

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
OF HIGHLAND



# THE LARGER VIEW



Volume 18 Issue 5

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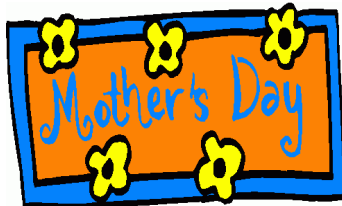
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Dear All,

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

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

What a joy it is to continue celebrating the season of the Resurrection with all of you! God knows we need new life in the world today, and God will keep filling us with that new life! This liturgical season will take us up to the beginning of June. It will see us through Jesus' appearances to his loved ones after the Resurrection. It will see us through Mother's Day. It will see us through the Ascension. What a lot we will witness together! What a lot we will have to celebrate!



**Legacy Workshop**

**Bible Study Opportunities**

**Congratulations to Graduates**

**Summer Prayer Wall**

**Flower Vouchers**

**Easter Flowers**

**Geraniums**

Speaking of celebration, it is my joy to take time in this letter to celebrate and express by gratitude to our faithful church member and staff member Heather Casiano! Heather always helps me out a lot, but she has gone above and beyond throughout Lent, Holy Week, and Easter. She stepped up twice for me—leading worship, sharing the Word, and presiding over Communion—so that I could spend much needed time with my family as my grandma prepared for her final journey and then made her transition to glory. Heather was able to do this because of her natural talents and because during her time at First Presbyterian Church of Highland she has completed the presbytery's Commissioned Ruling Elder training.

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***

She is one of only a handful of folks commissioned to preside over a Communion, so we are particularly blessed! That's not all, though. Heather has helped me behind the scenes to come up with worship themes and activities and to tie them together in meaningful ways. That has been true since long before Lent! She is an amazing source of support for me and for many across the presbytery.

Heather's frequent support for me is, of course, in addition to the work that she does as our Faith Development Coordinator. I am sure that I will leave some things out, but as our Faith Development Coordinator Heather coordinates our Bible study classes, moderates our Ministry of Faith Development, plans intergenerational activities, and connects us to the broader Church through APCE (Association of Partners in Christian Education) and regular participation in presbytery activities. She is always full of brilliant ideas that make our life together more meaningful, more faithful, and more fun! In addition, Heather contributes her talents to our Prayer Shawl Ministry and Choir. Heather, you are a blessing to all of us! Thank you! Oh, and HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

As you read through this edition of the Larger View, you will encounter other reasons to celebrate and ways that you can join such wonderful people in being the Heart, Hands, and Feet of Jesus. May we keep bringing new life to this world!

I leave you with these words from *Psalms* 150:

*Praise the LORD!*  
*Praise God in his sanctuary;*  
*praise him in his mighty firmament!*  
*Praise him for his mighty deeds;*  
*praise him according to his surpassing greatness!*

*Praise him with trumpet sound;*  
*praise him with lute and harp!*  
*Praise him with tambourine and dance;*  
*praise him with strings and pipe!*  
*Praise him with clanging cymbals;*  
*praise him with loud clashing cymbals!*  
*Let everything that breathes praise the LORD!*  
*Praise the LORD!*

In Christ and with Love,

**Rev. Tyler**





### SESSION

- Session approved the proposed Endowment Fund Guideline changes.
- Session set up the following fellowship hosts for May and June:

May 4	Shine the Light/Endowment	June 1	Trustees
May 11	Deacons	June 8	Faith Development
May 18	Session/FD	June 15	Hospitality
May 25	Choir	June 22	Stewardship/Finance
		June 29	Mission
- Plans were made for Sunday, May 18th.
- We will be honoring graduates and teachers of our Adult Bible studies.
- There will be a light lunch following worship and then we will be having a workshop on planned giving presented by Sherri Finke of the Presbyterian Foundation.
- Elder Jean Smith was appointed as the Elder commissioner for the Presbytery Assembly on May 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Our first outdoor worship service was set for June 15<sup>th</sup>.
- For Pentecost we decided to have members from the congregation contribute towards the purchase of red geraniums to decorate the sanctuary. The geraniums will then be planted in the church garden.
- We are planning an attic organization and cleanup for Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Plans are being made for a Women's Workshop in the Fall.
- Session continued to discuss our financial situation and ways to increase our revenue.

### TRUSTEES

Trustee President Jeffery Savage reported on the following:

- The sprinkler system startup is complete and plans for garden cleanup are being made.
- Repair work is being planned for the Blessing Box.
- Sanctuary doors are being looked at for repair or possible replacement.
- Repainting of the lines in the parking lot is an upcoming project.
- The boilers have been inspected and are being updated with safety measures.

### DEACONS

- The current prayer list was updated.
- A sunshine bag was delivered, and blessed Prayer Shawls are ready for gifting.
- Deacons continue to check and stock the Blessing Box daily for perishable and outdated items. A sign has been attached to the Blessing box explaining items that can be donated.
- Krissy LaFlech and her Munster High School Students prepared Gladys' Meal on April 19th with Deacons delivering the meals.
- Kelly LaFlech prepared and handed out April 26th Gladys' Table meal.
- Pastor Tyler Orem and Pam Porter will continue to disburse funds to parishioners in need from the Smock Grant.
- The directory information was reviewed.
- The Deacon's current budgeted categories were discussed. It was decided that Prayer Shawl Ministry, Blessing Box, Gladys' Table and Sackurdays will be grouped together under the new name "Sharon's Angel Fund".

# Leave a Legacy



*“I’ve pledged and tithed my entire life to my church, but I’ve never felt like I could give as much as I wanted to. By leaving a gift to the church in my will, I can give them what I wasn’t able to during my lifetime. And that’s really important to “*

— Caroline Davis Rourk, member,  
First Presbyterian Church,  
Durham, N.C.

## Learn more at our Workshop



Join Sherri Finke,  
Ministry Relations Officer  
at the Presbyterian Foundation

**First Presbyterian Church of Highland, IN**

**May 18th, 2025**

**Refreshments from 12:00-12:15 PM Central,  
workshop to start soon after**

Wills & Legacy Giving Program

Presbyterian  
FOUNDATION





## Treasurer's Report

For the Month of  
March 31, 2025

	Month of March	Monthly Budget	Year to Date
Operating Revenue	\$6,399.59	\$9,677.50	\$62,458.87
Operating Expenses	16,333.62	15,141.42	44,895.08
Excess (Deficit)	(\$9,934.03)		\$17,563.79



Endowment Fund  
Committee

### Gifts were given to the Memorial Endowment Fund In Memory of:

Frank Falzone, Virginia Marshall, George Nelson, Jeanne Nestor

### Gifts were given by:

Linda Skaggs & Jean Smith

### Gifts were given to the Memorial Endowment Fund in Lieu of Easter Flowers by:

- Clara Coapstick & Jean Allmond, in memory of Clara's parents, Marilyn & Robert Coapstick ; in memory of Jean's parents, Mary & Francis Almond
- Rodney & Peggy Fozkos, in memory of loved ones



***Stewardship: Taking Care of Each Other, Taking Care of Our Church,  
Taking Care of the World***

**“Not Just Giving, A Way of Living”**

Submitted by John Toren

I recently came across a yellowed *Tribune* op-ed clipping while sorting old files. I no longer question the why's of these happenstance discoveries but look for today's message in them. The article recounted a discussion with a retired army chaplain talking about military codes of conduct. "The Army gives its values as: loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity and personal courage. The Marines are empowered to exemplify the ultimate in ethical and moral behavior: to never lie, cheat or steal; to abide by an uncompromising code of integrity; to respect human dignity; and to have respect and concern for each other." At FPCH we strive to make stewardship a matter of both "giving" and "living." How we live our lives is truly another way to give.....through caring, being helpful, being a positive influence, being inclusive, providing physical, moral and spiritual support and the list goes on and on. Although the military codes are very secular in origin, they sound remarkably like the very non-secular direction given to us many years ago (and every Sunday). In our troubled world, living up to those values is a contribution. It matters, and it does make a difference!



### **BIBLE STUDY AND DISCUSSION OPPORTUNITIES**

There are two opportunities to join a Bible study or sermon/Scripture discussion group. These opportunities are open to all who are interested, from middle school students to the most mature of adults. You don't have to be a church member to participate, so invite your friends and family to join in the discussions with you.

- **“The Bible in Today’s World”** Bible study group meets on Sunday mornings from 9 to 10 am at the church. We’re continuing our reading of the book “A is for Alabaster” by Anna Carter Florence. The book takes us through the alphabet of both the Old and New Testaments, focusing on one Scripture story per letter. Each week’s lesson is independent from the other weeks, so feel free to jump in any time. Contact John Toren or Heather Casiano with any questions or to get a book. Our last class for this spring season will be May 18<sup>th</sup>.
- **“BYOB”** (Bring Your Own Bible) discussion group meets on Wednesday evenings from 7-8 pm online using Zoom. Each week this group takes a look at the Scriptures and sermon from the previous Sunday’s worship service, asking questions, bringing up different perspectives, and encountering the Holy Spirit in a fresh way. The link for the Zoom meetings is emailed out weekly. You can connect to Zoom with a smart phone, tablet or computer. If you’re not familiar with how to use Zoom, please contact Pastor Tyler or Heather Casiano for assistance. The last BYOB session will be on May 21, and then will take a break until the fall.

*If you have an idea for a group or class that isn’t currently offered, please let us know. We would love to help get a new group formed as there is interest. Groups can meet any day of the week, at the church or elsewhere. Share your ideas and we’ll help make them happen!*



## **CELEBRATING THE CLASS OF 2025!**

Congratulations to all who are graduating from high school or higher education this year! Your church family wishes you all the best in your future endeavors. We will be celebrating our graduates on May 18<sup>th</sup> during worship and fellowship.



**Savannah Ham** is graduating from Griffith High School and will be attending Ivy Tech this fall for her general studies. She plans to pursue a bachelor's degree afterwards, possibly in the arts field. Her end goal is to have a career as a video game artist one day, whether it be in 3D modeling, concept art, or a similar field. During high school, Savannah participated in choir, art club, and crochet club. Savannah has been a member of this church's youth group as well.

**Robbie Casiano** is graduating from Munster High School with national technical honors and will be attending Ball State University this fall to major in sports media and minor in coaching. In high school, Robbie was a member of the football team his freshman and sophomore years. He also attended the Hammond Area Career Center for two years in the Radio and TV program, where he competed in the Skills USA district and state competitions. Robbie is an Eagle Scout in Munster Troop 533. He has been a part of this church's youth group and has served on the livestreaming team for several years.





**Lindsey Wilson**, daughter of Kristen & Eric Wilson, is graduating from the University of St. Francis with an Associates of Nursing Degree. She will be a Registered Nurse (RN). Following graduation, Lindsey plans to work as a nurse in a local hospital, leaning towards surgery. Her future plan, after getting some experience, is to become a travel nurse.

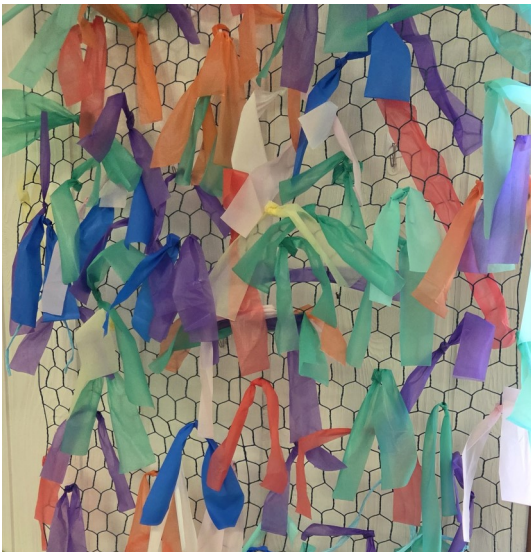
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### **SUMMER PRAYER WALL**

Towards the end of May, a new prayer station for the summer will be put up inside door D – by the church office. This “Prayer Ribbon Wall” will be an interactive prayer station where all are invited to participate using different colors of ribbons to represent our prayers.

A piece of chicken wire will hang on the wall, and there will be multiple colors of ribbons on a table each representing a type of prayer. The idea is for you to choose one or more ribbons that represent the type of prayer you need or want to lift up at the time, and then tie the ribbon(s) onto the chicken wire. There is nothing to write down, and all prayers remain anonymous except to our God, who knows our needs even before we do!

Over time, the ribbons will fill in the wire and become a beautiful piece of art representing our prayers. Everyone is invited to say a prayer for all the ribbons already tied on and the needs they represent, regardless of whether you add your own ribbons or not. If you have any questions about this interactive prayer station, contact Heather Casiano.





## **MINISTRY OF MISSION'S** **ANNUAL FLOWER VOUCHER SALE**

Ministry of Mission is having their Annual Zandstra Flower Voucher Fundraiser. The vouchers are \$17.00 each, and, as you know, they are worth \$17.00 at Zandstra's Greenhouse!

Vouchers will be available to purchase in Fellowship Hall each Sunday after church and you can also reach out to Tracy Oprea @ (219) 616-7181 to purchase the same.

The Ministry of Mission greatly appreciates your support!



### May Liturgists:

5/4: Robbie Casiano  
5/11: Karen Lounsbury  
5/18: Lois Fozkos  
5/25: Jean Smith

### May LiveStreaming

5/4: Tristan Casiano  
5/11: Jamie Ham  
5/18: Tracy Oprea  
5/25: Robbie Casiano

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

Bob & Charlotte Abernethy, in memory of Marty Kessler & Nity Abernethy  
Fred & Carol Callaway, in memory of loved ones  
Peter & Gale Churitch, in honor and memory of family  
Clara Coapstick & Jean Allmond, in memory of Clara's parents, Marilyn & Robert  
Coapstick ; in memory of Jean's parents, Mary & Francis Almond  
Lois Fozkos, in memory of Conrad & Cameron  
Rodney & Peggy Fozkos, in memory of loved ones  
Carolyn Ham, in memory of beloved husband and parents  
Kelly LaFlech & Kamri Bean, in memory of Sharon & William LaFlech  
Karen Lounsbury  
Shirley McKnight, in memory of her husband, Barry McKnight  
Lexa Miller, in memory of her mother, Suzanne Barnes  
Marjean Reed, in memory of Dr. Ronald R. Reed; Reed & Maxwell Families  
Dennis & Nancy O'Donnell, in honor of their family members who have passed  
Tyler Orem & Vima Couvertier Cruz, in memory of Aunt Teresa, Pappy Jamie, Papaw Bill,  
Titi Isabel Mateo, and Sergio Centeno  
Jean Smith, in memory of Jay Smith and Bob & Arlene Diekman  
Cheryl Steen, in memory of Dr. Lowell H. Steen & Laura Wisner  
Renee Williams, in memory of Robert & Myrna Grove and Anthony & Rachel Williams  
In Lieu of Flowers:  
Clara Coapstick & Jean Allmond, in memory of Clara's parents, Marilyn & Robert  
Coapstick ; in memory of Jean's parents, Mary & Francis Almond  
Rodney & Peggy Fozkos, in memory of loved ones



## Geraniums for the Garden

Every year Cheryl Steen and her garden crew plant 55 red geraniums in our church's garden, and what a beautiful addition they are! This year Pentecost falls on June 8th, the Sunday when we traditionally have the red paraments on the pulpit and the Communion table as well as the appropriate banners hung in the sanctuary and in the narthex, and the day on which we are encouraged to wear red to the worship service. This year let's also fill the windowsills in the sanctuary with red geraniums which will then be planted in the garden. If you would like to participate in beautifying the sanctuary on Pentecost and the garden for the summer and early fall, please fill out an order form with your donation and turn it in by May 26th. Geraniums are \$5 each.

### GERANIUM ORDER FORM

(Please Print Clearly)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>PRICE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
GERANIUM	_____	\$5.00	\$_____

IN HONOR OF: \_\_\_\_\_

IN MEMORY OF: \_\_\_\_\_

**DEADLINE: 5/26/25**

8727 DELAWARE STREET, HIGHLAND, IN 46322



## Iced Lemon Cake Mix Cookies Recipe *From Carol Callaway*

Mix together lemon cake mix (I use Duncan Hines), 1/3 c. oil, 2 large eggs, 1 T. lemon juice

Drop dough by tablespoonfuls on ungreased cookie sheet (I use a cookie scoop and parchment paper)

Bake 12-14 minutes at 350 degrees; remove from oven and let sit for 3 minutes before transferring to cooling rack.

Glaze: mix 1 c. powdered sugar and 2-3 T. lemon juice until you get desired consistency for drizzling on cooled cookies.

Recipe makes 36-40 cookies.



The Per Capita for 2025 is \$44.66 per member.



The Prayer Shawl Ministry will be meeting on Tuesday, May 27th, at 1:00 PM.



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!

# News from the Pews



## Bulletins

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



### 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



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



## Prayers of Christian Sympathy to Rev. Tyler Orem and family on the death of his Grandma, Virginia Marshall



Anthony  
 Brady Vanes  
 George Griner  
 Guy Hendricks  
 Bill and Anettia Holmes  
 Daniel Litwicki  
 David Markley  
 Pat & David Kingen  
 Diana and Ray Mendoza  
 Janet Orem  
 Cindy Waltz and Sister  
 Yvonne Suroviak  
 Georgette Sknerski  
 Jakob Holden  
 Denise Matthys  
 Steve & Melinda  
 Jan Oprea  
 Florance Cody  
 Nick  
 Laura Buono Domsic  
 Annie & Mike Windstrup  
 Kevin Windstrup  
 Ruth Dekker  
 Rick Parker  
 Gary Everhart  
 Bonnie Kern  
 Tim  
 Ella P.  
 Melissa  
 Keren, Zuriel & Gedeon  
 The McBride Family  
 Darlene O'Brien  
 Charles  
 Robin  
 Sharon  
 Janet  
 Carol Lestina  
 Clara  
 Dustin  
 Noreen  
 Jane  
 David Hamblin  
 Loved Ones of Jeanne Nestor  
 Loved Ones of Virginia Marshall

Barbara Morton  
 Caroline Studer  
 Holly Letnich  
 Jaden Mendez  
 Doug and Sue Matthews  
 Janet Terpstra  
 Glen Nahler  
 Tammy  
 Tom  
 Jana Tolley  
 Larry & Bonnie Perryman  
 Delta Rose  
 Winnie Owen  
 Charity Lynn  
 David Hamblin  
 Judy  
 Breeanne  
 Mom Bechtler  
 Gloria  
 Victor  
 Crystal and David Cervantes  
 Marian Clayton  
 Lou Ann Sulowski  
 Edie Delgano  
 Katie  
 Rita Stromczek  
 Bill & Suzanne  
 Ashley  
 Lois & Tom  
 OGB  
 Edna Cruz  
 Layla  
 Melissa  
 Connie  
 Katie  
 Charles  
 Jerry & Rena Martinez  
 Betsy  
 Amamai  
 Jean  
 Kim  
 George  
 Mary Ellen Edeus  
 Pastor Jane  
 Jessica  
 Nicole  
 Greg

- We pray for migrants in this country and across the world.
- We pray for the people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Colombia, Lebanon, 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.

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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).