

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
OF HIGHLAND



# THE LARGER VIEW

Volume 13 Issue 6

June  
2020

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Dear All,

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

We have just celebrated the day of Pentecost, sometimes called the birthday of the Church. As I said in this past Sunday's sermon, we can also think of it as the Church's adoption (gotcha!) day or baptism. This is a fruitful time to reflect upon and reimagine what the Church can be. Perhaps we can think of it as a re-birthday. In this rebirth, we are learning that we are not contained by buildings, that we can be creative and imaginative in how we worship, that we have the Holy Spirit wherever we may be, that the Church is bigger and more diverse than we could ever imagine, and that we are utterly dependent upon each other in community. Just as birth is a painful, beautiful process, so is this rebirth! I pray that all of us can continue to reflect and reimagine, to make the Church that is rebirthed at the end of this pandemic a Church that is wiser, more welcoming, more creative, more expansive, and more loving.

The most exciting part of the day of Pentecost was the way in which the Holy Spirit blew upon all who were gathered, fulfilling Jesus' promise that we would not be left alone. That same dynamic, life-giving Spirit is still with us today. As we feel the fears and anxieties permeating our world, may we reach out to the Holy Spirit and receive her comfort and power. May we embrace her while we cannot embrace others physically.



**Special points of interest:**

**A Note from Rev. Tyler**

**Food Banks, Food Pantries  
and Meals**

**Flowers Vouchers**

**Blessing Box**

**Garden Clean-up**

**Prayer List**

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*

Our Session is certainly seeking the Wisdom of the Holy Spirit as we continue to monitor the situation of pandemic in our community. At our most recent virtual meeting we decided to develop a plan for reopening on Sunday, June 14. A task force was convened to make sure proper preventative measures are implemented prior to reopening and proper mitigation measures upon reopening. As has been the case throughout this season, though, our plans are subject to change if trends in the community indicate that we need to do so for the continued health of everyone in our congregation.

No matter what happens, we will be the Church in its current process of rebirth. We will be wise, welcoming, creative, expansive, and loving! We will worship God in exciting and authentic ways! As part of our worship, we will again be celebrating Communion virtually on June 7. For that Sunday, please have your elements ready. You can use bread, crackers, tortillas, or any grain-based food. You can use juice, wine, or any beverage of your choice. You can partake with fellow residents of your home, or you can partake spiritually connected to the entirety of this big, diverse, global family we call the Church.

Remember Peter's repetition of Joel's words and be empowered: "In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young will see visions, your old will dream dreams" (*Acts 2:17*).

In Christ,

*Rev. Tyler Orem*



# SESSION SHORTS

Things are looking up, since the main topics of Session were: when and how to reopen our Church home.

The when we are considering is June 14th, provided that it is determined safe and healthy to do so.

First thing is getting the church building cleaned and ready for worship.

There was also talk of polling the members as to when they would feel safe returning to communal worship. We would still need to follow the State of Indiana's restrictions for churches and the Presbytery's guidelines. We appointed a task force to put together a plan of preventative measures necessary prior to reconvening and mitigation measures necessary upon reconvening.

There are other things still going on: Gladys' Table, preparing meals for the Shelter, donations to the Blessing Box, donations to our church, and the Trustees and Finance Boards working extremely hard to keep us going.

May you all stay healthy until we see each other again!



## TREASURER'S REPORT

For the Month of  
April 30, 2020

	Month of March	Monthly Budget	Year to Date
Operating Revenue	\$9,608.57	\$10,553.00	\$55,300.97
Operating Expenses	10,166.17	13,424.00	49,338.42
Excess (Deficit)	(\$557.60)		\$5,962.55



**Gifts given in the month of May to the Endowment Fund include:**

In Memory of: Arlene Diekman, Barb Dye, Murray Faris

**These gifts were given by the following donors:**

Lois Fozkos, LeaAnn Kerber, Helen Petrill, Linda Skaggs

**A Gift was given:**

To the Food Pantry by Christine Small and Mr. and Mrs. Smailis



## 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.

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### April Shelter Report

As we continue to follow the rules regarding the Coronavirus, it becomes a challenge to feed those that are in need. I have been VERY fortunate that the other two of the three Musketeers have been willing to mask and glove up in the hot kitchen and continue to support this mission with me.

This month, we also gained two nurses I used to work with, Sandy Higgins and Marie Krynicki. They had helped in the past and this time, Sandy even brought her sister Sherry. They have volunteered to come back again in May and we will certainly welcome them with open arms. They even brought their own masks and gloves!!

We have to continue to prepare the food and then just deliver it to the shelter since we don't want to take anything in to the residents. We did have a bit of good news from them. They all had been tested for the virus and all were NEGATIVE! That is quite a feat with 40 men living in such close proximity.

We also have made at least 18 box lunches for the nonresidents that we usually feed and leave those on a table outside the shelter for them to come by and pick-up after we leave.

Since we have to go before they come, I can only hope and pray that we are leaving enough food for them.





### **CALLING ALL GARDENERS!**

Ministry of Mission will once again be selling flower vouchers to be used at Zandstra's Greenhouse. The cost will be \$15.00 per voucher.

In order to make this program work in light of Covid 19 restrictions there are new rules to follow.

1. Call Tracy, Cheryl or me and we will arrange a non-contact switch: you put your check or money in an envelope and leave outside your door, one of us will pick up at a prearranged time and leave the vouchers in your envelope.
2. Call Zandstra's at 924-1095 and make an appointment for a 45 minute shopping time. This limits the number of people inside the greenhouse and will allow everyone to maintain the 6 foot distancing while shopping. You can also schedule a shopping time on their website.
3. Or alternately, you can go to their website to view which plants and flowers they have and call in your order to be picked up at a designated time at curbside.
4. Turn in your voucher at the end of your shopping trip or pickup and our church will receive credit for your purchase.

This program has been a very useful tool to start spring off right in past years and with the stay-at-home order this year, will give everyone a chance to beautify your environment to make that stay more pleasant.

(Tracy Oprea, (219) 616-7181; Cheryl Steen, (219)743-3440; Carolyn Ham, 845-4330)

Thanks for supporting Missions and enjoy spring!

*Carolyn Ham*



# Blessing Box

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.



Welcome new member  
Diana Detrick Mendoza



The Memorial Service  
for Barb Dye will be on  
Saturday, July 18th.



Thank you to all those keeping  
Gladys' Table, the Blessing Box,  
Shelter cooking and the Food  
Pantry up and running!



**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.



**The Per Capita PER member is \$42.00 for 2020**

**JUNE BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 Thor Severson
- 4 Pastor Tyler Orem
- 5 Norma Fross
- 10 Lexa Miller  
Nancy Engle  
Lucy Kikkert
- 15 Mary Howe
- 19 Cathy Toren
- 20 Ina Chappell
- 24 Sam Helmer
- 28 Sonny Buono



We are looking for at least one more person to help with the garden clean-up and some planting for next year. We really have a great time and could use another set or two of hands. My dirt partner of several years, Nancy Engle, will be moving after the summer is over so I thought I would give you some time to think about joining this productive fun group who really does a great job of keeping the grounds looking manicured.

Don't be shy. You don't have to be a master gardner and it doesn't cost you anything!!!



# Prayers of Christian Sympathy to:

- The Family of Murray Faris on his death April 30th
- Barbara Morton on family on the death of h sister-in-law, Delores Morton on May 3rd
- Brandon Chong and his grandfather’s family on the death of his great uncle, Chun Chong on May 3rd



## 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)
- Bob Abernethy
- Anthony - Suzanne Gruoner’s son
- Alaina (Callaway)
- Marge Ashton
- Avery
- Bapst Family (Callaway)
- Betsy (Rev. Tyler)
- Brady (Rev. Tyler)
- Sonny Buono
- Ina Chappell
- I Sun Chong (Oprea)
- Danielle
- Dave
- Don Dekker
- Ruth Dekker
- George Griner
- Guy (B. Perryman)
- Gracie Helmer
- Bill Holmes
- Daniel Litwicki (Catania)
- Frank (K. Scott)
- Marlys Furnas
- Jennifer (Reed-Daughter of friend)
- Jessica (Abernethy)
- Josh (Rev. Tyler)
- Mildred (B. Perryman)
- Jill Muller (Steen)
- Jeanne Nestor
- Karen (Casiano)
- Mary & Gary (T. Oprea)
- Rev. Tyler Orem

- Rena’s cousin
- Rodney (J. Toren)
- Calvin Scott
- Sebastian (Casiano)
- Richard Simmons (B. Morton)
- Jay Smith
- Bonita Sutton (Nolen)
- Steve & Melinda
- Gary Studer
- Tarsha (Perryman)
- Richard Terpstra
- 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 un-

- 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).