



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

July 2020

Prayer with the Pastor
Each Monday @ 7:00 a.m.

Happy 4th of July

Combined Boards Meet
Deacons—Session—Trustees
Tuesday, July 7 @ 5:30 p.m.

Mega Sports Camp
Saturday, July 18 and 25
9-11 a.m.

See locations in article at lower right

Pool Party
Thursday, July 30 @ 6:30—8:30 p.m.
Lebanon City Pool

Getting Back to Church

It was good to see so many worshippers back in church at the end of June. Reminders as we continue to gather:

- ★ Masks and hand sanitizer will be available
- ★ Offering plates will be at the back of the sanctuary
- ★ There will be NO NURSERY
- ★ Sanctuary worship: masks optional; social distancing observed
- ★ Fellowship Hall worship: masks required

Mobile Food Pantry
Friday, July 31 @ 10:30 AM

NO CHOIRS
NO DISCIPLETOWN
NO YOUTH ACTIVITIES
NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
Until Fall

VBS / Mega Sports Camp

In lieu of Vacation Bible School, we will be holding two Saturdays of Mega Sports Camp. These events will culminate in a church pool party on July 30 at the Lebanon facilities.

Mega Sports Camp: Team Spirit is for children going into Kindergarten through 5th grade. Invite your friends for high energy, sports activities and lessons on how we get a special “team Spirit” on God’s team

July 18 - Mega Sports Camp will be 9-11 a.m. at the home of Eric and Colleen Spencer.

July 25 - Mega Sports Camp will be 9-11 a.m. at the home of Connie Timmons.

Borrowing Policy

If you need to borrow tables, chairs or other equipment from the church, please be sure to check with **Colleen Spencer** 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.

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.
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.**

SERMON INFORMATION

July 5 - Pastor Bill Sebald
Hope in the Harvest

July 12 - “Spiritual Stich Fix - New
Clothes”
Colossians 3:12-17

July 19 - Elder Jack Ransom
“But God”
Philippians 4:4-7

July 26 - Elder Jeff Hardesty
“What’s in a Name?”

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.



Life in the Body of Christ

Congratulations to

- Mike and Abbey Montgomery on the birth of Davis Michael Montgomery on Sunday, June 14. And to his grandparents, Eric & Gayla Davis and Doug & Kathy Montgomery.
- Phoebe Smith, recently named recipient of the Frankfort Community Public Library’s Derrick/Fullerton Volunteer of the Year Award for 2019.

Condolences to

- John and Janet Trent on the recent passing of Janet’s sister in Florida.

New Office Phone System

If you have called the church recently you will notice a new greeting. That’s because our phones have been updated to VoIP, simply put internet-based phone service. Now when you leave a staff member a voicemail, we receive a copy of it instantly in our email. So no matter where we are, we will receive your message. The church phone is 765-654-5558



Maddie and Emma invite you to join them at a dessert open house on Thursday, July 23rd from 4-8 p.m. at Arborwood by Shoups 100 Golf Preserve Lane, Frankfort

NOTE ... The correct time is 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Arborwood on July 23rd.

All are welcome!



Stephen Ministry at FEPC

Stephen Ministry Myth #5: If a person says “no” when offered a Stephen Minister, we should simply accept that and not ask again.

Reality: If a person says no, I try to listen and respond to his or her concerns, and I recommend this approach to you, too. If they still decline, let it go for now, but keep the door open. And try to check back with them occasionally- two or three or times in the weeks or months that follow, in a consistent and caring way, and continue to pray for them. Sometimes people will become more receptive to Stephen Ministry after they’ve had more time to consider it. Or their situation may change, and they’ll feel a much greater need for Stephen Ministry. In fact, this has happened often with the Care Receivers we’ve served here at FEPC, and your “priming the pump” as their friend or concerned church leader often plays a part in their eventually saying “yes.” I’ve had several folks tell me they’re glad we persisted in offering a Stephen Minister, and what a joy it could be for you to play a part in that!

Marty Rodkey, SM Referral Coordinator
marty@fepcfrankfort.org cell or text: 765-404-1349

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.

Construction Update

Good news from the Trustees! All construction remodeling the nursery, office spaces and restrooms is now complete. There are still a few items to hang up.

Word has been received that the construction documents for the elevator project have been submitted to the state for approval.

Mobile Food Pantry

FEPC was host June 18 for the Food Finders truck. Approximately 150 families received much needed groceries. Thank you to our helpers: National Guard, Suzie Ransom, Abby Price, Stephanie Coapstick, Thresa Adams, Jami Pratt, and Larry Laughner. Your service was greatly appreciated .

Next Food Finders visit at FEPC will be Friday, July 31.



Tithes and Offerings — Online Giving Option

We now have an online giving/tithing option available. Click this link to get started:

<https://epc.org/donate/firstepcfrankfort/>

Be sure to bookmark this link if you plan to use this option weekly.

Please note, the online giving option comes with a 3% fee, charged to FEPC. If you would like to help us offset this cost, please include 3% in your gift. If you have questions, contact Kalen at kalen@fepcfrankfort.org

If you prefer not to use the online giving option and you are continuing isolation, you may mail your tithes and offerings to the church:

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

July

1—Kay Hammer

Margaret Robinson

2—Peggy Williams

3—Patty Meredith

Kevin Price

4—Brady Swinford

5—Olivia Rothenberger

6—Amanda Moore

8—Frank Beardsley

9—Cathy Price

Ellie Swinford

13—Debbie Bracken

15—Sonya Miller

16—Alaina Dudley

Mary Ann Morrison

20—Jenna Rockhold

21—Audrey McClain

22—Kelly Kurth

John Milholland

26—Fred Agnew

Carol Downs

27—Kay Maddock

28—Charlie Beardsley

31—Luke Beardsley

Megan Wickersham

July Anniversaries

1—Dan & Marty Rodkey

4—Jeff & Sally Moore

5—Dick & Kay Hammer

7—Mark & Megan Wickersham

10—Fred & Carol Downs

12—Andy & Mandy Dudley

Steve & Linda Frey

14—Chuck & Kris Queen

16—Matt & Amy Crawford

20—Myron & Janice Chezem

24—Ed & Suzi Pluhar



TECHNOLOGY GRANT — THIS IS EXCITING!!!

At the end of April Pastor Kelly notified the Technology Team of an opportunity to apply for a technology grant of \$5000 through the Center for Congregations in Indiana. These grants were being made available to churches in need of technology updates related to connecting to their membership during this time of reduced attendances at church.

Dan and Heidi Troyer accepted the challenge to review the requirements and options for FEPC to apply for one of these grants. Some stipulations were that the grant moneys could not be used for items already planned for in the current budget. A lot of effort went into the preparation of the grant application.

On June 5 news was received that our Connect Through Tech Grant Application was Approved!!! There are a few more steps to be completed before we start acquiring the items applied for, but this was great news!

Dan said, "As I was researching updates to our current technology, it hit me just how much we had already been doing with so little. Every device that we were using for live streaming has been donated or indefinitely loaned to the church for this this purpose. Entering into this "shutdown" due to COVID-19, we did not need to purchase a single item to make sure we could engage our church family. As that sunk in, I am thankful for what we have done to this point and look forward to being able to expand our scope of abilities, with Church owned equipment. There are still needs related to engaging our church body remotely, and we plan to use this added technology to enhance what we have already been doing for about two years now. The total amount approved in the grant is \$5344 with the church matching 10% of the funding, which means \$4,809 will be provided by the Grant."

Indeed, this is good news for FEPC and you will see smiling faces on our tech team in the months ahead. A huge **THANK YOU** to Dan for all his effort in researching what we need moving forward, for detailing it all in a successful grant proposal, and now in following through with the implementation.

His Eyes Honduras

Felipe and Valerie Colby, missionaries our church supports in Honduras, are helping those around them during a rigid lockdown due to Covid-19. In addition to continuing to offer health, vision and dental services at the His Eyes clinic, they are buying and delivering food to families and children they normally serve in The Milk Project. Felipe advises that for \$10 they are able to purchase about 17 pounds of food for families.

If you would like to help, checks can be mailed to:

His Eyes
9903 Indian Lake Blvd North Drive
Indianapolis IN 46236

Please add a note in the envelope that it is for "food."

Or go to <https://www.hiseyeshonduras.com/donate.html>

His Eyes Honduras

Felipe Colby has written the following to FEPC:

Due to our ongoing worsening situation with COVID in Honduras, and the needs/burdens that is putting on us to continue operating the clinic, FAME (www.fameworld.org) on the SE side of Indy has agreed to help us by sending a container of medical supplies, hopefully it would ship in the next month . They are going to give us everything they can, but there will be extra room for us to try to get more supplies together.

If you would like to contribute items from the list below, containers will be available at the back of the Sanctuary and in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, July 5, 12 and 19. We would like to collect medical supplies and over the counter medicines like the following:

- Pain relievers (acetaminophen, ibuprofen, naproxen, aspirin)
- Creams (anit-itch, antibiotic, anti-fungal)
- Vitamins (non-gummy ... they melt)
- Soaps, lotions, hand sanitizer
- Band-aids, boxes of bandages, gauze, medical tape

Felipe also asks for our prayers ...not only due to the health crisis here that is worsening, but also for our staff who are working through this daily to help an increasing number of people that need help coming through the gate every day, for health, endurance, and the testimony to shine through them that what we are doing is from God specifically, and especially in times like these!

McClain Family Update



Greetings from Upstate New York!!

We are grateful to have been able to connect with several of you these last couple of weeks. We'd like to thank all of you who have reached out, called, texted, or emailed. We have been here three weeks now! The weeks have been full, and have passed quickly, and yet, we have taken time to be still and and to dwell in the land the Lord has brought us too.

The other day, I recalled an exercise that we did in our ABIDE debrief training back in February. We were given several images to study and we were to choose which one best described our 'state' at that moment. They were each a picture of some sort of cross roads and they were all different from each other. I reflected back on how I felt when I looked at those pictures and when I looked at the one that described my emotional and physical state at that time. I have looked at that image many times over the past four months. My perspective of the image has changed as time has passed. I actually see it very differently now than I did then. It is much clearer and even more defined and the fear that was attached to it then has faded in the dusty desert sand.

I was scrolling through images on my phone and found the four included here. It is interesting to me as I study them how what comes to my mind differs from image to image. In the first, I focus on the the ominous clouds and rough water.

The second image to the right shows the lighthouse off in the distance, but because the photo was taken from the shore, the light house seems so far away.

The third picture is particularly special to me because the memory of this view is such a treasure. It was taken maybe a quarter of a mile from the first two, but the difference in perspective is striking. The clouds no longer look as ominous, nor the water as tumultuous. Somehow even the distance that separates the shore from the lighthouse seems less daunting, standing upon greener ground. You can almost hear the birds chirping if you concentrate a little bit...



Continued on next page ...

McClain Family Update — continued ...

Isn't this how we see life sometimes? I know it is for me. Over the past months, we have felt the pounding waves crash against us, seen the 'light' ahead in the distance, only to have the storm delay our arrival. And yet, we have also had many moments where even a slight change in perspective has altered our attitude and brightened our day, encouraging us to continue on.

This fourth picture shows two geese on a mound with the duck floating beside. Sometimes it just seems like you are a sitting duck, with nowhere to go. Often, we feel all alone on the journey.



We've felt this, too. And yet, even in those moments, God is faithful to reveal hidden resources all around us, possibly just below the water's surface, waiting to be taken possession of. We see this new land as a combination of all of these pictures - a new journey with the 'goal' in the far-off distance; challenging and exhilarating to navigate ('Isn't this exciting?') and one filled with much needed 'new perspective' moments; and though the enemy would have us feel alone and like we are 'sitting ducks' we believe in faith that God has given us this very land to dwell in, to fully possess, and to discover all the hidden blessings He has provided for such a time as this!

No matter what we face in front of us, when we look up, we look towards the One who holds it all in the palm of His hands. "Looking unto Jesus" is the theme verse for CC Zaporophye. We have included it in every update since we began the faith journey towards Ukraine and serving with CC Zap. As I ponder the picture above, I am reminded of the phrase 'beauty of holiness' that is found in 2 Chronicles 20:21. This verse speaks of the appointing of those who will 'sing to the Lord' and those who will 'praise the beauty of holiness.' As these saints went out for battle, they were singing and praising their Lord, believing in His enduring mercy and in their certain victory in Him. I've been pondering this passage for several days. There is a popular worship song that has a line that goes, 'Your righteousness in me is holiness.' As we were driving yesterday, I noticed that the sky had opened up into this beautiful, bright guiding light and the phrase 'beauty of holiness' and the lyrics of that song came to my mind. In that moment it all began to connect for me. As I face difficulty, challenges, and really, all things in life, looking unto Jesus, I will see His guiding light, leading the way. As I look unto Him, with thoughts of eternity, I will see the beauty of His holiness, of His sovereignty, and of His care and affection. It is His holiness that births in us a new song to sing, and praises burst forth, and His righteousness washes over us. Our perspective, our thoughts, our actions are aligned with His and we move forward, believing His mercy endures forever.



McClain Family Update — continued ...

Prayer requests:

- Pray as we continue to settle in to our new life
- Pray for us to build relationships with our neighbors
- Pray for us to enter into our new community well
- Pray for continued good health
- Pray that we learn to balance work schedules with opportunities to serve and fellowship
- Pray for a smooth switch from our previous health insurances to a new carrier
- Pray for continued provision as we transition. We have a significant increase in gas costs, related to commute for work.
- Pray that our daily we continue to be looking unto Him
- Pray that the beauty of His holiness is shown throughout our lives to those around us
- Pray for continued healing and restoration in the Lord
- Pray for our new family at CC Finger Lakes
- Pray for us to fully possess all the Lord has given us in this new area

Thank you for praying for us!!

Prayer for Ukraine:

Please continue to pray for Byron and Emily, who are currently still in Ukraine. In their most recent prayer update, they announced that they believe the Lord to be calling them to leave Ukraine and return to the USA. They have made the painful decision to begin their transition from Ukraine back to Colorado. They are in the process of transitioning the church over to Ukrainian leadership and are planning to depart Ukraine next month. Please pray for them as they say good-bye to the place that has been their home since 2012. Rejoice with them for all that God has done and the way He has shown Himself faithful, even through the Covid-19 quarantine, to edify His church and to raise up Ukrainian leadership. Pray for a flight to open up for their travel back to Colorado, and financial provision for their remaining time in Ukraine, as well as for their transition phase upon their return to Colorado. Pray for CC Zap to grow in the grace of the Lord, in endurance to run their race, looking unto Jesus, as they go.

We see all of this as the Lord confirming even more how He has guided us and led us, along the way. We knew that He was leading us to serve alongside Byron and Emily in Ukraine. We know that He knew all along what He was doing in their lives, in the church, and all that would transpire due to the Covid-19 virus. We know that He doesn't make mistakes. While it is impossible for us to understand His ways, we trust and believe that we heard Him and followed His leading in obedience. We truly believe it is His will for us to be in New York for such a time as this. Even if the path we have taken to get here seems to not make sense, we believe He has called us to settle here and make this our home. Our hearts will always be open to international missions, but we also see the great need in our own country and we are thankful and grateful that He has given us the opportunity to be witnesses unto Him in the USA.

Jessica Rockhold headed to Georgia Tech Fall 2020

RUF Internship

Dear Friends and Family,

I first found RUF the spring semester of my Freshman year at Purdue when a friend mentioned RUF to me and invited me to a large group. College was a hard transition and I was lonelier than I would have liked to admit. That semester started regularly attending large group and I experienced intentionality from others, I heard the gospel taught in new ways that finally made sense to me, and met people that have shaped my walk with God.



For three and a half years, RUF has been the landing space for all my doubts and questions about my faith, for many sweet friendships, and a growing heart that desires to be nearer to the Lord. The ministry of RUF has taught me how to be vulnerable and honest with myself, others, and God. It has blessed me with the deepest connections and friendships that I have ever experienced. As I see my need for God growing more and more, I am able to see more clearly God's great love for me.

This ministry has been such an important part of my life, and my college experience would have been remarkably different if I had never been pursued so deeply and been constantly loved and encouraged by my RUF interns at Purdue. They sat down with me over many cups of coffee to ask me tough questions, encourage me in my walk with God, and pray over me. This internship is a God given opportunity to give back to students and reach students for Christ on my new campus.

Where I'm Going

For the next two years (2020-2022), I will be serving as the intern at Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, Georgia! Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) is the college ministry of the Presbyterian Church in America and is on over 170 campuses around the nation. The ministry's mission is to reach students with the gospel of Jesus Christ and equip those students to serve Him, not just on their campus, but in all of life.

What I'll be Doing on Campus

Throughout my internship, a normal week will consist of large groups where we will pray, sing, and be taught by the word of God through our ordained campus minister. Additionally, I will lead small group Bible studies, meet one-on-one with students, coordinate social events, and plan conferences. I will also meet regularly with my campus minister and complete a study program which will deepen my understanding of ministry and the Bible! Although this job focuses heavily on evangelism the goal is to not just do ministry but to understand ministry and to disciple students for the Lord. I am honored and excited to walk alongside students in such a pivotal point in their lives and faith and encourage them in their love and understanding of the Lord.



Continued on next page ...

Jessica Rockhold headed to Georgia Tech Fall 2020

RUF Internship — *continued*

How you can help

Prayer: Will you pray for my ministry at Georgia Tech? For strength and confidence as I begin to fund-raise this summer, and for my husband, Alex, as he continues his job search in Atlanta and we prepare to move.

Giving: All intern salaries and expenses are raised completely through financial gifts from individuals and churches. Would you prayerfully consider supporting my work through RUF to advance God's kingdom? To begin my work on campus I must raise **85%** of my yearly goal of **\$47,800**.

As RUF is a certified 501(c)(3) non-profit, all gifts you make are tax deductible.

Ways to give

You can give through pledges and one-time gifts. If you would like to give online, you can go to givetoruf.org and search my name and a donation page will pop up. If you would like to give via check, you can make it out to "Reformed University Fellowship" and put my fund code "1974" on the memo line.

Checks can be sent to:
Reformed University Fellowship
PO Box 89004
Charlotte, NC 28289-0004

Thank you so much for your prayers and support. Over the next couple of weeks and months, I will be calling you and Lord willing getting to meet with some of you to talk about how the Lord has used RUF in my life and how you can be a part of my ministry with RUF. If you would like to receive email updates throughout my internship please email, call, or text me your email if you haven't already!

In Christ,
Jessica Rockhold

765-639-5132, jessica.mercer@ruf.org