

Life and Times of FEPC

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

June 2025

Monday Morning Prayers

@ 7:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

Tuesday & Wednesday

June 3 & 4

Youth trip to Holiday World

Keep them in prayer.

Friday, June 6

Quilts on Wings

@ 10 a.m. in the Parlor

Sunday June 15 — a BUSY Day

Father's Day

Communion

Honduras Mission Trip Commissioning

Church Picnic

Return Baby Bottles

June 21-28

His Eyes Honduras Mission Trip

Keep them in prayer

Tuesday, June 24

Mobile Food Pantry

Borrowing Policy

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

Baby Bottle Fundraiser



The Living Alternatives Pregnancy Resource Center baby bottle fundraiser continues through Sunday, June 15.

Look for baby bottles at the Sanctuary exits. Fill them with change, cash, or check, and return them to church by Father's Day.

Mark Your Calendar — Father's Day Picnic

Join us at Prairie Creek Park on Father's Day, June 15 at noon. We will celebrate fathers with fellowship and a meal together. We hope the splash pad and playground will be open for the kids to enjoy. If you are able, bring a side dish or dessert to share.

We have extended a special invitation to Primera Iglesia Bautista, One80, and We Care Recovery centers. We encourage you to invite far-from-God people for this low-key afternoon of fellowship.

June-July Sunday School Classes

Youth will continue to meet on Third Floor. Children will learn about dynamic kids whose faith in Jesus led them to do great things for God.

Focused Prayer is offered by the Refocus Team and will meet in Fellowship Hall.

Sermon Discuss class continues to meet in the Parlor. We have plenty of room for you to join us.

Life and Times of FEPC

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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.fepecfrankfort.org, or phone the church.

Prayer Requests brasilianheart@gmail.com

**Life and Times of FEPC 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.**

CONNECT WORSHIP GROW

If you received this issue by U.S. mail but would like to receive Life and Times of FEPC electronically, please email kalen@fepecfrankfort.org.

Congregational Care

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 3 C's Ministry:

Doyal Bell	Kalen Jackson
Karen Biery	Patty Nash
Joyce Peters	Rodney Thies

SERMON INFORMATION

Summer Series on the Psalms

June 1 - "Fullness of Joy"
Psalm 16:7-11

June 8 - *Pentecost*
Rev. SJ Winter

June 15 - *Father's Day*
Commissioning Honduras
Mission Team
Communion
"Things Our Fathers Have Told Us"
Psalm 78:1-8

June 22 - Dick Hammer

June 29 - Bill Seibald

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

— *is on Summer Break*



Life in the Body of Christ

Condolences to

- The family of Carol Dupler, who passed away May 24. .

Congratulations

- To our 2025 high school and post-grad graduates. See pictures and more information later in this newsletter.
- To many of our youth for their achievements this school year. See pictures and more information later in this newsletter.

5th Sunday Offering

June 29 is a 5th Sunday
Watch bulletin and slide announcements for this month's designation.



Stephen Ministry at FEPC

The After People

People sometimes ask, “What exactly is a Stephen Minister?” One way to put it is that Stephen Ministers are *The After People*. Stephen Ministers are there:

... *after* the doctor says, “I’m sorry, but there’s nothing more we can do.”

... *after* the phone call you hoped you’d never get.

... *after* the last (or first) child is moved into the dorm, and the house seems suddenly empty.

... *after* the funeral, when everyone has left and all the feelings come crashing in on you.

... *after* you’re called into the boss’s office and you suddenly no longer have a job.

... *after* the baby arrives, demanding more than you ever dreamed possible.

... *after* the relationship falls apart, and the bottom falls out of your life.

... *after* your family and friends have heard your story one too many times, but you still need to talk it out.

Recognize yourself or a friend in any of these scenarios? Stephen Ministers are *The After People*, ready to come alongside you—or your friend, neighbor, coworker, or relative—and provide comfort and support for as long *after* as needed. If you sense a need for a Stephen Minister for yourself or another, simply contact a Stephen Leader or the pastor for a confidential chat about how one of FEPC’s *After People* can help.

Marty Rodkey, Stephen Leader
marty@fepcfrankfort.org
765-404-1349

Amanda Trent, Stephen Leader
amanda@fepcfrankfort.org
765-413-7662

Kelly Kurth, Pastor
kelly@fepcfrankfort.org
314-374-6042



VBS is Coming!

We’re starting the roundup for Wonder Junction!

July 7-11 from 5:30-8 is all about Jesus and inspiring wonder around who he is, what he did for us, and when he’ll return. Get your overalls and mosey on over to peruse the volunteer sign-up in Fellowship Hall and see how you can help inspire wonder for Jesus in young hearts.

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!!

Kids can be registered here: fepcwonderjunction.myanswers.com/wonder-junction/

Sharing Their Peonies

Recently Lynette Hardesty, Gloria Hendryx and Sally Meyers shared peonies with several of our church members. THANK YOU!



Betty Moloney



Anne Himmelwright



Connie and John Milholland



Andy Shriver

Green Meadows Reading Champions

Recently these students and the adult volunteers who read with them each week celebrated their last day of reading together for this school year. Do you recognize anyone in this picture? If you ever want an opportunity to volunteer to read with a student, ask Pastor Kelly about it, or call Green Meadows. The word is they have lots of opportunities for adult volunteers.



Highlighting Our Youth

The Frankfort Hot Dogs Athletics page on Facebook recently highlighted sever of our youth:



Zack Kurth was highlighted promoting a Varsity Golf match



Congratulation to golfer Luke Beardsley on being named 1st team All Sagamore Conference



Congratulation to golfer Charlie Beardsley on being named 2nd team All Sagamore Conference

Highlighting Our Youth

Caroline Queen (right) was named to the All-Tournament Team for softball. Pictured with Caroline is fellow All-Tournament Team honoree Ashlyn Nasser from Tipton. Congratulations, Caroline!



Caroline Queen and Lily Rockhold have been quite the achievers. They were inducted into the National Honors Society. And they were also nominated for the IHSA leadership conference for student athletes. They will attend an all day conference at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway in July.

Also, Caroline and Lily were selected as the Frankfort High School representatives for the HOBY leadership conference. They will attend a 4 day conference at Purdue in June. If you are wondering what HOBY is, here are statements about the organization's history and mission:

HOBY History: Since 1958, HOBY has empowered over 500,000 students to make lasting, positive change in their communities. Our founder, Hugh O'Brian, led a life of service and left a lasting legacy with HOBY. **HOBY Mission:** HOBY's mission is to inspire and develop our global community of youth and volunteers to a life dedicated to leadership, service, and innovation.

Lily Rockhold was selected as the 2025-2026 DECA President. Our church supports the DECA Backpack Buddies.



Celebrating Our 2025 Post-Graduate Achievements



Emma Price

Parents: Kevin and Cathy Price

School: Purdue University

Degree: Masters in Accounting

Future Plans: Emma will marry Blake Richardson in July; they will live in Wilder, KY. Emma will be working at Ernst & Young in Cincinnati, OH.

2nd Annual Hope in the Harvest Golf Outing

August 9, 2025

At Cool Lake Golf Course

Entry: \$65/person or \$260/foursome

Register by July 25

Meet @ 7:30 a.m.

Tee off @ 8:00 a.m.

Lunch will follow

RAFFLE prizes for ALL

Register at fepcfrankfort.org OR hopeintheharvest.org



Sunday, May 18

We had a busy morning as we celebrated Youth Sunday, New Member recognition and our 2025 High School Graduates.

Thank you Jaylen, Zach and Lizzie for leading us in our musical worship as part of the Youth Sunday worship. Thank you Garrett Jackson for the special piano music; thank you to the youth who provided the skit; and thank you Jaylen and Lizzie for sharing your thoughts on selected verses from Proverbs during the service.



Welcome to these new members ...



Andy Grissner, Melinda Grissner, Reid Kerchival, Katie Kerchival, Jacob Herin, Jaylen O'Brien

Celebrating 2025 Graduates

Graduates were recognized during the worship service and at a cupcake reception afterwards in Fellowship Hall.



His Eyes Honduras Mission Trip



Have you noticed these pictures in the hall way? This is our Mission Team that will be going to Honduras from June 21-28. They will be commissioned during worship on June 15. Be sure to keep them in Prayer.

Who's going? Clockwise in the picture: Zack Kurth , Becky & Kelly Kurth, Jeff & Olivia Moore, Justin & Cecelia Trent, Reid and Peter Kerchival, Pam Hall, Chris Thies, and Andrew Prather.

May 25 — Sousa Family Visit



It was a special treat to have Josué and Amanda Sousa speak in our worship service and to hold a Q&A session in Fellowship Hall so we could learn more about their ministry in Brazil. Thank you, Marvel, for providing cake to celebrate Japheth's 13th birthday!



De La Cour Update



**Stan & Faith
in Japan**
Dinner with friends

Dear Friends,

So much has happened in the last month! We flew to Japan on April 17 for an 11-day trip. We had mixed feelings as we departed the States, wondering if we should even be going after such a long time, yet looking forward to some of our arranged visits. Then, there was a question of how well we would do with the Japanese language since we aren't in a situation where we use it here in Charlotte. There were two parts to this trip:

Down Memory Lane



On Easter morning, we headed from our Airbnb to the church we planted 35 years ago. Walking from the train station, we were surprised to see that the department store nearby was now a massive hole in the ground! Other parts of the walk were familiar. We were warmly welcomed by church members and friends who live elsewhere but returned to see us. Stan gave the Easter message, and we enjoyed the covered-dish lunch. That afternoon, we visited a long-time member who is now in a senior care home.

Two days later, we took several trains to get to the church where Stan had lived for nine months when he first went to Japan as a short-term missionary in 1979. Pastor Kondo is now with Jesus, but his wife, two daughters, and a granddaughter were there. Zen Kondo is in her early 90s. Her ministry of prayer and caring for others was meaningful to Stan as a new missionary, and her family's commitment to Jesus is still a blessing to their community. We enjoyed lunch and conversation, and we were grateful for the two family members who spoke English well and could translate what we missed.



— continued —

De La Cour Update — *continued*

Our first term in Japan ended with the premature birth at 27 weeks of gestation and the death of twin sons, just two weeks before we were to return to the US. Throughout this traumatic event, we experienced God's graciousness and the kindness of His people. Thirty-seven years ago, after a memorial service at the church we were attending, we went to a nearby park where we scattered their ashes. Now, back in Japan, the day after Easter, we went to the park to remember, reflect, and once again experience the comfort we receive from our hope in God and His promise of eternal life.

Connecting with our Mission Team

We headed to the A3 Japan (formerly known as Asian Access) spring retreat. What surprised us both was how comfortable we felt with "our people" even after all these years. [Here is an excellent summary of the retreat by A3 president, Joe Handley.](#)



I was particularly grateful for the continued focus the Japan field has on Member Care. Whereas I was the only person in this role for the mission when I left twelve years ago, they have a team of people equipped with a deep desire to encourage the members' well-being. This retreat was a handoff from one team of care facilitators to another, and I enjoyed talking with them and recommending current resources.



One day, a special guest came to the retreat. Ken Nishiono was the young man who came to Christ and was discipled through our international church ministry. If you've been a long-time prayer partner, that name may sound familiar. He became a pastor after serving in disaster relief following the 2011 "triple disaster." Ken is on a sabbatical and made an extra effort to see Stan.

— *continued* —

De La Cour Update – *continued*

Before we headed to Japan, we called this our "last trip," but we found ourselves saying "next time" as we left. And as for language, it was sometimes present and other times absent. One evening, we went out to a local mom-and-pop restaurant. Viewing us with caution at first, they lightened up when they discovered we could speak a little. So much so that the "mom" sat down next to me and talked through the whole meal. I kept up with the conversation for the most part. Stan came to my rescue when, toward the end of the meal, I couldn't remember the word for *Monday*!

Praise and thanks:

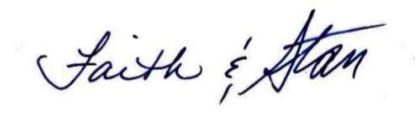
- Safety in travel, and generally good health
- Precious connection with friends
- A renewed connection with our missionary family

Pray:

- For a fresh season of growth in the ongoing ministry of our church in Japan
- God's grace to continue to be poured on Zen Kondo and her family
- Ken Nishiono's sabbatical time would bring refreshment and a new ministry focus
- Continued blessing and unity for the A3 Japan missionaries as they are becoming increasingly multi-national.

One week after returning to the US, I was on my way to Colorado for MTI and the commissioning of their new president. We'll send a separate update with that and more good news!

Gratefully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Faith & Stan". The script is cursive and fluid, with the names connected together.

Meredith Update

OUT OF AFRICA

3 May 2025



Greetings fellow travelers.

I'm BACK! (from Kenya and Kigali, Rwanda) and for those who prayed.... YES! Rwanda had great coffee!!

The Into Africa 2025 (IA-25) conference in Kigali was awesome and SO "African"! About 650 Navigators from all 31 countries in Africa where we have a Navigator ministry and from a very DIVERSE cross-section of demographics in each country.



Some main themes at IA-25 I heard celebrated were:

- we are doing this (discipling) TOGETHER – as a Global Partnership!
- people are living AMONG the lost, really LIVING, not just surviving... but LIVING among them and doing LIFE with them.
- We see the Gospel penetrating ALL different demographics of our (African) countries
- and personally, it was SO good to see African staff and friends we have known and invested in for decades – now LEADING the Nav ministry in their countries and the Africa Region!!



- And.... It was great to be there with Ian and see HIM re-connecting with many African extended "family" and friends and HIS enthusiasm for the topics shared.



— continued —

Meredith Update — *continued*

I was so grateful for Ian's help on the trip so we could stop in Kenya and visit "family" and friends! Some serious and not-so-serious! 😊



Yes, homes are built with solid stone, cut into "cinderblock" size. This way the termites cannot eat your building materials! 😊

Patty and I have been passionately pursuing home ownership for the African Staff as a significant factor in helping stabilize their gift-income based budgets. (In countries where mortgage interest rates are 17-25% and inflation is 15-200% per year) Many Kenyan staff and ALL the Zambian staff now own their own homes!

THANK YOU for walking with us and for your investments in us and AFRICA!

Bob & Patty



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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

June

- 1—Sophie Moore
Chris Walker
- 8—Courtney Meyer
Kenny Meyer
- 11—Kathy Glover
Tanner Robbins
Cameron Swinford
- 14—Pam Freeland
Davis Montgomery
- 15—Lawrence Wilkinson
- 17—Rodney Thies
- 19—Jarrod Boe
- 20—Brock Dudley
Kalen Jackson
Cody Robbins
- 23—Diana Kelley
Gina Sheets
- 27—Janice Chezem
Patrick Swinford
- 28—Reid Kercheval
- 29—John Cunningham

June Anniversaries

- 1—Dan & Heidi Troyer
- 7—Les & Linda Bergum
- 12—Sam & Chris Walker
- 27—Jeff & Amanda Moore
- 28—John & Connie Milholland

