



FPCSB

February 2025

TOWER BELL

MISSION STATEMENT

*As disciples of Christ,
First Presbyterian Church exists:
to let people know that they matter to God,
by showing them that they matter to us,
in order that they may let
others matter to them.*

MATTHEW 25

*By accepting the Matthew 25 invitation,
we are becoming a more relevant
presence in the world. We recognize
Christ's urgent call to be a church of
action, where God's love, justice and
mercy shine forth and are contagious. And
we rejoice how our re-energized faith can
unite us for a common and holy purpose:
our common identity to do mission.*

VISION STATEMENT

*As a caring community with a
commitment to Christian social justice,
we will create transformational space
to provide access to resources and
forge relationships with community
service and arts organizations.*



*Happy
Valentine's
Day*



LIVING MATTHEW 25 2025

LIVING MATTHEW 25 – 2025

TWO DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

WE'D LIKE YOUR HELP, PLEASE!

As a Matthew 25 congregation, First Presbyterian Church of Downtown South Bend is united around a desire to address poverty and racism as well as minister to and with the hungry, thirsty, stranger, poor, sick, and imprisoned locally, nationally, and internationally.

For the fourth year, FPCSB – together with over 110 community partners - will provide “Living Matthew 25,” a series of engaging events for people of all ages during the season of Lent – Ash Wednesday, March 5, through Holy Saturday, April 19. A calendar of events will be available in the March “Tower Bell” plus on the church website and Facebook page. But, we need your help now to get everything ready!!!

Please mark your calendar and help, if possible, on these two dates in February!

Sunday, February 9 – 11:00 a.m. - Social Hall – Poster Packing Party

Plan to stay to pack Living Matthew 25 fliers and posters in bags for 15 distribution routes! We're pros at it after three years, so if many people help we can get it done in an hour or so. Refreshments provided.

Wednesday, February 12 – 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. - Social Hall – Kick-off Breakfast

For the first time, at the request of some of our community partners, we're hosting a Living Matthew 25 Kick-off Breakfast. Although the meal will be catered by Allie's Cafe, we need people as greeters, servers, helpers with materials, and more!

We'd be very grateful for your help from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. If you are willing, please contact Phyllis Wezeman at phylliswezeman1@gmail.com or 574-302-1556.

COLLEGE CARE BOXES – SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2025 – 11:00 A.M.

It's time to pack care boxes for our college students – and we need your help!

On Sunday, February 23 at 11:00 a.m., we'll gather in the back of the sanctuary and the parlor for a Pizza and Packing Party! Please stay to help put our 2025 college care boxes together for our 19 students – many at local schools but several spread all over the country!

Before the project, please select a tag or two off the “giving tree” board, purchase the items, and return them to the table in the back of the sanctuary by Sunday, February 16 (so we can be sure we have everything and can purchase what's missing). Please prepare or purchase 20 of every item.

Items include:

Candy – Bags of Valentine's candy is great! Several bags are needed!

~~Cards/Caregrams/Notes – Malou Audi & FPC, SB & Phyllis Wezeman~~

Chapstick/Lip Balm

Chips, individual bags or cans (like Pringles)

Cookies, individual bags

Crackers, individual portions

Fun thing like game, puzzle, play dough

Granola Bars

Hand sanitizer

Highlighters

Hot chocolate packets

Memo pads, small

~~Pens, ballpoint – FPC, SB~~

Pens, G2 (they specifically request these)

Popcorn, microwave

Snack/Trail Mix, individual packets

Soap

Socks

Sticky notes

Tea bags (there were thanks for the variety of teas)

Tissue packets

Toothbrush

Toothpaste.

This year's students include:

Toneisha Bandawe – Indiana University Indianapolis (Nursing)

Alexander Drain – Kansas City Art Institute (Art)

Anya Friend – Indiana University Kokomo (Criminal Justice)

Kaylee Kern – Indiana University Indianapolis (MLS, Library Science)

Lisa Malindima – Indiana University Indianapolis ROTC

Troy Malindima – Indiana University South Bend

Clifford McLeod – Bowen Law School, University of Arkansas at Little Rock (Law)

Cynthia McLeod – University of California at Santa Barbara (Doctorate – Communications)

Mzati (Brave) Mwachande – Purdue University (IT)

Asante Nyirongo – Indiana University South Bend

Joel Nyirongo – Ivy Tech Community College (IT)

Moses Nyirongo – Indiana University South Bend

Audrey Sporleder – Indiana University Bloomington (Comprehensive Design, Eskenazi School of Art Architecture and Design)

Izaak Sporleder – Excel Center

Lief Wezeman – Purdue University (Mechanical Engineering)

Michael Wynter – Ivy Tech Community College

Thandizo Ziwawo – Indiana University South Bend

and ... returning student:

Mlekwa Mwachande – Ivy Tech Community College (LPN).

*Happy
Birthday*



Cynthia McLeod	02/06
Charles Ndegwa	02/07
Peggy Van Laere	02/13
Lawrence Hollenbach	02/22
Carter McLeod	02/22
Michael Wynter	02/22
Jennifer Byers	02/24

Smock Senior Ministries Program

March Event

MENNO-HOF TOUR & BLUE GATE LUNCH IN SHIP SHEWANA

Thursday, March 13, 2025 – 10:00 A.M. [Tour begins]

Tour of Menno-Hof Interpretative Center

510 S. Van Buren Street (SR5)

Shipshewana, IN 46565



Buffet Lunch at Blue Gate Restaurant

105 E. Middlebury Street

Shipshewana, IN 46565



Experience the heritage of the Amish, Hutterite, and Mennonite communities at Menno-Hof, an interpretative center in Shipshewana, Indiana. During a 90-minute tour, some guided and some on-your-own, travel through five centuries of fascinating history from their origins in Switzerland to their arrival in America. Explore a 17th century sailing ship, replicas of a 19th century print shop and meeting house, and the inside of an Amish home. Experience the simulation of a tornado as the wind blows and the theatre shakes.

Following the tour, the group will go to the Blue Gate Restaurant and enjoy a buffet lunch.

Travel to and from Shipshewana is on your own, but carpools may be available, if requested.

Thanks to the generosity of the Smock Senior Ministries Program, the cost per senior (50 and over) is \$15.00 for admission to Menno-Hof and lunch at Blue Gate. Guests are welcome.

Reservations and payment are required by Monday, February 24 and may be given to Phyllis Wezeman, phylliswezeman1@gmail.com or 574-302-1556.



“To everything there is a season and a time to every purpose under heaven”...

... “A time to be born”...

...“A time to love”...

The Presbyterian Church of Edwardsburg, MI, FPC Mishawaka,

Sunnyside Presbyterian Church

... “A time to grieve”...

... “A time to heal” ...

Kevin Dreyer, Wayne Risinger, Jim and Sally Schlobohm, Irma Schultheis, Joann Sporleder

...and friends of FPC...

Samira Abou Arraj (Younes), Barbara Jones, Freddy Mathews,

Fred Mockerman, Bernadine Poling, Ann Schwarz, Emily Thompson, Sharon Walbert

...“A time to die”...

... “and a time for peace”...

Those serving in our military & their families, those who serve our community: teachers, police officers, fire fighters, emergency responders, healthcare workers, postal service employees, grocery store workers, and elected officials. Victims and families of gun violence.

“Lunch Bunch”

Every third Thursday of the month

Allie’s Café

2323 E Mishawaka Ave, South Bend, IN 46615

We have a continuous reservation for 12.

Casserole Making January 12, 2025



First Presbyterian Church
333 West Colfax Avenue
South Bend, Indiana 46601
Return Service Requested

First Presbyterian Church of South Bend—We welcome all visitors! Visit our website: www.fpcsouthbend.org



**Join Us For Worship
on Sunday Morning
@ 9:45**