

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF HIGHLAND



THE LARGER VIEW



Volume 15 Issue 6

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Dear All,

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

Happy birthday to us!
Happy birthday to us!
Happy birthday, dear Church!
Happy birthday to us!

On this coming Sunday we will be celebrating Pentecost and thus entering into the liturgical season of Pentecost. The miraculous event of the Holy Spirit falling upon the multi-lingual, multiracial group of disciples gathered in Jerusalem is considered to be the birth of the Church. For, this event marked the initiation of the Spirit's work in turning the nascent movement of Christ followers into a worldwide body of bearers of the good news of God's love.

And Oh how we are in need of the movement of the Holy Spirit and the good news of God's love in the world right now! With so much unbearable tragedy striking each and every week, we need to feel God's ever-present presence deep within our spirits, and we need to make God's ever-present presence known to all whom we encounter. As we ourselves are consoled and inspired, we can help others to experience consolation, inspiration, and new creation! With the assurance the Holy Spirit is alive within us, may we have the courage to approach all with kindness, compassion, understanding, and hope—in short, with love! The power we have collectively as the body of Christ, born on the Day of Pentecost, is a power that can bring healing, transform hearts, and stop evil in its tracks.



- Youth Pizza Party**
- Confirmation Students**
- Pentecost Sunday**
- Karing Kitchen**
- Food Pantry**
- Craft Show Planning Meeting**
- Salad Fundraiser**
- Brick Order Form**

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*

There is so much evidence of the Holy Spirit at work within the First Presbyterian Church of Highland! On Pentecost Sunday, we will be welcoming our confirmands, Ella Severson and Tristan Casiano, into full membership in our congregation (a big thank you to Tracy Oprea and Peter Churitch for being our Confirmation sponsors!). Our ministries of service continue with gusto, with the Deacons even recently having initiated a new program to bring delicious meals to some of our congregation members who could use good food and love. A group of faithful members recently read and discussed a book to inspire the work of antiracism at FPCH, and we will be continuing that work. Our garden crew has been hard at work stewarding our beautiful outdoor space for reflection and worship (be sure to join us for worship in the garden on the third Sundays of the summer months!). Our trustees have been hard at work making our building and grounds ready for hot weather. Our Youth Connections group is busy creating a worship service for later in the summer. And, of course, we are welcoming all and loving all, connecting people to our God who *is* Love through the miracle of the Holy Spirit. Happy Birthday to us, indeed!

On a personal note, I share with all of you, my beloved co-laborers in the Kingdom, that my dear grandfather, Jamie Orem (“Pappy” to us grandchildren) joined the Resurrection in glory on May 30. Please keep me and my family in prayer as we grieve.

I leave you with these words from *Acts* chapter 2:

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Let us feel the breath of God!

In Christ and with Love,

Rev. Tyler





This month the *Matthew 25* spotlight is shining upon our *Be the Bridge* book discussion crew! Beginning with an in-person meeting and then continuing throughout May during Bring Your Own Bible, this faithful group of people has read about and reflected deeply upon the necessary work of recognizing white privilege and combating structural racism. We invite everybody to join us as we seek to put our words to work by embarking upon the journey of antiracism work in our congregation. We have copies of the book in the library if you would still like to check one out. Thank you for getting us started on the necessary work of responding to our *Matthew 25* call to dismantle structural racism!

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!

SESSION SHORTS

BAPTISM: Session approved the sacrament of baptism for Emma Farkas (Daughter of Alex and Sarah Farkas) for June 29th.

FUNDRAISING: Session members continue to work on new fundraising ideas. Let any Session member know if you have an idea!

BOLD IDEAS: The elders continue to brainstorm ideas for ways to improve our church, reach out to the community, expand our vision and be the heart, hands and feet of Jesus Christ.

SESSION SHORTS

PRESBYTERY MEETING: The Presbytery Assembly met May 26th at 2 pm. Elder Bonnie Perryman was our commissioner to this meeting.

PENTECOST AND CONFIRMATION: On June 5th, we will be celebrating Pentecost and welcoming our new confirmands during worship. Come and celebrate these special occasions!

COMMENTS FROM REV. OREM: Rev. Orem acknowledged our successes in this programming year. He highlighted our educational programming, the choir and bell choir, the work that Trustees have done, the ongoing work of the Ministry of Mission that has continued to reach out to our church family and the community, the improved streaming options, and fellowship hour after worship that has returned. He thanked everyone for their efforts with all that has been accomplished.



Treasurer's Report

For the Month of
April 30 2021

	Month of April	Monthly Budget	Year to Date
Operating Revenue	\$13,521.91	\$9,226.93	\$61,676.21
Operating Expenses	10,926.23	13,873.77	46,337.10
Excess (Deficit)	\$2,595.68		\$15,339.11



Donations were given to the Blessing Box and Food Pantry by:
Gerald & Nancy Veltman



What the Church Means to Me: Attitude, Gratitude, Infinitude

By Sharon LaFlech

Bill and I came from different faith journeys; we chose to start our marriage and restart our faith journey by joining St Paul's Lutheran church in Oct. 1971. Kelly and Kent were christened in the Lutheran church following their births. After moving to Highland, Bill and I joined FPCH in October 1981 and had our baby, Krissy, baptized that same day. We knew we needed God in the life of our family, and as I reflect it was a "have to" attitude. That was the message we were giving our children and ourselves: we "have to" go to church, school, work, etc. Then in Nov 1990 our lives were uprooted, and the seed of a new attitude was planted, and our gratitude gained new depth. A flood forced us from our home for the next 8 months. We grew in gratitude as members signed up to help us rebuild from the physical and emotional damage caused by the flood. It was years later that I ran into a past member of FPCH and we talked about our times spent together at FPCH. Her memory of the flood was that she "got to help us with our laundry and dishes and grateful she could be a part of our lives." Wow! I got a glimpse of a whole new attitude. That's what I feel lives on these grounds and in this building, a "get to" attitude. We get to be the Heart, Hands, and Feet of Jesus. We get to feed His lambs and tend His sheep. We get to follow Jesus. I am grateful for the FPCH experiences I get to live in and show love. At FPCH I get to live, worship and praise the infinitude of God.

With attitude, gratitude and God's infinitude may I continue to get to grow here,

Sharon LaFlech



ADULT CONNECTIONS

BYOB, or Bring Your Own Bible, is taking a short break for the summer. The Faith Development team is going to use the time in the next few months to discern how God is calling us to continue faith formation opportunities, and will share ways you can participate this fall.



YOUTH CONNECTIONS

Youth Connections is taking a break from regular meetings for the summer. There are a couple of dates to keep in mind, though:

- **Sunday, June 12**, after worship until about 2 pm. Pizza party and final worship planning
- **Sunday, July 10** – 10:30 am Youth-Led Service; the youth are leading the worship service on this Sunday in the sanctuary



Pastor Tyler and Heather are working on summer plans, and will communicate those plans to all youth and families as soon as things are finalized. We're exploring getting together with a couple other church's youth, as well as a summer swim party at some point. Stay tuned!

All youth and friends are always welcome to all Youth Connections events and gatherings!

"THE BIBLE IN TODAY'S WORLD" Sunday Morning Class

This Sunday morning adult class is on hiatus for the summer. They will begin meeting again in September after Labor Day.



BE THE BRIDGE BOOK EVENT

On Sunday, May 1st, ten people gathered to talk about the book, “Be The Bridge: Pursuing God’s Heart for Racial Reconciliation” by Latasha Morrison, that we’ve been reading over the past few months. We had a wonderful discussion of the book itself and themes of racial injustice, historical awareness, current events, and how we might move toward reconciliation. We shared personal experiences, asked questions, and brainstormed possible next steps.



On Wednesday evenings during the BYOB time online in May, several people continued these conversations about racial reconciliation and looking at Morrison’s book in more detail. There is interest in keeping these themes and conversations going, to do more of the work needed toward racial reconciliation in our churches and communities. Stay tuned as the Faith Development team plans new events and opportunities throughout the year to address this important aspect of Matthew 25.



***** 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! *****



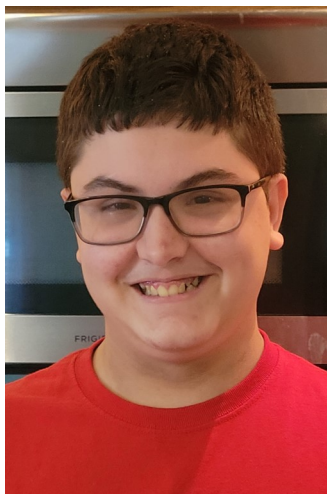
BLESSINGS TO OUR CONFIRMATION STUDENTS!

Since January of this year, two of our youth have been meeting with Pastor Tyler and their adult sponsors twice a month for confirmation classes. They have been using the PC(USA)'s curriculum called *Big God, Big Questions*. Each session consisted of conversation, scripture reading, a short video that showed life and worship in the PC(USA), a connection of each question to an element of worship, reflective journaling, and praying the Lord's Prayer. **Congratulations to the youth for completing the confirmation classes!**



Ella Severson

Ella lives in Highland, and is an 8th grader at Highland Middle School. She loves to draw, listen to music, and hang out with her friends. Ella is involved in choir, and will be in student council next year. Through the confirmation classes, Ella says she has a better understanding of what Jesus has done for all of us and the importance of Jesus in our lives. Ella's confirmation sponsor is Tracy Oprea.



Tristan Casiano

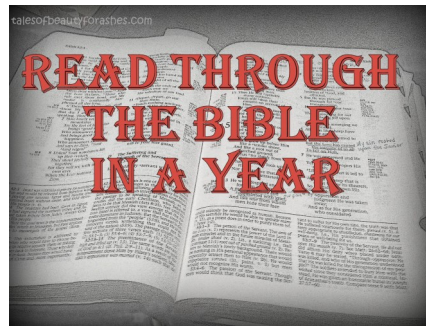
Tristan lives in Munster, and is a 7th grader at Wilbur Wright Middle School. He enjoys reading, cooking, watching TV and playing violin. Tristan is involved with Boy Scouts and the middle school orchestra. From confirmation class, Tristan says he's learned that doubting isn't the opposite of faith – doubt goes along with faith. Tristan's confirmation sponsor is Peter Churitch.



CONGRATULATIONS 2022 GRADUATE!

Lauren Wilson is graduating Cum Laude with Academic and Technical Honors from Highland High School. She plans on attending Jackson College in Michigan this fall, where she will major in Respiratory Therapy and is committed to playing soccer for the Jackson College Women's Soccer Team. Throughout her high school years, Lauren has played soccer, basketball, track and softball; served on the Athletic Leadership Committee; and was part of the National Spanish Honor Society and the National Technical Honor Society. Lauren, who is the daughter of our church administrative assistant Kristen, has been involved in our family of faith for many years. She has fond memories of Wackie Wednesdays, and she has enjoyed being part of the Ministry of Mission for the last couple of years. Lauren especially likes helping cook for the Hammond Shelter, and helping out at the St. Tim's Drive-through Food Pantry Ministry.

Our prayers and best wishes for your future are with you, Lauren. Congratulations!



READING THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

What have you read in the Bible lately that has surprised you? Challenged you? Resonated with you? The Bible is such a rich collection of literature that our emotions can be all over the place when we encounter different passages – and that's OK! We hope your experience of reading through the Bible this year is helping you truly experience God's Word. We hope that you are opening yourself up to the movement of the Holy Spirit through the written word.

If you haven't joined in this Bible challenge yet, you are more than welcome to start this month. 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.

The June Bible reading plan is included in this newsletter, and it will be posted on our church's website (www.fpchighland.org). If you would ever like to discuss anything you read in the Bible or have questions, please reach out to Pastor Tyler or Heather – we'd love to chat about God's Word with you. May this year in the Bible be a blessing to you!



2022 Bible Reading Plan

June 2022						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Samuel 13-14 <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 10	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Samuel 15-16 <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 11	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Samuel 17 <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 12	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Samuel 3-5 <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Samuel 6-8 <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 7	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Samuel 9-10 <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 8	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Samuel 11-12 <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 65
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 54 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Samuel 26-29 <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 138	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Samuel 15-16 <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 11	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Samuel 17 <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 12	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Samuel 18-19 <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 55 <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 13	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Samuel 20-21 <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 14	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Samuel 22-23 <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 15 <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 117	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Samuel 24-25 <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 16
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
<input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 51 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Samuel 11-12	<input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 53 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Samuel 13-14	<input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 92 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Samuel 1-2	<input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 63 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Samuel 18-19	<input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 78 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Samuel 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Samuel 6-7 <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 89	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Samuel 8-10 <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 144
26	27	28	29	30		
<input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 61 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Kings 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Philippians 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Kings 2-3 <input type="checkbox"/> James 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Kings 4-5 <input type="checkbox"/> James 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Kings 6-7 <input type="checkbox"/> James 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 62 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Samuel 20-21 <input type="checkbox"/> Philippians 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Samuel 22 <input type="checkbox"/> Philippians 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Samuel 23-24 <input type="checkbox"/> Philippians 3



Worship Leaders

June Liturgists:

- 6/5: Carol Callaway
- 6/12: Bonnie Perryman
- 6/19: Karen Lounsbury
**Outdoor Service
- 6/26: Robbie Casiano



June LiveStreaming

- 6/5: Jamie Ham
- 6/12: Jean Smith
- 6/19: Tracy Oprea (back up)
- 6/26: Peter Churitch



In recognition of Pentecost on Sunday, June 5th, please wear RED to worship that day.



May Shelter Report

WOW!! We hit the jackpot this month. We had 6 boneless rolled pork roasts donated by St Tim's Church for all the work that Mindy, Lauren, Jeff, Cheryl and Fred do to help them with their distribution on Saturdays and with pick up and storing the food on Thursdays and Mondays when needed.

The shelter certainly benefits from their generosity along with the Mission budget. Not to mention the residents of the shelter!! We will be able to do another meal with the last 3 at another time!!

They had a feast of pork roast, gravy, herbed roasted potatoes, creamed corn, rolls, salad, blueberry dessert, hard boiled eggs and milk.

Thank you to the usual cooking team of Jamie, Sandy, Sherry, Judy, Lauren and Cheryl for all their efforts. Without their help this undertaking would not be possible.

I also want to thank Judy for always being my sidekick with the shopping. It makes the task much more pleasant.

John and Jeff are always there to be our muscle men, and Jeff is my companion in the delivery of the food. We are still not serving.



Karing Kitchen

Love, Inc's "Karing Kitchen" is in need of some restocking. If you have any of the gently used or new items listed it would be a great help to the individuals in need:

Can openers, coffee pots, measuring spoons, measuring cups,
wooden spoons and spatulas, hand mixers

Thank you for your support!! You can drop any items at the office.



May Pantry Report

Old Mother Hubbard’s cupboard is looking pretty bare!! We leave just enough, so if someone comes to our door, we can supply them with a little something. Our Pastor is very good at putting things together so they don’t go hungry.

We were able to deliver 20 containers of food to the Salvation Army on Friday. They were very thankful for the infusion.

We now have to start all over again so we can help Love, Inc. with their food pantry. They serve many needy families in our area.

When you shop, think of those less fortunate and grab a couple cans of anything non-perishable, we need meat especially.

Thank you for your help with this Mission.

Cheryl



THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Girl Scout Troop 15467 in Highland had a Community food drive, and they graciously donated the food and personal articles to our food pantry and to the Blessing Box.

The girls dropped off the articles on Sunday after church and were very helpful in getting them into the church.

A huge thank you for the donations and for thinking of those less fortunate.





Ministry of Mission 2022 Zandstras Flower Voucher Sale

The Ministry of Mission is having its annual flower voucher fundraiser. Flower vouchers will be available for purchase starting Sunday, April 24th for Zandstras Greenhouse, and they are \$17.00/each. The voucher is worth \$17.00 and can be spent just like cash at the greenhouse. The Ministry of Mission receives \$3.00 from every voucher sold. This is one of the Ministry of Mission's most important fundraisers, and we greatly appreciate your support.

If you are interested in purchasing vouchers, please contact Tracy Oprea @ (219) 616-7181. Tracy can still make no contact deliveries if requested. The Ministry of Mission thanks you for your continued support, which allows us to fulfill our Mission Statement.

“The Ministry of Mission is to be an emissary for Christ’s love and compassion for those in need throughout the community, the nation and the world. This goal is to be accomplished individually through the daily lives of Ministry members and as a group through the prudent identification and creation of opportunities for the congregation of FPCH to share their time, talents and treasure in Christian service to others.”

News
from
the
Pews



**CRAFT
SHOW
PLANNING
MEETING**



CALLING ALL CRAFTERS!!!! Join us for a planning meeting to see what interest there is in participating in an early November local craft show. The plan is to raise money for our church general fund and to have fun crafting with others. Planning meeting will be on June 12th in Fellowship Hall at 11:45 am.

Bring any ideas or samples of items you think might sell!

We will see what interest there is and make plans for any future meetings. If you cannot make this meeting but are still interested, contact Jean Smith. Hope to see some of you on June 12th!



A Fresh New Fundraiser for the General Fund

On Sunday, June 12, 2022, there will be individual fresh homemade salads available for purchase. This is a new idea for fundraising for the General Fund and it will be a free will offering, just like the Soup Sales.

There will be grilled chicken salads and zesty taco salads available for purchase. Bring your appetites on June 12th.



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

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.

60th Ordination Anniversary



FPCH would like to acknowledge the recent donation of items for the blessing box were in Celebration of Rev. Dr. Leroy Fassett's 60th year Ordination Anniversary.

*Thank you and
Congratulations, Rev. Fassett!*



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

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



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.



Prayers & CONCERNS

Prayers of Christian Sympathy to Rev. Tyler and Family on the death of his Grandfather on May 30th.



Pray For...

Anthony
 Beverly
 Andrew Bobalik
 Sandy & Sonny Buono
 Laura Buono Domsic
 Carmello
 U. Chong
 Rev. Paula Cooper
 Danielle
 Ruth Dekker
 Frank Falzone
 Carol Finley
 George Griner
 Myrna Grove
 Harrison Gill
 Donna Helmer
 Guy Hendricks
 Hendricks' family
 Kiki Ho
 Jakob Holden
 Bill & Anettia Holmes
 Huilin
 Jackie
 Karen
 David & Pat Kingen
 Robert Lestina
 Holly Letnich
 Daniel Litwicki
 Lynn
 David Markley
 Doug & Sue Matthews
 Denise Matthys
 Camri & Chris McAvoy
 Andrew McDaniel
 Melba Mc Ginnis
 Jaden Mendez
 Diane & Ray Mendoza

Barbara Morton
 George Nelson
 Jeanne Nestor
 Janet Oprea
 Janet Orem
 Paris
 Rick Parker
 Cary & Jennifer Pearson
 Marla & Jerry Renfro
 Lily Renfro
 Georgette Sknerski
 Richard Simmons
 Jay & Jean Smith
 Gale Snyder
 Steve & Melinda
 Caroline Studer
 Gary Studer
 Jack Sum
 Yvonne Suroviak
 Tammy
 Janet Terpstra & Family
 Robert Urich
 Jane Vance
 Brady Vanes
 Cindy Waltz & Sister
 Kevin Windstrup
 Annie & Mike Windstrup
 Laura Wisner
 The Blackburn Family
 Sophia Brasch
 Michelle
 Robin Schlagel
 Khloe Agbor
 Rev. Tyler
 The Orem Family

- We pray for victims of gun violence.
- 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).