



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

August 2020

Prayer with the Pastor

Each Monday @ 7:00 a.m.

Communion

Sunday, August 16

Observed in Morning Worship

How to Use the Remind App

We utilize the Remind App for text reminders. We send texts about twice per week to inform you of upcoming church activities.

- Download Remind
- Search for class @352fepc
- Add yourself to the class

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

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.

**** NOTICE ** NOTICE ** NOTICE ****

In accordance with the mask mandate issued recently by Governor Eric Holcomb, **masks** will be **required** for all people over the age of 8 who are attending church events, including worship.

- ★ Masks and hand sanitizer will be available at the Sanctuary entrance or you can bring your own
- ★ Offering plates will be at the back of the sanctuary
- ★ There will be NO NURSERY

SCAM ALERT!!!

A text/phone call scam soliciting funds on my (Pastor Kelly) account, saying that I had some type of emergency come up and needed help. Please know that this is a scam! Do not send money. Do not give out your financial information.

Please pass this along to those in our congregation so that they will not be taken in by this fraudulent attempt.

Sincerely,
Pastor Kelly

5th Sunday Offering

August 30 is a 5th Sunday. Deacon's have designated the 5th Sunday Offering this month to be used for the Elevator and Renovation projects. If you feel led to give a 'special' offering on this Sunday, please designate the gift as **5th Sunday Offering** and use either the Online Giving or mail it to the church. Thank you for giving.

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.**

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

Aug 2 - Elder Kim Calloway
"Wisdom"
1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Aug 9 - "Living in Christ"
Colossians 3:18-4:1

Aug 16 - "Watchful Prayer &
Witness"
Colossians 4:2-6

Aug 23 - "Tychicus and Onesimus"
Colossians 4:7-9

Aug 30 - "Paul's Associates"
Colossians 4:10-14



Life in the Body of Christ

Congratulations to

- Emma Price, daughter of Kevin and Cathy Price, and recent recipient of the Purdue Club of Clinton County Scholarship.

Condolences to

- Olivia and Larry Rothenberger on the recent passing of her brother, Armando.

Thank You

Dear Church Family,

We want to thank everyone for their gifts to our son, Davis. We were completely overwhelmed by your kindness and generosity. We don't think we will run out of diapers any time soon! Thank you to those who organized the drive-by shower as well. We know that Davis is extremely loved and we look forward to introducing him to his church family very soon.

Love,

Mike, Abby, and Davis Montgomery



Stephen Ministry at FEPC

Myth #6: Stephen Ministry Can Only Be Effective If Done In Person

In a recent email Kenneth Haugk, Founder of Stephen Ministries, acknowledged the disruption, fear, anxiety, and loss that so many are living with due to the COVID-19 pandemic, political upheaval, and racial unrest. He went on to say “I am encouraged by the work of Stephen Leaders and Stephen Ministers throughout the country and world who continue to let the light of Christ shine into the lives of wounded people....The simple act of genuine, respectful listening can start the healing process.” At this time in history, most of that listening is by necessity occurring over the phone lines.

Your Stephen Ministers at FEPC are well-practiced in the art of caring by phone when conditions won't allow in-person visits. So please don't struggle alone, but rather initiate a contact to Stephen Ministry if you or a friend could use a caring listener. A simple contact as noted below can open a confidential conversation about your needs. Haugk closed his message with this quote from a Care Receiver:

“The very best gift you can offer a suffering person (yourself or another) is a heart full of understanding, eyes filled with tears, and ears ready to listen.”

(SM Referral Coordination Marty Rodkey: marty@fepcfrankfort.org or 765-404-1349)

VBS / Mega Sports Camp

Summer is coming to an end and Sports Camp was a much-needed, fun wrap-up. The unique schedule required an amended lesson plan but there was a lot of great discussion. During the first session of Mega Sports Camp: TEAM Spirit, the children were able to learn and practice baseball skills. We learned about how TEAM means "we," not "me." Jesus chose his disciples to be a part of his team and he has chosen us to be a part as well. Being a part of the same team means we share the same purpose. How exciting is it to know we have been chosen and given a purpose?

The second session allowed the kids to practice basketball skills. We learned about how being a part of the same team means we encourage each other and when one of us scores, it's a score for the whole team. We looked at what our purpose is as members of Jesus' team: sharing the gospel. When we share the gospel and new teammates come to faith in Christ, it's a win for the whole team! Sharing the gospel (good news about Jesus) can be as easy as telling other people about our relationship with him and how He is real and active in our lives. What plays have you been making for the team?

A special thank you goes out to our sports coaches: Eric Davis, John Rockhold, and Justin Trent; our wonderful snack providers: Kim and Susan Calloway; and our gracious hosts: Eric and Colleen Spencer and Connie Timmons.

Hill Climber Coffee from Honduras

The mission team has about 40 bags of Hill Climber Coffee from Honduras for sale at \$10 per 1 lb. bag. The coffee is grown on hillside farms in Honduras, and the profits benefit the small church ministries begun through His Eyes clinic. See the story below.

We will sell until it's gone, but hope to have it all sold by the end of August!!!

Payments can be cash or check made payable to FEPC. **For folks who can't get to church**, yet want some, they may call Amy Crawford @ 765-652-3358 and she will deliver!



FEPC is one of many supporters of His Eyes Ministry located in Honduras. At this time restrictions on travel and obtaining goods are putting many there in difficult life situations. If you would like to know more about this ministry please check out His Eyes Ministry.

In 2006 with the help of Christ's Church in Jacksonville Florida, His Eye Ministry purchased property for the Church plant in Sameprana, Honduras (in the mountains above Comayagua...you have to climb quite a few hills to get there!) The Church building and parsonage are both located on that property, where additionally there were quite a few coffee plants. After selling that coffee to use in the Church, the idea germinated and they started seeing how they could plant and grow more coffee to help the Church and eventually the mission overall.

We have farm administrators, volunteers, and paid seasonal help to take care of the now multiple properties, which include nearly 20 acres above Sampedrana, and another nearly 20 acres near another mountain village many miles (and climbing many hills...sense a theme here?) in Las Botijas.

When you drink Hill Climber Coffee, it helps them be able to pay their workers well, improve their facilities, and it helps advance this arm of the mission.

Purchase your Hill Climber Coffee at the back of the sanctuary, or contact Amy Crawford @ 765-652-3358.

Hope in the Harvest Fundraiser



Annual Night of Fun and Celebration will be August 15, 2020 at Lamb Farms. Here are two of four "Liberian Handmade One-of-A-Kind Quilts" that will be auctioned off.

Lamb Farms—4338 N 500 E
Lebanon, IN 46052



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

August

1—Dwight Herin
Amanda Trent
2—Hane Kivett
5—Butch Doan
Don Reno
6—Karen Biery
Suzi Pluhar
7—Josh Swinford
9—John Rockhold
Sharon Palmer
12—Suzie Ransom
Beverly Thies
15—Sharon Cunningham
17—Carroll Johnson
18—Katia Beardsley
Mackenna Eldridge
20—Megan Sheets
21—Jackie Detherage
Sam Troyer
24—Deb Boe
26—Jane Claudon
Maria Lopez
Jeff Moore (Amanda)
Jack Scheid

27—Hunter Haynes
Connie Milholland
28—Seth Troyer
31—Lee Albi6tz
Brice Stingley

August Anniversaries

3—Butch & Linda Doan
Dwight & Lydia Herin
4—Matt & Kristen Beardsley
6—Steve & Teresa Beardsley
7—Joel & Carleigh Wilson
10—Kenny & Sandy Meyer
12—Bob & Patty Meredith
17—Andrew & Crystal Stewart
21—Mark & Ashley Haynes
Jack & Suzie Ransom
24—Mike & Abby Montgomery
29—Stan & Nancy Smith
31—Greg & Courtney Meyer



Update from Judy Hill

A Newly Minted PhD

A Third PhD in New Testament

Can you say “Kuzundelu”? It is: Koo-zoon-DEL-oo, in American parlance, more or less. My doctoral student from the Democratic Republic of Congo is now Dr. Kuzundelu, the third of my New Testament students to have finished his doctorate. It was a long process, but he finally arrived at a good conclusion. His dissertation defense on the Epistle to the Hebrews was held on June 8 via Zoom (an internet video link). Kuzundelu and the seminary president were in Bangui, Central African Republic. Two other jury members participated from their homes in Paris, France, and Nairobi, Kenya. And I was in Michigan. We prayed a lot for the electricity to remain stable and for the internet to work — and it did. Praise be to the Lord! The student had an opportunity to highlight what he had learned and to receive the insights of other experts. Having faithfully taught many New Testament courses at our seminary campus in Bangui since 2013, Kuzundelu will continue to be a great help there for the future, now with his full academic credentials.

This is what the dissertation defense looked like on my computer screen.



Top Row (L to R): Dr. Kuzundelu, Dr. Judy, Dr. Nupanga (seminary president)
Bottom Row (L to R): Dr. Mkole (Nairobi), Dr. Poucouta (Paris)

Pandemic Panic?

No, not at all, because we know that the Lord is in control. The seminary campus in Yaoundé, Cameroon, reopened on June 1, following governmental guidelines. They hope to have a graduation ceremony in August. In Bangui, the campus is still closed, as they await further guidance from the government there. The health systems in African nations are fragile, and the government cannot afford to let the Covid-19 situation get beyond their limited capacity to deal with it.

Continued on next page ...

Judy Hill Update continued ...

As for me, I have enjoyed having several weeks of more concentrated time to work on some of my necessary academic activities. I still have a rather major stack of work piled up on the counter, but I am further along than I would have been otherwise.

I miss seeing our friends from church, as we are avoiding the risks of exposure to the pandemic. The Sunday School class, however, at the suggestion of one of our members, has been “meeting” on Zoom once a week, just to stay in touch. We want to keep upholding each other in our prayers, and it helps to have a weekly roundup of information — through our “meeting” and through a weekly letter I send out. How gracious God has been to give us loving friends who have long histories of trusting the Lord and following him!

Praying Together

You, too, have been faithful in supporting me in whatever ways you could: whether financially, in prayer, and/or through encouraging words. Thank you for the part you have played in my life and ministry. If you would like to join me in prayer, here are some current items:

1. **PRAISE the Lord** that we have another PhD in New Testament to help with the teaching at the Bangui Evangelical School of Theology.
2. **PRAY** for wisdom for Dr. Nupanga as he makes decisions concerning the Bangui Evangelical School of Theology (B.E.S.T.) at its two campuses: in the Central African Republic and in Cameroon.
3. **PRAY** for God’s sustaining grace for the seminary administration, faculty, and staff as they deal with dramatic reductions in salary during these difficult days.

Again, I thank you for enabling me to have continuing opportunities to participate in the ongoing ministry of B.E.S.T. and its outreach to French-speaking Africa. Together we are training capable leaders for God’s work.

Every blessing,

Judy Hill

COMMUNICATIONS

E-mail: judy.hill@sim.org

Telephone: (248) 701-8814

Where I am now ...

5520 Ashby Court
Waterford, Michigan 48327

Where I plan to be next winter ...

210 Village Lane
North Fort Myers, Florida 33917

Mission website: www.simusa.org

Mission address: SIM USA
PO Box 7900
Charlotte, North Carolina 28241
Telephone: (800) 521-6449

If you send a check to SIM USA (address above), please include a note designating the gift for the account of Judy Hill (#26256) and indicating your choice of whether it is to be applied to my ministry account or to my support.

McClain Family Update



"For My thoughts are not your thoughts. Nor are your ways My ways, says the Lord. For as high as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My thoughts than your thoughts...For you shall go out with joy, and be led by peace...The mountains and the hills shall break forth into singing before you, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands." Isaiah 55:8-9; 12



*"When we had sighted Cyprus, we passed it on the left, sailed to Syria, and landed at Tyre, for there the ship was to unload her cargo. And finding disciples, we stayed there **seven days**. They told Paul through the Spirit not to go up to Jerusalem. When we had come to the end of those days, we departed and went on our way; and they all accompanied us, with wives and children, till we were out of the city. And we knelt down on the shore and prayed. When we had taken our leave of one another, we boarded the ship, and they returned home." Acts 21:3-6*

When I first read this passage, several things stood out to me. The first thing I saw were the words '**seven days**.' These two words, along with the description of Paul's experience at Tyre, brought up memories of many times when I've experienced a similar bond with mission teams over the years. Seven days doesn't seem like enough time to really bond with a person the way Paul describes his bond with the believers at Tyre. A bond so deep that they, all along with their families, accompanied them to the shore, knelt down together, and prayed together before they departed.

I think about how in my life, a ten-day trip mission trip impacted my life and opened my eyes to the Lord's plan for my life. A subsequent six-day trip changed the course of our lives for what would be the next fourteen years. Not only did the Lord allow our family to serve Him on the international mission field for over a decade, we also had the privilege to serve alongside many mission teams. And through one particular mission team, connections were made that ultimately brought us to the Finger Lakes area, where we now call home.

Continued on next page ...

McClain Family Update — continued ...

Each day, we settle in more to life here and believe God to have a plan bigger than what we can see at this moment. It is interesting that the believers and Paul were so closely knit together in such a short time. The Spirit seems to have revealed to them what lay ahead for Paul and urged him not to go to Jerusalem. But Paul knew what he was called to do, and would not be moved from the course set before him. Over the years, God has called us to an area, then moved us on to another. That has never been easy. At times, we have had some dear to us not understand our decisions to go to the places we have gone. And yet, God has faithfully led and guided every step of them.

We are thankful for the Pauly and Popen families, who we now get to share our lives with. A seven day trip forged friendships that have brought blessings upon blessings. We are so thankful and so excited as we move forward in faith and run the race set before us - **together**. We are thankful to have Steve and Jen and Billy and Jenny to encourage us and to be an encouragement to; to laugh with and to pray with; to grow in the Lord and to study the Word together; to fellowship with and to serve together. They are incredible blessings and an answer to a long-time prayer of ours. The Lord's ways are marvelous and cannot compare to any plan we could ever conceive. Truly, we have gone out with joy, and have been led by His peace.

We are thankful for the brilliant sunrises and sunsets that we get to experience here every day. The sky is truly a canvas at these times filled with vibrant colors and brilliant lights. This photo was taken recently and I can't help but reflect on how, as the sun sets on one day, it fills the sky with a wonder and awe that stirs up a desire to see what comes next. Even though the dark night follows the sunset, the sunrise brings about the new day. This past year has been full of setting suns - doors closing, dreams



coming to an end, plans being delayed, and delayed again, only to be completely changed in the end. And yet, the sunrises that have followed are more beautiful than I have words to describe. We have seen God's hand upon our lives, and His new mercies each day. His handprint has marked out a perfect plan, and we continue to walk forward as He leads. He has faithfully provided a sweet little apartment, perfect for our first little home here. He faithfully provided a job for Matt within a week of arriving here. And as time has gone by, has faithfully led Matt to the job he actually desired to have, even before our move here. He has been hired as a driver for UPS and will begin training at the first of next month. He is excited and thankful for the way the Lord has worked out the details, as he waited for this position.

Continued on next page ...

McClain Family Update — continued ...

The Lord faithfully provided a job for Ethan at a woodworking mill nearby where several men from our new church work. The company takes old wood and refurbishes it so that it can be used for flooring. I have been hired as a teacher at the private Christian school that our new church runs. I will be the 3rd and 4th grade teacher and at this time, will have eight students. As we all know, it takes the setting of the sun for the beauty of the rising sun to be seen. While endings always seem especially difficult, I am thankful and grateful for the beauty that is to come as our new journey begins.

Thank you for each you who receive and read our update letters, who have walked with us over the years, who have cried with us and rejoiced with us, prayed with us and for us, have given faithfully, and shared in our lives over the years!

"Looking unto Jesus" Hebrews 12:2



This month Matt and I reflect and rejoice in the goodness and graciousness of the Lord in our lives. The picture above and on the left was taken just a few weeks ago on July 5th, 2020, in front of our apartment in Newark, New York. The picture next to it, on the right, was taken on July 5th, 1998, the day we were both baptized, at Doc and Evelyn McClain's on Alhambra street in Frankfort, Indiana. Twenty-two years have passed between the two pictures and in that time the Lord has done much work in the gardens of the hearts of the couple in the earlier photo. We had no idea at that time that we would soon be moving our wedding date up a year and a half; that three children would bless our lives all within the next six years; that nine years later we would be moving to Costa Rica with those three young children and live there for the next almost six years; then move to Guatemala for six and a half years.

If that young couple would have known all that was to come, would they have still said, "Here we are! Send us!" Who knows?... but I'm sure thankful we did say "yes!" to what the Lord had for us - all of it. He has never left us nor forsaken us. He has always had us in the palm of His hand, no matter if where we found ourselves was a place of darkness or a place full of light. All the places where He has led us over the years have been places of promise and peace, not because they have been without difficulty, nor without trial, nor even pleasant to walk through. And yet, they have been part of His promise in our lives and have been places where we found peace in Him, even if nothing else brought peace.

Truly His grace has been upon our lives.

Continued on next page ...

McClain Family Update — continued ...



We are thankful for a visit from Ging-Ging (Brooke's mom) and Aunt Sandy this month! We went non-stop for the four days they were here and made wonderful memories! It is so nice to be a day's drive away from family and we are thankful they took time out to come and see us!

Prayer requests:

- Rejoice with us for the jobs the Lord has provided
- Pray for Ethan to form new friendships at work
- Pray for Matt as he begins training at UPS and for a smooth transition
- Pray for me (Brooke) as I prepare my classroom and study the curriculum for both grades
- 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 insurance to a new carrier
- Pray for continued provision as we transition
- Pray for the Lord's wisdom for more permanent housing even possibly purchasing a home in the future
- 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
- Pray for Byron and Emily as they have returned home to Colorado and are quarantined. Pray for their transition back to Colorado and for their hearts to be open and to receive all the Lord has for them

Thank you for praying for us!!

Continued on next page ...

McClain Family Update — continued ...

Partner with us financially:

THANK YOU for all who give to our family! Thank you for walking with us 'as we go,' when we are 'there,' when we are 'here,' and 'while we wait!' We are thankful for your sacrifice and do not take it for granted!

If you would like to partner financially with us, please:

1. Donate online **UNTIL AUGUST 31st:**

<https://ssmfi.org/missionary/matthew-and-brooke-mcclain/>

Please include our missionary account #4208 as well as our names, Matt and Brooke McClain, on all correspondence relating to financial partnership with our family.

2. Make checks payable to:

Shepherd's Staff Mission Facilitators

Send all checks and financial partnership correspondence to:

Shepherd's Staff Mission Facilitators

6739 Academy Road NE Suite #320

Albuquerque, NM 87109

Please include our missionary account #4208 as well as our names, Matt and Brooke McClain, on all checks or correspondence relating to financial partnership with our family.

We are so very thankful for your continued support.