

FIRST PRESS LITE

is published monthly by First Evangelical
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Sunday Morning Schedule

Sunday Fellowship: 8:30 a.m. (coffee and donuts)
Worship Service: 9:00 a.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.

SERMON INFORMATION

April 1 — EASTER

Choir: "What Love Is This"
John 20:1-18

April 8 — "Jesus Appears to the Disciples"

John 20:19-31

April 15 — "The Father and the Son"

John 5:16-30

April 22 — "Witnesses to Jesus"

John 5:31-47

April 29 — "Feeding the Five Thousand"

John 6:1-15

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

Apr 1 8:30 M. Copeland 10:30 A. Trent
- Jesus is Risen: Mary

Apr 8 A. Trent - Jesus is Risen: Emmaus

Apr 15 Janice Chezem - Good Shepherd

Apr 22 In the Sanctuary - Good Shepherd:
Lost Sheep

Apr 29 Amy Crawford—Good Shepherd:
Wolf

MEAL DELIVERY

April 6 Max Blessing & Jim Moyer

April 13 Max Blessing & Jim Moyer

April 20 Ann Robey & Norm Gross

April 27 Ann Robey & Norm Gross

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.



Stephen Ministry at FEPC

The Story of Stephen Ministry

The beginning of Stephen Ministry goes back to 1974 when, as a new pastor, Kenneth Haug realized the needs for care far outweighed what he alone could provide. Using his combined backgrounds in theology and psychology, Haug recruited and trained nine lay people who had the gifts and heart to do caring ministry at his church in St. Louis. Within a short time, fewer people were slipping through the cracks; early care receivers included a widower, a blind person, a young woman with cancer, a truck driver forced to retire early, and an inactive member struggling with faith issues. We here at FEPC are among the beneficiaries of that small start, as one of the more than 10,000 congregations enrolled in the Stephen Series since then. The needs here may not match the list above, but there are hurting people everywhere, and we have Stephen Ministers waiting for a "caregiving match." The Stephen Ministry story will continue on as caring people refer their family or friends to the care of a Stephen Ministry. To get this started for someone you know or for more information about FEPC's Stephen Ministry, check the church website (under Ministries) or pick up a Stephen Ministry brochure around the church. Let the caring continue.

- Marty Rodkey



Life in the Body of Christ

Thank you -

Dear Church Members — Thank you so very much for your calls and hugs, your cards and notes, and especially your prayers in the recent death of my husband, Kay Shupe. I am blessed to be surrounded by such a loving groups of Christians. ~ Anna Shupe



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

April 2018

Prayer with the Pastor

Continues each Monday @ 7:00 a.m.

Easter Sunday

April 1

NO Sunday School

A.L.I.V.E. Will NOT Meet

Worship at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.

Breakfast at 9:30 a.m.

Quilts on Wings

Friday, April 13 @ 1:30 p.m.

Bloodmobile

Thursday, April 19, 2018

Fellowship Hall

B2B Community Dinner

Wednesday, April 25 @ 5:00 p.m.

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.

Holy Week Schedule

March 29: *Maundy Thursday* Communion service at FEPC 7:00 p.m.

April 1: *Easter Sunday*

Worship 8:30 a.m. Cantata "What Love Is This?"

Breakfast 9:30 a.m.

Worship 10:30 a.m. Cantata

Caleb Calloway Headed to Uganda

Now that Caleb Calloway has completed his training with Potters Field Ministries in Montana, we will be commissioning him during our 8:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday, April 1 for his mission work in Uganda. We look forward to having Caleb with us for our Easter Worship. Our prayers will continue for him in this next step in his service to our Lord.

Looking Ahead to Graduation

Do you know someone in the FEPC family who will be graduating from high school, technical school, or college this spring? Or did someone graduate this past winter? If so, we would like to acknowledge them in the May issue of First Press Lite.

Please bring a picture and the following information to the church office, or email it to kalen@fecpfrankfort.org before April 24:

Student name, name of parents (and if an exchange student, home country and name of host family,)

Graduating from high school — include high school activities, any awards or honors and plans for the future

Graduating from technical school or college — include the name of the school, major or area of study and degree or certificate earned, and plans for the future.

Recently **Andrew Brunson** wrote:

To the extent that I am known, I want to be known as a servant and lover of Jesus Christ. I have prayed for this land and its people for many years; for God to pour out great blessing. In my weakness, I pray daily for strength and courage to persevere and remain faithful to my King until the end. My deepest thanks to my family around the world that is standing with and praying for me.

News from Judy Hill in Florida

As anticipated, I arrived in Florida November 30, along with my housemate Lois. The bright sunshine and warm temperatures here have been wonderful! A departure date for Michigan has not yet been set, but it will be the end of April or mid-May, depending on the scheduling of repair work.

REPAIRS TO THE HOUSE

Hurricane Irma hit Florida in early September 2017, but repairs to residences and businesses will probably take another year or even longer to complete. My mobile home had considerable wind damage: a totally missing garage roof, as well as a destroyed carport and walkway overhang in front of the home. It took me some weeks to find a company that would tackle the job in less than 9 months. The lack of certainty over the actual repair date (in early May?) has led to a question about when I will return to Michigan.

Once the garage gets a roof, I'll be able to proceed with the next step: having the electricity redone out there. The garage lights and circuits were destroyed in the hurricane. Using extension cords, I have been able to run the water heater, water softener, washer, and dryer; but there are no electric lights any longer. That is OK in the daytime, since we have the huge "skylight" of a missing roof. If, however, the laundry is still going after sunset, Lois has to take a flashlight out to the garage with her. The lawn sprinkler system also uses electricity coming from the garage and needs to be repaired. Happily, the summer months are rainy ones. I hope my lawn gets good and soaked!

As for the inside of my house, only one small area was damaged, with rain blowing in due to the damaged roof-carport-house interface. The stained ceiling will need to be painted. An unrelated (new) problem is water damage beneath the house, impacting at least some of the subflooring.

TRAINING MEN AND WOMEN AT THE SEMINARY

These months in Florida continue to be active ones in terms of ministry with the Bangui Evangelical School of Theology (BEST) in Central African Republic and Cameroon. Pascal, one of my doctoral students in Cameroon, expects to finalize his dissertation in March. Once that happens, the academic dean will schedule his dissertation defense, hopefully before the end of the school year.

All five of my New Testament doctoral students are teaching undergraduate courses at the two seminary campuses, reporting results to me at the end of each week. Daniel, a sixth former student, has also been added to this teaching corps.

Alphonse, who began his work on a New Testament Master's degree back in October of 2009, has finally completed writing his thesis and will defend it soon. Practical, non-academic help from many and the prayers of God's people enabled this student to finish his program. We are thankful to the Lord for his faithfulness to Alphonse.

PRAYING TOGETHER

For 125 years now (1893-2018), SIM as a mission has lived by the motto of "By Prayer." God's grace in answering prayer has been a hallmark of my years with SIM, in active service and in my current retirement status. How marvelous and compassionate our Lord is!

An example of God's response to our needs in the realm of "Before they call I will answer" (Isa. 65.24) and "... immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine" (Eph. 3.20) came with a generous gift from a wonderfully loving church to help with hurricane repairs to my (inherited, uninsured) home. I had been praying about solutions but never considered this surprising (to me) way in which God provided, covering a major part of the contract for the garage and carport repairs. **PRAISE** our gracious God!

Every blessing,

Judy Hill

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

Have you heard? This year the OCC shoe box program is being handled a little differently at FEPC. Instead of waiting until the fall to collect items for the shoe boxes, we will be collecting items throughout the year. Then at the end of the year there will be a "packing party" . During **April** we are collecting **small stuffed animals**.

Time to Start Planning for VBS

As the weather changes and the sun's warmth begins to cheer our spirits, we begin to look forward to the summer. Amanda Trent tells us when she looks forward to the summer, she thinks of preparing for Vacation Bible School. You can help her prepare for VBS in two different ways.

The first is through prayer. This year's VBS focus is "Babylon: Daniel's Courage in Captivity." Children from our church and in our community will gather together to learn how God is with you when things change, when you need help, when you're afraid, when you're lonely, and when you're thankful. This is a very important time to pray that God would sink these truths into the hearts of our children. More and more often we are seeing violence, abuse, neglect and fear attacking these tender hearts. Who is better able to address these fears and provide comfort than our sovereign Lord? Jesus experienced all of these feelings and can speak to them in the hearts of these children. Please pray that through this VBS children would have a real experience of God's love and presence.

The second way we can prepare for VBS is by keeping our eyes open for outreach locations. This message needs to reach as many children as possible. Please keep an eye out for places where VBS advertising would reach many families. There will be flyers available to post and distribute anywhere and everywhere.

This is an exciting time of preparation and anticipation. Join us!

Keeping Up With the Latest News on Andrew Brunson's Case

Over the past few weeks there have been numerous, sometimes daily, reports found on the internet about Pastor Andrew Brunson. Depending on the source, you may have heard the "Turkish prosecutor is seeking up to 35 years in jail for the American pastor at the heart of a bitter diplomatic spat between Ankara and Washington." Or perhaps you heard this later report stating Pastor Brunson has now been charged with "leadership in a terrorist organization" and "prosecutors are seeking a possible life sentence". Another source tells us "The trial of imprisoned American pastor *Andrew Brunson* will begin in the Aegean province of İzmir on April 16." One article found stated that North Carolina Senator Thom Tillis visited Pastor Brunson this past week. He was quoted as saying, "Pastor Brunson is strengthened by his love for his family and his faith in God, but his health has deteriorated." Tillis also said, "He has lost 50 pounds and spends 24 hours a day in a cell with limited human contact. He is attempting to visit a doctor this week, which involves him being handcuffed and transported with several armed guards. He fears the possibility that the American government accepts the indictment and forgets about him, which we will not allow to happen." Another source reported that Pastor Brunson is only one among many pastors around the world being held in prison because of their faith. We hear more of Pastor Brunson because he is an American, but we should continue our prayers for all who are being persecuted for their faith in Jesus Christ.