

First Presbyterian News

April 2025

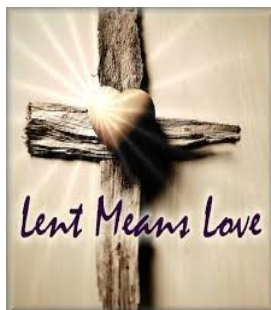
401 Lincolnway East

Mishawaka, IN. 46544

As we continue through this Lenten season, we are reminded that it is a time for reflection and preparation. Although the journey to Easter can feel long and slow, it is also a time for deep change and growth, leading us to the joy of Christ's resurrection in just a few weeks.

As we think about this season, it is a good time to ask ourselves: Why did Jesus come? Why did he suffer so much? Why did he have to die on the cross? The answer is simple—Jesus' sacrifice was all because of his great love for us. He took on the weight of our sins and suffered, not for any worldly reason, but to bring us back to God. Jesus' sacrifice on the cross was the greatest act of love, showing us that God's love is stronger than death, greater than sin, and more powerful than anything we face in life. We often hear the phrase "love wins", and while it is hopeful, it holds an even deeper truth when we think about Jesus' sacrifice. On the cross, love did not just win a battle—it overcame everything that tries to separate us from God—darkness, sin, fear, and even death itself.

In a world filled with pain, injustice, and brokenness, it is easy to wonder if love can truly win. But Jesus' life, death, and resurrection show us the truth: Love does win. His selfless sacrifice was not a defeat, but the ultimate victory. No matter what we face, love is always greater. "Love wins" means that God's love is the final word. It is a power that never fails, heals, and restores. Even in our darkest moments, we can remember that love has already won. In every hard time, we can trust that God's love will help us through—it never ends, never gives up, and always wins.



In just a few weeks, we will enter Passion Week, a time to remember Jesus' journey to the cross. Each step he took led to victory. While Passion Week may feel like a time of quiet reflection, it is important to remember that it is not just about silence or sadness. It leads us through darkness into the light of Easter, where we find hope and celebrate Christ's victory over death through his resurrection. As you continue your Lenten journey, I encourage you to take heart and hold on to hope. Even when the path feels difficult, remember that Christ is with you every step of the way. The light of Easter is near, bringing the promise of new life, victory, and healing. Keep moving forward, for the resurrection is our ultimate hope, and it shows us that love will always win.

BEHOLD,
I AM WITH YOU
ALWAYS,
EVEN TO THE
END
OF THE AGE.
AMEN.
MATTHEW 28:20

With blessings and hope,
Pastor Daniel

A TIME FOR RENEWING
FAITH, HOPE, & LOVE

Worship & Music



Greetings from worship and music,

While we are still in the Lenten season, Easter will soon be upon us and here is what is coming up:

Sunday, April 13th

Palm Sunday and start of Passion Week.

Thursday, April 17th

Maundy Thursday, there will be a Tenebrae Service held at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, April 18th

Good Friday

Sunday April 20th

Easter Sunday

Wishing all a blessed Lenten season and a happy and blessed Easter!



HOLY WEEK



* Prayers for the Nation and World.

For Peace and Justice around the world; for those who are suffering through conflicts/war; for protection and comfort for all those impacted as well as wisdom for all the world leaders making decisions. May respect, kindness, courage, and the ability to work through differences reign as they work towards being the peacemakers You designed us to be.

Prayers for:

* Andrea Finley, grandchildren (Hunter, Emmarie, and Mackenzie), and family. Kevin passed away recently. Prayers for God's comfort, peace, love, and strength during this difficult time.

* All who are dealing with heart, cancer, and health issues. Prayers for successful treatment, healing, comfort, and acceptance.

We hold up the names of: Kathy Bellairs, Dorothy Foley, Judy Sulak's cousin; Terri Keller, friend of Chris & Chuck Wukovits; Vicky Garrett, Patty Stanz, Erica, and Ken.

* Caregivers of family/friends. May they feel your love and sustaining power. Help us to be attentive of their feelings. We hold up the name of Jim Stanz.

* Those who experience emotional crises, mental distress, or struggles with addictions. Prayers for successful treatment and help with coping skills.

* Our homebound members who always appreciate cards and calls.

We lift up: Kathy Bellairs, Jack Bruner, Ann Jones, Pat Harker, Esther Morrison, and Sandra Hamman.

* All those names we have left unspoken and hold within our hearts, but whom God knows.

Presbyterian Women at First Presbyterian Church, Mishawaka



Presbyterian Women Gathering

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. A list of dates and times can be found on the church bulletin board. If you find yourself free, you are welcome to join us. For more information about Elizabeth Circle, please contact Mary Ann Dentino at 574.287.8573 or dentinosb@aol.com. For more information about Ruth Circle, please contact Teresa Primmer at 574.220.3500 or gigiprimmer@gmail.com.

April 27th is ***Gifts of Women Sunday***. We are excited to have **Unity Gardens** join us. They will also include a presentation on their ministry during fellowship. We will install our new Officers, collect the **PW Birthday Offering**, and take a collection for our **Adopt-a-Child**—Rica—who is graduating from High School!

The **Presbyterian Women's Birthday Offering** is one of their two annual offerings. It is received in the spring and celebrates generous giving. Over the last century, it has funded over 200 major mission projects impacting people in the United States and around the world. The offering funds up to five projects each year, with amounts ranging from \$75,000 to \$150,000.

Purse Project Presbyterian Women are sponsoring a special project for women at St. Margaret's House. PW will provide a purse, and you will fill it with items that will make life a little easier for these ladies. We will be giving out purses after worship on April 27th. The filled purses need to be returned by May 11th. There will be a collection box in the Christian Ed lobby. You are certainly welcome to use a gently used purse of your own if you choose. Below is a list of items you might put in your purse. Travel size items would be perfect for the Purse Project. Not every item needs to be included. You might think of something that would be nice as well. Use your own judgment. There will be a list of suggested items inside the purse from PW. Thanks so much for helping us with this worthwhile mission.

Suggested Items:

Soup or shower gel, deodorant, toothbrush and toothpaste, Kleenex, feminine products, nail polish, chap stick, shampoo, conditioner, travel aspirin, comb, brush, pick, notepad and pen, hand sanitizer, disinfectant wipes, gum or mints, sunglasses.

(Judy Green will be providing Mary Kay hand lotion for all the purses. Thanks Judy!)

Upper Room News

If you are interested in helping to sort, price, or work during the Work/Sale Days, please join us! We always welcome extra hands.

Work Days: ***Saturday, April 5th and Wednesday, April 16th from 10 a.m. to Noon***

Thank you for your continued support in helping to make the Upper Room the best it can be! We are looking forward to another successful year with the Upper Room, which helps us fund our Mission Projects.



Mission—Our Faith in Action

MAC Mishawaka Alliance of Care



We delivered over 10 pounds of food items in March. Keep those donations coming! With the recent cuts to the USDA—who supported local food banks as well as schools—now, more than ever, local food banks will be relying on our donations.

Thanks to all who dropped off socks! They were donated to Broadway Christian Perish and St. Margaret's House.



The **One Great Hour of Sharing** offering has been making a huge impact on the lives of so many here at home and around the globe! It has provided Presbyterians a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need around the world. We will collect the offering on **Palm Sunday-April 13th.**

Millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing—*Presbyterian Disaster Assistance*, the *Presbyterian Hunger Program*, and *Self-Development of People*—all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

Mission Committee



Smock Senior Ministries

Smock Senior Ministries Programs are open to those ages 50 and up and guests are welcome. Our next fellowship event will be a trip to Holland, Michigan for the *Tulip Time Festival*. We will travel aboard a 56 passenger bus—with restroom included, visit Windmill Island, have lunch at Russ' Dutch Restaurant, and marvel at the sights of over 6.5 million bulbs at *Veldheer's Tulip Fields*.

Thanks to the generosity of the Smock Senior Ministries Program, the cost per person will be **\$25.00**—which will include admission to two sites, bus fee, meal, and snacks. Reservations and payment due by **April 8th** and may be made by contacting Darlene Seufert at dseufert1@aol.com



Tentative Itinerary is as follows:

8:00 a.m.-8:20 a.m.—Board Bus

First Presbyterian Church of South Bend, 333. West Colfax Avenue South Bend, IN 46601. There is ample parking behind church for everyone.

8:30 a.m.—Bus leaves for Holland Michigan. Donuts and Water will be available on the bus.

10:30 a.m.-12:20 p.m.—Windmill Island

12:30 p.m.—Bus leaves for Russ' Dutch Restaurant

1:00 p.m.-2:15 p.m.—Lunch at Russ' Dutch Restaurant

2:25 p.m.—Bus leaves for tulip fields

2:45 p.m.-4:15 p.m.—Veldheer's Tulip Fields

4:30 p.m.—Bus leaves for South Bend

6:15 p.m.—Arrive in South Bend



Church Staff**Pastor Daniel Cho**

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Office Manager Katie Robertson

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Financial Secretary Joan Horvath

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Custodian John McLean

jmmclean52@gmail.com

Music Director Dr. Siwon Kim

Siwon.Kim@BethelUniveristy.edu

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**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:* Carole Polk*Personnel:* Ron May*Worship and Music:* Vicky Garret**Board of Deacons:***Moderator:* Lynett Heritz

Michael Green, John Martz Jr.,

Jenn Frey, Teresa Primmer,

Juliana Bidlack

Book Club: Judy Green**Newsletter:** Katie Robertson**Prayer Chain:** Lynett Heritz, Darlene Seufert**PW:** Moderators—Chris Wukovits and Judy Green**Special Gifts:** Lynett Heritz**Book Club**

 Book Club: **April 13th** at 2:00 p.m. is *Lessons in Chemistry*
Host, Teresa Primmer
Leader, Darlene Seufert


 Book Club: **May 18th** at 2:00 p.m. is *Briar Club*
Host, Rose Marie Reif
Leader, Dyan Phillips

Thanks, Judy Green

TODDLER ROOM SCHEDULE**April...** Angela Bellinger**May...** Lynett Heritz

Teresa Primmer

**Please Send information
for the May Newsletter
to Katie Robertson by
April 17th.
fpcmishawaka@gmail.com
Thank you!**

Worship 10 am



Fellowship 11 am

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|---------|--|--|--|---|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 7:00 p.m. Choir | 4 | 5 10-Noon Upper Room workday |
| 6 <i>Communion</i> <i>5th Sunday in Lent</i> Greeter.. Usher..Ethan DeMaegd Bill Bellairs W.L. Chuck Wukovits PW meeting after worship | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 9-2 QoV | 12 National Grilled Cheese Sandwich Day  |
| 13 <i>Palm Sunday</i> Greeter.. Usher..Carole Polk Greg Phillips W.L. Lynett Heritz 2:00 p.m. Book Club Host, Teresa Primmer Leader, Darlene Seufert | 14 | 15 | 16 10-Noon Upper Room workday | 17 <i>Communion</i> <i>Maundy Thursday</i> * Newsletter Deadline * 7:30 p.m. Tenebrae Service | 18 <i>Good Friday</i>  | 19 |
| 20 <i>Communion</i> <i>Easter Sunday</i> Greeter.. Usher..Michael Green Carole Polk W.L. Mary Watt  | 21 7:00 p.m. Elizabeth Circle | 22 | 23 | 24 7:00 p.m. Ruth Circle | 25 | 26 |
| 27 <i>Gifts of Women</i> Greeter.. Usher..PW W.L. Judy Green Session meeting after worship | 28 | 29 | 30 International Jazz Day  | | | |