

JUNE 2026

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH THE COLUMNS

Milestones

As summer begins, many of us will be taking advantage of the nicer weather and the shifting demands on time. We will go hiking and travel to new places. We will have reunions with friends and family. We will meet new people along the way. Some will find much needed rest and others will find time for the projects that have been pushed aside for some time. Even for those of us that will keep our normal patterns, there is still something different about this season that causes us to be a bit more alive.

This summer I will be preaching on and we will be studying the stories of Abraham and Sarah, Issac and Ishmael, Jacob and Esau, and Joseph. The four generations of family in the book of Genesis are all called on a journey of faith. Along the way, they constantly show their humanity. They make mistakes and they do terrible things, and God keeps showing up. To their credit, when this flawed family recognizes the presence of the Lord, they mark those moments and spots. They build an altar in the world.

This summer I invite you to be awake and on the lookout for the presence of God in your life. Wherever you might be, with whomever you might be with, be alert to God's voice of rest, of calling, of encouragement, and of beauty. There will be a basket of small stones at the church all summer. You are encouraged to take a stone with you, and then when the moments of renewal and grace and peace arrive—when God appears to you once more—mark that moment by simply placing a stone as a prayer of thanksgiving and as a hope for others to find in the world. You can also take pictures of your stones and share them with the church.

God has promised to meet us along our journey of faith and life. May our hearts and eyes be open to grace and beauty that keep showing up, even when we are not at our best.

Grace and Peace,
Daren Hofmann




First Presbyterian Church

Sunday Garden Worship
June 7 – August 30
*Bring a chair and enjoy
 Sunday Worship in the garden!*

Wednesday in the Garden
June 3 – August 26
*Bring a chair, a snack, or light
 meal, and join the conversation!*

In case of inclement weather, we will worship in Sanctuary on Sundays and in Fellowship Hall on Wednesdays.

*Ice Cream Social
 In the Garden*



ICE CREAM SOCIAL

*May 31
 3:00 pm*

*(Fellowship Hall if weather
 is an issue)*



Stitcher's Group


*Crochet, cross-stitch, knit, needlepoint, sew,
 quilt, etc. If you don't know how,
 we will teach you!*

**Thursday June 4
 9:30 AM-11:30 AM Lounge**

Church DEACONS

Zoom Meeting!

TUESDAY
 JUNE 2ND 7:00 PM



Dee Dah Day

Women's Book Study & Prayer Group

June 26, 10:00 AM
First Pres Church Lounge
 Fellowship & book study

*If you have questions, please
 contact Barb Ottinger, 765.289.4080*

lkbaott59@comcast.net



During the month of June, we will be joining with St. Andrew Presbyterian Church for "Rainforest Falls: Exploring the Nature of God." This VBS adventure will be held Sunday evenings, June 7-28 from 4:00-6:00pm at St. Andrew. Children ages 3 through completion of 5th grade are invited to attend one or all - whatever fits your schedule! Adult/teen helpers are also needed in all areas and are welcome to invest even if it's only for one of these evenings. For more information, contact Laura Smith at 317-873-2678 or knappkin76@gmail.com.



A graphic for the Ministry Guild. On the left, there is an illustration of a golden chalice filled with purple grapes and green leaves. To the right, the text 'Ministry Guild' is written in a cursive font. Below this, the text 'Monday August 3rd 4:00 PM Lounge' is written in a bold, sans-serif font. At the bottom left, it says 'Enjoy the summer!' in a cursive font. The background is a dark, abstract pattern with light streaks.

Wednesdays in the Garden

Starts June 3

6:30 pm Fellowship

7:00 pm Bible Study

Wednesdays bring a chair, a snack, or a light meal, and join the conversation!

In case of inclement weather, we will meet in Fellowship Hall.

Sunday Garden Worship

Starts June 7

8:30 am

Bring a chair and enjoy Sunday Worship in the garden.

Summer Sermon Series

Ancestors: Flawed and Faithful

June 7
God of Sarai

Genesis 12:10-20

June 14
God who Sees

Genesis 16:1-16

June 21
God of Nations

Genesis 17:1-8, 15-16

June 28
God of Laughter

Genesis 21:1-7

Pancakes & Parables

Saturday, July 18
10:00 a.m.
Fellowship Hall

The Parable of the Sower (Matthew 13)
The Parable of the Yeast (Matthew 13:33)
The Parable of the Wedding Feast (Matthew 22)

Connect with Liturgical readings for July 12, 19 and 26 with Daren

Sign up at the Welcome Desk to attend!



Did You Know???**News from the Generosity Committee**

Special thanks to everyone for a very successful 2026 Generosity Campaign! Pledges totaled \$489,568.00, an almost \$9,000.00 increase over last year.

Have you noticed some changes at First Presbyterian this Spring?



We have welcomed Dr. Jason Powell as our Ministry Assistant. Since his arrival, he has taught one Sunday morning class and is currently co-teaching with Daren a class on the Book of Confessions. He is also assisting in the Sunday morning worship services and preaching on occasion.

Jason is a professor in the Honors College at Ball State University.

He is a historian by training but has recently completed his MA in theology from the University of Dayton. His areas of teaching and research are in the history of literature, philosophy, and theology.

In other staff news, we said goodbye to Pastor Lee in March and welcomed Rev. Jae Wang No as the Assistant Pastor for the International Congregation.

Pastor No served for seven years in young adult ministry at the Korean Church of Champaign-Urbana in Illinois. In 2026, he was called to serve as Pastor of the International Congregation at First Presbyterian Church of Muncie. Since 2025, he has been pursuing a Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.) degree at McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago.



April Murray is a native of Muncie and a graduate of Wes-Del High School and Ivy Tech. Her children attended Pre-K here at First Presbyterian Church. April has a granddaughter who may also be attending Pre-K here in the future. April is excited to begin her time in the office with the church.

If you are in the church during the week please stop by to introduce yourself and say hello.

**Sue Whitaker, Moderator
Generosity Committee**



Volunteer Opportunities

Sign-up sheets for **Volunteer Opportunities** to serve as Liturgist or provide flowers for the Communion Table during Sunday Worship, are at the Welcome Desk.

Liturgists

We will email the script to you on the Thursday prior to the Sunday you signed up for, and we will also print a copy for you.

Communion Table Flowers

We will contact you the week prior to the Sunday you signed up for, print your message in the bulletin, and arrange for the flower delivery if you wish.

First Presbyterian Church

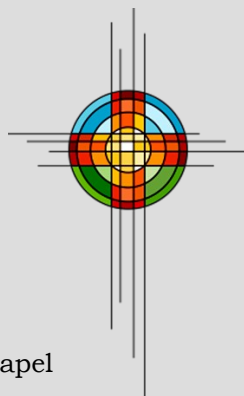
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SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES:

10:00 a.m. Sanctuary Worship Service
11:00 a.m. International Congregation Service, Chapel

The 10:00 a.m. Worship Service is available online via our church website, Facebook page, and First Pres Church YouTube channel.



The Rev. Dr. Daren Hofmann
Senior Pastor
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The Rev. Jae Wang No
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