My Dear Faith Family,

As I write you now, LP (Little Person) is kicking with life, making my elbows jump and flop while I type. I’m in my ninth month of pregnancy – the final days of preparation for the arrival of this miracle. By the time you read this, the miracle could very well be born (let’s hope, for Jeff’s sake. He will otherwise be trapped by a very crabby wife!)

What I want to say, more than anything else, is this – Thank You.

Pregnancy has been a pilgrimage unlike any I’ve experienced. My heart and body have been stretched in ways I never anticipated, especially in light of my father’s sudden death in August. Jeff and I cannot dig deeply enough in expressing how grateful we are to many of you for walking alongside us in the journey, supporting us in each step with tangible, emotional, and prayerful expressions of encouragement. You’ve increased our joy, offering us words of care, countless loving prayers, a nursery that is bursting to the seams, and the amazing gift of an educational fund that will bless our child for years and in ways beyond our imagination. Your kind, gracious impact will forever be imprinted on this child.

Despite the pain and difficulty of the time you read this, the miracle, the baby we will welcome, is a miracle. It is a miracle that this child was born to Jeff and me, to be the witness to the beauty of pain, of being stretched in new ways, and holy in so many ways. In Advent, God instills such a rich and meaningful time, heavy and holy in so many ways. In Advent, God instills within us once again the beauty of waiting, hoping, and trusting for a miracle. And yet, God also surrounds us with the beauty of pain, of being stretched in new ways as we make room in our hearts and lives for the miracle.

Last year, as I preached about Mary, I focused on her painful preparation. Mary’s very self embodied both the pain and promise we hold each Advent. As she became a womb for God, she allowed herself – physically and spiritually – to be pushed, pulled, and stretched to her outer rim.

And you and I are too. This Advent, God will ask you to be a womb for Christ – to be a place where Christ’s love, light, and promise can grow and be born. You and I will be asked to love to the outermost edges of ourselves, to extend grace beyond that of which we feel capable.

We will spread our souls with difficult family members we prepare to sit across from at the Christmas dinner table. We will care for children that push us to a whole new extremity of selflessness. We will grit our teeth to return a difficult phone call, feeling the sides of our soul groan with growth. And in the pain, we pray God will enlarge us, and in the swelling, that God will dwell in us.

This is both the pain and the promise of Advent. It can be when we’re most weary and hurting that God grows within us - in the months when we’re stretched so thin, when we’re facing change or loss or challenge, when we are aching for the miracle that has yet to arrive.

As you enter these final weeks of 2014, holding whatever it is this year has wrought in your heart and life, know that Christ desires to dwell in you, to grow in you, to transform you in ways you cannot anticipate. You are making room for a miracle.

With my love, prayers, and gratitude in Christ,

– Arianne

ADVENT AT A GLANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 30</td>
<td>First Sunday of Advent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 3</td>
<td>7:00pm, PW Advent by Candlelight</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 14</td>
<td>10:00am &quot;The Backward Christmas Pageant&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 17</td>
<td>7:00pm, Blue Christmas Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 21</td>
<td>10:50am, Handbell Choir Prelude</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 24</td>
<td>CHRISTMAS EVE</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4:00pm, Family Christmas Eve Service</td>
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<td></td>
<td>KLM Christmas Eve Celebration</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:30pm Festival Prelude Music</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10:00pm Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 25</td>
<td>MERRY CHRISTMAS –building closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 31</td>
<td>NEW YEAR’S EVE –Church Office closed at noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 1</td>
<td>HAPPY NEW YEAR, 2015</td>
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</tbody>
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Highlights from the September and October Session Meetings

All Session meetings begin with a light supper, sharing of joys and concerns and devotions led by the Elders of the Month.

September 8, 2014

Thom Hofrichter, Managing Artistic Director, FPT, talked with us for a few minutes about the history of our theater, the importance of offering plays not presented elsewhere in Fort Wayne, and the influence of theater attendance in bringing new members to our church. Thom asked that we support the theater ministry by purchasing season tickets and encouraging friends to come.

Jim Lobsiger, Building and Grounds, reported that Rev. Bill Hayworth, Smock Adult Ministries, has requested a new van. The committee will look into the cost of purchasing a van. Repair of a duct on the church roof is in progress now. Ken Lee reported that the KLM congregation is planning an all-male led service next Sunday. A speaker from Concordia Seminary will deliver the sermon, and men in the congregation will sing in the choir and serve as ushers. The Adult Education Committee chaired by David McCants is hosting a month-long hunger forum with a presentation each Wednesday in October. The forums will be held in the Chapel at 6:30pm, beginning on Oct. 1.

Susanne Moorman Rowe introduced a maternity and paternity policy in June, and introduced it tonight for approval by session. Approved.

The Education Committee chaired by David McCants is hosting a month-long hunger forum with a presentation each Wednesday in October.

Elder Lobsiger of the Building & Grounds Committee reported on our church’s plans to participate in the Night of Lights event on Thanksgiving eve. Elder Lobsiger of the Building & Grounds Committee announced a rebate of $1541 from Momper because of some duct work mishaps in their installation. It was M/P to approve Sherrie Steiner as a member of the Missions Committee. It was M/P to approve Steve Oswalt and Tim Byer as members of the Building & Grounds Committee.

Betty Alice Almeida, Mary Schneider, and Jean Linville were approved as commissioners to the November 5 meeting of Presbytery. The Personnel Committee will be responsible for greeters in November and the Finance Committee in December.

It was noted that requests for funds by a committee that are not covered by their budget must first be approved by the Finance Committee before requesting Session approval. A note from the family of Rev. John Scott was read. Treasurer’s Report—David Lundy noted a significant lag in contributions of ($129,754). Currently total income is $1,198,316 and expenditures $1,314,313. The Treasurer will send a reminder letter to church members who are significantly behind in their pledge obligations. Rev. Jeff and Arianne Lehn are at the hospital anticipating the birth of their first baby. Rev. Dr. An will be joining the Committee On Ministry of the Whitewater Valley Presbytery in December. It was recommended that in the future new members be received on a Sunday morning when they can be the primary focus of activity.

October 14, 2014

Elder Ruble of the Communications Committee reported on our church’s plans to participate in the Night of Lights event on Thanksgiving eve. Elder Lobsiger of the Building & Grounds Committee announced a rebate of $1541 from Momper because of some duct work mishaps in their installation. It was M/P to approve Sherrie Steiner as a member of the Missions Committee. It was M/P to approve Steve Oswalt and Tim Byer as members of the Building & Grounds Committee.

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Elders of the Month

The designated Elders of the Month are on call to hear the concerns of congregation members, to assist with Baptisms and to help with other worship related events as necessary.

The Elders of the Month for November are

Cindi Odle, 267-9960, and David Scott, 432-8810

The Elders of the Month for December are

Bob Beatty, 438-3991, and Susanne Rowe, 486-6700

Hospital Visitation and Clergy on Call Schedule:

Our three Clergy regularly visit rehab patients as well as those in hospitals. The pastors on call in November and December are:

November 2–8 Rev. Hal Thomas
November 9–15 Rev. Youngsoo An
November 16–22 Rev. Hal Thomas
November 23–29 Rev. Youngsoo An
Nov. 30–Dec. 6 Rev. Hal Thomas
December 7–13 Rev. Youngsoo An
December 14–20 Rev. Jeff Lehn
December 21–27 Rev. Hal Thomas

How We Know If You’re in the Hospital: Every weekday morning, a member of our staff calls each area hospital, gives our special code number, and receives a list of those admitted in the last 24 hours who have listed First Presbyterian as their church. These names are passed on to the Pastor on call and to the Deacons, and the patients are visited as soon as possible. Unfortunately, if a person is admitted in an emergency situation, we do not receive this information even when we call the hospital. So, if your family member or friend has been hospitalized and you’re not sure if we know about it, please call the Church Office, 426-7421 x100, and give us the name. We would much rather have it twice than not at all. Also, please remember to notify us when someone is moved from a hospital to long term care or a rehab facility. Thank you.
Angels Among Us

Many of us have been touched by angels: those living among us, reaching out to us, lending a hand. This column is an opportunity for individuals to recognize and show appreciation for their angel(s) in a detailed or anonymous way. FPC welcomes your submissions to the ‘Angels Among Us’ column. Please e-mail submissions to lfoltz@firstpres-fw.org or leave a note at the Church Office for Luci Foltz.

On behalf of the Finance Team, a special thank you to Sondra Mergenthal and Elizabeth Larrabee for co-chairing this year’s stewardship campaign, and to Dick Florea for his help with the reservation and commitment cards! Also a huge thank you to Nan Bloodgood, Margarita Cardona, Norma Christon, Beth Freistroffer, Jo Furr, Michele Kemery, Betsy Martiny, Kathy Miller, Sandy Niles, Bill Patterson, Jimmy Timmons, and Shannon Timmons for creating such a beautiful and tasty Commitment Sunday Luncheon; and, to Jennifer Shaw and the awesome youth for the serving and clean up help! If we have forgotten someone, please know how much you are appreciated!

Thank you for the reception and many cards for my 30th anniversary of working here at the church. There truly are angels among us.

—Jo Furr

I received a very nice thank you to the congregation from a school administrator the other day. The occasion was a delivery of clothes and toiletries for needy public school children. At the same time a teacher was leaving with two small elementary school children. Each was swirling a plastic bag and bouncing about as high as they were tall. No need to guess what this congregation really merits. Thank you for continuing to donate. —Annelie Collie

To Our Church Family: During the last 5 months Harmony has been very sick. Through a lot of doctors and tests, we have finally found the problem. Harmony is feeling almost back to normal. Thanks Be To God! Not having a church family before, we are overcome with heartfelt emotion for the many cards, phone calls, flowers, food, prayers and genuine concern. This has left us full of love! I can’t say enough how much a simple card or well wishes can affect my family’s spirit in our time of need. You have lifted us up in ways that we did not expect or could even imagine. Thank You God and First Presbyterian Church for wrapping your love around us! —Bill Patterson

Remember Family and Friends During this Holiday Season
Throughout the four weeks of Advent our Sanctuary and Chapel are made beautiful with a variety of Christmas decorations, made possible through monetary gifts given in loving memory of family and friends. You may participate by using the Chancel Guild envelope in your offering envelope box, or by using the envelopes available in the pews. The memorialized names, with the names of the donors appear in both of the Christmas Eve worship bulletins. Deadline is Sunday, December 14.

ANTHEMS: November & December

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Sermon Title</th>
<th>Composer</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 2</td>
<td>In the Riffed Rock</td>
<td>Jonah Kliewer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 9</td>
<td>Here I Am, Lord</td>
<td>Ovid Young</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 16</td>
<td>Sing to the Lord of Harvest</td>
<td>Healey Willan</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 23</td>
<td>Cantique de Jean Racine</td>
<td>Gabriel Fauré</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 30</td>
<td>O Come, O Come Immanuel</td>
<td>John Rutter</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 7</td>
<td>Sing Now With Great Rejoicing</td>
<td>C. Marvin Fewell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 14</td>
<td>Of the Father’s Love Begotten</td>
<td>Paul Wohlgemuth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 21</td>
<td>In the Bleak Midwinter</td>
<td>Robert Lau</td>
</tr>
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Printed Copies of most Sermons are available upon request (usually by Tuesday). Copies of past sermons are also available. You may request that a copy of a recent sermon be mailed to you by calling the Church Office, 426-7421 x100. If you wish, we will put your name on our list to automatically receive the sermon by mail each week.

Audio Copies of Recent Sermons are available on our website, www.firstpres-fw.org. Go to Media & Resources / Latest Sermons.

We have a dedicated Prayer Room! Room 300 is a quiet space for YOU. The Prayer Room is open during regular church office hours for anyone to come in, to pray to, or listen for God. Please use this wonderful room, and more importantly, enjoy some time alone with our God!

Welcome Baby Ministry: We at First Pres are excited to welcome new babies into this wonderful world and our Church Family. If you are pregnant or adopting, please contact Jennifer Shaw, 426-7421 x127 or jenshaw15@gmail.com. We look forward to providing the families of new babies with home-cooked meals, support from other moms and small gifts from the church.

Our clergy are off on Mondays, with the pastor on call being available for emergencies. If you need immediate assistance, please contact the Church Office, 426-7421. See the weekly bulletin for the most up-to-date on call information.

Attention Committee Chairs: Annual Committee Reports are due no later than January 5, 2015. Sooner is better! Please submit your reports to Luci Foltz at lfoltz@firstpres-fw.org (preferred) or leave a typed copy marked Attn: Luci in the Church Office. Copies of last year’s annual report are available for reference in the Church Office or call Luci, 426-7421 x113. Thank you.

Hearing Assistance: Our Chapel, Sanctuary, McKay Hall and Theater are equipped with the “Hearing Loop” system. Set your hearing aid to the “T-coil” or “telephone” setting to access the system or ask an usher for a loop headset.
From the Deacon’s Corner

Deacons “Making A Connection” Congregational Care Ministry
A new ministry regarding congregational care has been developed by the Deacons’ Visitation Team, Kay Lobsiger, Chairperson.

Starting this month approximately half the congregation will be receiving phone calls from deacons, as each active deacon has been assigned members to call. These contacts will initially be made to those who are seventy years of age and older. A determination will be made as to how they are, how the deacons can be praying for them, and needs the deacons can provide. Contacts will be made three times a year.

This ministry will supplement our current Deacon Friends ministry. When a deacon learns of a member in need of more care, he or she can be assigned to a Deacon Friend. In addition, the Pastors will be notified to follow up when serious concerns are discovered through the contacts.

This ministry is a step in the direction to be more inclusive when seeking out those in the congregation who may be in need, sick, friendless, or in distress. It is also a wonderful opportunity to become a more connected, caring family of faith.

Our interest in carrying out this ministry is to be more proactive in fulfilling the deacon duties as called for in the Book of Order: “To minister to those who are in need, to the sick, to the friendless, and to any who may be in distress.”

Please welcome a call from a deacon for a pleasant, meaningful experience.

—Wendell Cree, Deacon Moderator

Meals for our Convalescents: Would you like to be part of a team that occasionally cooks a meal for one of our convalescents? The Deacons are reviving a program our church used to have that provided this caring service. We are starting with 19 cooks, enough for six teams. We would like to have as many teams as possible to make the project doable and sustainable. Please join us! Contact Sarah Savage, 482-5112 or savage2426@gmail.com with questions or to sign up.

Rescue Mission Meal: The November Mission Meal will be prepared and served on November 16. The December Mission Meal will be prepared and served on December 21. Watch for menu announcements in weekly bulletins. Cooks and servers are always needed. Please sign up in the Church Office if you are able to participate, or call 426-7421 x100. Your faithfulness to this ministry is always appreciated.

Let Us Rejoice with You: If you would like to allow our church family to rejoice with you about a landmark anniversary or birthday, please send the information to Luci Foltz, 426-7421 x113 or holtz@firstpres-fw.org at least two weeks before the date of the event. Thank you.

The Third Sunday of Each Month is a day of glorious generosity at First Pres. People donate to the monthly food drive, bring the food they’ve prepared for the Rescue Mission meal and drop their coins in the children’s Bucket Collection. Please take a minute today to mark all of the “third Sundays” on your calendar, so you can come prepared to share. Thank you.

Annual Thanksgiving Bake Sale: We need bakers and buyers. Love to bake? We need you. Hate to bake? You need us. Buy your Thanksgiving Dessert at the Children’s Committee bake sale on Sunday, November 23, 8:30am -12:30pm. All baked goods should be brought to the Small Dining Room by 9:00am on Sunday morning.

Blue Christmas Service: Wednesday, December 17, 7:00pm, in the Chapel. This is a service that offers time for reflection and meditation for those for whom the holidays are difficult. You are invited to stay for a time of fellowship, with light refreshments, following the service. No reservations are needed.

The First Presbyterian Church Suicide Bereavement Support Group: First Presbyterian Church is hosting a suicide survivors bereavement support group; a place where those who have lost a loved one to suicide can find comfort and support and a safe place to share their experiences with others who really understand. Meetings are held on the second Sunday of each month after the 11:00am Worship Service in Room 300. The group is led by Lea Ann Powers, American Foundation for Suicide Prevention Facilitator, and cofacilitated by FPC members.

November & December Presby-Day Plans: Smock Senior Ministries Presents: “PRESBY-DAY” on the third Thursday of each month, 10:00am to 2:00pm at First Presbyterian Church.

Presby-Day – Nov. 20, 2014 – Presenter - local artist and First Presbyterian member Patty Hatfield speaking on “Tiffany Glass” 10:00am– 2:00pm in McKay Hall. Call 426-7421-ext 132 with your reservations

December Presby-Day will be on Sunday, December 14. Join us for the 2:00pm matinee performance of the Christmas Potpourri. Make your reservations through SMOCK for the performance and dessert after the performance. SMOCK is offering this to you for $5.00, but reservations must be made through the SMOCK office. 426-7421 x132.


2014 Angel Tree
The Christmas Season will be upon us before we know it and First Presbyterian Church will once again be sponsoring our annual Angel Tree. This year we will have approximately 150 Angels available for your selection; ages newborn through age 12. Eligible Angels come to us from the East Wayne Street Center, Amistad Cristiana, Wellspring Social Services and Boys & Girls Club.

Angels will be available for selection in the Small Dining Room beginning on Sunday, November 16. Individual Angels or families of Angels are available. Angel cards will indicate if the child is an individual or part of a larger family. You can select an individual Angel, one or more members of a family or an entire family.

As in previous years, a sign up board will be available next to the Angel Tree for selections done during the week; however, if you do take an Angel during the week, please be sure to include the Angel's number, your name and phone number in the appropriate areas on the sign-up sheets on the board. This our only way of knowing which angels you have selected. If you are planning to select an angel or family of angels for your place of business, please let us know so that we can coordinate the distribution of multiple gifts.

If you would rather make a monetary contribution and have Angel Tree committee members do the shopping and wrapping, you can drop off your contribution at the Angel Tree table in the Small Dining Room on Sunday mornings November 16 through December 7 or you can include it with your offering during church services. Please make sure that you place your contribution in an envelope and designate it for the 2014 Angel Tree.

We would like to provide each Angel with a sweater, blouse or shirt, slacks and at least one toy. Additional items requested are also welcomed. Gifts should be new, unused items and wrapped. If you select an Angel but are not able to provide all of the requested items, please let the committee member know when you return your gift so that we can purchase the items you are not able to provide, using the monetary gifts we receive each giving season. If you are not able to wrap your gifts, please let us know so that the committee can assist you with that effort. All gifts need to be returned no later than Sunday, December 7.

It is prayerful hoped that all of our Angels will be selected by the congregation this season as the need is greater than ever.

2013 Angel Tree thank you notes and cards will be on display on the Small Dining Room center bulletin board in November, take a look and hear how much this means to the children and their families first hand.

If you have questions or would like to help, please contact Janice Roddy at 493-2511 or Beth Marks at 494-1227.

Reports from the Missions Committee:

Terrific Kids Against Hunger Success
The Missions Committee would like to give a heartfelt thanks to all who volunteered to support our recent Kids Against Hunger project for needy children in Haiti. Over 130 volunteers from ages 9 to 90 packed 25,000 meals in a few hours, and McKay Hall was literally filled with God's energy across the teams. This was one of our first hands-on projects under a new spirit of Missions here at First Presbyterian, and its success is empowering the committee to consider formalizing it as a recurring event. We are definitely planning to do more of this kind of hands-on effort and involve the congregation in this energy-filled way. Anyone with ideas for similar projects, local or international, is more than welcome to suggest them to the committee. Thank you!

Third Sunday Food Drive Needs Help
On a related hunger mission note, we need the congregation's help. Many are not aware that the majority of the support donated to our Third Sunday Food Drive has come from a pair of very generous, non-member donors who have literally provided a small truckload of food each month to supplement individual donations. Their contributions grew over the years to a value approaching $4,000 per month. Our significant generosity to the community with the Third Sunday Food Drive has largely been fueled by this support. Circumstances have suddenly compelled that generous support to stop, effective immediately. The Missions Committee has the means to carry the Third Sunday Food Drive through the end of this year at its current level of support and is re-allocating budget for that purpose. The committee does not, however, have the means to carry this level with next year's budget. Given First Presbyterian's mission focus on hunger, we would like to sustain this great Third Sunday Food Drive at a meaningful level and continue to make a difference in the community.

Please prayerfully consider what you can do to help sustain this hunger project and continue to help many in need. All of the food goes to local needs which are growing.

Sunday Food Drive needs which are growing.

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속사람이 강건하게

요즘 한국에서는 빈번하게 일어나는 싱크홀(Sink Hole) 현상 때문에 무척 고통을 쌓이고 있습니다. 정부의 발표에 의하면 지하철 공사로 인하여 기반이 약해져서 일어나는 일이라고 합니다. 싱크홀 현상이 무서운 이유가 있습니다. 눈에 보이는 멀쩡한데, 어느 날 갑자기 땅이 깨져 버리고, 그 결과 모든 것이 다 무너져 버리기 때문입니다. 그래서 많은 사람들이 최근에는 눈에 보이는 건물보다 보이지 않는 기반, 즉 땅의 기초에 더 많은 관심을 가지게 되었다고 합니다. 싱크홀 현상으로 보면서 우리의 속사람에 관하여 관심을 갖게 된 것은 어찌 보면 지금까지 당연한 일일리지도 모르겠습니다. 왜냐하면 우리들 역시 걸사람에 대하여만 관리하고 속사람에 대하여서는 관리를 가볍게 한다면, 어느 날 갑자기 무너지는 신세를 당하기 어려워집니다.

속사람이 중요하다는 것을 알면서도 속사람이 눈에 잘 보이지 않는 것이 아니기 때문에 모든 사람이 걱정하는 이유가 있습니다. 속사람은 구체적으로 무엇을 말하는 것인가 하는 점입니다. 정신, 내면 세계, 자존심, 영적 관심, 여기까지로 설명할 수 있겠으나 이것 역시 우리에게 분명히 다가오는 느낌이 없어서 더욱 그러합니다. 속사람은 “내가 혼자 있을 때에나 혼자 생각하는 생각, 행동하는 태도, 말하는 습관”을 의미합니다. 다른 사람과 관계 속에서 내가 하는 말이나 생각, 행동이 아니라, 나 혼자의 말과 행동, 생각이 나의 속사람이라고 보면 정확합니다.

속사람에 대한 관심은 속사람을 강하게 하는 것에서 시작됩니다. 첫번째는 필요한 영양제를 먹는 것입니다. 걸사람에 관한 영양제는 쉽게 구입할 수 있지만, 속사람에 대한 영양제는 두가지로 정해져 있습니다. 신약과 구약입니다. 즉 하나님의 말씀을 먹어야 한다는 것입니다. “하나님의 말씀은 살았고 운동력이 있어…예리하여 혼과 영과 및 관절과 골수를 쥐러 조개가 까지 한다”(히브리서 4:12)고 성경은 말씀하고 있습니다. 즉 우리의 내면을 살리는데 있어서 특효약이 바로 성경입니다. 그러니 속사람에 관하여 관심이 있는 사람은 속사람을 살리는 특효약인 성경을 먹어야 합니다.

걸사를 강화시키기 위하여 운동이 필요하듯이 속사람을 강화 시키는 운동법이 있습니다. 그것은 바로 하나님과 가까이 하는 것입니다. 가까이 한다는 개념을 저는 단순하게 물리적으로 이해하기를 희망합니다. 하나님과의 거리를 가깝게 한다는 말씀입니다. 교회의 거리를 가깝게 하고, 성경책을 가까이 하고, 구체하는 것을 가까이 한다면, 그 사람은 하나님과 가까운 사람일 것입니다.

새로운 해에 준비하는 시간입니다. 다가오는 새해에는 속사람이 강한 사람이 되기를 노력을 붙습니다. 그는 따뜻한 사람들이 되기를 노력을 붙습니다. 교회에서 그 일을 도우려고 합니다. 여러분들의 삶속에, 성경을 읽는 시간이 많아지게 준비하고, 또한 하나님의 말씀을 더 많이 거리를 가깝게 할 수 있도록 지원할 예정입니다. “그의 영광의 풍성함을 따라 그의 성령으로 말미암아 너희 속사를 능력으로 강건하게 하시오며”(에페소서 3:16)
속사람이 강해져서 참다운 복을 누리는 새해를 맞이하시기를 축원합니다.

행복한 목사 안녕수 드림.
Healthier and Stronger Inner Self

I’ve learned that “Sinkhole” phenomena have happened quite a few times in Korea and are very serious problems in the country. The government tried to explain that sinkholes happen when the base under the roads becomes weaker after subway or underground construction. There is a reason why sinkholes can be terrifying. The surface could look absolutely fine, and then suddenly the earth disappears, swallowing everything with it, leaving nothing but a large gaping hole. That is why people started paying more attention to the foundations of buildings and roads which we can’t see rather than focusing on the parts in the open that we can see. I feel it is only natural that we ought to be interested in our inner selves after we’ve faced our sinkhole problems. Hopefully, we’ve learned that we might fall into our own body-sinkhole if we don’t take good care of our inner self.

It is easy to neglect what we don’t see even though we realize how important it is to cultivate our inner self. Can we mention something tangible and concrete from our inner self? We can say we have our mind, our own private world, pride, and spiritual concerns... many, but still these do not appeal to us vividly like the external objects we can see. Our inner self is the way we think, the way we behave and the very habit of the way we speak when we are alone, when nobody sees us. I am quite certain that inner self is who I really am when I am completely alone, not when I am being seen by others, not the way I behave when I am conscious of others, not the way I talk when I know others are looking at me.

Do I want a healthier and stronger inner self? I most certainly do. I believe we can start by paying a lot of attention to our inner self. The first method is to eat nutritional supplements. We can easily get many different multivitamins for the outer bodies, but there are only two nutritional supplements for our inner self and those are the Old and New Testaments. We must ingest God’s words. The Bible says, “For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.” (Hebrew 4:12) The best medicine for a healthier and stronger inner self is the Bible. Anyone who would like his/her inner self alive must consume the best spiritual diet, the Bible.

Just as we must exercise for a strong and healthy body, we must take up a good exercise program for a strong inner self, and that is being close to God. I like the idea of simple physical closeness to God. Without any complications, like a child, we simply walk closer and closer to God. When we make an effort to be closer to the church, the Bible and salvation, we become closer to God.

Already, it is time to prepare for the new year. We can have strong inner self this coming year if we put our minds to it. As a pastor, I would like to help anyone who wants to strengthen his or her inner self. We would like to support anyone who wants to spend more time reading the Bible and work hard to shorten the distance from God. “I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being.” (Ephesians 3:16) I pray all of you will be blessed with a healthier and stronger inner self in all of the years to come.

—Your Happy Minister,
Youngsoo An

Day School Ministry News
November/December 2014

The Day School has had a busy fall saying goodbye to school-agers after a fun filled summer as well as saying goodbye to preK and Kindergarten children who began their elementary school years. We also welcomed many new children and families to our program.

The Cookie Jar booth at the Johnny Appleseed Festival was a great success, bringing in over $4000 profit. This money will be used for major curriculum purchases as well as fund the cost of the 20 hours of professional development all day school staff must have each year. Thank you to all of you who helped with the baking and selling of 12,000 cookies. This year we had left over molasses cookies (a first!) and they were shared with the Fort Wayne Community Center and the Rescue Mission. They have also been shared with the staff and congregation!

The Cookie Dough sale was held during October and the dough will be delivered Tuesday November 11. It will be available for pickup after 12:00pm. You will be contacted about payment, if you ordered but have not yet paid. Thank you again for your support of the Day School Ministry.

November and December are fun active times for the children and staff. The children will be singing for the Presby Day crowd during their November gathering. In December the children will share a Christmas pageant with their families. It is always fun to watch the young children show off their songs and fingerplays. We never know what to expect!

In January the Day School will be offering Toddler care for children 15 to 24 months. We will also be able to offer care for school-agers when FWCS closes due to weather issues. If you think you may have a need for either program, contact Marj Sapp at 426-7421 x108 for more information.

Spring Ahead—Looking Back

As we look back for the first time, from the starting line in April to the finish line in October, our travels have taken us across three continents, many unusual islands and across great bodies of water while making many interesting stop overs during the past 30 weeks. Our focus was to reach our goal of 24,902 miles, taking us across great bodies of water while making many interesting stop overs during the past 30 weeks. Our focus was to reach our goal of 24,902 miles, taking us around the world, so we kept moving forward, never looking back.

One hundred twenty members committed to help reach that numerical goal. That goal was met and congratulations to each of you. What an awesome accomplishment!

But even more important, as was introduced in April, this was “an effort to worship God through care of the body” “a church wide effort to exercise, eat well and live a balanced life”. “How we feed, exercise, rest, and use our bodies are all ways we can worship God.”

Reverend Arianne, Greg Odle and I hope Spring Ahead was an incentive to reach your personal goal regarding these efforts. Wendell Cree
A Lesson Before Dying
by Romulus Linney, from the novel by Ernest J. Gaines
director Thom Hofrichter.
Nov. 1, 2*, 7, 8, 2014

In 1948 backwoods Louisiana, an innocent black man is convicted of killing a white store owner and is sentenced to die. Because his attorney attempts to mitigate his sentence by arguing he only has the sense of a hog, the man decides to behave like one. A local schoolteacher tries to convince him he is a man, not an animal. As a result, they both regain their dignity as men. This celebrated novel's wrenching power lies in the grace the characters muster as their defense against being treated as less than human.

Christmas Potpourri
Songs And Stories For The Season
sketches by Jack Cantey
music compiled by Jim Mergenthal
director Thom Hofrichter
December 4**, 5, 6, 7*, 12, 13, 14*, 19, 20, 21*, 2014

A joyous combination of songs, both sacred and secular, as well as sketches, both comic and heartfelt, that will put you in the holiday spirit. If you loved our Christmas Revue in 2013, you won’t want to miss Christmas Potpourri in 2014.

Please join us for brunch before the 2:00pm Matinee on Sunday, December 7.
Menu: BBQ pulled pork sandwich (vegetarian option, black bean patties, available), potato salad, cole slaw, cheesecake (w/ coffee, water, hot tea) $7.00.
Brunch available with prepaid reservations through the FPT Box Office.

Theater Hours
All evening performances at 7:30pm
Sunday matinees at 2:00pm (Check each play for dates)
Box Office Hours: 11:00am to 2:00pm, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and one hour prior to performance at the theater
Festival seating (first come, first served)
House opens 30 minutes before curtain
** Preview performance *Sunday Performance, 2:00pm

Ticket Prices
General Admission $20
Seniors (over 65) $18
Thursday previews $10
Group rates: 20 or more $15
Tickets are available online at: firstpresbyteriantheater.com

Free Tickets For Students
Tomorrow’s Audiences Today is a program to encourage students to see theater. Thirty free tickets for every performance* are available to full-time students (grade school, high school, and university). Free tickets must be reserved through the box office, or our website firstpresbyteriantheater.com
*Does not apply to FPT’s Christmas shows.

Front-Of-House Volunteers needed.
Get to the theater 1 hour before curtain time, and work the intermission as well, and you get to see the show for free. In need of ushers, concessions people, and box office. Call Thom (422-6329 x103), or email him thofrichter@firstpres-fw.org, to express your interest.

Barnes & Noble Bookfair
Supporting First Presbyterian Theater
Saturday, December 6 thru Tuesday, December 9

Bookfair I.D. # 113-78-361
Or go to the Barnes and Noble website:
Barnesandnoble.com

Anytime December 6-9, shop, enter the Bookfair number, and up to 25% will go to the FPC theater.
Now through November 30
The works of artist and former police officer
John Kiernan
Artist John Kiernan is a twelve-year veteran of the Fairfax County, Virginia Police Department. Although John has traded in his badge for a paintbrush, he continues to support and honor his comrades in law enforcement, fire fighting and emergency services. He is the featured artist of the National Law Enforcement Memorial and has raised $37,000 in support of the organization.

DECEMBER 5, 2014–JANUARY 4, 2015
Reception: Friday, Dec. 5, 5:30-7:15pm
Eunice Scully –fabric art
Dan Sigler–bird houses from found objects
Sheridanstudio@yahoo.com

Eunice Scull's love affair with fabrics began as a young girl growing up on a farm in Michigan. This led to a career working with fabrics. She has studied haute couture clothing construction and fashion design and has also run a business in alterations and custom clothing. She now combines teaching and creating art quilts in her studio at her home in Fort Wayne.

Dan Sigler creates his bird houses in his beloved Sheridan Studio in Saugatuck, MI. The mission of Sheridan Studio is to combine artistic expression with discarded artifacts to give them a new life and purpose. All of Dan's constructions are one-of-a-kind creations. He sells by word of mouth and occasionally through Good Goods Gallery in Saugatuck. Dan's work may be seen at his website: Sheridanstudio.net (currently under construction).

Next Up on the 2014-2015 Music Series

Smooth Edge 2
December 1, 7:00pm McKay Hall, followed by a dessert reception
Smooth Edge 2 has been featured on Julia Meek’s Meet the Music on 89.1 and Fort Wayne’s only a cappella vocal jazz group. Smooth Edge 2 was founded in 2010. The concert will include several Christmas favorites as well as a surprise or two!

Mark your calendars for:

St. Olaf Choir
February 12, 7:30, Sanctuary, tickets required
Tickets will be available beginning November 1 at www.stolaf.edu/stolaf-choir or in the Church Office. They are $30 for adults and $10 for students, group rates are available for groups of 10 or more. You don’t want to miss this event! The St. Olaf Choir with 75 voices is a premier college choir. They are internationally renown for a unique combination of superior choral singing and the presentation of challenging choral programming with a vast repertoire including the entire history of Western music.
Thom Hofrichter as Shylock.

Dr. Mark Hyman invites us early and enjoy our wonderful handbell choir! "The First Noel" and "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks." Come Sunday, December 21, beginning at 10:50am, the Handbell Choir will be special prelude on December 21.

Merchant of Venice for Shakespeare's work of Japanese artist Sadao Watanabe. This will be the opening night featuring authentic Japanese food and live Japanese guitar and the First Pres as part of the first ever "Celebration of the Arts." opportunity to celebrate the religious arts we are fortunate to have at churches in the country with a thriving music, gallery and theater program. First Presbyterian Church is very fortunate to be one of the only churches in the country with a thriving music, gallery and theater program. The weekend of February 27 to March 1 will give us the weekend coming in February! "Celebration of the Arts"

Chelsea's Notes:

"Celebration of the Arts" weekend coming in February!
First Presbyterian Church is very fortunate to be one of the only churches in the country with a thriving music, gallery and theater program. The weekend of February 27 to March 1 will give us the opportunity to celebrate the religious arts we are fortunate to have at First Pres as part of the first ever "Celebration of the Arts."

The weekend will begin Friday, February 27 with a gallery reception featuring authentic Japanese food and live Japanese guitar and the work of Japanese artist Sadao Watanabe. This will be the opening night for Shakespeare's Merchant of Venice which will feature our own Thom Hofrichter as Shylock.

Saturday, February 28 will consist of a lecture and workshop on Arts Ministry by Dr. Michael Bauer, Professor of Organ and Church Music at the University of Kansas. There will also be a lecture on The Life and Art of Sadao Watanabe by Sandra Bowden, artist and former President of Christians in the Visual Arts. There will be another opportunity to see Merchant of Venice that evening.

Dr. Michael Bauer will lead worship on March 1 and the weekend will end with a 1:30pm worship service/concert featuring Dr. Chelsea Vaught performing the Symphonie-Passion by Marcel Dupré. The Symphonie-Passion is a four movement work that focuses on the life of Christ. First is "The World Awaiting the Savior," second is "Nativity," third is "Crucifixion," and fourth "Resurrection." It is a very powerful depiction of Christ's life that you do not want to miss!

Mark your calendar now for February 27-March 1. More details about our guest presenters and a complete schedule for the weekend will be available in the January/February newsletter.

First Pres Book & Gift Shop News

Visit the First Pres Book and Gift Shop Open House on Sunday, November 16. The holidays are fast approaching, and we have several gifts and Christmas books available.

Gifts include nativity scenes made in Peru, Indonesia, Asia, and the U. S. Also, there are Christmas tree ornaments reasonably priced from $3 - $5. Olivewood crosses in small, medium, and large sizes are priced from $2.84 and a beautiful angel statue is $26.75.

There is a book for young people ages 10 - 18 titled "Mandie and Joe's Christmas Surprise", written by Lois Gladys Leppard. She tells the story of a girl named Mandie who finds herself in charge of the Christmas Eve skit at church, and Mandie plans a special event that will remind everyone of the true meaning of the season. $3.75.

Also available is a small publication entitled, "Jesus, the Light of the World", with brief articles by Max Lucado, Billy Graham, Anne Graham Lotz, and Eugene Peterson. $3.20.

We have a collection of Christmas poems, stories, and prayers written by J. Barrie Shepherd called "Faces at the Manger", a true Christmas treasure. $5.35.

Here is a book review by Marie Isaacs on a book available now in the Book & Gift Shop.

The Daniel Plan

By Rev. Rick Warren, Dr. Daniel Amen, and Dr. Mark Hyman

Rev. Warren and Drs. Amen and Hyman have written a physical fitness book that begins with the basis that God designed our bodies to be healthy, providing everything we need to thrive and live abundantly.

Following this principle, the authors present a book that embraces diet and exercise within a context of faith and community. Their book is based on the five principles of faith, food, fitness, family, and friends. Rev. Warren writes the introduction, the first chapter, entitled, "How it All Began", the second chapter called, "The Essentials", and the third chapter on Faith. In the introduction, he states he chose the name of this health plan for a man in the Bible named Daniel because Daniel refused to eat the rich food of the king and challenged the king to a health contest. Rev. Warren gives us many biblical examples of encouragement to eat well and be strong in body and spirit. He writes that in Romans 12:1 - 2, we find these encouragements, "...give your bodies to God...let them be a living and holy sacrifice....let God transform you into a new person...".

Dr. Hyman writes the fourth chapter on food, and Dr. Amen concentrates on fitness and focus, chapters 5 and 6. The authors then collaborate on the subject of friends and supportive groups in chapter 7 and continue with a fitness challenge and 40 days of meal plans and recipes.

This is a very encouraging and practical book, one that guides us to be faithful to God, who gave us healthy bodies and healthy foods to sustain us, as well as the ability to be fit and a community to help support us.

Please call the First Pres Book & Gift Shop at 426-7421 x110, or Marie Isaacs at 715-0916 if you would be interested in being a part of a support group to study and implement this healthy eating and fitness plan.

Special Prelude on December 21

Sunday, December 21, beginning at 10:50am, the Handbell Choir will be playing a special prelude. Pieces will be "Ding Dong Merrily on High," "The First Noel" and "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks." Come early and enjoy our wonderful handbell choir!

Christmas Donations

It's hard to believe it's that time of year again! Donations are being accepted to help with the cost of our wonderful Christmas Eve musicians that play at the 10:00pm service. If you would like to contribute, please have your contribution in by December 21 so that your name can be included in the list of donors in the Christmas Eve Bulletin. To make a contribution either place it in the offering plate, bring it to the Financial Office or Church Office. If you would like to make the donation in honor of a loved one, please include that on a piece of paper with your donation. If you have questions, contact Chelsea at cvaught@firstpres-fw.org or 426-7421 x137. Thank you in advance for your generosity and support of music at First Pres!
Make a Difference…before year-end
by Lisa Yarian

If you are looking for a way to maximize your charitable gift tax deduction for this year and minimize the amount of tax you owe for 2014, why not consider prepaying some or all of your 2015 pledge before December 31. Another good tax-saving strategy that works for some families is gifting shares of appreciated stock to the church. Doing this presents two advantages for the donor—the donor can claim the gross amount of the stock gift as a charitable contribution and avoid capital gains tax implications at the same time. Here are some additional gift-giving tips from the IRS:

• In order to claim a charitable deduction on your tax return, all cash contributions, regardless of amount, must be substantiated by a bank record (such as a cancelled check) or a written statement from the charity. So, when using cash, please make sure you use your offering envelopes or fill out a pew envelope with your name information. The quarterly statements that you receive from the church meet the necessary written statement requirements. And, if you have made individual contributions of $250 or more to the church, please be sure to wait to file your federal income tax return until you receive your annual contribution statement.

• Gifts are deductible in the year they are made. Contributions paid by check count for 2014 as long as they are postmarked by 12/31/14. Online donations, which are paid with your credit and debit card, can be claimed for the tax-year in which they were given, regardless of when you pay your bill. The key date is the processing date.

• Only taxpayers who itemize their deductions on Form 1040 Schedule A can claim a deduction for charitable gifts, and this only makes sense if the total of all itemized deductions exceeds the standard deduction amount.

• All donations of property, including clothing and household items, must be receipted by the charity receiving the donation. If a donation is left at a charity’s unattended drop site—an example would be the food donations gifted on the 3rd Sunday of the month here—then the donor should keep a written record of the donation that includes the fair market value. Additional rules apply for property contributions of $250 or more.

Thank you for your gifts to the church, and if you have any questions regarding these tax-saving ideas, please call the Treasurer’s Office at 426-7421 x111 or 116.

Family @ First and more...
Operation Christmas Child! Children’s Ministries began their annual shoebox collection for Operation Christmas Child on October 26. the collection will continue through November 9. Share God’s love with a child in need by packing a shoebox with small toys and hygiene items. Shoeboxes are available in the Small Dining room and can be dropped off there when filled. We have a goal of 150 boxes this year! Together we can do it and make Christmas a bit more special for boys and girls in need around the globe.

Children’s Christmas Pageant - The entire congregation is invited to join us in McKay Hall on December 14 at 10:00am as we present The Backward Christmas Pageant. It is sure to set you in the Christmas spirit!

Have a child in college? - The Youth Group will be preparing and mailing care packages to our college students to enjoy as they prepare for winter finals. Email Jennifer Shaw with their address by November 9, jenshaw15@gmail.com.

Rev. Arianne Lehn had two new articles published in October. One is a book review for the Christian Century which can be read on line at www.christiancentury.org/reviews/2014-09/book-forgiving-desmond-tutu-and-mpho-tutu#.VCb-LL1_g1E.facebook. The other is an article on caring for the body as a spiritual discipline in Presbyterians Today. If you can’t access either article, please contact Luci Foltz for copies, 426-7421 x113 or lfoltz@firstpres-fw.org.

A Note from Jeff Lehn:
“This is an idea I have for our parking lots. A friend of a friend out in Boston designed this more up to date and inclusive symbol called the ‘accessibility icon.’ It’s meant to replace the current handicapped symbol with a more active picture of persons with disabilities, something the church certainly wants to promote. You’ll notice that the icon depicts the body in motion which represents a symbolically active status of navigating the world. It’s catching on in cities in the northeast (e.g. all of New York City has changed their symbols now), and I wonder if we could help it catch on in Fort Wayne.”

Check out the website at www.accessibleicon.org and then have a look at what’s already in our parking lot.
Inclement Weather Policy, First Presbyterian Church

Every year we publish our Inclement Weather Policy but this year we are excited to announce a new feature. It is now possible to sign up for text messages to alert you to changes in the church schedule due to bad weather. See the right column for details.

When the city, county or emergency management agency declares a weather-related travel advisory, the following procedures shall be followed.

City or County declares a Travel “Watch” – Conditions are threatening to the safety of the public. During a “watch” local travel advisory, only essential travel, such as to and from work or in emergency situations, is recommended, and emergency action plans should be implemented by businesses, schools, government agencies, and other organizations

1. All church activities will be cancelled until advisory is lifted.
   a. Day School will remain open.
   b. Theater will follow its separate inclement weather policy.
   c. Worship services may be held, as determined by the Head of Staff.
2. All senior and support staff shall report to work if possible.
   a. Exceptions require approval by the Head of Staff.
   b. Maintenance and janitorial staff place priority on cleaning access to the building and assisting Day School.
3. Head of Staff will notify the Office Manager to advise staff and public of cancellations.
   a. The Office Manager will email cancellation notice to media (Facebook, FPC Website, Indiana News Center, WANE TV, WBCL) and send appropriate text messages.

City or County declares a Travel “Warning”
The highest level of local travel advisory, it means that travel may be restricted to emergency management workers only. During a “warning” local travel advisory, individuals are directed to:

• Refrain from all travel.
• Comply with necessary emergency measures.
• Cooperate with public officials and disaster services forces in executing emergency operations plans.
• Obey and comply with the lawful directions of properly identified officers.

1. All church activities will be cancelled and the Day School and building will be closed.
2. Senior and support staff shall not report to work.
3. Head of Staff will notify the Office Manager to advise staff and public of cancellations and building closing.
   a. The Office Manager will notify media.
   b. The Office Manager will update website and both digital signs.

You can receive messages about church-wide events or specific group events within our church. (Children, Youth and Families Ministry, KLM Ministry, Day School Ministry, etc.) You choose which groups within the church you want to hear from.

Sign up on your computer today!

1. Go to wbcl.org
2. Find the WBCL Text Alerts at the bottom of the page
3. Click the button to sign up

OR, with your mobile phone, scan the QR code below and complete the form

QUESTIONS:

Contact Danielle at 260-426-7421 x102 or dgonzalez@firstpres-fw.org

Service sponsored by WBCL radio.
Church & Society Distinguished Service Award

Each year we award the Church and Society Distinguished Service Award in memory of Elaine I. Wareham, who showed all of us that the witness of a Christian should extend beyond the local church and be a compelling force in daily life. We are seeking nominations, submitted in confidence, to the committee. Nomination forms are available in the Church Office. There is a box in the church office to place your nomination form or you may email it to dgonalez@firstpres-fw.org. The deadline to turn in your nomination is January 18, 2015.

Objective: To encourage and recognize effective Christian witness as a volunteer layperson in First Presbyterian Church and the Fort Wayne community.

Scope: This service award is to be given on an annual basis to the individual who best represents Christian leadership and service both in the church and in the community. By her example, Elaine Wareham showed that Christian witness should extend beyond the local church and be a compelling force in one’s daily life.

Criteria:

1. Recipient must be a member of The First Presbyterian Church of Fort Wayne, Indiana.
2. Service activities must have been accomplished as a volunteer.
3. Candidates’ names and resumes should be submitted in confidence and may be submitted by any person or group (without the nominee’s knowledge).

Guidelines: Any nomination which is submitted should include the following:

1. List participation with Session, Trustees, Deacons, Foundation, Church School, Music Program, youth work, women’s or men’s organizations, special Committee or Department work, Presbytery or Synod work, Theater or any other witness to or service in the church.
2. Give examples of community activities such as United Way, agency boards, Red Cross, Mental Health, Nutrition, Cancer Society, Hospice, AIDS Task Force, Literacy, or other activities that serve to meet the needs of our society.
3. Special emphasis should be given to the initiation of new programs or innovations and additions to existing programs which have been developed to meet the most urgent and timely needs of our church and society.

The 2015 Award will be presented at the Annual Meeting, Feb. 1, 2015.

Past Recipients Of The Distinguished Service Award, 1983-2014:

Jean Ford
Patty Greist
Herbert Weier
Nanette Teixeira
Sally J. Williams
Don J. Williams
Ray Benckenstein
Antoinette Lee
Ruth Sandy
George McKay
Lorraine Weier
Elizabeth Nickeson
Dick Ferguson
Dorothy Elliott
Dorothy Ferguson
Blanche Griffin
Mary Schneider
Marion Walley
Galen Maus
Dick Florea
Lorraine Davis
Will Clark
Dave Freeman
William Mead
Joan Coslow
Nan Bloodgood
Jean Linville
Dorothy & Orlo Shifley
David Lundy
Alice Chitwood
Sharon Hedeen
Marianne Platt

An Interview with Rev. Hal Thomas

Rev. Hal Thomas will be serving with us as temporary associate pastor while Arianne is on maternity leave. While many of our congregation know Hal well, here’s a little more background information that you may find interesting.

How long have you been a pastor?
I started serving First Presbyterian Church of Winamac, Indiana on May 1, 1972 and was ordained at that church on July 9, 1972.

What positions have you held as a pastor?
All of my callings have been solo pastor callings. First Presbyterian Church of Winamac, Indiana May 1, 1972-December 31, 1976; Westfield Presbyterian Church of Fort Wayne, January 1, 1977-March 31, 1997; Bethany-Westfield Yoked Ministry of Fort Wayne October, 1995-March 31, 1997 and United Faith Presbyterian Church of Fort Wayne April 1, 1997-December 31, 2013

A little background, why did you decide to become a minister?
Christianity and the Church have been important to me since childhood. I was growing up on a farm, I thought I would also be a farmer. In high school, I got involved in Presbyterian-level youth ministry and went on a mission trip to Arizona. While on that trip, one of the pastors challenged us to reflect on the gifts God had given us and what God wanted us to do with those gifts. That was the first time that I considered the possibility that God might be calling me to pastoral ministry. As I went home and got ready for college, I went back to believing that I was going to be a farmer. I was active in the Presbyterian Church on campus at the University of Illinois but thought very little about pastoral ministry until late in my college days. I was studying agricultural economics and went through a time when I believed that business and jobs held all the answers to life’s questions. But in the turbulent times of the 1960s and with the influence of gifted pastors from McKinley Foundation, I grew in my awareness that business, jobs and the search for success could be an alternate religion in competition with Christianity when trusted too much. One night just before Christmas break, all of this came to a head and I came to believe that God was calling me to ordained ministry in some fashion. The seminary experience confirmed my sense of call and I have been at it ever since.

Please share something about your family.
I am the third of four children with two older sisters and one younger sister. I have been married to Andrea who I met at college since 1968. We have a daughter in California and a son in Fort Wayne. We have a granddaughter in California and a grandson in Fort Wayne. Our grandson spends Mondays with us which keeps us moving. We have two cats.

Any hobbies or special interests?
Andrea and I like to travel with a special love of Europe. I enjoy my bicycle and walking. I have enjoyed working with the now inactive Presbyterian ramp builders who have built access ramps for people with mobility challenges. I like to read. I am a sports fan who has unfortunately been deeply loyal to teams who break my heart: the Bears, the Cubs and the Fighting Illini.

Any fun, interesting pastoral experiences you want to share?
Pastoral ministry is often interesting. Many of the experiences need to remain confidential. There has been a lot of fun along the way also. As an intern in Middle Point, Ohio, I was about to make some impassioned point in my sermon on a hot summer Sunday when the siren department went off. I had to stand there and smile until the siren stopped. There have been many times when the theme for a Sunday sermon chosen weeks ahead of time has intersected in powerful ways with the current events of the week. On such occasions, the sermons seemed to preach themselves. The Cursillo ministry was very meaningful with a lot of fun and treasured friendships.

Future plans?
I plan to continue to enjoy retirement while serving as needed in the church. I plan to take every opportunity to enjoy grandfatherhood.

Anything else?
I am looking forward to serving with the people of First Presbyterian while Arianne is on maternity leave. I ask your forgiveness when I stumble over names that I should know. I pray that God will use me in significant ways while I am serving with you.
The East


This is a story about run-of-the-mill small town Germans when Hitler began taking control of Germany in 1934 and continuing through the Allied Occupation.

The author is the narrator, who was about seven or eight years old when the story begins. Most of the characters are relatives or are friends of his family or school-mates. One of the most visible signs of the new order was the official mandatory salutation, “Heil Hitler.” A failure to respond to it was a crime.

Not too far into its regime, the Nazi Party staged a gigantic rally in the city of Nuremberg. Of course, Hitler was the principal speaker. He famously boasted that Nazi Germany would rule for a thousand years. In retrospect we know that it barely lasted for ten years, and, at the time he made this boast, three of those years were already gone. Incidentally it may be at this point some readers will learn that Hitler stood only five-feet-eight inches in height.

Not everything that Hitler tried was a flop. In the 1930’s, virtually every industrial country was in a deep depression. He promised to get Germany out of Depression and he did so. He did it by creating a vast war machine: planes, bombs, tanks, ships, artillery, and ammunition. A British economist of that era concluded, as many of his colleagues also did, that Hitler’s finance minister must have been a wizard.

The author’s grandparents, Oma and Opa, lived in another small settlement not far away, Beckenmill. The author loved his grandparents, indeed almost everybody. He was privileged to spend two or three weeks with each of them each summer. His grandfather was a railway conductor who was in a position to take his grandson for short rides. Later, the grandfather was in a pretty good position to observe the staggering amount of military equipment that was being shipped to the Polish border.

Beckenmill was not a business center. There were no police, no doctors, no medical services, and no firefighters. The only building other than houses and barns was the railroad station where not all trains stopped.

The only person of consequence in this village was the Baron who owned most of the surrounding farmlands. It came as a bit of a surprise that the author’s Grandmother, Oma, was an indentured servant whose work in the baron’s house on two afternoons a week paid the rent for the house, barn and fields that she and her husband tilled. I had not realized that there were any indentured servants at this late date anywhere in the world.

This was not an unusual arrangement. The Baron’s family owned most of the surrounding farms. He was said to deal generously with all his servants. For instance, in the case of two couples who wished to be married (with his permission) he paid their honeymoon expenses and loaned them one of his vehicles.

Another of the author’s best school friends was Romm, whose parents had recently moved to Beckenmill from Poland. His parents were Jewish and must not have realized that moving from Poland to Germany during the Hitlerian regime was not a wise move. However, the plain fact is hardly anybody in these small towns would emerge from the Hitler era in as good shape as they had been in before. The last we hear of this family is that they had been shipped to Poland, where Jewish liquidation was underway.

German expansion did not always grow from a sudden influx of thousands of tanks. Its expansion began with a country whose citizens were rather similar to Germans. In one respect, however, those countries had grown apart in that Germany had become rich and powerful whereas Austria had become poorer and weaker. Indeed, the impetus for a merger of those two countries came from Austria. Later on, and not very much later on, Austrians would learn that there were aspects of the merger less to their liking. That is, all supervisory positions would be held by German Nazis.

In the remainder of 1938, Germany acquired minor possessions with little effort. Sudetenland was a small but mountainous piece of Czechoslovakia along its northwestern border. This area was largely populated by persons of German ancestry some of whom would have been pleased to have their country become part of Germany. After a treaty consigning Sudetenland to Germany, one of the leading figures at that treaty was a British leader who said that it had achieved “peace in our time.” A very short time, indeed. For now, Czechoslovakia was deprived of such defensive value as was had in the rugged mountains bordering Germany.

The real war would commence in 1939. In that year, the munitions that had been stored on the border between Germany and Poland were unleashed on Poland. The Polish Army—small, poorly trained and poorly equipped was essentially overrun in a week. Hitler announced that Poland had been occupied in less than a month.

Meantime, Britain and France had declared war on Germany but did nothing else. This was sometimes referred to as the “phony war”. But conquering Poland was not the main object here. It just happened to be on the way to Russia.

Months before, Germany and Russia had signed a non-aggression pact but that did not deter aggression by Germany. This war lasted for six years but left Europe in ruins. It appeared that no more than the narrator and a handful of his friends and relatives survived in Beckenmill. Both of his girl friends disappeared during the war.

By way of summation, the narrator says: “It seemed impossible that Germany’s cultural, technical, and academic background allowed Naziism to rise to such overpowering heights, and yet it happened. “

Myself, I have often wondered what happened to the thousands of musicians during this awful period. Were they all Nazis? Or quiet protestors? Or What?

So far, very little has been made known about the author. What we have is as follows: He now lives in Nevada and must be in his early 80’s. He is said to be a retired business man. He is also said to have had two German girl friends whom he might have married but never did. The author is said to have served terms as a soldier in the British, Russian and American occupation armies. Information about him is hard to come by, partly because no publisher is listed.
2014 Income & Expenses through September

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Budget to date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>$560,510</td>
<td>$690,264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfers from Foundation</td>
<td>317,926</td>
<td>302,642</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>User Fees</td>
<td>270,676</td>
<td>307,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td>20,088</td>
<td>17,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Offerings</td>
<td>29,116</td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Income</td>
<td>1,198,316</td>
<td>1,332,656</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expense &amp; Capital Expenditures</td>
<td>1,314,313</td>
<td>1,332,656</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trfr to/(wdrl from) General Fund</td>
<td>$ (115,997)</td>
<td>$ 0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

First Pres Financials as of September 30, 2014 from the Finance Team

The above figures represent where the church is after the 3rd quarter of 2014. As you can see, the expenses are in line with the budgeted amounts for almost all of the ministry areas for the year. However, our contribution income is under what was planned. Contribution income, or giving to the general fund, is the church’s main source of income which makes possible much of the mission, ministry and programming that the church is able to do each year—as well as covers most of the cost of the utilities, administrative, and operational expenses. Each year, contribution income is budgeted and based on several sources: actual dollar amounts pledged, estimates of giving from families who choose not to pledge, overpayments on pledges, per capita payments, and loose offerings.

The church is currently behind in all of these budgeted areas, and we know this can happen for a variety of reasons.

Please check the contribution statement, which your family recently received, to see how your family is doing at responding to God’s call to give, and, if your family has fulfilled its 2014 commitment, it would be wonderful, if you answer the challenge to do more!

Gifting to the church can be done in several ways: offering and pew envelopes are always available and technology has made it more convenient than ever—there are free online bill payer services offered by most banking institutions where you can initiate payments directly from your checking or savings account on a schedule that works for your family; and if you have a PayPal account, you can go to the church’s website firstpres-fw.org, click on the “Donate Now” tab, which is located in the upper right corner of the home page and contribute.

The budget is a planning tool; it’s used as a way to provide for all the church’s mission, ministry and programming—a way to transform lives through the love of Jesus Christ! But the budget is not where our stewardship focus is; it’s on faith-raising and making choices as individuals to care for and manage all that God has given us. As we focus on the future, our goal is to finish 2014 well. Our church has been given many resources—most importantly, a talented and committed congregation with much generosity of time, talent and financial giving—and our call is to use these gifts well and finish strong in life, in ministry and in this year.

Website Viewing Activity and Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Users</td>
<td>2,214</td>
<td>2,653</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sessions</td>
<td>3,269</td>
<td>3,831</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average duration per visit</td>
<td>2 min 10 sec</td>
<td>2 min 19 sec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total page views</td>
<td>9,238</td>
<td>9,759</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Further Detail for Aug-Sep 2014

Of the 3,831 sessions - 1,881 were from Fort Wayne and Allen County, followed by Indianapolis (178), Eau Claire, Wisconsin (55), Chicago (54), and Richmond (37). Other session origins include Brazil (55), Canada (21), South Korea (18), and Germany (16).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NOVEMBER</th>
<th>DECEMBER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 7:30pm</td>
<td>1 7:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Lesson Before Dying performance*</td>
<td>Music Series, Smooth Edge 2*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2  <strong>DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS</strong> “fall back”</td>
<td>3 7:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00am Worship/Communion, Chapel</td>
<td>PW Advent by Candlelight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:45am-12:30pm, Nursery open</td>
<td>5 5:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00am Sunday School, all ages</td>
<td>Gallery Reception*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chancel Choir warm up</td>
<td>7:30pm Christmas Potpourri performance*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KLM Fellowship</td>
<td>7 7:00pm Regular Sunday Worship with Communion, see Nov. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00pm KLM Fellowship</td>
<td>12:00pm Theater Brunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:15pm Empty Bowls</td>
<td>12:15pm Mentor Program Christmas Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 1:00pm</td>
<td>9 6:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KLM Choir practice</td>
<td>Session Dinner and Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 1:30pm</td>
<td>14 Regular Sunday Worship Schedule, see Nov. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3B Exercise Class (M,W,F, weekly)</td>
<td>10:00am The Backward Christmas Pageant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 10:00am</td>
<td>16 5:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table Talk I (W weekly)</td>
<td>Deacons Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00am-1:30pm Book &amp; Gift Shop open (W, Th weekly)</td>
<td>17 7:00pm Blue Christmas Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30pm Table Talk II (W weekly)</td>
<td>21 Regular Sunday Worship Schedule, see Nov. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal (W weekly)</td>
<td>12:15pm Parents’ Day Out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30pm KLM Wednesday Worship Service (weekly)</td>
<td>Tour Your Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 9:30am</td>
<td>24 CHRISTMAS EVE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KLM Thursday Bible Study (weekly)</td>
<td>Day School closed all day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOPS Meeting, (1st and 3rd Thursdays)</td>
<td>12:00pm Church Offices close</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Bible Study (Th weekly)</td>
<td>4:00pm Family Christmas Eve Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00am KLM Thursday Prayer Meeting (weekly)</td>
<td>KLM Christmas Eve Celebration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Th weekly)</td>
<td>9:30pm Festival Prelude Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Regular Sunday Worship Schedule, see Nov. 2</td>
<td>10:00pm Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30pm Suicide Bereavement Support (2nd Sundays)</td>
<td>25 MERRY CHRISTMAS, building closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 10:00am</td>
<td>26 Day School closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cookie Dough Delivery</td>
<td>Church Offices closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00pm Session Dinner and Meeting</td>
<td>28 Regular Sunday Worship Schedule, see Nov. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 5:00pm</td>
<td>31 NEW YEAR'S EVE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family @ First</td>
<td>12:00pm Church Offices Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Regular Sunday Worship Schedule, see Nov. 2</td>
<td>4:00pm KLM New Year Celebration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:15pm Tour Your Church</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30pm Book &amp; Gift Shop Open House</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 5:30pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deacons Meeting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 10:00am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presby Day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 Regular Sunday Worship Schedule, see Nov. 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30am-12:30pm Thanksgiving Bake Sale</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:15pm Thanksgiving Dinner for Korean Veterans</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 5:00pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Night of Lights, Bell Ringing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 HAPPY THANKSGIVING, BUILDING CLOSED</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 Building closed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 Regular Sunday Worship Schedule, see Nov. 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*See pages 8 & 9 for detailed Music, Gallery & Theater information. Please consult your weekly bulletins or check on line at [www.firstpres-fw.org](http://www.firstpres-fw.org) for a more detailed list of calendar events and committee meetings.

**JANUARY**

1 HAPPY NEW YEAR, 2015
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Audience</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nov 12</td>
<td>Family @ First</td>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>5:30</td>
<td>Dinner/Making Christmas gifts for shut-ins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 16</td>
<td>Youth Group 4-7</td>
<td>Youth</td>
<td>4-7</td>
<td>Serving at Rescue Mission, then out to dinner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 23</td>
<td>Bake Sale</td>
<td>ALL</td>
<td></td>
<td>McKay Hall - Bake and/or buy to support Children’s Ministries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 23</td>
<td>Youth Group 5-7</td>
<td>Youth</td>
<td>5-7</td>
<td>Youth Group in Youth Lounge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 26</td>
<td>Night of Lights</td>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>6-9</td>
<td>Look for more info. in bulletins, we are a stop this year!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 7</td>
<td>Youth Group 12:15-4:30</td>
<td>Youth</td>
<td>12:15-4:30</td>
<td>Brunch/Theatre with mentors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 14</td>
<td>Children’s Pageant</td>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>10 am</td>
<td>Come to McKay Hall to watch this fun pageant!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 14</td>
<td>Youth Group TBD</td>
<td>Youth</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Visit with residents of TownHouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 21</td>
<td>Parent’s Day Out</td>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>12:15 - 4:15</td>
<td>(See description on front of insert.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 14</td>
<td>Family @ First</td>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>5:30</td>
<td>Dinner/Event TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 25</td>
<td>Pokagon Trip</td>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>3:15</td>
<td>Meet us up at Pokagon for tobogganining and dinner!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 28</td>
<td>Family @ First</td>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>5:30</td>
<td>Dinner/ Magic Show! You won’t want to miss this!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Nov 30 and Dec 28 = No Youth Group*
This can’t be right?! Christmas trees and toboggan runs? The last two months have slipped through my hands all too quickly. Yours too? My hope is that we can all slow down and enjoy each moment of the holiday season.

It’s a joke within my family that I have trouble saying “no”. Whether it’s serving as room mom, team mom, etc., I’m a softie and can’t say no. The next two months I am going to gift my family by saying “later” and giving them me, fully.

We will spend less time around screens and more time playing games and reading stories together. And of course, more time in fellowship with our precious church family, whether it’s at church events or dinners with our church friends.

May this holiday season bring you each peace, happiness, and wonderful memories. I’m thankful for each and every one of you.

Isaiah 9:6

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.