

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
OF HIGHLAND



# THE LARGER VIEW

Volume 15 Issue 4

APRIL  
2022

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Dear All,

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

We are almost there! We are almost to the empty tomb! We are almost to the glorious day of the resurrection of the Lord! On April 17 we will connect in worship with joyful song, joyful prayer, and joyful scriptural exploration. In short, we will embody the joy of Jesus's resurrection and the promise of resurrection in every single one of our lives. As you read through the pages of this edition of the Larger View, you will find opportunities to fully engage that resurrection joy in the season of Easter. I hope that you will connect in whatever way you can!



Before we get there, though, we have a few more steps to take on our journey with Jesus to Jerusalem. On our way there, we will stop by Bethany and grieve alongside of Jesus as he encounters the grief of Martha and Mary. We will join the crowds with palms and shouts of "Hosanna" as Jesus enters the city. We will join the disciples in the Upper Room as Jesus washes their feet and shares a last supper with them. We will walk along the Via Dolorosa as Jesus carries his cross with the help of Simon of Cyrene. We will mourn upon Mount Calvary as Jesus hangs upon that cross. This is a hard journey, but it is a profoundly important one for us to take. In order to take this journey faithfully, I urge you to keep participating in our study and practice opportunities, to keep connecting through worship on Sundays and Maundy Thursday, and to keep engaging your own spiritual practices with renewed vigor and intentionality.

**Easter Egg Hunt**

**Read Through the Bible in a Year**

**Soup Sale Fundraiser**

**One Great Hour of Sharing**

**Food Pantry Needs**

**Got Sneakers?**

**Prayer List**

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



***The Mission of First Presbyterian Church of Highland***

As the world continues to reel with the pains of mass violence, sickness, brokenness, and death, may we continue to hold onto the truth and blessed assurance that our God knows our sorrow and pain because our God has lived it all in the flesh. And may we take heart, because violence, sickness, brokenness, and death do not have the final say. New life has the final say! Love has the final say! Around this time each year I often reflect on and share the words from one of my favorite hymns, *My Song Is Love Unknown*. Join me in reflecting on some of those words now:

My song is love unknown,  
my Savior's love to me,  
love to the loveless shown  
that they might lovely be.  
Oh, who am I,  
that for my sake  
my Lord should take  
frail flesh and die?

He came from his blest throne  
salvation to bestow,  
but such disdain! So few  
the longed-for Christ would know!  
But oh, my friend,  
my friend indeed,  
who at my need  
his life did spend!

Here might I stay and sing;  
no story so divine,  
never was love, dear King,  
never was grief like thine.  
This is my friend,  
in whose sweet praise  
I all my days  
could gladly spend!

Keep living life in Love, beloved ones!

In Christ and with Love,

*Rev. Tyler*





This month the *Matthew 25* spotlight is shining upon our Trustees! The Board of Trustees ensured that we have a group of people able to perform lifesaving CPR and use the AEDs. This is vital for our ability to welcome all and provide a safe space for each other. Thank you, Trustees and all those who were trained, for contributing to our shared congregational vitality! Well done!

As a reminder, this section of the Larger View is here to highlight our embodiment of the *Matthew 25* initiative to which we have committed. This initiative is focused on the following:

- **Building congregational vitality** by challenging people and congregations to deepen their faith and get actively and joyfully engaged with their community and the world.
- **Dismantling structural racism** by advocating and acting to break down the systems, practices and thinking that underlie discrimination, bias, prejudice and oppression of people of color.
- **Eradicating systemic poverty** by working to change laws, policies, plans and structures in our society that perpetuate economic exploitation of people who are poor.

If you notice somebody or somebodies living into the *Matthew 25* call, please let Pastor Tyler know so that they can be highlighted in this section!

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## SESSION SHORTS

1. Session approved the relaxing of our previous protocols:
  - a. Based on current CDC guidelines and several weeks of Lake County being in the blue on Indiana's COVID-19 dashboard, we will now transition from mandated masking in shared spaces to allowing people to decide on an individual basis. We will continue to have some masks on hand for worship services.
  - b. We will keep opening windows during worship in order to facilitate good ventilation.
  - c. We will continue with hybrid worship.
  - d. Fellowship after worship can resume and other events can be planned with food being served. The Hospitality ministry will proceed with the details.
2. Soup sales will begin again in the fellowship hall after worship! Mark your calendar for April 3<sup>rd</sup> and enjoy delicious soup for a free will offering. If there is enough interest, there will be another soup sale at the end of the month.
3. AED training went very well on Saturday March 12<sup>th</sup>. Twelve individuals have been recertified for 2 years with CPR and AED training.

# SESSION SHORTS

4. Rev. Orem and Elder Bonnie Perryman gave a report of the Presbytery assembly that met on Saturday February 26<sup>th</sup>. The Bell Choir and the Chancel Choir provided the music for the Zoom worship service, and Heather Casiano was commissioned for her work at the First Presbyterian Church of Hammond. Congratulations, Heather!
5. We continue to investigate fundraisers to support our church and its projects.
6. The Trustees are working on contracts for garden and lawn maintenance as well as work on repair work for the brick pathway through the garden.
7. Holy week schedule:
  - a. Palm Sunday Worship 4/10
  - b. Maundy Thursday with communion 4/14 at 7:00 pm
  - c. Easter Sunday 4/17



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## Treasurer's Report

For the Month of  
February 28, 2021

	Month of February	Monthly Budget	Year to Date
Operating Revenue	\$6,231.59	\$9,226.93	\$37,913.00
Operating Expenses	11,498.17	13,873.77	23,148.36
Excess (Deficit)	(\$5,266.58)		\$14,764.64



**Gifts were given in the month of March to the Endowment Fund:**

In Memory of: Joseph Fozkos, Elwyn Studer, Rich Terpstra, Barbara Wagner

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

Rodney & Peggy Fozkos, Jan Oprea, Marjean Reed

**Donations were given to the Blessing Box by:**

Nancy Veltman

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**What My Church Means to Me: Happy to Have Made the Right Decision!**

*By George Griner*

Pat and I were married 6-10-50. She was a member of the Congregational church. I belonged to St. Paul's Lutheran. We bought a house in the late 50s and moved to Hammond with no decision which church we were going to attend, despite the fact that there was a Methodist church one block away. By now we were in the 1960s with four kids, so we sent our 6 year old to the Methodist Sunday school but never stayed for services. We knew something had to happen before long. We bought a house in 1960 in Highland after selling the house in Hammond. We had good friends who attended First Presbyterian, so we started attending and became members in 1962. All of our kids were confirmed even after going through four ministers before Leroy became our minister in 1975 for the next 25 years. Pat and I weren't too active in the Deacons, Trustees, and Session the next two decades. If offered, don't pass up the opportunity to join one or more. There is a lot to learn about your church!



## ADULT CONNECTIONS

### Lenten Study and Practice

The annual Lenten Study and Practice series continues on Wednesday evenings through April 13, and takes place online on Zoom starting at 7 pm.

This year's theme is "The Spiritual Practices of Jesus." We are taking a close look at the spiritual practices enacted by Jesus on his journeys to and through Jerusalem, with a particular focus on Jesus's last days before his crucifixion. As we do so, we are also studying some seminal practitioners of those spiritual practices after Jesus's time for the sake of incorporating them into our own journeys of faith. All are welcome! The link to join will be sent out each week. We will try to make slides and recordings available for those who are unable to join.

**BYOB (Bring Your Own Bible):** Our weekly online-only Bible study is returning on April 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, from 7:00-8:00 PM on Zoom. Each week we discuss a different Scripture passage that is not connected to previous weeks, so there is no way to fall behind. Everyone is welcome! If you would like to join and do not receive the email with the log-in information, contact the church office to be added.



## YOUTH CONNECTIONS & CONFIRMATION CLASS



Youth Connections and Confirmation Class will meet on April 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, after worship until 1 pm. Confirmation students and sponsors will meet in the Session meeting room, and all other youth will meet in the Youth Room. For Lent, the youth will be looking at Jesus's life and ministry as told through a Broadway musical (Jesus Christ Superstar), as well as continuing to plan for a youth-led worship service later this year. We're also going to start talking about plans for this summer! Snacks are provided, or you may bring your own.

**SAVE THE DATE:** All youth and friends are invited to help cook for the Hammond shelter with Cheryl Steen and her crew on SATURDAY, APRIL 9<sup>th</sup>. Meet in the church kitchen at 1 pm, and we're usually finished by 3 pm. We will also be working on an Easter project for the congregation (and it might mean some early Easter candy for you!). Please let Heather or Pastor Tyler know if you'll be attending so we know how many to count on.

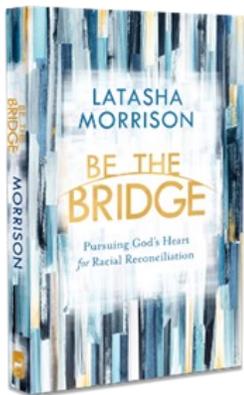
All youth in grades 6-12 are invited and welcome to hang out with us, and friends are always welcome!



**“The Bible in Today’s World”** class meets at 9 am Sunday mornings. The curriculum, *“Animate: Faith”*, helps participants explore 7 topics through short videos and engaging group discussion:

God: Faith Is a Quest  
 Religion: Spirituality Is Not Enough  
 Jesus: The Revolution of Love  
 Salvation: Abundant Life Now  
 Cross: Where God Is  
 Bible: A Book Like No Other  
 Church: An Imperfect Family

There are no books required, so just show up and enjoy learning from each other. If you have any questions about this study, contact Bonnie Perryman or John Toren.



### **BRIDGE BUILDING BOOK EVENT**

On **Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, at 4 pm**, there will be a book discussion event and time of fellowship, hosted by the ministry of Faith Development. We’ll be talking about the book, **“Be The Bridge: Pursuing God’s Heart for Racial Reconciliation”**, by Latasha Morrison. We’ll meet in the fellowship room, and all ages are invited. We encourage everyone to attend, even if you haven’t had a chance to read the book prior to the event. We’re inviting some community members as well to enrich our conversations.

Here is a summary from the back cover of this New York Times Bestseller:

*In an era where we seem to be increasingly divided along racial lines, many are hesitant to step into the gap, fearful of saying or doing the wrong thing. But change begins with an honest conversation among a group of Christians willing to give a voice to unspoken hurts, hidden fears, and mounting tensions... In this perspective-shifting book, Latasha Morrison shows how you can participate in this incredible work and replicate it in your own community. With conviction and grace, she examines the historical complexities of racism. She expertly applies biblical principles, such as lamentation, confession, and forgiveness, to lay the framework for restoration.”*

Our church has 5 copies of this book for people to borrow. 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. “Be The Bridge” is also available through the Lake County Library system, and through many retailers and bookstores.



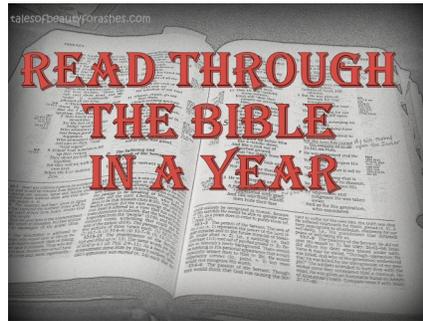
## **EASTER EGGS!**

Bring your family and friends of all ages to church with you on Easter Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>. In addition to celebrating the resurrection of Jesus during the worship service, there will also be Easter eggs for everyone! Eggs with special contents will be “hidden” throughout the sanctuary and narthex for all ages (yes, adults get to have fun, too!) to collect. For any children up through fifth grade, there will be an Easter egg hunt in the Fellowship room after worship. If you know you will have children with you at church on Easter, please let Heather know so we prepare enough eggs for everyone. We look forward to celebrating the resurrection with all of you!

If you received a fish bank for One Great Hour of Sharing, and have collected or contributed any monetary donations, please return those to the church on Easter, or to the church office during the week. Thank you for your support of this important special offering!



**\*\* The Faith Development team is always open to new members! If you are interested in helping plan opportunities for all ages to grow in their faith and relationship with Jesus Christ, join us! We generally meet after worship on the third Sunday of the month. If you have any questions, contact Heather Casiano. Hope to see you! \*\***



The month of April brings about the fourth month of reading through the Bible in a year together. Have you been able to read every day? Are you taking a different approach, maybe every other day, or a couple times a week? The Faith Development ministry encourages everyone to make the Bible a regular part of your life no matter when or how much reading you do. If you haven't joined in this challenge yet, you are more than welcome to start this month.

Our Bible reading plan for the year is broken up into smaller passages of the Scriptures to be very manageable. This reading plan mixes up readings from the Old and New Testaments each day, and some days also include a Psalm.

Each month in this newsletter and on our church's website ([www.fpchighland.org](http://www.fpchighland.org)), we publish the current month's reading plan. Look in this issue for the April 2022 Reading Plan. If you would like the reading plan emailed to you as a separate document, or if you'd like past month's plans, contact Heather at [hcasiano@fpchighland.org](mailto:hcasiano@fpchighland.org). May this year in the Bible be a blessing to you!

**\*\* The Faith Development team is always open to new members! If you are interested in helping plan opportunities for all ages to grow in their faith and relationship with Jesus Christ, join us! We generally meet after worship on the third Sunday of the month. If you have any questions, contact Bonnie Perryman or Heather Casiano. Hope to see you! \*\***



# 2022 Bible Reading Plan

April 2022						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<input type="checkbox"/> Numbers 33 <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Thessalonians 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Numbers 34-36 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Thessalonians 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Deuteronomy 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Thessalonians 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 96	<input type="checkbox"/> Deuteronomy 2-3 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Thessalonians 4	<input type="checkbox"/> Deuteronomy 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Thessalonians 5	<input type="checkbox"/> Numbers 30-31 <input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 12  <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 105 <input type="checkbox"/> Deuteronomy 5	<input type="checkbox"/> Numbers 32 <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 136 <input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 13  <input type="checkbox"/> Deuteronomy 6-7 <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 149 <input type="checkbox"/> Ephesians 1
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<input type="checkbox"/> Deuteronomy 8-9 <input type="checkbox"/> Ephesians 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 29	<input type="checkbox"/> Deuteronomy 10-11 <input type="checkbox"/> Ephesians 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Deuteronomy 12-13 <input type="checkbox"/> Ephesians 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 4	<input type="checkbox"/> Deuteronomy 14-15 <input type="checkbox"/> Ephesians 5	<input type="checkbox"/> Deuteronomy 16-17 <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 101 <input type="checkbox"/> Ephesians 6	<b>Good Friday</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Deuteronomy 20-21 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Peter 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 118
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
<b>Easter</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Deuteronomy 22-23 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Peter 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 47	<input type="checkbox"/> Deuteronomy 24-27 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Peter 4	<input type="checkbox"/> Deuteronomy 28 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Peter 5	<input type="checkbox"/> Deuteronomy 29-30 <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 37	<input type="checkbox"/> Deuteronomy 31 <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 37	<input type="checkbox"/> Deuteronomy 33-34 <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 John 1
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
<input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Joshua 1-3 <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 5	<input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 114 <input type="checkbox"/> Joshua 4-5 <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 6	<input type="checkbox"/> Joshua 6-7 <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 7	<input type="checkbox"/> Joshua 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 111 <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 8	<input type="checkbox"/> Joshua 9-10 <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 9	<input type="checkbox"/> Joshua 11-12 <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 10	<input type="checkbox"/> Joshua 13-14 <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 11

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# Worship & Music



### April Liturgists:

- 4/3- Karen Lounsbury
- 4/10- Bonnie Perryman
- 4/14- Tracy Oprea (Maundy TR)
- 4/17- Charlotte Abernethy
- 4/24- Carol Callaway



### April LiveStreaming

- 4/3: Robbie Casiano
- 4/10: Tracy Oprea
- 4/14: Jamie Ham (Maundy TR)
- 4/17: Jamie Ham
- 4/24: Peter Churitch



### FPCH Fundraiser for the General Fund

On Sunday, April 3, 2022, the first Soup Sale Fundraiser for 2022 will be held. There will be two (2) different kinds of soup available for purchase, and the chefs will be Bonnie Perryman and Cheryl Steen. If there is a positive response to the Soup Sale, the next one is scheduled for Sunday April 24, 2022.

If anyone is interesting in making soup for the Soup Sale Fundraiser, please contact Tracy Oprea @ (219) 616-7181. She is looking for another Chef to help out on April 24<sup>th</sup>.



## March Shelter Report

We had a bit of a conflict with the AED class for the March cooking, but the crew rose to the occasion and we added one new member to our roles. Renee Williams joined us for the first time. She is a new member of the church and we welcomed her with open arms!!

We used the last of the chicken donated by St. Tim's to make baked chicken, roasted potatoes with herbs, mixed vegetables, a green salad, hard boiled eggs, milk and white cake with blueberries for the dessert.

We missed our regular member Jamie Ham and our faithful fill-ins Jean and Mindy. They were learning how to save lives at the AED class!

Thanks to our transporters John Toren and Jeff Savage. Jeff is also always my escort and protector as we deliver the food!



Every gift makes a difference in the life of someone who deserves God's love and support.

 ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS

HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

03.02.22-  
04.17.22

 **ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING**  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) — Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People — all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

Received during the season of Lent (March 2 – April 17), each gift to OGHS helps to improve the lives of people in these challenging situations. The Offering provides us a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need. **In fact, OGHS is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world.**



## HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

Our pantry has been getting a lot of use recently, and it is so nice that we have this to share. We offer assistance to those in need in the community, Salvation Army, Love Inc, and Veterans Life Changing Services. We are asking you to please bring several cans, boxes or jars of non-perishable food items to help us with this Mission.

Thank you!!



GOT SNEAKERS? OUR USED SNEAKER DRIVE CONTINUES!!! Thanks to all who have contributed. The sneakers that we collect help raise money to support our church's mission AND help our environment by keeping sneakers out of landfills. So far we have sent 9 bags with 10-15 pairs of gently worn, used, and new sneakers in each bag. We are doing great, but we still need your help! Please take a moment to look through your closets and to ask your relatives, neighbors and friends to do the same. We are counting on you! Bring the sneakers (athletic shoes) to the church and put in one of the blue bins...either by Door D (inside and outside) or in the church narthex. (Athletic shoes only) You can also call the office (219-838-6850) or Jean Smith (219-322-4896) and we will come and pick them up from you!

# News from the Pews



## 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.

Please do not donate homemade or perishable items.



## Notes

Thank you, dear people at FPCH for your care and concern for us during the years long struggles with Richard's illnesses.

Thank you for the cards, visits, gifts, the rose on the organ; all were appreciated.

To see his name on your prayer list was always a source of strength and encouragement to both of us on this long journey. You are a blessing.

Sincerely, with love,

*Janet Terpstra and Family*

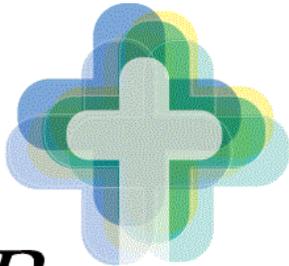


### APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 5      LeaAnn Kerber
- 6      Sandy Nicholls
- 10     Andrew Bobalik
- 11     Jill Cooke
- 15     Tristan Casiano
- 16     Dennis O'Donnell
- 18     George Griner
- 19     Kris Scott
- 20     Abdul Savage
- 21     Jane Vance
- 26     Holly Severson
- 28     Eric Parker
- 30     Debbie Catania
- Heather Casiano



The Prayer Shawl Ministry will be meeting on April 26th this month and will continue to meet on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 1:00 PM through May.



# Prayers & CONCERNS

## Prayers of Christian Sympathy to:



# Pray For...

Anthony  
 Avery  
 George Nelson  
 Myrna Grove  
 Suzanne Gruoner  
 Sonny Buono  
 U. Chong  
 Danielle  
 George Griner  
 Guy Hendricks  
 Bill and Anettia Holmes  
 Daniel Litwicki  
 Frank  
 David Markley  
 David & Pat Kingen  
 Georgette Sknerski  
 Carmelo  
 Diana and Ray Mendoza  
 Jamie Orem and Janet Orem  
 Linda  
 John Mullen  
 Jeanne Nestor  
 Calvin Scott  
 Steve & Melinda  
 Richard Simmons  
 Dave  
 Jane Vance  
 Andrew McDaniel  
 Shirley McKnight  
 Kaz Smailis  
 Jack Sum  
 Fred Callaway  
 Brady Vanes  
 Donna Helmer  
 Jean Smith

Gary Studer  
 Laura Buono Domsic  
 Kevin Windstrup  
 Ruth Dekker  
 Rick Parker  
 Barbara Morton  
 Caroline Studer  
 Jackie  
 Robert Lestina  
 Laura Wisner  
 Cary & Jennifer Pearson  
 Carol Finley  
 Huilin  
 Holly Letnich  
 Jan Oprea  
 Lily Renfro  
 Marla and Jerry Renfro  
 MaGale Snyder  
 Andrew Bobalik  
 Jaden Mendez  
 Juan Carlos Cabral  
 The Somenzi Family  
 Rev. Paula Cooper  
 Pat Meinhardt  
 Frank Falzone  
 Harrison Gill  
 Wendy  
 Karen  
 Paris  
 Annie & Mike Windstup  
 Tammy  
 Lynn  
 Denise Matthys  
 Vera  
 Jerry  
 Debbie Marinaro  
 Doug & Sue Matthews

- We pray for peace!
- 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 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 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 (219-838-6850).