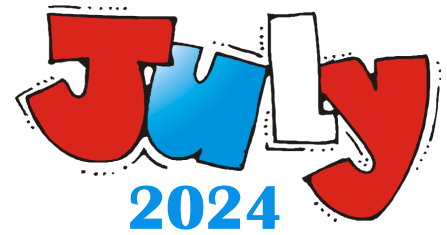

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF HIGHLAND



Volume 17 Issue 7

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Dear All,

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

This past month has been a remarkable celebration of God's radical love for all of Creation, a love that is at once universal and particular—meaning that God knows each and every one of us in the fullness of who we are and loves each and every one of us in the fullness of who we are. Hallelujah! I pray that we will continue embracing God's love within ourselves and within everybody on this beautiful, broken planet. As part of that, I pray that we will dare to reach out and take hold of God's healing for ourselves so that we can be sources of healing for the brokenness of others and for the brokenness of the world.

For this letter, I would like to highlight a magnificent way in which we at First Presbyterian Church of Highland have recently served as a source of healing in the world. The Ministry of Mission recently decided to donate \$500 to our partner church, Chimwemwe Presbyterian Church in Kitwe, Zambia. We have made similar donations in the past for various building and service projects, and you can see the fruits of those donations on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. This time around, the gift was particularly significant in its possible impact.



**Mission Parking Lot
Fundraiser**

**Fourth of July Festival at
Main Square Park**

Salad Sale

Bins of Hugs

*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*

The countries of Central and Southern Africa, including Zambia, have been suffering from a long term drought. According to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, “Zambia is experiencing the driest agricultural season in more than forty years, resulting in significant crop losses, increased livestock deaths, and worsening poverty. Over nine million people in 84 out of the 117 districts are affected.” Anecdotally, I have heard from many friends in Zambia that the drought, coupled with global inflation, has caused unimaginable difficulty for people simply trying to survive. So, our partners decided to use our donation to make a borehole for water for the church and surrounding community. Here are some photos of the work being done:



What a wonderful way to participate in the work of God’s radical love in partnership with our siblings in the Body of Christ by sharing the water of life! My Bemba has never been great, but there is a saying something along the lines of *amenshi ubumi*, meaning, “Water is life!” Thank you, FPCH family, for being the heart, hands, and feet of Jesus!

In Christ and with Love,

Rev. Tyler



SESSION: The Session did not meet in June.

DEACONS: The following items were presented in their minutes.

- Prayers and concerns were lifted, especially for Janet Vargo and her family on her passing.
- Prayer Shawl Ministry: Met on May 28th. There are shawls that can be distributed as needed.
- Blessing Box: Deacons continue to check and stock the box daily, removing perishable and outdated items.
- Gladys' Table: Gladys' Table meals were prepared and delivered on May 18. The meal was prepared and delivered by deacons and guests. The next meal was on June 15.
- Sackurday: Meals were not handed out in May. Kelly LaFlech will resume preparing and handing out meals in June.

TRUSTEES: The following projects were presented in their minutes.

- A load of dirt was delivered, and with the help of many volunteers it was spread in the garden.
- The sprinkler system has been started, and the needed backflow test was submitted.
- A gas leak monitor is going to be purchased and placed in the kitchen area.
- The canopy will be set up in the parking lot for the July 4th fundraiser.
- The Blessing Box needs painting and repair.
- An estimate on tree trimming that is needed is being explored.
- A calendar needs to be instituted to note dates for renewal of all inspections and permits.
- Other routine maintenance was discussed.
- There will be no July meeting.



Treasurer's Report

For the Month of
May 31, 2024

	Month of May	Monthly Budget	Year to Date
Operating Revenue	\$5,933.88	\$10,673.57	\$71,378.50
Operating Expenses	13,433.80	15,505.61	70,065.87
Excess (Deficit)	(\$7,499.92)		\$1,312.63



Stewardship: Not Just Giving, It's A Way of Living!

Submitted by Jamie Ham, abbreviated from an article by Ilene Wright on <https://seedtime.com/life-lessons-from-famous-failures/>

Years ago, Ilene's preacher noticed the family standing in front of him at a New Orleans convenience store did not have enough money to pay for their few items. He tapped the man on the shoulder and said, "You don't need to turn around, but please accept this money." The man took the money without ever seeing the preacher.

Nine years later, the pastor was invited to speak at a church in New Orleans. After the service, a man walked up to the preacher and shared this story about how he had come to faith in Christ: "Several years ago, my wife and our child and I were destitute. We had lost everything, had no jobs, no money and were living in our car. We also lost all hope and agreed to a suicide pact. However, we decided to first give our son some food, so we drove to a convenience store to buy him some food and milk. While we were standing in line at the store, we realized that we did not have enough money to pay for these items, but a man behind us asked us to please take the money from his hand and not look at him. This man told us, 'Jesus loves you.' We left the store intending to follow through on our plan and wept for hours. We couldn't go through with it, so we drove away. As we drove, we noticed a church with a sign out front which said, 'Jesus loves you.'"

He then told the pastor, "When you began speaking this morning, I knew immediately that you were the man who gave us that money." How did he know? The pastor was from South Africa and had a very distinct accent. He continued, "Your act of kindness was much more than a simple good deed. Three people are alive today because of it."

May we remember that God can work through our gifts in ways that we can never even imagine!

"So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone."—Galatians 6:10

*This story mentions suicide. If you experience suicidal thoughts or any mental health crisis, you can **call 9-8-8** for support.



Faith Development Wants Your Feedback!

Be on the lookout this month for a survey coming from Faith Development. We will have it available as a paper or email form for each of you to fill out and return to the church. We are curious about what our church family is interested in when it comes to faith formation opportunities – what you've enjoyed/not been interested in, in the past as well as what types of things you might be interested in for the future. We would love for each person to complete a survey, including children and youth who are part of our congregation in any way.

Faith Development would like to have surveys completed and returned to the church by July 29th. If you have any questions, contact Heather Casiano. Thanks for your valuable insights!



Committee Members Needed

The Ministry of Faith Development is looking for a few more voices to join us in the planning of opportunities throughout the year. We know that there are many ways to encounter God and grow our faith individually and communally. Joining the committee does not mean you will be teaching or leading a group – unless you want to. We're looking for representatives from all ages (children, teens and adults of all ages are invited) to help us provide the most meaningful faith development offerings that we can.

Faith Development generally meets every other month on the first Sunday after worship, or as needed. This month, we are meeting on July 11 off site. Contact Heather Casiano for the location if you'd like to join us, or with any questions you have about joining the Ministry of Faith Development.

Worship Leaders

July Liturgists:

- 7/7: Karen Lounsbury
- 7/14: Renee Williams
- 7/21: Jean Smith** (outdoor)
- 7/28: Carol Callaway

**Jean is available only if the service is outdoors. If it is moved indoors, Carol Callaway will be the liturgist



July LiveStreaming

- 7/7: Peter Churitch
- 7/14: Tristan Casiano
- 7/21: Jean Smith (outdoor)
- 7/28: Jean Smith



The Ministry of Mission will be having its annual Parking Lot Fundraiser during the 4th of July Festival at Main Square. The event starts on Wednesday, July 3rd, and continues through Sunday, July 7th.

This is one of Mission’s major fundraisers for the year, and we would greatly appreciate your support. If you can work an hour or two during the festival, please see the sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall or contact Tracy Oprea at (219) 616-7181.

With much appreciation,

Ministry of Mission



Fourth of July

FESTIVAL AT MAIN SQUARE

Wednesday, July 3rd: 12:00PM –10:30 PM
Thursday, July 4th: 12:00PM –10:30 PM
Friday, July 5th: 12:00PM –10:30 PM
Saturday, July 6th: 12:00PM –10:30 PM
Sunday, July 7th: 12:00PM –9:00PM

PARADE

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

KIDDIE PARADE

Saturday, July 6th at 1:30 PM

DRONE LIGHTS SHOW

Sunday, July 7th at 9:00 PM at Main Square Park



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.



BIN OF HUGS

Bring in gently used and clean stuffed animals for Pastor Tyler and Abdul to distribute to migrant families in Chicago!



The Casiano Family visited the First Presbyterian Church in Green Bay, Wisconsin, on June 9th. If you would like to look at the bulletin, it can be found on the bulletin board across from the Choir Room.



Bulletins

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



SALAD SALE

The Salad Sale will be on the third Sunday, July 21st. Come prepared that day to get a delicious salad and contribute to our general fund. It's a win-win situation!

CALLING ALL CRAFTERS



Beginning in July, we will be meeting the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month in Fellowship Hall from 1-3pm to work on group projects for a fall craft show. Our meetings in July will be on the 10th and 24th. All are welcome to come help! No skills required!

Crafters are also welcome to work on individual crafts on their own at home. If you are doing so, please contact Jean Smith and let her know what you are making.



The Geranium Crew

Peggy Fozkos, Lexa Miller, Pam Porter, Jeff Savage, and Cheryl Steen made short work of planting 55 geraniums to make our garden pop with color and get ready for our special outdoor services. Thank you for ALL your hard work!!!



Thank You! From Cheryl Steen

A special thank you to our dirt crew!!! We had the good fortune of adopting 3 helpers from my neighborhood: William, Rollin, and Amelia Krull. Even their dad, Pat, showed up to help move a lot of dirt to make our garden more beautiful. "Thank You" Krull family!!

We also had our own Jeff Savage, who worked above and beyond when the rest of us had to take breaks and lay off a day or two! A special "Thank You!" to you and your aching muscles, Jeff! Rodney Fozkos, Lexa Miller, Jean Smith, and Cheryl Steen moved mounds and buckets full of dirt needed to fill in our years of washed out garden.



The Prayer Shawl Ministry will be meeting on July 23rd at 1:00 PM.



Blessing Box

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.



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!



- 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



The Per Capita for 2024 is \$43.62 per member.



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



Prayers & CONCERNS



Anthony
 George Nelson
 Brady Vanes
 George Griner
 Guy Hendricks
 Bill and Anettia Holmes
 Daniel Litwicki
 David Markley
 Pat & David Kingen
 Diana and Ray Mendoza
 Janet Orem
 Jeanne Nestor
 Cindy Waltz and Sister
 Yvonne Suroviak
 Wendy
 Georgette Sknerski
 Jakob Holden
 Denise Matthys
 Steve & Melinda
 Jan Oprea
 Ric Jaeggi
 Florance Cody
 Josephine Kim
 Carol Figley
 Kathy & Chuck Pumnea
 Nick
 Laura Buono Domsic
 Annie & Mike Windstrup
 Kevin Windstrup
 Ruth Dekker
 Rick Parker
 Gary Everhart
 Gale Osterby
 Bonnie Kern
 Collin & Kathy Stein
 Peter
 Tim
 Cheryl

Barbara Morton
 Caroline Studer
 Cary and Jennifer Pearson
 Holly Letnich
 Jaden Mendez
 Frank Falzone
 Doug and Sue Matthews
 Robert Urich
 Richard Simmons
 Janet Terpstra
 Glen Nahler
 Tammy
 Tom
 Jana Tolley
 Larry & Bonnie Perryman
 Virginia Marshall
 Delta Rose
 Winnie Owen
 Charity Lynn
 Chestine
 Shannon
 David Hamblin
 Judy
 Breeanne
 Joe Petersen
 Susan Agbor
 Mom Bechtler
 A Close friend
 Gloria
 John Miramontes
 Colton Bobonick
 Cletus
 Victor
 Mary Ellen Edeus
 Betsy
 Crystal and David Cervantes
 Marian Clayton
 Lou Ann Sulowski

- We pray for the people of 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.

+++++

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).