



# 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 2020

## Happy Easter

### Easter Week Activities

- April 9 - **Maundy Thursday** - Current plans are to have a Drive-thru Worship in the back parking lot. You will drive past several stations with something to view and scripture to be read. Communion will be celebrated with Pastor Kelly at the last station.
- April 10—**Good Friday**—No plans for a community worship at this time.
- April 12—**Easter Sunday**—Sunrise Service and Easter breakfast are cancelled.

Virtual worship at 9:00 a.m.

### Tithes and Offerings

During this time while we cannot gather as a congregation for worship, please mail your tithes and offerings to the church:

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

### Capital Campaign

The Capital Campaign committee realizes that we will not be in church on April 5th, the day that we were to turn in pledges for the elevator project. We would ask that you **mail those pledge forms to the church**. We also want to let you know that we will not be needing the actual donations until late this year or early next year for those people who want to give a one time donation. Please know that we have been watching the stock market and know that this is not a good time to be pulling money out. It is our prayer that the stock market will make a quick recovery and these scary times will pass quickly. Please contact, Colleen Spencer, Connie Timmons or Wayne Williams if you have any concerns or questions.

## 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.

Prayer Requests brasilianheart@gmail.com

**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](mailto:kalen@fepcfrankfort.org).

## SERMON INFORMATION

**Apr 5 - "Who's in Charge?"**  
Matthew 21:17-19

**Apr 12 – *Easter Sunday***  
"The Resurrection: Are You  
Convinced?"  
Matthew 27:62-66, 28:1-15

***New Sermon Series: Colossians***

**Apr 19 - Colossians 1:1-8**

**Apr 26 - Colossians 1:9-14**

### *Children in Worship*

**Apr 5 - Jesus the King**

**Apr 12 - Jesus is Risen: Mary**

**Apr 19 - Jesus is Risen: Emmaus**

**Apr 26 - Good Shepherd: Wolf**



## *Life in the Body of Christ*

### Condolences to

- Robert Shaffer and family on the recent deaths of his wife, Carol A. Shaffer on March 1, and his daughter, Jennifer Shaffer O'Donnell on March 26 in Illinois.

## Congregational Care Ministry

As a reminder, should any congregational care needs arise, you can contact the church office, your Elder Shepherd, or any of the members of the Congregational Care Committee:

Connie Timmons, Karen Biery, Joyce Peters or Patty Nash.

# CHURCH CONSTRUCTION

Dear Church Family,

It is Wednesday March 25th and while you have all been away from church, the construction of bathrooms and offices has been continuing. Here is the update: The two new bathrooms are nearly complete, just minor details to finish them. The New Nursery, where Amanda's office and Children in Worship was formerly, is complete including the new windows, carpet and bathroom. The bathroom needs a little drywall work and then painting and the room will be ready to move into. The bathroom on the top floor is complete except for the light fixture, which will be installed this week.

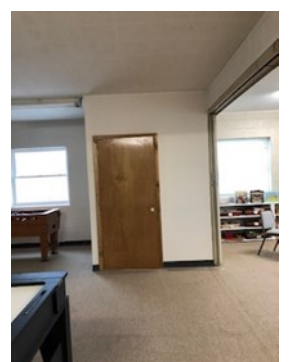
The new offices (where Nursery formerly was) are coming along quickly this week. The walls are constructed and the drywall is nearly all hung. The electrician has been working this week to add outlets. The nursery had only two outlets in the entire room. New ductwork was also installed.

Most of the new windows on the second floor have been installed. Just three are left to complete, Kelly's office and the new offices. That should be done this week if the weather holds.

The company who is installing the new locking system will begin their work tomorrow. That installation should take about a week.

I have several people to thank. First, Thresa Adams and Mark Calvin, it has been messy and dusty work and they continue to try to keep up with that. I have also had help with painting both bathrooms, nursery and some Kilz on old nursery walls. Thank you to Eric Davis, Justin Trent, Sam Walker, Amy and John Rockhold for all of their help. There will be a lot more painting to do, so if you are a painter, please let me know and I will be glad to put you to work one of these days after we can get out again. And a big thank you to Pastor Kelly, only he knows how many questions that I have had for him and how many times I have dragged him to look at what is happening!

Colleen Spencer





## Stephen Ministry at FEPC

### Stephen Ministry Myth #2

**Myth:** We Don't Have Enough People in Our Congregation or Community Who Would Benefit from the Type of Care a Stephen Minister Provides.

**Reality:** Well, this one should be easy to debunk, considering the current state of life due to the coronavirus crisis! It seems everywhere we look there is cause for stress, concern, even downright worry. You may even be experiencing these yourself due to the restrictions and uncertainties of life with social distancing. Thankfully, FEPC's Stephen Ministers (SMs) are still functioning in their listening, caring, being-with-the-hurting mode, just with a slight change. Telecare (yes, SMs even learned about it in their training) allows your Stephen Ministers to offer compassionate care over the telephone. And though at times over the past year, all your SMs were matched with a Care Receiver (CR), we currently have some unassigned SMs ready to take on new CRs.

Also, any of the Stephen Ministers or Leaders are available in this altered time to hear your concerns on an as-needed basis and share a prayer together right when you feel a need without going through the whole SM referral process. Pastor Kelly (314-374-6042 or [kelly@fepcfrankfort.org](mailto:kelly@fepcfrankfort.org)) or Marty Rodkey (765-379-3112 at home or [marty@fepcfrankfort.org](mailto:marty@fepcfrankfort.org)) could easily put you in immediate touch. A final thought from your SMs: It's okay to be afraid of coronavirus, but don't give way to fear, because as His precious children we can know that *God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.* Psalm 46:1.

### New Stephen Minister

During the morning worship on February 9, Chris Walker was commissioned as a Stephen Minister.



## FOOD FINDERS MOBILE FOOD PANTRY Drive-Thru-Style at FEPC March 19, 2020



Dear Heavenly Father,

A deep thanks for the amazingly successful Mobile Pantry yesterday as we served you by serving the community! 150 families served in under an hour- could only happen through you, Lord!

**Thank you** for the Food Finders organization and staff who continue to provide food in trying times, and for Alex and Tara who drove, setup, and encouraged us yesterday by their presence and suggestions. Please encourage and keep them safe.

**Thank you** for each volunteer who signed up and then decided, for health or weather reasons, not to attend. Their willingness was an early encouragement to FEPC's effort.

**Thank you** for each volunteer who was able to serve in anything from Parking Lot flow (a huge job this time!), to roving register-ers with clipboards and numbers, to many hands who placed food in vehicles or broke down boxes- their willing spirit made it happen! And thank you for the extra helpers who just showed up; as always, you provided just the right number of folks.

**Thank you** for each person who received food, and please continue to provide for their needs, as many are in dire situations.

**Thank you** that a spirit of patience and calm prevailed as we tried out the new drive up method; a true answer to our prayers.

**Thank you** for all who prayed for the Food Pantry effort. There are times when I can't wait to get to heaven and know how you wove prayers with your will into our daily activities, other times when just being here to see what you'll do next is equally exciting!

**Thank you** for being our sovereign, mighty, merciful, triune God!

We love you and praise you in the name of Jesus,  
Marty Rodkey for the church

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

## April

3—Becky Thies

4—Teresa Beardsley

Kira Vargas

5—Sandy Meyer

7—Sutton Meyer

Abby Price

9—Finley Meyer

Grayce Moore

Jacque Snyder

10—Caleb Vargas

12—Jacob Herin

Karen Lashbrook

13—Lyla Stewart

14—Jack Ransom

Landon Stewart

15—Rachel Adams

20—Katie Crawford

22—Jacob Swinford

23—Dick Sutton

24—Zaiden Ford

Linda Frey

Megan Wilson

25—Carleigh Wilson

26—Dan Troyer

27—Dan Coapstick

Olivia Moore

Sam Walker

Ian Vargas

28—Caroline Queen

## April Anniversaries

7—Gary & Bobbi Carter

20—Fred & Mitzi Carter

25—Joe & Susan Ruch



## Seniors—and Parents of Graduating Students

Have you or your student graduated from either High School or College since June of 2019? Do **NOT** forget to send your information to Miriam or Kalen **no later than April 24**. So far we have received information from **just one graduate**. We are looking for something to come in from **at least eight more** of you.

What we need is a **picture** along with information for the following categories:

Student name ... *and home city/country if an exchange student*

Parents names

Host family name ... *if exchange student*

School name

School activities

Church Activities

Special achievements and/or awards

Future plans ... *more schooling? Where and what field of study?  
Job? Other plans?*

Favorite Bible Verse

Remember ... Send picture and information to **macurts@gmail.com** or to **kalen@fepcfrankfort** before **April 24**

## Meals on Wheels

This ministry is now being coordinated by the volunteers of the Paul Phillippe Senior Resource Center. If you have given your time to deliver meals in the past, and you want to continue, please contact the Paul Phillippe Center.

We thank all who have participated in this ministry over the years, and most importantly we thank Nancy Smith, who has been scheduling the Meals on Wheels ministry for the past 15 years.

Thank you, Nancy, for a job well done.

You've heard it said that if you sing the Happy Birthday song while washing your hands, it comes out about the right amount of time to get them clean. Did you know that saying the Lord's Prayer will also fit the bill?

## Virtual Worship at FEPC

During our time of 'Stay Home' only a few essential people have been allowed in the church on Sunday mornings. For those who have not been able to join the 'virtual worship', here are some pictures of the people on hand leading us in worship from our homes on March 22.

In addition to the people pictured below, Terri and Amy were on the keyboard and synthesizer, and Dan was running the Livestream.



### Old Testament Scripture Cake

(A Puzzle just for Fun ... but makes a real cake)

4 ½ Cups I Kings 4:22	2 Cups Numbers 17:8
1 Cup Judges 5:25 (last clause)	2 Tbsp I Samuel 14:25
2 Cups Jeremiah 6:20	1 Pinch Leviticus 2:13
2 Cups I Samuel 30:12 (second item)	6 Jeremiah 17:11
2 Cups Nahum 3:12	½ Cup Judges 4:19

Seasonings II Chronicles 9:9

Follow directions of Solomon for bringing up a child; Proverbs 23:14; that is "Beat him with a rod."

Bake as a loaf cake at 325 degrees for 50 minutes.

Cool on rack.

Slices best after a few hours.

(All references are to the King James version of the Bible.)

*If you make this cake, be sure to take a picture and let us know how it turned out.*

*Your results can be shared in a future issue of First Press Lite.*



## Life in the Family: What We've Been Doing During 'STAY HOME' ...

A HUGE THANK YOU to all who shared about your activities.

**Brice Stingley** – Hello everyone I'm still alive and kicking. I'm flooded with well wishes from all of you. Thank you. I've had home health care visiting and they have been taking care of me. I've been following services on YouTube live and if I can't be there with you all its been the next best thing.

**The Plunkitts** – We LOVED the church service online March 22! Our family gathered for singing, praise, & prayer & afterward we enjoyed breakfast together. It was delightful!

Kurumi Katano flew out on Thursday (It was a sooner than planned departure for her, but the organization required that she and other students leave due to the Corona virus.) & she/we would definitely appreciate prayer! Be thinking of her as she travels & transitions back into her Japanese family & country. Often this part of an exchange year can be the most puzzling as the views of students are now changed forever as "normal" native country life just begins to look a little different & sometimes very odd! She will have to finish two more years of high school, but her heart is soundly set on returning as soon as she may. We will all miss her winning smile!

We are playing some games, watching some tv & movies, walking the dog, working on the Ancestry DNA, & so much more! I am certain that I will end this time wanting more time to go through piles of unused, unread, & unneeded stuff that has accumulated through the years. "Please, may I have some more?" Yes, I am sure that many of you cannot abide this alone time, but I love the quiet, bird-watching, thoughtfully slow days. I cannot get enough! :)

**The Rothenbergers** -- Olivia and I are trying to get a jump on spring projects. However, I am available for any dental emergency involving pain. We are mandated to see emergency patients as needed.

Larry D Rothenberger D.D.S.  
Aesthetics and Gentle Family Dentistry  
Frankfort, Indiana 46041  
765-659-3351

**Amy Crawford** – I am, as teachers often say, "building an airplane while flying it." I'm learning to connect with my students in a completely new way while trying to teach them. Add to the fact that they and their parents are learning a new language and it makes for lots of challenges and some deep rewards. I am also enjoying connecting with FEPC members who are in my shepherding flock, something I hadn't had time to do well with the normal business of school days. I am finding that God is helping me see value in connections...to Him and to others!

**Matt Crawford** – Caterpillar was deemed an essential manufacturer since we make large power generators. So I've still been at work everyday. I will have one week off at the beginning of April; but after that is still unknown. That's OK, because I have plenty of spring chores to do. The most enjoyable thing for me during this time is being on the church's tech crew. Our job is to be some of the few who go into the church early on Sunday mornings to produce & broadcast the FEPC services.

## Life in the Family: What We've Been Doing During 'STAY HOME' ...

**Carol & Fred Downs** – I've been doing more cooking than ever before and enjoying it! Fred has gained 4 pounds - Yay! But I think I've gained - Boo!  
Here's my first attempt at quiche! I'll let you know how it tastes!



**The Chezems** –Janice made and sent cards to members shut in at Wesley Manor and other shut-ins. Myron picks a couple men to call each day to check up on them. Since we couldn't celebrate in person, we made birthday videos for our grandson and son who have birthdays during this week. We watched the movie Harriette about Harriette Tubman. We are both doing the treadmill daily, exercises using the foam roller, and walking outside when weather permits. Janice is also doing Pilates videos from her trainer. Also watching Pastor Kelly's messages on Facebook. One thing that takes special effort --- not eating everything in the cabinets!!!!

**Amanda Trent** – During our extra time at home, we are enjoying the opportunity to stay in our jammies most days. Cecilia is practicing her kitchen skills by preparing us lunch (with a captive audience).



**Karen Biery** – I'm not doing anything exciting. Reading and eating and for some reason I've been watching golf on TV! I have read Jerry Bridges' The Practice of Godliness, Kevin DeYoung's The Hole in Our Holiness and Todd Wilson's Real Christian. Now I'm reading R C Sproul's The Holiness of God. Really good "alone time" books to read and think about.

**Doug Montgomery** – We're getting the nursery ready for Baby Montgomery at Mike and Abby's house.



**From McClain Family** – There is something so satisfying about finishing a puzzle- all the pieces fit together and the picture is complete. Even more satisfying is the time spent together as a family working to accomplish the goal.

With 80's music blasting out of a real 'boom box' just like we had back then, we started piecing the frame together. The kids had some jokes about the size of the radio we found tucked away in a corner ...'Can you imagine carrying this big thing around, just to listen to music???' 'Yeah, we carried it on our shoulders while we were walking around!!!' Hahaha! They laughed at some of the songs that came on and turned their noses up at others, but many of them we all sang along with together. Memories were made along the way.



There were some parts of this puzzle that we found came together without much difficulty, while other sections took quite a bit more time and required much observation and study of the individual pieces. Even though we had the picture of the completed puzzle to follow, it wasn't always easy. But we kept at it and eventually it all came together!

## Life in the Family: What We've Been Doing During 'STAY HOME' ...

**Brooke McClain** – Good evening. I thought this might be fun to share—We picked up the game Life, last week because our girls love it. The new version is a bit different from the original, including the option of choosing a 'life' track or a 'family' track at one point in the game. I chose the family track, and ended up with three - **yes 3** - sets of twins and two other children, for a total of **eight** children. I also acquired a dog at one point during the game. I used an extra car playing piece to transport all of my children around the game board until I retired in second place!!



The girls found it interesting the emphasis on career and how pets and how actions taken through 'life' were given a higher value than children, and an interesting discussion was had during our game. Attached is the photo of my 'family' during the game 🤖

**Kurth Family** – a picture is worth a thousand words ... attempting a family music lesson ... and puzzle time



**Elaine Ridenour** – I had to do something physical so while in Warsaw I shampooed the carpets here. Unfortunately my shampooer was in Frankfort, so I used a sponge mop and a bucket. Took a little longer but it did the job ... feeling much better. Physical work always helps me

**Terri Calvin** – Mark, who has been given two weeks to stay home from work, has been very busy with projects. He has cleaned and disinfected most of the house, cleaned out the garage, trimmed trees, and replaced an old cast iron sink in the basement with a lovely new laundry sink and faucet. He has been blessed to have the help of our son, Vince. :-) From Mark's happy wife.



## Life in the Family: What We've Been Doing During 'STAY HOME' ...

**Dick Hammer** – I've been photographing at a Great Horned Owl's nest in the eastern part of the county ... until the Stay Home directive.



We check on Nancy Boulton regularly, I've picked up Rx for her, and I've been picking up the mail for friends who are out of town and didn't put a "hold mail" on their service with the USPS before they left, Kay checks on several elderly (older than us!) neighbors while she's out on her walks, and she's dropped off soup or BBQ to some of the neighbors who have decided to stay inside 24/7 for the duration. I don't know if sending pictures counts as ministering but I do know several folks who love birds, etc. and are staying close to home have expressed their appreciation. I've even sent them to Gina Sheets who has a Great Horned Owl nesting in a Saguaro Cactus near their home in Arizona.

Early spring wildflowers (Woodland Ephemerals) are beginning to appear and I always take a lot of photos of them as well. One of my favorites that appears the first week of April is Hepatica. The attached images were taken at Camp Cullom last April 5th.



## Life in the Family: What We've Been Doing During 'STAY HOME' ...

**Chris & Sam Walker** – Sam and I just are getting over a nasty sinus cold which hit head and chest. I got it after being coughed and sneezed on for a week since it was our first week of self-quarantine. Entitle this the gift that keeps giving. Sam has been painting lots of Western scenes and clouds. I am reading a lot (maybe I will stay on track with my Bible reading plan). I am also writing letters to friends!



**The Peters Family**-- We are a boring family. We aren't doing much. Mike continues to go to work as usual. No stopping his work. Joyce continues going to work on the ambulance when others have called off sick. Maybe, in hind sight, that is not a good idea! But, even though I am retired, I still continue loving my line of work and value the people in this county, so I go to work when needed! Taylor has been staying in as she has asthma and doesn't need to be out in this environment. She is getting bored!!

Otherwise, we have been catching up on old and new movies and old shows on TV. I have been reading some and doing bible studies, even if we can't get together for our groups! I sure do miss my Bible Study groups!

Mike and I have even been planning on how we want to remodel our bathroom and what materials it will take. Not sure if we will survive a remodel!

We have enjoyed watching the services live stream! We miss being there but at least we can be there in spirit! Can't wait for this virus to get out of here so we can meet together as a church! Everyone has been doing a great job on Sunday mornings!

Miss everyone! —Mike, Joyce and Taylor

**Miriam Curts** – Extra reading time, walks around the Wesley Manor complex while listening to audio books, daily texting with brothers and other relatives, and enjoying all the jokes on Facebook have filled a lot of my time. When I lived in Cincinnati I was able to workout with a private trainer in her gym three days a week. Now that her clients cannot come to the gym, she has been using Zoom meetings to connect with clients and carry on her personal training business. I was thrilled when she invited me to join in her group Boot Camp sessions. It has been fun to work out with her again, and to be reminded of exercises I can do at home on my own. Also, I've really enjoyed putting together this issue of the First Lite Press. And I was blessed to receive an email from my Elder Shepherd reminding me I am being prayed for regularly, as are all of you.

## Pray for Kwetu Faraja

This is from Lorien Knapp Sayayu—

When it rains it pours...

The water keeps coming in Tanzania. The pigs are about to be evacuated for the third time this year as the water keeps moving further inland. The boys have built makeshift bridges so that they can get through the floods. The water shows no signs of receding.

They have found a positive side of things - they are enjoying fishing... but we pray the crocodiles stay far away.

This is a time in our world when everything is falling apart. A pandemic, floods, fires, earthquakes, tornadoes, economic disaster. But I know our God hears our prayers.

Please if you have a moment, send up a few extra prayers for those who are struggling in the midst of natural disasters while also trying to battle COVID19.

How fortunate we are when we can hunker down in a house with supplies, a roof over our heads, and internet access to keep us connected. There are so many people in this world who can't "hunker" like this - life has to keep moving as usual because there is no other choice.

Pray, pray, and pray some more.



## From the Merediths ...



Read on to catch up on what is and is **NOT** happening.

*The mind of man plans his way, BUT...the Lord directs his steps!* Prov 16:9

22 March 2020

Greetings Fellow Travelers!

**"I am planning on going "HOME" in APRIL (for 2 weeks) to Nairobi, Kenya** for the *Faith Directions Forum* to re-think our Strategy for reaching Africa with 120 Navigator leaders from Africa..."

**HUH!??! Not gonna happen.** OK – that was 10 March. NOW, so much has changed, so fast!

- The Faith Directions Forum has been cancelled – cannot plan a new date at this time. I WILL travel to Kenya when I CAN – I need to see everyone and take them all their stuff that's been accumulating here the past few months! And cover several topics with leaders there!
- Emily & Karl's wedding here on 5 April...? NOT happening. Not here. NO one can travel. They will get married in Anchorage, Alaska at their church with a small reception. We hope to watch by FaceTime. They will honeymoon in an igloo – or something. Their Kenya & Zambia trips will also have to wait.

**PERSPECTIVE:** Our empty grocery store shelves look almost as bad as the stores in Zambia from 1989-1996! Those were hard years for us with little kids. And at times, without water for days, sometimes, weeks.

We managed because we had "community". *Jamii* – in Kiswahili. We did life together! NOW, we need to distance ourselves socially to survive. A different perspective is helpful:

- "American-pioneer-self-sufficient" culture says, "I got this! I CAN do it. Separately."
- "African-community" culture says, "We got this. We CAN do this. Together."
- Biblical community says, "*From Him the **whole body** joined and held together by every supporting ligament grows and builds itself up in love **as each part does its work.***" Eph 4:16 – we are designed, as individuals, to live and thrive as a body, IN COMMUNITY.

In Zambia and Kenya we, as everyone else did who lived there at the time, **saw God's faithful provision** through:

- Annual cholera outbreaks
- Several national riots and attempted coup d'état's
- Completely EMPTY grocery stores and fuel shortages
- Ebola virus outbreaks
- And more...once, from inside our own highjacked vehicle!

I still believe the same God will see us through this difficult time of toilet paper shortage. ☺

**Perspective. Isaiah 50:10b** "*Let the one who walks in the dark, who has no light, trust in the name of the Lord and rely on their God.*"

**Pray for us:**

- For grace and wise connection with our neighbors at this time
- Opportunities to reflect HIS love in COMMUNITY
- Patty's "thinker" to continue to be STABLE as her doctor **increases** her movement meds.

**Thank you SO much for walking WITH us in and through this.** – Bob & Patty