



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

November 2021

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

Bloodmobile

Thursday, November 4
11 a.m.—4 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

Quilts on Wings

Friday, November 5 @ 9:30-11:30 a.m.
Fellowship Hall

Called Meeting of the Congregation
Sunday, November 14 after worship
To Elect Officers

Mobile Food Pantry
Thursday, November 18
10:30 a.m.—1 p.m.

Silent Auction—Quilts on Wings
Sunday, November 21 @ 8:30-11:15 a.m.
Fellowship Hall

Communion Sunday
November 28
Observed in Morning Worship

Borrowing Policy

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

HAPPY THANKSGIVING THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Look for details on page 3 about the
Thanksgiving Food Offering
and the
Community Thanksgiving Dinner

Daylight Savings Time **ENDS** Sunday, November 7



Don't forget to set your clocks **BACK** 1 hour
Saturday, November 6



Mark your calendars ...

Mission Weekend

November 6 & 7

See details on page 5

FIRST PRESS LITE

is published monthly by First Evangelical
Presbyterian Church, Frankfort, IN 46041
(765) 654-5558
www.fepcfrankfort.org

Editor: Miriam Curts macurts@gmail.com

Staff Phone Extensions & E-Mail Addresses

Kelly Kurth(13) kelly@fepcfrankfort.org
Ashley Haynes (14) ashley@fepcfrankfort.org
Kalen Jackson (10) kalen@fepcfrankfort.org
Amanda Trent amanda@fepcfrankfort.org
Terri Calvin terri@fepcfrankfort.org
Abby Montgomery mrsmonty824@gmail.com

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

Nov 7 - *Mission Weekend*
Marissa Mills & Students
from The Crossing speaking

Nov 14 - TBD

Nov 21 - TBD

Nov 28 - *First Sunday of Advent
Communion*

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

Nov 7 - S. Calloway - "Ark & Tent"

Nov 14 - S Ransom - "Promised
Land"

Nov 21 - S. Calloway - "Temple"

Nov 28 - A. Trent - "Prophets"

Leaders & greeters needed.
Contact Amanda Trent to help.



Life in the Body of Christ

Condolences

- to Gina and Travis Sheets on the passing of her brother, Mark Lucas, on Thursday, September 30 in Daytona Beach, Florida.
- to John Miller and Bill and Sonya Miller on the passing of Grace Miller on Saturday, October 16.

Thank You

- to Geoff and Kalen Jackson for hosting the FEPC Family & Friends Bonfire October 9. It was a wonderful evening of family fun and fellowship. See pictures on page 6 in this newsletter.

Advent is Coming

Advent begins the Sunday after Thanksgiving on November 28. As in the past couple of years, watch for Advent Devotionals to be emailed throughout the Advent season.

Thanksgiving Food Offering

The Thanksgiving Food Offering will look a little different this year.

The Salvation Army is requesting stuffing and yams. Black collection crates are located in the back of the Sanctuary, the transepts, and in Fellowship Hall. Items will be collected now through November 14.

Community Thanksgiving Dinner



**COMMUNITY
THANKSGIVING DINNER**

**NOVEMBER 25, 2021
10:00AM - 1:00 PM**

**FRANKFORT NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER
259 S THIRD ST, FRANKFORT, IN**

**Executive Director
Aaron Congleton 765-650- 6926**

TO DONATE (\$) 765-242-7065 (Keona Stidham)	HOME DELIVERY ONLY 765-242-4842 Jim Day
--	--



CONTRIBUTIONS Make check to Community Thanksgiving Dinner Farmers Bank 9 E Clinton St.	TO VOLUNTEER 765-654-6563 (Chris Lesley)
--	---

**WE WILL FOLLOW
ALL STATE COVID
GUIDELINES**

The 2021 Community Thanksgiving Dinner is being planned and will be handled as it was in 2020.

For the health and safety of our community, meal preparation and delivery will adhere to federal, state, and local health guidelines.

All meals will be provided via contactless delivery or take out. Volunteer opportunities will be primarily for meal prep/packaging and delivery drivers this year. To volunteer, contact Chris Lesley at 765-654-6563. Please leave a detailed message with your name and contact information, so your participation can be confirmed and coordinated.

As reminders:

- To request home delivery, contact Jim Day (765) 242- 4842.
- To donate funds for the meal you may make a check payable to: “Community Thanksgiving Dinner” and drop off at: The Farmers Bank – Frankfort Main Office



Stephen Ministry at FEPC

Stephen Ministers Can Help in Managing Fears

In Reverend Horner's recent sermon at FEPC on "Managing Fears," he listed many global and personal fears that are floating around the world today. He also summarized Jesus' words of advice, through the Parables in the book of Matthew, for the church and for individuals as we seek to manage such worries well. This advice from Jesus included:

- Be Alert to God's Work in and among us.
- Take Care of God's People, using the resources we have.
- Keep Faith Strong, i.e., keep the light of Christ burning.
- Treat People with love and mercy.
- Remember Salvation is from Jesus alone!

These points may seem simple and are easy to acknowledge, but are often harder to live out because...well, because we're just so human! Stephen Ministers are part of FEPC's resources for encouraging God's people toward godly fellowship in church and private life as we await Christ's return. If you look at the list and can honestly say you need some help applying one or more of these to an area in your life, Stephen Ministers are available to help you process your fears, reactions, or relationship dilemmas. Simply contact Marty Rodkey, FEPC Stephen Leader, for a confidential conversation on how we can help. Email marty@fepcfrankfort.org, call 765-379-3112 or text 765-404-1349.

Welcome Lexi Schneider

Have you noticed a new face in church on Sunday mornings?

Gary and Susie Plunkitt are hosting another exchange student. Lexi (Alexandra) Schneider is from Germany and has two younger brothers.



Lexi has already gotten involved at Frankfort High School where she had a part in the recent high school play, **12 Angry Jurors**. In addition to theater and acting, Lexi is into sports.

Susie says Lexi will be with them until the end of May. At that time she will return to Germany to finish her high school career.

Mission Weekend — The Crossing

The focus of this year's Mission Weekend is going to be on The Crossing. The weekend schedule looks like this:

Friday, November 5

The Crossing spiritual retreat. FEPC mission team will provide a meal for the students and staff. FEPC youth are invited.

Saturday, November 6

All are welcome at a clean up project at WeCare from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Please bring rakes.

Sunday, November 7

Presentation from Marissa Mills and the Crossing Students, during worship.

The mission of the Crossing is to empower struggling students to become contributing members of their communities through academics, career pathways, and faith based character education. Healthy, discipling relationships based off of the gospel of Jesus Christ truly is the glue that holds the school/ministry together. Did you know there are currently 13 Crossing locations across the state of Indiana, including one inside of the Elkhart County Jail? The Frankfort branch has been open since 2009 and has seen almost 300 students earn their high school diplomas.

Marissa Mills is the current site leader. She is a Frankfort High School and Bethel College graduate. She earned a Bachelors in Elementary Education with a middle school math endorsement. Her dream was to follow in her mom's footsteps and become a middle school math teacher. However an internship during her junior year of college in Keystone, South Dakota shifted her focus to evangelism and discipleship. After living a few years in Lincoln, Nebraska post college, a mentor of hers encouraged her to apply for the Frankfort Crossing, saying it is the perfect mix of teaching and missions. She is proud to call Frankfort home again! She is the daughter of Dennis and Susan Mills, the oldest of three siblings, the adopted "mom" of about 1,000 young adults, and a member of the First Church of the Nazarene.

On *Tuesday, November 9* there is a Banquet fundraiser for the Crossing at 6:00 p.m. in the Edward Jones building at the fairgrounds. FEPC has a table reserved for this event.

October 9 FEPC Family & Friends Bonfire



The evening ended with devotions and singing led by Pastor Kelly, Mike Montgomery and Myron Chezem.

Fun, Food and Fellowship were enjoyed by all.



New Kwetu Faraja Family Members



The picture on the left above is of the newest residents at Kwetu Faraja. The picture on the right and the information below were recently shared on Facebook by Lorien Knapp Sayayu.

Grassroots - when individuals who are eye to eye with the problem before them, act to make a change for the betterment of their community...

When I first moved to Tanzania, I had the privilege of joining the street community, was mentored by people who lived in the streets, and was educated by sitting in those streets and hearing the voices of the most vulnerable. I was invited by teens and young adults, to become a learner... to witness the ways that children were suffering. Those lessons impacted me profoundly. I have often been their voice - early in my ministry I was taught to speak for those who could not speak... but the story of our work has always been theirs. I was never brave enough to make the steps of faith that they took. They taught me what a life of faith is.

2009 - Early in our organization – before we were even an official NGO, we had a rented room for our kids to escape the street life. It was a room that started with one boy, but then more came.. and more came... and soon the room was full. When I explained to them that we only had enough money for the bare essentials, they never complained. But when presented with the options of having more food to eat, or sacrificing so that another child could join their home, they ALWAYS chose to add another child. “We can do without”, they would say... “we will share what we have”... Those young people were my pastors on a daily basis – teaching me what sacrificial love looked like.

You can imagine the joy that Paul and I shared during a recent family meeting with our Kwetu boys. We opened the floor for them to tell us any concerns they had on their hearts – this has usually been the moment for kids to tell us they want new football shoes, or soccer balls.... One of our teens – a boy who has given us many challenges over the years – raised his hand and spoke.. “can we go to the streets to pass out bananas to all of the kids living there, just to show them our love?” Paul answered this boy “Why don’t we go and invite them to live in our home instead, so that they can eat every day?” The whole group applauded to this suggestion.

A few weeks later, a new group of boys came to live in our home. Upon their arrival our boys began looking for things to share with them so that they felt welcomed. A few days later one of our recent high school graduates approached our Campus Manager to share his heart – he was aware of two small children in our village who were homeless and in need of special care. Our manager went to investigate the situation and found that these two boys did indeed need a home. They have since come to live in our family.

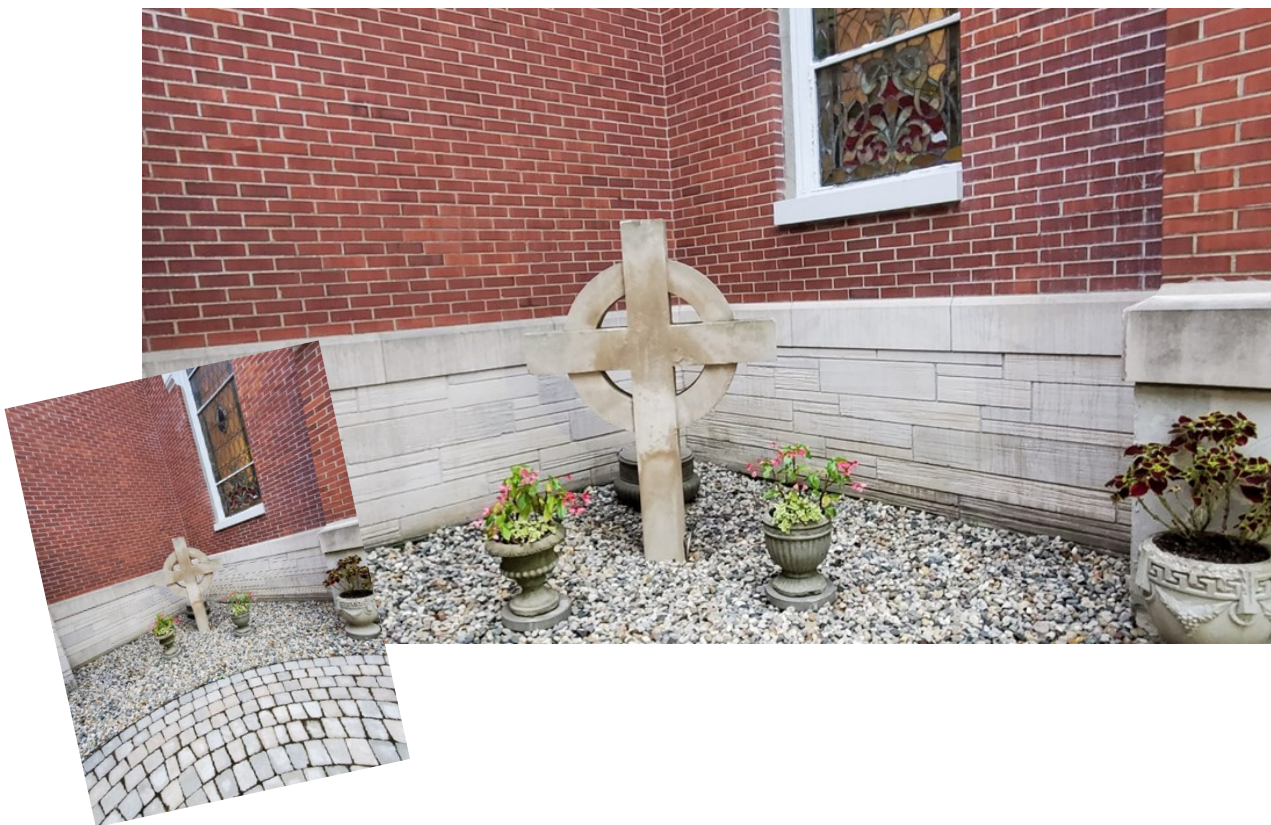
Of all of the things we have accomplished in our ministry, I am the MOST proud of the fact that our boys have this legacy of extravagant love – that their hearts are so touched by the plight of their fellow children that they make it their calling to help those kids have an opportunity for a new life.

Courtyard Memories

One year ago this picture was posted with the notice that the Courtyard was being closed for construction.



Today that construction is completed and this is one view of our new courtyard.



Silent Auction — Quilts on Wings

Have you made your Christmas shopping list yet? Perhaps a nice lap quilt would make a good gift. Here's an opportunity to start your Christmas shopping. Quilts on Wings will hold a Silent Auction of a limited number of quilts made by members of the group on **Sunday, November 21 between 8:30 and 11:15 a.m.**

While lots of fabric has been donated to the group for making quilts, the sizes of that fabric make them ideal for the quilt tops but is not sufficient for making solid piece backs. We also find that we are using our machines to do our quilting and the blankets previously requested for the filler do not work for machine quilting. So, we find we need to purchase batting and some fabric to complete our projects. This posed the dilemma of "how to pay for these needed purchases." The answer was to make a few quilts to sell and raise money for our ministry.

Below are pictures of a few quilts that will be available at the Silent Auction. During the first two Sundays in November we will have some quilts on display in the new walkway at the back of the sanctuary. If you decide you don't want to buy a quilt at the Silent Auction, but you still want to support our ministry, monetary donations will be accepted. Help us continue making quilts for the Grace on Wings ministry.



One Quilt ...
Front and Back

Update from the Merediths

26 Oct 2021

We WERE “HOME”!



YES! After FIVE changes to our flights, we are leaving in two hours from Nairobi for Denver! This trip would NOT have been possible without Mutinta and several other friends (Patty’s, of course) helping along the way.

It has been life-giving for both of us. We have felt very *affirmed*– not just *appreciated*– and at “home”. We’ve struggled at times with Kiswahili (Kenya) – and Nyanja (in Zambia), getting mixed up and sometimes literally, “at a loss for words”. But, we were with ‘family’ and they understood.

It has also been physically DEMANDING for me to keep up with the meetings and the multiple changes in our calendar that Patty randomly(??) makes on her phone or iPad! When events are deleted, they cannot be retrieved and can also be FORGOTTEN! (Avoided more than one near ‘disaster’!)

THANK YOU EVERYONE who has traveled with us in prayer and financially made this happen.

PLEASE pray for one more miracle:

- Patty’s stability. PRAY that as we travel without a travel partner (for ME!) she may be at peace, and the LONG 9 and 10 hour flights go smoothly.
- For Bob to graciously monitor her timely intake of 14 prescription meds without being too invasive or sounding demanding.
- I THINK I have all our paperwork together for entering the USA and passing through London. WOW! Travel during COVID is NOT as “simple” as it used to be! HA!!
- Praise God for NEGATIVE COVID test results – all FOUR times we’ve had to be tested!!

Gratefully in Him,

Bob and Patty



News from Stan and Faith De La Cour

Serving Global Workers sent from SIM USA



Dear Friends,

Thank you for your prayers last month as we headed to Dallas for the Mission Nexus mission leaders conference. It was a privilege to lead the workshops for those who are a part of mission organizations or church missions committees involved in missionary care. The room was so packed we had standing room only for each workshop! As a follow-up, several colleagues and I are talking about holding a special pre-conference gathering in 2022 for this specific focus group. Please pray as we make preliminary decisions so we can get it on the calendar!

Stan and I spent a few days at a lake near Houston after the conference. We got together over meals with several of our friends in the area. We felt blessed by each conversation!

A week later, we headed to Chicago to attend the College Church in Wheaton Global Missions weekend. The church honored us for our years of ministry during one of the Sunday morning services. The previous evening we were able to attend an international church and witnessed six Burmese young people being baptized. This was a highlight as International churches still have a special place in our hearts. We spent additional time in the area, again visiting with friends who have been ministry partners with us for many years.

While we were away, Anna and Mitch were able to spend a week in the UK with Bethany, Andy, and their family. Thank God with us that their trip went well! We are hoping to get to the UK for a few weeks in January, 2022.

This week we participated in SIMSendOff training on campus--the final training event before people are deployed to their ministry locations. Next week we will be involved in SIMStart, the screening event for applicants to become missionaries. We have loved being able to be a part of people's lives as they journey through the process of applying and being prepared to go overseas. While we don't expect to be regularly involved in these following our retirement, we may be drafted to fill a few volunteer spots. (Stan has a popular unit on Japan that he presents to the kids going through SIM's age-appropriate prefield training, and he'll be asked to return to share it again.)

In mid-September, we were approached about mentoring a couple through the SIM International Leader Development program. The "flight" or cohort launched via zoom on October 5th. This is a 2 1/2 year commitment. We all hope this group of people from around the world will be able to meet face-to-face later in 2022. We will write more about this in a later update. Meanwhile, please pray that we develop a sweet connection with Su and Yang.

Thank you for praying along with us through this past month. We are truly grateful for your partnership with us as you pray.

Faith & Stan

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

November

- 1—Alex Rockhold
- 2—Geoff Jackson
- 3—Amy Rockhold
- 4—Conner Haynes
- 5—Lydia Herin
- 7—Mitzi Carter
Mark Wickersham
- 8—Janet Trent
- 9—Anna Beardsley
- 14—Travis Sheets
- 15—Allison Hromas
Brian Wheeler
Josiah Wickersham
- 17—Mike Kelley
- 18—Doug Montgomery
- 21—Jeff Moore (Sally)
- 22—Sharon Druley
Ashley Haynes
- 25—Steve Beardsley
Mo Morrison
- 26—Alice Cleveland
- 30—Cory Rockhold

November Anniversaries

- 10—Bill & Sheri McCormick
- 11—Geoff & Kalen Jackson
- 26—Joe & Nancy Clossin

