

FIRST PRESS LITE

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Sunday Morning Schedule

Sunday Fellowship: 8:30 a.m. (coffee and donuts)
Worship Service: 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.
Sunday School (all ages): 10:15 a.m.
*Staffed Nursery all morning

For week day staff office hours, please visit
www.fepcfrankfort.org, or phone the church.

First Press Lite will be published on
the 1st of each month. Deadlines for
submitting articles or information
for the monthly calendar will be the
last Tuesday of each month.

First Evangelical Presbyterian Church
352 West Clinton Street
Frankfort, IN 46041

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Focus on God — Equip God's People — Proclaim Christ — Change the World!

If you received this issue by U.S. mail but would like to receive First Press electronically, please email kalen@fepcfrankfort.org.

SERMON INFORMATION

- Dec 3** — “Images of the Incarnation:
The Cradle—The Shepherds”
- Dec 10** — “Images of the Incarnation:
The Cradle—The Wise Men”
- Dec 17** — “Images of the Incarnation:
The Cross”
- Dec 24** — “Images of the Incarnation:
The Crown”
- Dec 31**— “Images of the Incarnation:
The Crown (part two)”

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

- Dec 3** Marilyn Copeland - Mary & Joseph
Dec 10 Marilyn Copeland - Shepherds
Dec 17 Marilyn Copeland - Magi
Dec 24 - Christ Child
Dec 31

MEAL DELIVERY

- Dec 1** Connie & John Milholland
Dec 8 Sally Rogers & Linda Frey
Dec 15 Sally Rogers & Linda Frey
Dec 22 Sharon Druley & Karen Biery
Dec 29 Sharon Druley & Karen Biery



Stephen Ministry at FEPC

December has rolled around again, and the rush of holiday busyness and expectations has begun. But what if you don't feel like celebrating this year? Maybe a loss (anything from a job termination to the death of someone close), an unexpected change, or a health challenge has you dreading the holiday season. A little pamphlet from HopeNotes observes: *Holiday depression can spring from many sources. The recent death of a loved one, unmet year-end goals, or economic pressures may be troubling you. Perhaps guilt, resentment, or family conflicts are hanging over your head.* If this (or some other large-looming loss or concern) has robbed your joy, please consider giving yourself the gift of connection to help you through the rough time. Why not pick up *Celebrating the Holidays When You Feel Depressed* from the pamphlet racks at church, pick up the phone and call a trusted friend to share your difficulty or sorrow, or call Pastor Kelly or Marty Rodkey and inquire about spending some time with a Stephen Minister? You are worth it, and we care about you. Finally, a year end greeting from all the Stephen Ministry Team: *Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. (Philippians 1:2)*



Life in the Body of Christ

Thank You

- For the cards, calls and prayers during my recent illness. *Carol Montgomery*

- To the volunteers who keep our church looking beautiful during the holidays. The festive fall decorations were used for many November events and now our church is decorated for Christmas. You do such a wonderful job behind the scenes.



First Press Lite

FIRST EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FRANKFORT, INDIANA

Focus on God, Equip God's People, Proclaim Christ, Change the World

A monthly summary of activities at First Evangelical Presbyterian Church

December 2017

Congregational Meeting

After worship Sunday, December 3.
The purpose is to elect new officers.

Communion Sunday

December 3

Observed in Morning Worship and
at Wesley Manor at 1:30 p.m.

Youth CLUE Night

4:00 p.m., December 3

All middle and high school students are
invited and encouraged to invite a
neighbor or friend.

Quilts on Wings

Friday, December 8 @ 1:30 p.m.

Parents Night Out

4:00—8:00 p.m. Friday, December 8

B2B Community Dinner

Wednesday, December 13 @ 5 p.m.

Bloodmobile

Thursday, December 28, 2017
Fellowship Hall

Borrowing Policy

If you need to borrow tables, chairs or
other equipment from the church, please
be sure to check with Donnie Albitz to be
sure it won't be needed or that it hasn't
been reserved by someone else.
The policy states that we will not
lend out kitchen equipment.

Merry Christmas

Holiday Church Office Hours

The week before Christmas: the church will have normal hours
9 a.m.-noon Monday-Thursday, and afternoons by appointment.

Christmas week, Dec. 25-29: Monday and Tuesday—closed;
Wednesday 9-11 a.m.; Thursday 9-11a.m.; Friday — closed

New year week, January 1-5: Monday and Tuesday—closed;
Wednesday 9 a.m.—noon; Thursday, 9 a.m.-noon; Friday—closed.

Christmas Eve Services

Morning Worship: Regular worship at 9:00 a.m.—No Sunday School

Evening Worship: 5:30 p.m. Children's Nativity Program
9:00 p.m. Traditional Service

Communion will be served at the evening Christmas Eve services.

Sunday School Classes will NOT meet on these Sundays:

December 24, December 31 and January 7

No Wednesday evening activities on December 27.

Advent begins Sunday, December 3

Advent devotionals will be distributed by the deacons. Contact the church
office if you or someone you know needs one sent via mail.

Memorial Poinsettias

If you are interested in purchasing a memorial Poinsettia to decorate the Sanctuary
for Christmas, please send the name(s) of the folks you would like to memorialize
to kalen@fepcfrankfort.org. Any donation amount is welcome.

Pastor Search Committee

As the Pastor Search Committee is being formed, it was thought this information might be helpful for them as they begin their search for our "Perfect Pastor".

The results of a computerized survey indicate the following attributes apply to the perfect minister:

- He preaches exactly 15 minutes
- He condemns sins but never upsets anyone
- He makes \$50 a week
- He wears good clothes, buys good books and drives a good car
- He gives about \$50 weekly to the poor
- He is 28 years old and has preached 30 years
- He has a burning desire to work with teenagers and spends all of his time with senior citizens
- He smiles all the time with a straight face because he has a sense of humor that keeps him seriously dedicated to his work
- He makes 15 calls daily on congregation families, shut-ins and the hospitalized
- He is always in his office when needed

It is suggested that if a pastor does not measure up, simply send a letter to six other churches that might be tired of their minister. Then bundle up your minister and send him to the church at the top of the list. In one week, you will receive 1,643 ministers, and one of them will be perfect. Have faith in this procedure. One church broke the chain and got its old minister back in less than three weeks ... so don't break the chain.

On a **serious** note, please keep our Pastor Search Committee in your prayers as they begin this important process of finding the pastor God has chosen for us.

Get Plugged IN ... Serving is POWERFUL!

In November our Mission Team introduced us to several local missions and encouraged us to Get Plugged IN and involved with these ministries. The folks working at **The Crossing** have provided a list of ways people might get Plugged In at The Crossing:

At the building:

- janitorial (partner with a student and clean)
- secretarial (organizing materials, filing paperwork, etc.)
- tutoring (work one-on-one with a student)

★ it is helpful if someone can commit to the same time each week ... there is a volunteer application on the website

Financial:

- sponsor an activity (we have some weekly and some quarterly)
- purchase school/cleaning supplies (a list can be provided)
- building upgrades (donate items or purchase items)

Spiritual:

- commit to a regular prayer time for the school
- sponsor a student and become his/her pen pal and/or mentor (DAD sponsor ... they have cards for this)

Other:

- consider serving on the board

It's True -- Marty Rodkey Is Retiring



Did you know this familiar face at FEPC is retiring from paid employment at the end of 2017? As Director of Care Ministries since December 1998, many of us have come to count on seeing Marty Rodkey at FEPC on a regular basis. That is changing soon.

But she is not leaving completely. Marty plans to continue with the Stephen Ministry, which has been her "volunteer" activity for several years. She tells us it is the ministry that most engages her heart, mind, and spirit.

When asked what has been most rewarding about her work as Director of Care Ministries, Marty's response was: "Oh, my!! All I have learned from each person who has allowed me into their life in challenging as well as joyful times. The opportunity to use the gifts God formed in me for His purposes and the benefit of His body, the church. The amazing privilege and encouragement of laboring with godly coworkers, and gaining a solid biblical foundation under successive pastors."

Just for fun, I asked how many miles she has logged in her work of caring for our church family. She estimates as much as 15,000 miles over the 19 years. That's a lot of miles on our behalf.

As for retirement plans, Marty says she wants to re-calibrate her schedule to a more gentle rhythm as she finds a new balance of rest, study, and service. She also hinted that she has a retirement list that includes names of people in relation to some things she is interested in accomplishing. Now it might be our turn to say, "Oh my!"

A simple "Thank You" seems inadequate when we think of all Marty has done for our church family. No doubt we all can think of times we called to ask for prayer, a ride to the doctor, or some other form of assistance. If Marty couldn't personally attend to our need, she made certain someone else was available. For this we are grateful. Perhaps our way of saying "Thank you" is to pay-it-forward by being more available in the new year to fill the gap in helping tend to the needs of our church family.

Notice to Church Committees

It is time to begin compiling your year-end annual reports. The deadline for annual reports is **January 7**.

Caleb Calloway - Potters Field Ignite Discipleship Program



My name is Caleb Vickery Clark Calloway. Beginning January 2018, I will be taking part in the Potters Field Ignite discipleship program.

In June 2017 I had the blessed opportunity traveling down to Antigua, Guatemala, with the mission team from First Evangelical Presbyterian Church. While helping on the grounds of the compound, I was blessed through conversation and story-telling to get to know a few interns going through the Ignite Program. I shared about myself and how I was once a lost sinner, but the Lord did not turn from me. I came back to the Lord with his arms wide open. It was a humbling experience to say the least. It was a humbling experience serving for our Lord in this new world. It was a humbling experience

talking with individuals my age. It was a humbling experience because I was seeking this opportunity to grow my faith more each day. I want to have a steadfast knowledge of scripture so I can share it with everyone I meet. I was touched in more than one way on this Mission Trip.

After learning about the Ignite program I began to pray for this calling in my life. This is a gift from God, to grow with God, and to share God's faithfulness. The Ignite program is a year-long discipleship commitment to the Lord. For the first three months the training will take part at the Potters Field compound in Whitefish, Montana. The book of Acts is a foundation for study and instruction in missions, supplemented by classes covering basic doctrine, apologetics, the life of Jesus, and the Inductive Bible Study method.

Following this three-month training, I will return to Frankfort to gather supplies and pack for my six-month field service. The location for this will be discussed and determined during the three-month training.

The six-month field service will be with Potter's Field Kids. We will be given the opportunity to put hands and feet to their faith by serving the least of these for six months. I will then return to Whitefish, Montana for a re-entry program for six weeks. I will finalize my Ignite program spending the last two months back here at First Evangelical Presbyterian Church. Upon my return I will be volunteering with church activities and possibly setting up a young adult Bible study or Sunday school class.

I am looking forward to this new chapter in my life. I ask you who are reading this to keep me in prayer and continue to pray that God heals my body from type one diabetes. I will be in contact with Miriam Curts so she can share what I am learning and being taught via the First Press Lite newsletters.

Thank you to all who came out to the Wednesday evening dinner on October 18 and donated your time and money to help me offset some of the costs of the Ignite program. The tacos were such a hit that I will be holding another dinner when I return. Thank you to my mom, Susan, and my dad, Kim, for the love you have always shared, for the commitment of your faith, and the life of our family.