

# First Presbyterian News

August 2023

401 Lincolnway East

Mishawaka, IN. 46544

During June, smoke from the Canadian wildfires caused poor air quality for a large portion of the US population, extending from the Midwest to the East Coast. Here in Northwest Indiana, we noticed the smell of smoke and observed the hazy conditions. I did not anticipate it would be this bad and I am guessing you did not either. Wildfire issues are not limited to Canada; they also occur in other regions—The US West Coast, particularly California, has experienced significant wildfire problems. Australia has also experienced major wildfire incidents, particularly in regions such as New South Wales and other states during the 2019-2020 fire season. Apart from the challenges posed by wildfires, urban flooding has emerged as an unexpected problem affecting various regions worldwide, including China, Japan, and Cambodia in recent times. Additionally, the first week of July 2023 broke global temperature records, with an average temperature 1.61 degrees Celsius (2.90 degrees Fahrenheit) higher than the 20th century average, as reported by the Copernicus Climate Change Service.

The world is going through a period of significant ecological changes and challenges, with noticeable and dramatic events happening all around. From your perspective, what do you think might be the root causes behind these natural crises? How do you perceive the connection between these unfolding events and our faith? Even among Christians, there are many who are skeptical about climate change, especially when scientists express concerns. It is important to refrain from being judgmental towards each other's beliefs, regardless of whether we personally support or oppose the idea. While there may be differing opinions and skepticism surrounding climate change, it is important for us to reflect on our responsibility towards the environment and creation. While acknowledging that God holds ultimate authority over all creation, we are called to be good stewards of the Earth.

According to the passage in Genesis 1:28, God addressed human beings with the following instruction:

**“Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.”**

Human beings are created in the image of God and have been entrusted with the command to multiply, populate the earth, exercise stewardship over it, and have dominion over all its living creatures. According to theologian Daniel L. Migliore in his book “Faith seeking Understanding”:

**“human beings are given the responsibility of caring for the whole of creation as God cares for it. It is a ‘dominion’ of care and protection rather than of domination and abuse.”**

Let us pause and contemplate the following question: Are we living up to our responsibility with a mindset of nurturing and safeguarding, rather than one of dominating, as we care for the Earth and God's creations?

Fossil fuels, like coal, oil, and natural gas are very important for producing energy worldwide. In fact, about 80% of the energy we use comes from these fuels. We rely on them for things like transportation, making electricity, and even flying in airplanes. It's hard to imagine a world without them because they play such a big role in our daily lives. Even though we rely heavily on fossil fuels for energy, it is crucial that we keep searching for alternative sources and remember our responsibility to care for and value the world that God has made.

What does it mean to be good stewards of natural resources and how can stewardship of the earth be practiced in communities of faith? How can we integrate our faith values into our daily actions to better care for God's creation?

**“The earth is the LORD's and all that is in it, the world and those who live in it; for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers.” Psalm 24:1-2**

Blessings, Pastor Daniel

## Presbyterian Women at First Presbyterian Church, Mishawaka



### Presbyterian Women Circles

Each Circle meets once a month—Elizabeth is on the 3rd Monday of each month, Ruth is on the 3rd Thursday of each month. Circles meet at 7 p.m.

Hope everyone is enjoying their summer so far. Just a few things to keep in mind looking ahead. Bible Study kick off with a light supper in Fellowship Hall will be **September 13th at 6:30 p.m.**

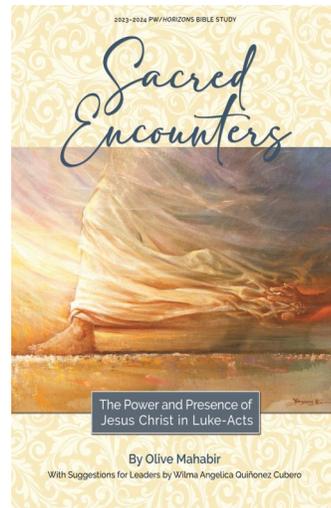
\*\* This year’s women’s bible study is *Sacred Encounters the Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts* by **Olive Mahabir**.

We invite *all* ladies to join us, study books will be available that evening and are \$10 each. We will start with a light supper and then the lesson.

Afterwards we will break into circle groups and plan out lesson leaders and hostesses for each month for our respective circles. *It is not necessary to belong to one specific circle. If your schedule is ever changing, come to what works for you.*

PW calendar/ address booklets will be handed out that evening. If your address, phone number, or email has changed since last year, please share that information with Judy Green or Carole Poklinkowski by the end of August.

PWCT coordinating team meetings will begin in September.



### Three Wise Women Aprons

Don’t forget to pre-order your wonderful “Three Wise Women” aprons before the bake sale! You can see them down in Fellowship Hall. Payment is not necessary when you pre-order. We just want to make sure we have enough to sell at the bake sale in November.



Remember all proceeds go to fund our mission projects. Aprons say, *“Three Wise Women would have asked directions, arrived on time, helped deliver the baby, brought practical gifts, cleaned the stable, made a casserole, and there would have been Peace On Earth.”*



### Vendor/Bake Sale

Start watching for those sales on butter or nuts to stock up for the vendor/bake sale, which is November 11th. I have already started to stock up and Rose Marie grabbed several bags of Pecans on sale.

### Upper Room News

Watch your Sunday bulletin for the Upper Room work days and upcoming sales. Worker bees for either is greatly welcomed! Questions? Contact Lynett H, Darlene S, or Teresa P.

Our Upper Room sales are a big success and now we need more stuff, so we are accepting items for the upper room sale!! Please remember that when you donate items, be sure to check them to make sure that they are clean and damage free.

Thank you for your continued support in helping to make the Upper Room the best it can be! The next work day is set for **August 5th from 10 a.m. until Noon**. If you have an hour to share, your helping hands will be put to work. Thank you!

Let's not forget to add food to the shopping cart for MAC and Food Pantries

**Staple products:**

Cereal, Soup, Canned Vegetables and Fruit, Pasta, and easy to cook foods are the best donations. Pop-top cans and foods that don't have to be cooked are also appreciated for those that do not have a kitchen. Nothing perishable and please watch for expiration dates.



**Feeding the Community**

**MAC Mishawaka  
Alliance of Care**

We are now knitting and crocheting prayer pockets and prayer clothes. Patterns can be found in the small dining room with the prayer shawl information. If there are enough people interested, we can have a one day work shop in making these 2 new items.

Blessings, Judy Sulak



We will not be collecting supplies or backpacks for Battell this year. We will be involved in a new project starting this fall. Be sure to look for more information coming soon.

Mary Ann Dentino



The annual First Presbyterian Church picnic will be August 20th at Teresa's house (711 W. 16th St. Mishawaka).

We will worship at 10:00 a.m. followed by lunch. Deacons will provide main dish and drinks. Bring a side dish or dessert to share.



### Summer Play Date

The Tuesday morning play dates have been a success. Additional help is welcome



**\*\* Joan will be working on Tuesdays from 9 a.m.-Noon until September 11th. \*\***

Church Staff

**Pastor Daniel Cho**  
vision80cho@gmail.com  
**Office Manager** Katie Robertson  
fpcmishawaka@gmail.com  
**Financial Secretary** Joan Horvath  
joanfpcmishawaka@gmail.com  
**Custodian** John McLean  
jmmclean52@gmail.com

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

**Pastor hours:** Tuesday thru Thursday 9 to noon  
**Secretary hours:** Tuesday thru Friday 9 to noon  
**Financial Secretary hours:** Monday & Thursday 9 to noon;  
**June-September:** Tuesday 9-noon  
**Custodian hours:** Monday thru Friday 7 to noon  
**Contact us at** (574) 259-7874 or [fpcmishawaka@gmail.com](mailto:fpcmishawaka@gmail.com)  
**MAIL ADDRESS:** First Presbyterian Church-Mishawaka  
P.O. Box 744 Mishawaka, Indiana 46546

**Church Officers and Committees**

**Session:**

*Clerk of Session:* Teresa Primmer  
*Christian Education:* Darlene Seufert  
*Facilities/Operations:* Chuck Wukovits  
*Finance:* John Rice, treasurer  
*Mission:* Mary Ann Dentino  
*Personnel:* Mary Watt  
*Worship and Music:* Judy Sulak

**Board of Deacons:**

*Moderator:* Lynett Heritz  
Bill Bellairs, Angela Bellinger, Jenn Frey,  
Teresa Primmer, Jim Stanz

**Book Club:** Judy Green

**Newsletter:** Katie Robertson

**Prayer Chain:** Lynett Heritz

**PW:** Moderators—Chris Wukovits and  
Judy Green

**Special Gifts:** Sue Rice

**Book Club**

Book Club: TBD



Thanks, Judy Green

**Worship & Music**

Greetings from worship and music,



We hope that you are having a blessed summer so far! As summer slowly comes to an end and we get back into the swing of things, we are in need of more ushers to help during offertory as well as youth to help as acolytes. A training meeting will be set up in the near future, so be on the lookout.

In the mean time, enjoy a little something uplifting and inspiring



Blessings to all!  
Worship & Music team

When I woke up this morning I asked myself, "What is life about?" I found the answers in my room... The fan said, "Be Cool." The roof said, "Aim High." The window said, "See the World!" The clock said, "Every minute is precious." The mirror said, "Reflect before you act." The calendar said, "Be up to date." The door said, "Push hard for your goals." The floor said, "Kneel down and pray and be thankful for what we have."

**TODDLER ROOM SCHEDULE**  
**August... Lynett/Teresa**  
**September...**

**Please Send information for the September Newsletter to Katie Robertson by August 17th.**  
[fpcmishawaka@gmail.com](mailto:fpcmishawaka@gmail.com)  
**Thank you!**

**“Welcome August! May this month be filled with many blessings!”**

Worship 10 am



# August



Fellowship 11 am

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 National Watermelon Day 	4	5 Upper Room workday 10-Noon
6 <i>Communion</i> Greeter.. Usher.. Ethan DeMaegd W.L. Mary Watt	7	8	9	10 National S'mores Day 	11	12
13 Greeter.. Usher..Carole Polk, Greg Phillips W.L. Alan Camren Deacon's Meeting after worship	14	15	16  PHM, Mishawaka & South Bend schools 1st day	17 Elkhart Schools 1st day	18	19
20 <b>CHURCH PICNIC</b>  Greeter.. Usher..Michael Green W.L. Pam Camren 	21	22	23 Upper Room workday 10-Noon	24	25	26
27 Greeter.. Usher..Ryan Frey W.L. Judy Sulak	28	29	30	31		