	Year to Date
Operating Revenue	\$9,278.92	\$10,087.00	\$108,423.26
Operating Expenses	13,880.48	12,679.00	132,418.57
Excess (Deficit)	(\$4,601.56)		(\$23,995.31)



Gifts given in the month of December to the Endowment Fund include:

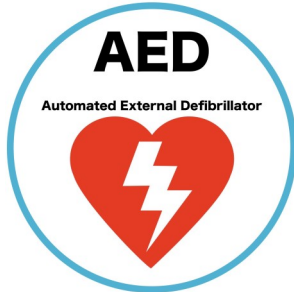
In Memory of: Mary Ann Benard, Marilyn Kanich, Harry & Alona Personett,
Dr. Lowell Steen

These gifts were given by the following donors:

Robert & Jananne Kurtz, Camri, Chris & Wil McAvoy, Rick Parker,
David & Patricia Personett, Arletta Schaefer, Kaz Smailis, John & Judy Toren

A Gift was given to the Choir by Arletta Schaefer in memory of
Mary Ann Benard





It's time to refresh Defibrillator training. We have 15 members trained with 3 members trained at their place of work. Once again, Doran Lounsbury, Karen's husband, graciously agreed to conduct the training. Training is refreshed every two years.

The training dates at the FPCH are:

- Saturday January 11, 2020 at 9 am.
- Wednesday January 22, 2020 at 7 pm.

Please contact Eason via email or phone for your preferred date. We can accommodate six persons per session. Additional sessions can be scheduled if you wish to be trained.

BUY A BRICK

Good people,

We plan to level the garden brick path during 2020. To accomplish our goal, we are selling bricks to fund the project. The plan is to hire a professional to prepare and level the path. We may call upon members to help remove bricks and clean for the renovated path to offset some cost.

It's our hope the project can be fully funded through brick sales or voluntary donations. We encourage every member to purchase at least one brick to support the project. Bricks make a lasting remembrance for a special person or date or tribute for a notable event.

See Sharon LaFlech for details. Two sizes of bricks are available. We look forward to your contribution. *Eason*





Faith Development Classes for Everyone

Each Sunday morning from 9:00-10:00, there are 3 faith development classes that meet at the church. For kids in kindergarten through 8th grade, the class meets downstairs under the old sanctuary. There is a variety of stories, games, and hands-on activities.

There are two classes that meet for adults, each meeting in one of the classrooms across the hall from the church and pastor's offices. The classes cover a variety of topics, and use discussion and occasional videos to learn from each other. Weekly attendance at any of these classes is not mandatory but highly encouraged, so come when you can!

If you are interested in a certain type of Faith Development class or topic that you don't see currently offered, please contact Heather Casiano. We'd love to hear from you!



Winter Campout Event!

We're having a **Winter Campout** event on **Saturday,**

January 18, 2020 – and you are ALL invited! Don't worry about the weather, as we will be snug and warm inside Fellowship Hall for this fun, intergenerational event. This event is open to the entire church family and the public, so please invite your family, friends and neighbors.

From 4-5 pm, all kids from kindergarten through 12th grade are invited to come for a variety of Winter Campout stories, crafts, and games.

At 5 pm, EVERYONE is welcome to join in an All-Congregation Dinner featuring favorite camping foods! No need to bring anything – just yourself and your appetite.

At 6:30 pm, the Youth Lock-In will begin and go through Sunday morning, Jan. 19. This is open to all youth in 5th grade and older. Bring a friend or two and have fun as we spend the night playing games, watching movies, making snacks, doing a little community service, and hopefully getting a little sleep. The next morning, breakfast will be served, and all youth are welcome to stay for the Faith Development classes at 9 am and worship at 10:30 am. Youth should bring a sleeping bag/bed roll, pillow, appropriate PJs, a change of clothes for Sunday, and any personal items needed.

Sign-up sheets for the event will be in the narthex and Fellowship Hall in January, or you can email Heather Casiano to reserve your spot at the Winter Campout – hcasiano@fpchighland.org See you there!

Youth Group Schedule

The Youth Group, for tweens/teens in 7th-12th grades, will be meeting twice in January:

Jan. 5, 2020 – Lunch and meeting in the Youth Room after worship service

Jan. 18-19, 2020 – Join in the fun of the “Winter Campout” event, congregational dinner, and a special lock-in overnight at the church. The 5th and 6th graders will be joining in the fun!

*We want your opinions on future meetings and activities, so bring your ideas for winter to the next meeting.

What do you want your youth group to do?*

If you have questions about Youth Group, contact Pastor Tyler Orem or Heather Casiano.



Read-A-Long and Book Discussion

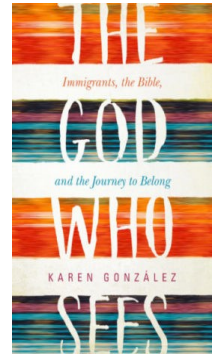
Our church is having a read-a-long during the first few months of this year. The book is “The God Who Sees: Immigrants, the Bible, and the Journey to Belong” by Karen Gonzalez. Here is a summary from the Presbyterian Outlook:

In “The God Who Sees,” Karen Gonzalez reminds us that “immigrant stories always matter, because immigrants are image-bearers of God.” In this book the reader will encounter stories, not policy — but those stories will challenge the way we think about immigrants and immigration. Throughout the book Gonzalez takes on the challenges of biblical exposition, autobiography and advocacy. Gonzalez invites the reader to step into the stories of several biblical immigrants: Naomi and Ruth, Abraham, Hagar,

Joseph, the Syrophenician Woman and the Holy Family. Examining the challenges faced by these immigrants, she uses their stories to encourage the reader to think about the unique circumstances immigrants face.

You’re encouraged to start reading the book as soon as you can. If you cannot get a copy of your own to read, the church has 6 copies of the book to lend out. They are available to check out in the classroom across the hall from the church office. Please sign the check-out sheet when you take a book, and sign it back in when you are finished so more people may enjoy the book.

On Sunday, March 8 at 4 pm, there will be a book discussion for all who would like to attend here at the church. We will discuss our impressions of the book, talk about questions we have about the stories, and have a thoughtful time of engagement about immigration in today’s world. For any children that attend, we will have kid-friendly books and activities for them. Please share this opportunity with your friends and neighbors, as we would love to have the community involved.



Youth making cookies for the shut-ins





CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

On December 22nd during worship service, the Sunday School, friends, and some adults from the congregation performed a short Christmas Pageant. You may also notice sheep portrayed by nursery youngsters. It is always a pleasure to see our youth perform and the Christmas Story IS "the reason for the season".



**Thank you for the beauty of poinsettias given to
decorate the sanctuary this Advent and Christmas season.
The poinsettias were given to the glory of God by:**

Fred & Carol Callaway, in memory of Charles & Florence Baudouine and
Paul & Mary Callaway

Peter & Gale Churitch, in celebration of their 37th wedding anniversary on
December 18th

Barb Dye, in honor of the blessings of life

Rodney & Peggy Fozkos, in memory of loved ones

Laura Jones, in memory of family and friends

Barbara Morton, in memory of Chester & Lillie Belle Morton, Grand-dad
Avery Bannon and her brothers

Kelly LaFlech & Kamri Nixon, in memory of William LaFlech,
father and papa

Marjean M. Reed, in memory of Dr. Ronald R. Reed, Maxwell and
Reed & Families

Jay & Jean Smith, in memory of Bob & Arlene Diekman

Cheryl Steen, in memory of Dr. Lowell H. Steen and her and
Lowell's parents

Eric, Kristen, Lindsey & Lauren Wilson, in memory of Robert L. Wilson
and Linda Wleklinski

In Lieu of Flowers:

Yvonne Suroviak, in memory of her daughters, Carol Smith and
Terri Nern



December Shelter Report



On December 14th we cooked and served our last meal for the Hammond Warming shelter for the year 2019.

We had our gal Lindsey returning from Nursing school for her Christmas break and she came and joined the usual 3 musketeers, Lee Ann, Judy and Cheryl.

We also have a new member join us. Jamie Ham is stepping up to become the newest musketeer since we are losing our loyal member Lee Ann.

We will miss her but hopefully she will miss us soooo much that she will take a short sabbatical and return in the not too distant future. We welcome Jamie and are so glad to have him on board because he can COOK!!!!

The Smith's, Jean and Jay, Lindsey, Jamie and I went to serve. We served 43 guests a hearty meal of Turkey Noodle soup, crackers, sloppy joes with dill pickles and potato chips. And they always enjoy the hard boiled eggs and milk. Lindsey made one of her apple crisp cakes and used whipped topping which is always a winner!

Two of our Mission projects have been completed. On Nov. 22, Thanksgiving dinner was delivered to each of our Love Inc. families. The moms were very grateful.

Coats, pajamas, towels, dishes, diapers, science kits, marbles, building blocks, and games are just a few of the many gifts we delivered to Love Inc. families on Thursday Dec. 19. To go along with the gifts we included a complete Christmas dinner with favorites of their choice.

This could not have been possible without the gifts and donations from our congregation. You all did great and made it easy for Mission to fulfill the families' wish lists and deliver a very Happy Christmas to these families in need. We thank everyone for their generosity. *Nancy Engle, Ministry of Mission*





It means that those who leave items are blessed enough to be able to do so, and that those who need to take items, are blessed that the items are there to take. It's not an extremely large box, but is stocked with blessings. It sits on the south side of the old sanctuary where it is accessible from the parking spaces.

These are some of the items most commonly donated and used to stock the Blessing Boxes:

- Canned food with ring-pulls
- Socks
- Hats
- Mittens
- Hand warmers
- Toilet paper
- Non-perishable foods
- Small snacks
- Toiletries, including hand soap, toothbrushes and toothpaste
- Baby wipes
- Diapers

Those who want to contribute can leave items in the box or call Sharon LaFlech at 219.838.3346.



MITTEN TREE

Thank you to all who contributed to this year's mitten tree. We collected 28 hats, 11 hand-knitted mittens, 39 scarves, 41 pairs of gloves, and 2 pair of socks. They will be given to Ready Elementary and Wadsworth Elementary schools and also a supply for the blessing box.



The Annual Congregational Meeting will be on January 26th immediately following Worship in Fellowship Hall



The Per Capita PER member is \$42.00 for 2020



THE BOOK CLUB

Book Club will not be meeting in December. The next meeting will be on Thursday, January 9th at 2:00 PM at the home of Charlotte Abernethy to discuss the book "Where the Crawdads Sing" by Delia Owen.



Thank you to the Carolers for the surprise, cards and cookies. It really made my day!

Yvonne Suroviak



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Grace Kerber
- 3 Josh Nelson
- 9 Gale Churitch
Eric Johnston
- 10 Norma Bauer
Bonnie Nolen
- 12 David Hamblin
- 15 Anettia Holmes
Kate Kerber
- 16 Sandy Buono
Sharon LaFlech
- 17 Jennifer Vuckovich
- 22 Wanda Weston
- 24 Bailey Parker
- 27 Dan Miller
- 31 Peggy Fozkos



GLADYS' TABLE

The next meal will be Saturday, January 25th from 12 to 1 PM



Prayers of Christian Sympathy to:

The family of Marilyn Kanich on her death on November 30th.

The family of Willie Key on his death on December 12th.

Bonnie Perryman and family on the death of her mother, Mary Ann Benard on December 21st.



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.

- Bob Abernethy
- Debbie Abernethy
- Anthony - Suzanne Gruoner's son
- Alaina (Callaway)
- Marge Ashton
- Avery
- Bapst Family (Callaway)
- Sonny Buono
- Ina Chappell
- I Sun Chong (Oprea)
- Marian Clayton (Morton)
- Danielle
- Dave
- Ruth Dekker
- Barb Dye
- Allyn Fozkos
- Gracie Helmer
- Bill Holmes
- Daniel Litwicki (Catania)
- Murray Faris
- Marlys Furnas
- Jennifer (Reed-Daughter of friend)
- Laura Jones
- Linda Kubiak (L. Fozkos)
- Calvin Scott
- Bonita Sutton (Nolen)

- Steve & Melinda
- Gary Studer
- Dennis VanKooten
- Mattie Welch (Rena Martinez)

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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 our firemen and police who help keep us safe at home.
- We pray for our service men and women.
- 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).

USHER SCHEDULE

JANUARY 5

The Casiano Family

JANUARY 12

Jan Oprea
Tracy Oprea
Thor Severson

JANUARY 19

Vince & Debbie Catania
Nancy O'Donnell

JANUARY 26

Eason & Nancy Engle
Anettia Holmes

RIDES TO WORSHIP

Please call your Deacon



LITURGISTS

JANUARY 5

Carol Callaway

JANUARY 12

John Toren

JANUARY 19

Tracy Oprea

JANUARY 26

Laura Jones

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

JANUARY 5

OPEN

JANUARY 12

Anettia Holmes

JANUARY 19

Carol Callaway

JANUARY 26

Lois Fozkos
Jean Smith

HOSPITALITY HOSTS:

1/5: Cheryl Steen
1/12: Anettia Holmes
1/19: Nancy O'Donnell
1/26: Jerry Martinez

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS:

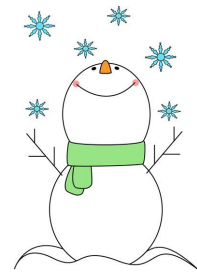
1/5: L. Fozkos/P. Fozkos
1/12: H. Casiano/J. Smith
1/19: H. Kikkert/D. Catania
1/26: J. Smith/G. Churitch

CHILD CARE:

1/5: P. Fozkos
1/12: H. Casiano
1/19: H. Kikkert
1/26: C. Abernethy

COMMUNION: January 5

Charlotte Abernethy
Bonnie Perryman
Jean Smith
Cheryl Steen



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF
HIGHLAND**

Worship
Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

Visit us on:



Mailing address: **8727 Delaware Street**
Highland, Indiana 46322

Phone: (219) 838-6850
E-mail: fpch@fpchhighland.org

We're on the Web!
www.fpchhighland.org