

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF HIGHLAND



THE LARGER VIEW



Volume 15 Issue 5

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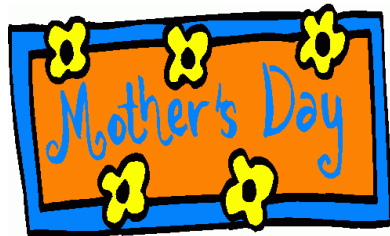
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Dear All,

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

Jesus Christ is risen! **He is risen indeed!** Hallelujah! **Hallelujah!**

Throughout the month of May we will joyfully continue our celebration of the season of Easter! We will continue learning about the many ways that Jesus kept showing up in the lives of his loved ones and, by extension, the many ways that Jesus keeps showing up in our own lives. After all, that is the promise of the Resurrection. Jesus is here with us and for us—always has been, always is, and always will be! After his resurrection, he showed up for the disciples when they were scared, when they were sad, when they were ready to give up, and when they were simply walking around.



Matthew 25 In the Spotlight

Confirmation

Session Shorts

Easter Flowers

Flower Vouchers

Soup Sale

**A Fresh New Fundraiser
coming in June**

I think we all need to feel the presence of our risen Lord right now! Things are hard in the world, and they only seem to be getting harder. O how different the world would be if we could all just open our eyes and see the embodiment of love walking alongside us! That type of awareness takes a lot of time, though. In the meantime, I wonder how much better the world could be if we simply chose to walk alongside each other while embodying love ourselves—if we chose to be like Christ for everyone we encounter. After all, we are the Church! We ARE the body of Christ in the world today!

*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*

So, let us imagine. Let us imagine wars ending. Let us imagine hatred being stopped in its tracks. Let us imagine fences and walls falling. Let us imagine captives being set free. Let us imagine the hungry being full. Let us imagine everyone being housed. Let us imagine everyone feeling safe and liberated in their identities. Let us imagine everyone having a seat at the dining table and at the table where decisions are made. Let us imagine! Let us visualize! Let us manifest! For, these are indeed possibilities for a world in which all people feel embodied love walking alongside of them!

In this edition of the Larger View you will see some of the many ways that we as the community of First Presbyterian Church of Highland seek to embody love as the heart, hands, and feet of Jesus. As you read, also put your imagination to use for our church. Imagine how we can be better bearers of the good news of the Resurrection. Imagine how we can be more active in struggles for justice. Imagine how we can welcome more people into Christ's love. Imagine how we can be even better at showing up for each other. For, these are indeed possibilities for our beloved community!

I leave you with these words from *John* chapter 20:

“Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.”

Just imagine it!

In Christ and with Love,

Rev. Tyler





This month the *Matthew 25* spotlight is shining upon our Ministry of Mission! They have been diligently raising funds and identifying ways to make use of resources to help those most in need in our community and across the world. They also continue to address hunger locally by preparing meals for the shelter and distributing food from the pantry. Thank you for all that you do to serve those in need and to respond to our *Matthew 25* call to eradicate systemic poverty!

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

Trustees report:

- Outdoor work completed: A lawn service was hired to do garden cleanup, fertilizing and weed control, and lawn maintenance. The tree in garden has been trimmed.
- Air Conditioners: Many of the air conditioners for the sanctuary are not working. Estimates are being gathered to determine how to proceed with either repair (if possible) or replacement.
- There are building use forms available for members and non-members for use of the building. A new fee schedule for usage has also been created.

COVID mitigations and protocols:

Session determined that present protocols should remain the same as determined last month with mask-wearing up to the individual. The sanctuary will remain ventilated and communion/offering plates will not be passed. Passing of the peace will remain socially distanced. Fellowship after worship will continue.

SESSION SHORTS

Technology in the fellowship hall:

The technology in the fellowship hall is being upgraded as the projector is no longer working with our newer devices, so Session agreed that a flat screen TV will be purchased and wall-mounted to connect with YouTube, DVDs, and computers. This can be used for programs for the entire congregation and youth.

Fundraisers:

- Soup sales have been successful and will continue May 8 and May 22.
- Our sneaker campaign continues to bring in some money each month. Thanks to everyone who has brought used tennis shoes. Let your family and friends know that we are still collecting those old sneakers.
- We are thinking of participating in a community craft fair in Highland in November. If you are a crafter and interested in making items for the craft fair, let Jean Smith know.

Outdoor worship service:

Outdoor worship services this summer will take place on the third Sundays of June, July, and August.

Welcome Network

Elder Cheryl Steen and Rev. Orem attended a brunch for the Welcome Network, a local organization welcoming immigrants and providing support and housing for them. Ways that our church can help be a support for those families is being investigated.

Bold Ideas

Session continues 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 Christ. If you have any bold ideas for our church, feel free to talk to an elder!



Treasurer's Report

For the Month of
March 31 2021

	Month of March	Monthly Budget	Year to Date
Operating Revenue	\$17,936.75	\$9,226.93	\$55,849.75
Operating Expenses	14,306.82	13,873.77	37,455.18
Excess (Deficit)	\$3,629.93		\$18,394.57



A Gift was given in the month of April to the Endowment Fund:

In Memory of: Richard Terpstra

This gift was given by the following donor:

Marjean Reed

**Gifts were given in the month of April, in Lieu of Easter Flowers,
to the Endowment Fund by:**

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

Shirley McKnight, in memory of Barry McKnight

Donations were given to the Blessing Box by:

Gerald & Nancy Veltman



What the Church Means to Me

By Carol Callaway

Church has been an integral part of my life from the time I was dedicated as an infant in a Baptist church in Chicago. When my parents moved our family to Indiana, we attended the Methodist Church in Chesterton where I was baptized and went through confirmation class. When I went to Purdue to pursue my degree in elementary education, one of the first things I did was to find a church. For 4 years I occupied a pew on Sunday mornings but did little else; classes and extracurricular activities consumed my time. Fred and I were married in the Methodist Church where I grew up and eventually we began attending First Presbyterian Church of Highland. Fred's parents were members and we decided to join as well. Both of our children were baptized as infants and we attended services and activities together, both as a couple (Young Marrieds) and as a family (Synod School).

I have always felt welcomed in this church. It brings me great comfort to feel the presence of the Holy Spirit in this place. Psalm 100 tells us to "Worship the Lord with gladness" and that is exactly how I feel when I walk through the doors on Sunday mornings. This is where I feel safe participating in discussions whether on Session or in a Bible study group; where I meet fellow music-lovers to rehearse anthems and other music; where I am refueled for the week with scripture, prayers, hymns, and words of inspiration; and where I can participate in opportunities to be the heart, hands, and feet of Jesus Christ.

As a congregation we are blessed with many shared gifts and talents, with people who have stepped up and said "yes" to serving on committees, boards, and ministries, with a beautiful building and outdoor space in which to worship, and a future that is bright with promise. I cannot imagine belonging anywhere else.



ADULT CONNECTIONS

BYOB

BYOB, or Bring Your Own Bible, is taking a short break from the usual format in May. Instead of discussing Scripture passages from the worship service, we will be taking a more in-depth look at the chapters in the book “Be the Bridge” by Latasha Morrison. Everyone is welcome to join us on Wednesday evenings online on Zoom, from 7-8 pm. You do not have to have read the book to participate in these discussions.



YOUTH CONNECTIONS & CONFIRMATION CLASS



The Confirmation Class will have their final two meetings on May 15th and 29th, after worship in the Session meeting room. Confirmation of our two students will take place during the worship service on June 5th. Please continue to pray for Ella and Tristan, and their sponsors Tracy and Peter.

Youth Connections (which includes the confirmation students) will meet on May 8th and 29th after worship in the Youth Room. The youth will be doing some summer event planning, as well as continuing to work on the youth-led worship service for later this year. Snacks are provided, or you may bring your own.

Friends are always welcome to all Youth Connections events and gatherings!

“THE BIBLE IN TODAY’S WORLD” Sunday Morning Class

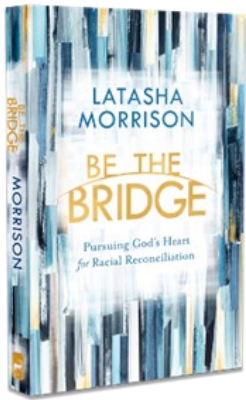
This adult class will continue to meet through May 22nd, before taking a break for the summer months. They meet at 9 am Sunday mornings, and are using the curriculum, “*Animate: Faith*”, with short videos and great discussion. There are no books required, so just show up and enjoy learning from each other. If you have any questions about this study, contact Bonnie Perryman or John Toren.



BRIDGE BUILDING BOOK EVENT

On **Sunday, May 1st, 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 light refreshments will be served. 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. This book discussion is open to the public, so please bring your friends and neighbors!

Latasha Morrison's book explores the historical complexities of racism and what racial reconciliation can look like in our communities today. She expertly applies biblical principles, such as lamentation, confession, and forgiveness, to lay the framework for restoration and help shift perspectives. The author believes that change begins with an honest conversation among a group of Christians willing to give a voice to unspoken hurts, hidden fears, and mounting tensions. We'd love for you to be part of this conversation.

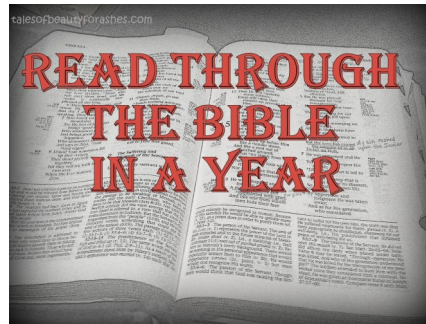


Our church has copies of this book for people to borrow. They are available to check out in the classroom across the hall from the church office. Please sign the check-out sheet when you take a book, and sign it back in when you are finished so more people may enjoy the book. "Be The Bridge" is also available through the Lake County Library system, and through many retailers and bookstores.

After the May 1st event, we will be continuing the conversations on Wednesday evenings during the "BYOB" time, 7-8 pm on Zoom. Each Wednesday evening in May we'll take a more in-depth look at specific chapters and sections of the book, and discuss possible steps forward in the important work of racial reconciliation.



** 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! **



READING THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

With the start of May, we enter the fifth month of reading through the Bible in a year together. We hope this experience has been enriching to you so far. There is so much history, stories, poetry, songs and prayers in the Bible. It's amazing to think about how long ago these Scriptures were written down and that we can still read and enjoy them today!

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 May 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

May 2022						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <input type="checkbox"/> Joshua 15 <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 12	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Joshua 16-18 <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 13 <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 128	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Joshua 19 <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 14	4 <input type="checkbox"/> Joshua 20-21 <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 15	5 <input type="checkbox"/> Joshua 22-23 <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 16	6 <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 44 <input type="checkbox"/> Joshua 24 <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 17	7 <input type="checkbox"/> Song of Songs 1-4 <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 18
8 <input type="checkbox"/> Song of Songs 5-8 <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 19	9 <input type="checkbox"/> Ecclesiastes 1-2 <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 20	10 <input type="checkbox"/> Ecclesiastes 3-4 <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 21	11 <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 50 <input type="checkbox"/> Ecclesiastes 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 22	12 <input type="checkbox"/> Ecclesiastes 6-7 <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 23	13 <input type="checkbox"/> Ecclesiastes 8-9 <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 24	14 <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Ecclesiastes 10-12 <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 25
15 <input type="checkbox"/> Esther 1-3 <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 26	16 <input type="checkbox"/> Esther 4-7 <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 64 <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 27	17 <input type="checkbox"/> Esther 8-10 <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 28 <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 41	18 <input type="checkbox"/> Judges 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 29	19 <input type="checkbox"/> Judges 2-3 <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 30	20 <input type="checkbox"/> Judges 4-5 <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 31	21 <input type="checkbox"/> Judges 6-7 <input type="checkbox"/> Galatians 1
22 <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 83 <input type="checkbox"/> Judges 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Galatians 2	23 <input type="checkbox"/> Judges 9-10 <input type="checkbox"/> Galatians 3	24 <input type="checkbox"/> Judges 11-12 <input type="checkbox"/> Galatians 4	25 <input type="checkbox"/> Judges 13-15 <input type="checkbox"/> Galatians 5	26 <input type="checkbox"/> Judges 16-18 <input type="checkbox"/> Galatians 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 125	27 <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 59 <input type="checkbox"/> Judges 19 <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 1	28 <input type="checkbox"/> Judges 20-21 <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 2
29 <input type="checkbox"/> Ruth 1-2 <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 129 <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 3	30 <input type="checkbox"/> Ruth 3-4 <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 32	31 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Samuel 1-2 <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 113 <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 5				

WORSHIP & MUSIC



May Liturgists:

- 5/1: Carol Callaway
- 5/8: Lois Fozkos
- 5/15: John Toren
- 5/22: Bonnie Perryman
- 5/29: Jean Smith

May LiveStreaming

- 5/1: Jamie Ham
- 5/8: Robbie Casiano
- 5/15: Tracy Oprea
- 5/22: Jean Smith
- 5/29: Peter Churitch

The Joyous Ringers Handbell Choir will provide the music during the worship service on May 15th. The last Sunday for the choir will be May 22nd; we will resume in September. All who enjoy singing are welcome to join us!

We are thankful for the beauty of the Easter Flowers given to the Glory of God by:

- Fred & Carol Callaway, in memory of Charles & Florence Baudouine and Paul & Mary Callaway
- Rodney & Peggy Fozkos, in memory of Loved Ones
- Rev. Tyler Orem, in memory of Aunt Teresa, Raymond Gudino, and Rev. Fr. Graham Golden
- Jay & Jean Smith, in memory of Robert & Arlene Diekman
- Janet Terpstra, in memory of Richard A. Terpstra
- Renee Williams, in memory of Rachel & Anthony Williams and Robert Grove, Sr.

A donation has been made in lieu of flowers by:

- Fred & Carol Callaway, in memory of Charles & Florence Baudouine and Paul & Mary Callaway
- Shirley McKnight, in memory of Barry McKnight



April Shelter Report

We were very fortunate to have the Youth join us for cooking and egg dyeing for April's shelter dinner. We were also blessed with Rev. Tyler and Heather, our Youth Leader. We were thankful to have Piper join us with her great baking skills!! We prepared a Chicken noodle casserole, green beans, salad, rolls and butter, snickerdoodle cookies that the Youth made, hard boiled eggs, milk and a fruit dessert.

Our usual crew of Jamie, Sandy, Sherry, Judy and I were there to lead and mentor. Thanks to them for their patience and assistance.

John and Jeff loaded us up, and Jeff and I delivered the food. Thanks to our muscle men!! We couldn't do this without all the assistance we get!!





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.”



FPCH Fundraiser for the General Fund



On Sunday, May 8th, and Sunday, May 22nd, there will be another Soup Sale Fundraiser for the 2022 General Fund. There will be, at a minimum, two (2) different kinds of soup available for purchase.

If anyone is interested in making soup for the Soup Sale Fundraiser, please contact Tracy Oprea @ (219) 616-7181. She is looking for Chefs to help out.



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.



MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 6 Bob Cooke
- 8 Kamri Nixon
- 12 Stan Weston
- 14 Ron Toren
- Ella Severson
- 24 Cindy Vuckovich
- 29 Donna Helmer



The Prayer Shawl Ministry will be meeting on May 24th at 1:00 PM.



Prayers & CONCERNS



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
David Markley
David & Pat Kingen
Georgette Sknerski
Carmelo
Diana and Ray Mendoza
Jamie Orem and Janet Orem
John Mullen
Jeanne Nestor
Calvin Scott
Steve & Melinda
Richard Simmons
Dave
Jane Vance
Andrew McDaniel
Kaz Smailis
Jack Sum
Brady Vanes
Donna Helmer
Jean Smith
Janet Terpstra & Family
Myrna Grove
Loved Ones of Keith Heskett
Beverly
Shelley Elman
Becky Whiston
Charlotte
John Guiden

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
Gale Snyder
Andrew Bobalik
Jaden Mendez
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
Yvonne
Robert Urich
Camri & Chris McAvoy

- 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).