

# First Presbyterian Church

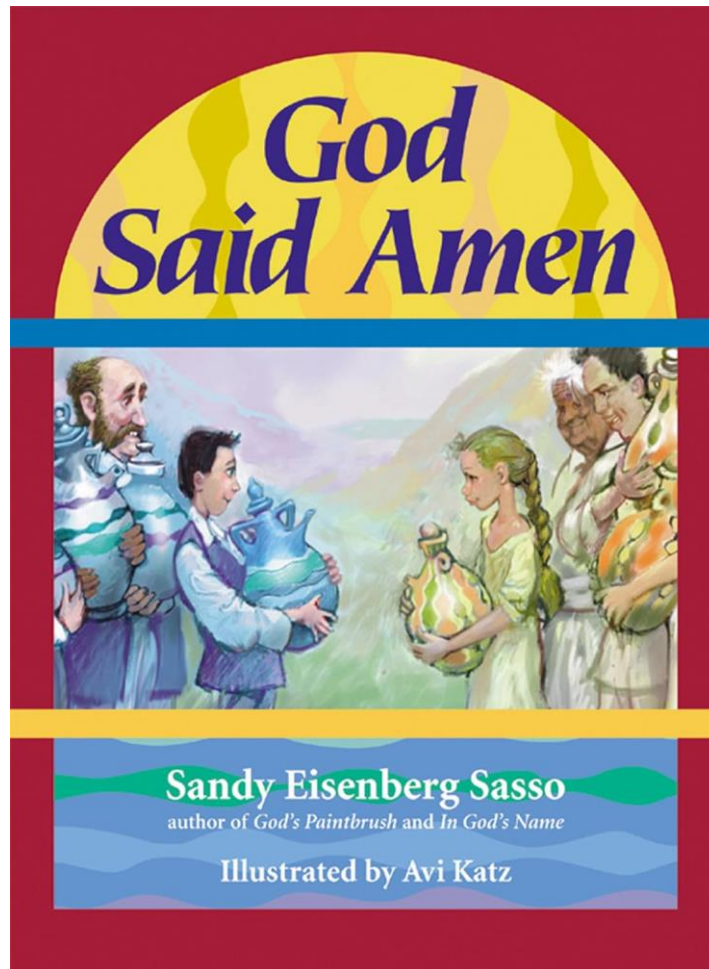
Ninth at Washington, Michigan City, Indiana

August 24, 2025

8:00 A.M. Service (Chapel)

10:00 A.M. (Sanctuary)

11<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost



## THE WORSHIP OF OUR LORD

† † †

*\* Indicates those who are able, please stand*

† † †

## WE GATHER BEFORE GOD

† WELCOME – WORSHIP – CELEBRATE – SERVE †

PRELUDE: “Prelude on ‘Mear’”

G. Martin

WELCOME and CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Doreen Sterba DeZur

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader	This is the Day
<b>People</b>	<b><i>This is the Day</i></b>
Leader	That the Lord has made!
<b>People</b>	<b><i>That the Lord has made!</i></b>
<b>Leader</b>	We will rejoice
<b>People</b>	<b><i>We will rejoice</i></b>
Leader	And be glad in it!
<b>People</b>	<b><i>And be glad in it!</i></b>
Leader	This is the day that the lord has made!
<b>People</b>	<b><i>We will rejoice and be glad in it!</i></b>
Leader	This is the day
<b>People</b>	<b><i>This is the day</i></b>
Leader	That the Lord has made!

\*OPENING HYMN #335 “Though I May Speak” (pew hymnal)

## WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD’S GRACE

### CALL TO CONFESSION: (Spoken the liturgist)

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. In humility and faith let us confess our sin to God.

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Please join in unison)

***Holy Creator of all there is, you have created us as your children and placed us in the world of your design. The world is filled with so many more people than just ourselves, yet we often build barriers that keep us from one another. Our self-centered actions can affect the people around us. God of all creation, open our eyes that we may see and value other people and the gifts that they bring, as well as the gifts that we need to offer them.***

### SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE (Please join in unison)

Our God is a God of second chances, repeated second chances, always allowing us to begin anew each day if we seek the opportunity of forgiveness. Friends, hear the good news; In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

### \*SINGING GOD’S GLORY: Gloria Patri “Glory to the Father” #567 (Please join in unison)

***Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen Amen Amen.***

## \*SHARING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us then forgive one another and pass the peace of Christ to each other. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: ***And also with you!***

(Worshippers are invited to turn to others and safely show signs of peace by, giving a nod, a smile, or a hand gesture of peace).

## Words from Holy Writings

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (Please join in unison)

***Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.***

## FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

In the course of a journey, Rabbi Yehudah Zevi of Stretyn learned that Rabbi Shimon of Yaroslav was traveling the same road from the opposite direction. He got out of his carriage and went to meet him. Now Rabbi Shimon, who had heard of Rabbi Yehudah Zevi's coming, got out of his carriage and went toward him. They greeted each other like brothers. Then Rabbi Yehudah Zevi said: "Now I understand the meaning of the popular saying: 'People can meet, but mountains never.' When people consider themselves just human beings, pure and simple, they can meet. But if they consider themselves lofty mountains, then they cannot meet."

(Adapted from *Tales of the Hasidim: Later Masters* by Martin Buber)

## NEW TESTAMENT READING

Luke 18:15-17

SERMON: "God Says Amen When We Build Each Other Up"

Rev. Doreen Sterba DeZur

\*CLOSING HYMN: #343 "Called as Partners in Christ's Service" (pew hymnal)

No Sunday school (summer break)

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Please join in unison)

***I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.***

## EXPRESSING OUR GRATITUDE IN OUR OFFERING

OFFERTORY: "Meditation on An Irish Air"

C. Simone

Many ways to give and give back  paypal.com **Click on link**

<https://www.paypal.com/fundraiser/112574644767835624/charity/3545525>

OR [Scan here:](#)



\*Doxology Song #592

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

OLD HUNDREDTH

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

MOMENTS OF SILENT PRAYER

A PASTORAL PRAYER

Our Lord's Prayer (together, using "sins, debts or trespasses")

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

**WE GO OUT IN GRATITUDE TO SERVE IN GOD'S NAME**

\*POSTLUDE "Festive Recessional"

*D. Paxton*

**SHARE OUR PRAYERS WITH:**

For each of us to share the Gospel with someone this week:

- Don Bowman, Dave Dougherty, Sandy Dougherty, Stan Holdcraft, Johanna Miller, Barb Reichert, Margo Shank, Mary Steider and Donna Wiseman for health needs
- Pray for our Military and their families.
- AmeriCorps and Peace Corps workers and their families.

**GUESTS AND VISITORS**

We are delighted to welcome you and worship with you today! **First time visitors**-we would love to connect with you. Please text "welcome" to 219-300-9867 and share your contact information with us.

**The CHANCEL FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God in honor of all serving on a committee to help our church run smoothly.

**SERVING TODAY**

Ministers  
Guest Preacher  
Organist  
Liturgist  
Greeter(s)  
Ushers  
Video and Sound Team

All Members of the Congregation  
Rev. Doreen Sterba DeZur  
Carol Garrett  
Deb Langley  
Jamie, Kash & KC Williams  
Sue Ransom  
Mark Smith, Rylie Thornton  
and Antoinette Jackson



**MEMORIALS/DONATION**

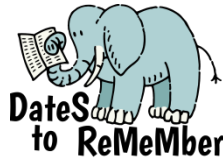
The Teens & Tweens fund received a donation from Claudia & Donn Weiler in honor of Jennifer Casper's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday.  
We are always thankful for your kindness.

## Enjoy your special day!

Aug 02 Rachel Langley  
 Aug 02 Delores Newman  
 Aug 03 Alexandria Koepke  
 Aug 04 JoAnn Callegari  
 Aug 07 Nadia Hoffman  
 Aug 08 Kyle-Pierre Nfr  
 Aug 09 Diane Hack  
 Aug 09 Johanna Miller  
 Aug 12 Carol Garrett  
 Aug 14 Kristin Gornstein  
 Aug 14 Jill Redfield  
 Aug 16 Darold G. Gieser Sr  
 Aug 17 Karl Roessler



Aug 22 Oliver Mosher  
 Aug 23 Maxwell Trowbridge  
 Aug 23 KC Williams  
 Aug 25 Randy Pals  
 Aug 25 Joanne Thorne  
 Aug 28 Heidi Leach  
 Aug 30 Michael Seibert  
 Sept 01 Alice Yacullo  
 Sept 02 Patricia Bracken  
 Sept 02 Elizabeth Choate  
 Sept 02 Stephanie Livingston Nfr



- ❖ Aug 24 Sunday 8 a.m. Worship service-Rev. Doreen Sterba DeZur
- ❖ Aug 24 Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Ed Class
- ❖ Aug 24 Sunday 10 a.m. Worship service-Rev. Doreen Sterba DeZur NOSY OFFERING
- ❖ Aug 25 **Monday Pastor on Sabbatical until September 2<sup>nd</sup>**
- ❖ Aug 29 Friday Office Closed
- ❖ Aug 30 Saturday 11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen
- ❖ Aug 31 Sunday 8 a.m. Worship service-Rev. Doreen Sterba DeZur
- ❖ Aug 31 Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Ed Class
- ❖ Sept 01 Monday **OFFICE CLOSED** Labor Day
- ❖ Sept 01 **Monday Pastor on Sabbatical until September 2<sup>nd</sup>**
- ❖ Sept 02 Tuesday Pastor returns to the office
- ❖ Sept 02 Tuesday 2 p.m. Personnel meeting
- ❖ Sept 03 Wednesday 4:30 p.m. Building & Grounds meeting
- ❖ Sept 05 Friday Office Closed-Pastor available by appointment
- ❖ Sept 06 Saturday 11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen
- ❖ Sept 07 Sunday **NO** 8 a.m. Worship service
- ❖ Sept 07 Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Ed Class
- ❖ Sept 07 Sunday 10 a.m. Worship service-Blessing of the backpacks
- ❖ Sept 07 Sunday Sunday School begins with Peggy McAnally & Michele Bartels
- ❖ Sept 07 Sunday after worship **ALL CHURCH PICNIC**
- ❖ Sept 08 **Monday Pastor off**
- ❖ Sept 09 Tuesday 10 a.m. 3B (New session thru Nov. 25<sup>th</sup>)
- ❖ Sept 10 Wednesday 10 a.m. Outreach meeting
- ❖ Sept 11 Thursday 10 a.m. 3B
- ❖ Sept 11 Thursday 1 p.m. Mission meeting
- ❖ Sept 12 Friday Office Closed-Pastor available by appointment
- ❖ Sept 13 Saturday 10 a.m. All Circle meeting in the EBL & Kitchenette
- ❖ Sept 13 Saturday 11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen
- ❖ Sept 14 Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Ed Class
- ❖ Sept 14 Sunday 10 a.m. Worship service
- ❖ Sept 14 Sunday Sunday School after sermon with Peggy McAnally & Michele Bartels
- ❖ Sept 14 Sunday Teens meet after worship
- ❖ Sept 15 **Monday Pastor off**
- ❖ Sept 16 Tuesday 10 a.m. 3B
- ❖ Sept 16 Tuesday 6 p.m. Finance "zoom" meeting

# CHURCH CHAT

“Any or all information is subject to change without notification”

## MESSAGE FROM THE CLERK OF SESSION

Dear Congregation Members,

After a month off for a little vacation of our own, your session elders met on Wednesday, August 20th to get back to business!

Some highlights of our meeting include as follows:

\*We were sad to say goodbye to Jose Soto who has moved to Michigan. Jose's absence on the Mission Committee as well as an elder on session has left a big hole. We all wish him the best in his new endeavors.

Also, sadly we didn't lose them as members, but Lauren White and Melanie Ledgerwood have stepped down as deacons. Though they are always ready with a helping hand when needed! We thank them both for the love and care they give our congregation. Some angels don't need titles! : )

\*We have been experiencing a lot of cars parking in our church parking areas as a result of the restaurants nearby. We are working to spread the word that especially during the time when our congregation is worshipping or having any special events, that non-members comply with the signs for church use only.

\*Faith formation training will be held on Saturday, September 6th -Jennifer Casper will send out time and location to participants.

We look forward to seeing everyone at Rally Sunday on September 7th, when we will have the blessing of the backpacks and welcome back Pastor Ericka and family.

Many blessings to you and yours,

Laura Kittle

Clerk of Session



## ALL CHURCH ANNUAL PICNIC

Our annual picnic and welcome home to Pastor Ericka and her family will be at Creek Ridge Park on September 7<sup>th</sup> at 1p.m. You won't want to miss this one!!

If you are bringing a dish to pass, the sign-up sheet is on the door of the Edith Boyd Lounge. When signing up, **PLEASE** let us know what you plan on bringing as in dessert, casserole, vegetables, fruit etc. Furnishing that information will help us to know what might still be needed so we have a nice

variety of food and hopefully assure we won't have 20 pans of baked beans. 😊

We look forward to seeing you at the picnic. Thank you.

## OUTREACH NEEDS

We are almost out of individual tissue packets. If you would like to contribute a package, please give them to the Sunday usher or any member of the Outreach committee-Michele,

Judy, Marilyn, or Peggy. Thank you for your help.



## PW FOOD OF THE MONTH PROJECT

We are collecting bottles of Italian, Ranch, and French salad dressings now until the end of September for Nest Community Shelter. Thank you for your contributions.





### **THE CHANCEL FLOWERS**

We have open dates August 31, October 5, October 12, November 9, and November 23. If you are interested in any of these dates, please contact the office. The cost is \$35.00.

Thank you.

### **2025 TX Hill Country Flooding**

Forms are on the usher's table and will be emailed with the weekly bulletins.



Our 2025 Coffee Hour sign-up chart is posted on the Edith Boyd Lounge door, ready for you along with your family, friends, or committee to pick a date to sponsor coffee hour.

Remember, it doesn't have to be extravagant. Coffee, a drink for the kids, and a treat is all that's needed. Most of the year is covered by the Women's Circles, Deacons, and the

Mission Committee but every other third Sunday and the fifth Sundays need volunteers. It

would be really great if one group would volunteer for all the 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays, there are 4. If you are willing to do this, see Jeanette Tyrrell. In the meantime please consider serving your fellow congregants by signing up for a coffee hour Sunday.

### **FEATURED ARTIST**

Artist, Diane Grams earned a BA in Fine Art (1981) at Indiana University Bloomington where she studied under Chicago artist Robert Barnes; and a Master's degree (2001) and PhD (2004) in cultural sociology at Loyola University Chicago where she was awarded a Schmidt Dissertation Fellowship for her research into Chicago art networks. She is an author of two academic books: [Producing Local Color: Art Networks In Ethnic Chicago](#) (University of Chicago Press 2010) and [Entering Cultural Communities: Diversity and Change in the Nonprofit Arts](#) (Rutgers University Press, 2008) and the award winning academic article, [Freedom and Cultural Consciousness: Black Working Class Parades in Post-Katrina New Orleans](#). (Journal of Urban Affairs, 2013) She is married to photographer Timothy D. Lace. They live in northwest Indiana where they share Somersault Studio 12, a studio in St. Mary's Studios, a former elementary school in Michigan City, IN.

Be sure to visit the Edith Boyd Lounge to witness her artwork and read more about Diane.

If you are interested, most of her pieces on display are for sale. There are eight prints of various sizes located on the table outside of the library that are "cash & carry" for \$20 each. If you would like to purchase one, please bring it into the office along with your payment. Thank you.

### **MICHIGAN CITY MESSIAH**

Hallelujah Gala will be on Saturday, September 20, 2025 at the Senior Center located at 2 On The Lake, Michigan City, IN. For details, see the flyer on the bulletin board outside the Edith Boyd Lounge or visit [MCMessiah.com](http://MCMessiah.com) or [tickets@mcmessiah.com](mailto:tickets@mcmessiah.com). Tickets go on sale August 1.

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For prayer requests  
Contact Brian Spiece at  
[jspiece@hotmail.com](mailto:jspiece@hotmail.com)

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Rev. Dr. Ericka Parkinson Kilbourne  
Mobile – 219-380-6566  
Office – 219-879-4501 Ext 203  
Fax – 219-879-4503  
E-mail [erickapk@fpcmicity.org](mailto:erickapk@fpcmicity.org)

† † †

Diane Yettaw, Office Administrator  
Office – 219-879-4501 Ext 201  
E-mail – [dyettaw@fpcmicity.org](mailto:dyettaw@fpcmicity.org)

† † †

Web Site Address – <http://www.fpcmicity.org>  
YouTube – First Presbyterian Church Michigan City  
Facebook – First Presbyterian Church Michigan City  
WiFi password: 1holyGod!

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