

First Word

News and Events of FPC

Vol. 13 No. 4—First Presbyterian Church—215 East Lincoln Avenue—Goshen 46528—Phone 574/533-7845—April 2023

Springing Forward

Table of Contents

Pastor's Column	1-2
Springing Forward	
First Word News	2-8
Mark Your Calendar	
Session Notes	
Letter from Jenny Jenkins	
Wisdom	
SNAP/EBT Card—Goshen Farmers Market	
Intergenerational Game Night	
Women of Worship	
Thank You	
In the Office	
Photos from March 26	
One Great Hour of Sharing	
Congregational Care Committee	
Per Capita	
Giving to the Church	
Parking Signs	
Our Mission	
April Birthdays	
Please Keep in Your Prayers	
Prayers of Sympathy	
April Calendar	9

Today I noticed that a few eager clusters of grass in our lawn are taller than the others. Spring! I will soon be mowing lawn again – a task I like, and I don't like. I like mowing because it gives my mind time to open to and appreciate all the wonderful miracles of life we share with our planet. I don't like mowing because it takes time away from getting other things done – or just soaking in life, new life, and realizing that spring is here, again!

Last fall our visioning process identified four Guiding Values that describe who we are, and who we are becoming as we spring forward: **Inclusive Community. Evolving Faith. Engaged. Sustainable.**

Over the winter I focused a sermon on each one of these life-giving actions.

This past Sunday, 35 of us gathered for lunch after worship (photos on page 5) and turned our attention to feedback and questions, specifically exploring what difference having these identified makes. What do these values mean, what are we expecting, and how will that difference happen? A wonderful, thoughtful discussion...

Our answer to these questions? What difference will they make? Well. None. Our written values will make no difference at all - unless they impact us and how we live. And our lives need impacting because the world needs us to be the living, breathing Body of Christ – flesh and blood – the real thing, the Church.

Since our conversation over lunch on Sunday we have been starkly reminded of on-going needs of our world:

- School shootings... again? (*nine-year old children this time*). More children shot and killed at school. Seriously? Why is this still happening?

(continued on page two)

(continued from page one)

- Nations at war... still more war? (*Leaders reaching for unilateral rule.*) Again? Even after World War I and World War II. Now playing with fire again? Seriously? Why is this still happening?
- Epidemics of aloneness and loneliness... still no true community? (*Young and old dying in desperate search for the hope and healing real community would naturally provide.*) No meaningful community available? Seriously? Why is this still happening?

The world needs us to be shaped by our Guiding Values: **Inclusive Community. Evolving Faith. Engaged. Sustainable.** We need our values to impact our lives and our living... We can't afford to leave them in their three-ring binder on a table in the library. Our world can't afford for us to turn our attention to our next task (*like mowing the lawn again*), and leave them behind. They must change us, and bring new life.

Old Testament prophet Jeremiah says "...seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you...for in its welfare you will find your welfare." (29:7)

So, next steps...

- 1) Over the next four months you will see a focus on our values in our bulletin each Sunday, as well as on our social media. Watch for them there, and in your life.
- 2) Upcoming activities and programs will be chosen to include and express our values. Get involved as you are able. Let's let our values be seen.
- 3) We are reaching out to folks who were part of our faith community but not recently connected - to invite them to join us in Inclusive, Faithful, Engaged, and Sustainable Community.

As we connect with friends, old and new, please show them what our Guiding Values mean.

Can we be the Body of Christ, the Church? Well. Yes, with God's help we can!

God bless you all!

Pastor Ken

Mark Your Calendar:

- **Thursday, March 30, 8:00 am – Easter Flower Order deadline**
- **Sunday, April 2, 2:00 pm: Marilyn Mason and Friends Recital, "An Hour of Spring."** Marilyn has gathered some friends to present a recital full of a variety of styles of music. There will be something for everyone. This recital is free to the public. Join us! Marilyn Mason – organist; Ben Ganger – Baritone; Kyle Schrieber – Soprano, and Chance Varner – Saxophonist
- **Thursday, April 6: Maundy Thursday Service, 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary**
- **Sunday, April 9: Resurrection of the Lord/Easter Day;** Service at 10:20 am; Communion; Pastor Ken preaching. Children's message.
- **Sunday, April 23, 4:00 pm: Intergenerational Game Night** in Westminster dining room (details to come) **Wednesday, May 10, 5:00 pm: Sgt. Deven Hostetler** (IN State Police) – Talk about internet and phone scams

*** * SESSION NOTES * ***

Your Session met in person for a called meeting on Tuesday morning, March 21, 2023 for our regular monthly meeting, and during the meeting the Elders:

Received an inspiration from our Moderator Rev. Ken Weaver from

Accepted the Financial Report for February from Treasurer Wayne Kramer and Assistant Treasurer Karen Wellington.

Received reports from all committees.

-Buildings and Grounds – Thanks to all who came out for the work day on March 1st. Good turnout, much was accomplished, great dinner, as well as beautiful weather.

-Christian Education – the Intergenerational Activity is on April 23rd at 4 p.m. Board games and cards with pizza for dinner. There is interest from our young people to attend summer camp at Geneva Center in Rochester.

-Congregational Life and Ministry – a Funeral Meal team has been organized. The annual picnic will be in August.

-Finance and Stewardship – continues to meet monthly with our Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer.

-Marketing and Outreach – Sound System work will be completed in April.

-Mission Committee – the spring project will be Heifer International.

-Personnel Committee – continues to meet every other month.

-Worship – Plans are completed for the April.

Ken closed our meeting in prayer.

Next Session meeting will be on Tuesday, April 18, 2023.

Marie Palacios, Clerk of Session

07 March 2023

Deacons, Pastor Ken, Session and Friends in Christ,

The bittersweet time has come. Mike retires on May 19th and we will, at some point after that be moving back to Ohio. So, it is with deep regret, I will be resigning my charge as Deacon today, March 9th, 2023. I want to say thank you to Shirley Snyder who has graciously volunteered to step in for me. Thank you Shirley! You will be an awesome Deacon. It has been an absolute joy to have served with all of you. From the very start of First Presbyterian back in 1838 (with 15 members!) until now, this congregation has weathered countless storms. But God, in His infinite grace and wisdom, has always placed the perfect people in this congregation exactly where they are needed. You all are the perfect people, in the perfect place, to continue the history of faith and service to the Goshen community. How blessed I have been by all of you to welcome me and allow me to be a part of your rich history. There is still history to be made and I will be keeping my eye on you as you move forward into your new phase. Even though my heart aches, it is full. Every single person in this church will have a place in my heart always. Thank you all for your gift of love and friendship. I have until May at least, maybe longer depending on how soon we find a place in Ohio and how quickly our house here sells so I will still be here. We will save the "Until we see each other again's" for later. For now let's keep moving forward with gladness! Spring is almost here!

Peace,
Jenny Jenkins

1 Thessalonians 5:11

"Therefore encourage one another and build one another up,
just as you are doing."

**First
Presbyterian
Church of Goshen**



Wisdom: Be the hand that reaches out. Be a smile for those who have no reason to smile. Be a light for those who live in darkness.

Don't tell someone to get over it ... help them through it.

Have a SNAP/EBT Card? Double Up Indiana provides free fruits and vegetables to SNAP/EBT customers at Goshen Farmers Market. Stop by the front desk to make a withdrawal. The market will match up to \$20 per customer per market day in SNAP bucks. Also matched — up to \$20 per customer per market day on fresh fruits or vegetables. This means a customer taking out \$20 will get \$60 to spend on fresh local produce. Poster and information is on a bulletin board in the Hardie Hall restroom corridor.

Intergenerational Game Night—Sunday, April 23, 4:00 pm
in Westminster dining room.



Women of Worship: *From Daughters to Disciples* is the new study. Our regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 12, 9:30 am in the Kitchen Conference Room. Anyone is welcome to join at any time.

Thank You: *Thank you so much for the special blessing that came around Christmas time. It helped our family so much!! The Laws Family*

Thank You: *First Presbyterian Church, Thank you for being a sponsor for the annual Pancake Breakfast AND monthly meals! We are so grateful and blessed with all the support shown for The Post! The continued support allows The Post to continue to provide support to the youth of Goshen, be the hands & feet of Jesus, continue quality programming, and have a safe space for the youth to be themselves.*

*Thank You So Much, Blessings
Nicki Kucala, Executive Director*

In the Office for you to check out, or look at over a cup of coffee in the Library:

Camp Kosciusko (Judith M. Williams, April 27, 2015) - Information about “Camp Kosci” (Lake Winona) with history, description plus . . . Look for the purple cover.

Stories from the Wars—World War II—from Members of the First Presbyterian Church. First-hand accounts from those serving, as well as from spouses at home.

Loaves & Fishes—Feeding of the Multitudes—a compilation of recipes from Harriet Cregier of meals served at FPC. . . Look for the blue cover.

The History of First Presbyterian Church of Goshen, IN—1852—_____, compiled by John Henry Yoder. Large black binder.

Sunday, March 26: A delightful salad luncheon and Guiding Values meeting.





SPECIAL OFFERINGS ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Typically received during the season of Lent, each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing supports efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and assist in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

Giving envelopes are in each pew holder. If you prefer to use your own check, thank you for indicating OGHS-PDA and the Response Account (see below) on the memo line.

ACTIVE PDA DISASTER RESPONSE ACCOUNTS

Your financial support and partnership enables Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) to witness to the healing love of Christ and to bring hope to communities and individuals recovering from natural and human-caused disaster situations. The list of active accounts provides an opportunity to make donations to specific disaster situations. Thank you!

Initial Response Accounts

[DR000148](#) — General Relief and undesignated program support: supplements the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering and enables members and congregations to make general designations to use funds where they are most needed as determined by PDA.

[DR999999](#) — International Disasters and Emergencies: supplements the OGHS offering to enable a significant, initial response to major international disasters and emergencies.

[DR000015](#) — U.S.A. Disasters and Emergencies: supplements the OGHS offering to enable a significant, initial response to major national disasters and emergencies.

[OG100000](#) — to designate your One Great Hour of Sharing Gift to PDA.

The Congregational Care Committee has worked together to see to the needs for our church congregation at the present time and will continue to assess moving forward. The committee is made up of two elders (Marcia Yost and Karen Wellington) and two deacons (Gretchen Wise and Jenny Jenkins), and Lucy Rupe as a pastoral consultant.

An **after hours “on-call” cell phone** has been set up to facilitate emergency congregational care. **The number is 574-238-2912.** Please call this number if you have an immediate need that cannot wait for the office to be open.

Per Capita is an annual per member fee a congregation pays to their area Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly to support our denomination's work in mission, evangelism, education and administration. Through your per capita giving, which is over and above your yearly pledge, the Presbytery of Wabash Valley helps congregations with transitions and resources for programming and planning, cares for pastoral leaders and their families, helps prepare people for service as pastoral leaders, and provides funds for special projects or needs of our congregations. There is a designated amount per member. **In 2023 the amount per member is \$42.90.** (Last year the amount was \$42.03.) There is a line item for Per Capita on the church's offering envelope. **Per capita brochures, which explain where your dollars go, are on the table outside of the office.**

It would be of immense help to this congregation and our operations budget to please pay your annual membership fee as soon as possible. There are some in our congregation for whom paying per capita is difficult. If you are able to contribute per capita for those who might not be able to pay, your generosity would be greatly appreciated. Thank you to those who have already paid their per capita, and those who have also given an extra portion. The total amount due is paid whether or not each member contributes their individual amount. If you would like offering envelopes for 2023, please contact the church office (574/533-7845).

Giving to the Church

In these difficult times we ask you to continue giving to the church if at all possible. We recognize some families might not be able to do so. We understand! If you are able to give there are three ways to do so:

- 1) Use the offering plate on Sunday for your gift/giving envelope.
- 2) Mail a check to the church at 215 E. Lincoln, Goshen IN 46528.
3. Give online through our website at <https://www.discoverfirstchurch.org/donate>. You can share a one time gift or set up a recurring gift.



Parking Signs have been placed on six parking spaces that belong to the church on the North side of Westminster, on our side of the alley. Across the alley is a jewelry business that has enough room for five cars to park. They do not want FPC vehicles in these spaces – this includes Sunday morning or during the week, early voting, election day, Christmas dinner, etc. If you see someone from FPC parking there, please ask them to move their car.

Thanks for your help and cooperation.

Our Mission is . . .

ABUNDANT LIFE IN JESUS CHRIST FOR EVERYONE.

We commit to God and one another by

- **Reaching UP** - to worship God
- **Reaching IN** - to seek fulfillment and sharing in Jesus Christ
- **Reaching OUT** - to share God's love with all people

April Birthdays

4/ 2 Steve Hooley
4/ 4 Jenny Holbrook
4/11 Jane Stewart
4/14 Cade Gentry
4/26 Pastor Ken Weaver

Please Keep in Your Prayers: Our Armed Forces and their Families; the people of Ukraine; Stanley Maskim (Mike Kastro's cousin in NY; broken back); Justin and Holly Leatherman and family (Holly is Laurie Lord's niece); Roger Snyder (Laurie Lord's brother; Holly's father); Dave Webster in Atlanta (Georgia Webster's son); Jeff Mirer (Ken and Karen's son); Barbara and David Jester; Bruni Claudio; Margaret Bechtel Zentz (sister of Tish Stump); Lelia Jones and family; Scott Cole; Mimi Lord and Jim Wilson (Gordon Lord's sister and brother-in-law); Marilyn Mason; Wayne Kramer; Marilyn Morris; Jasmyne Hunley and son Vincent; Tom Drummond, Richard Kinney; Kirby Eysol; Jesse Kehr; Marcia Yost; Jean Wallace; Vicki Cortes (Bruni Claudio's granddaughter); David and Kyle Cortes (Bruni Claudio's grandsons); Joe Muir (Betsy Kastro's brother); David Pepple; Dick Craig; Dave Wallace; Doris Shank; Dennis Huff; Ernie Jenkins and son Grant (Jenny Jenkins' son and grandson in OH); Brad Gilmore (Jenny Albert's brother); Julie McCally; Tina Cork (David Pepple's niece); Edward L. Rodriguez

The families of the victims and those injured in the recent shootings

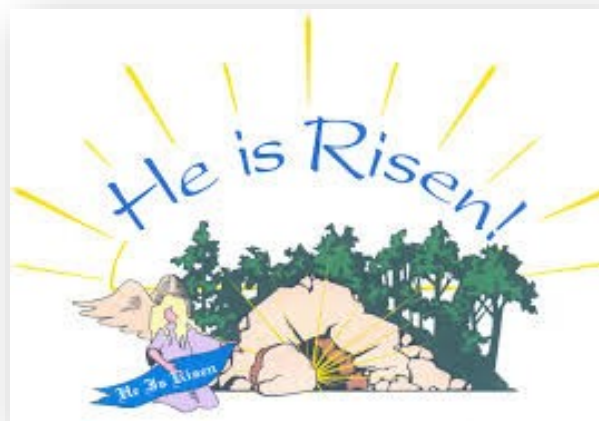
The families of those affected by recent flooding and earthquakes, and tornadoes

Response Teams and those affected by Hurricanes; bitter cold, ice, snow and wind

Prayers of Sympathy are with Grant (Vicky) Myers and Mary (Mark) Johnson, upon the death of their mother, **Helen Myers**, on March 1. Their father, **Don**, passed away on July 6, 2022. The family held a graveside service for their parents on Wednesday, March 22, at Violet Cemetery

(Grant – 602 Chicago Avenue, Goshen 46526)

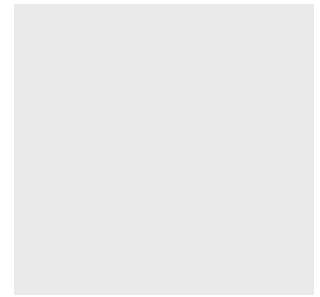
(Mary – 10604 Kings Crown Drive, Prospect, KY 40059)



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Office Hours: Monday & Thursday: 9:00 am-4:00 pm Tuesday & Wednesday 9:00 am-12:00 noon Closed Friday * Online worship posted on Facebook and YouTube						1 6:00 pm Lighthouse Baptist – Evangelist Steve Hart
2 Palm/Passion Sunday 10:00 am Nursery 10:20 am In person worship*; Junior Church follows choir anthem in the lower level Sunday School Area 2:00 pm "An Hour of Spring," Marilyn Mason and Friends Recital (Sanctuary) 6:00 pm Lighthouse Baptist – Evangelist Steve Hart	3 Pastor Ken 9:00 am Personnel 4:15 pm Staff Mtg.	4 7:00 pm Grief Support Group	5 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	6 Maundy Thursday 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Service	7 Good Friday 10:00 am Easter Flowers Delivered	8 Great Vigil of Easter 10:00 am Easter Flowers Delivered
9 Pastor Ken; Communion; Resurrection Of the Lord/Easter Day 10:00 am Nursery 10:20 am In person worship* 3:00 pm Early Voting Equipment Set-Up	10 Pastor Ken 8:00 am-5:00 pm Early Voting Sound System Update 10:00 am Finance 2:00 pm CL&M	11 8:00 am-4:00 pm Early Voting Sound System Update 7:00 pm Grief Support Group	12 8:00 am-4:00 pm Early Voting Sound System Update 9:30 am WOW in Kitchen Conference Room 4:30 pm Christian Ed Meeting 5:30 pm B&G 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	13 8:00 am-4:00 pm Early Voting Sound System Update 10:00 am Board of Deacons	14 8:00 am-4:00 pm Early Voting Sound System Training	15
16 10:00 am Nursery 10:20 am In person worship*; Junior Church follows choir anthem in the lower level Sunday School Area	17 Pastor Ken 8:00am-5:00 pm Early Voting 9:00 am Missions	18 8:00 am-4:00 pm Early Voting 10:00 am Session	19 8:00 am-4:00 pm Early Voting 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	20 8:00 am-4:00 pm Early Voting Newsletter Deadline The Post Meal	21 8:00 am-4:00 pm Early Voting	22 9:00 am-4:00 pm Early Voting
23 Pastor Ken 10:00 am Nursery 10:20 am In person worship*; Junior Church follows choir anthem in the lower level Sunday School Area 12:00 noon – 2:30 pm Session Brainstorming 4:30 pm Intergenerational Game Night	24 Pastor Ken 8:00 am-5:00 pm Early Voting	25 8:00 am-4:00 pm Early Voting (Noon – Presbytery Assembly via Zoom) 3:00 pm Marketing	26 8:00 am-4:00 pm Early Voting 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm Worship	27 8:00 am-4:00 pm Early Voting	28 8:00 am-4:00 pm Early Voting 6:00 am – 7:00 pm Salvation Army 60 th Annual Pancake Breakfast @ SA Building	29 9:00 am-4:00 pm Early Voting
30 10:00 am Nursery 10:20 am In person worship*; Hymn Sing						

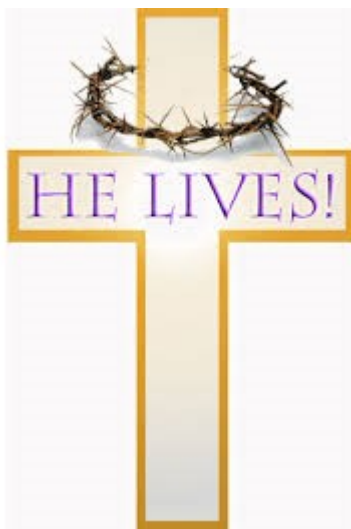
First Word (April 2023)

First Presbyterian Church
215 East Lincoln Avenue
Goshen, IN 46528



First Word

*A publication of
First Presbyterian Church
215 East Lincoln Avenue, Goshen, IN 46528-3347*



Church Website: www.discoverfirstchurch.org
Facebook: First Presbyterian Church Goshen IN
Church email: [First Presbyterian \(fpcgoshen46528@gmail.com\)](mailto:FirstPresbyterian(fpcgoshen46528@gmail.com))

Transitional Pastor: weaverk2434@gmail.com
Treasurer: wkramer46528@comcast.net
Secretary: jhickman46528@comcast.net
Christian Education Director: shyoder52@aol.com
Phone: (574) 533-7845; fax (574) 533-4864

Office Hours:

Monday and Thursday	9:00 am-4:00 pm
Tuesday and Wednesday	9:00 am-12:00 noon
Closed Friday	

Church Staff:

Transitional Pastor:	Rev. Ken Weaver
Treasurer:	Wayne Kramer
Volunteer Assistant Treasurer:	Karen Wellington
Secretary:	Jeannie Hickman
Director of Music:	Marcia Yost
Organist:	Marilyn Mason
Volunteer Christian Education Director:	Susan Hepler Long
Organist Emeritus:	Dennis Huff
Usher Emeritus:	Miriam Wellington
Deacon Emeritus:	Jean Wallace
Custodian:	Betty Barber
Nursery Attendant:	Scarlet Eberly or Brenna Yoder