

First Presbyterian Church
221 East Sixth Street at Lincoln
Bloomington, IN 47408
(812) 332-1514



First Press

Celebrating Christ and Serving Community

August 2019 Volume 61, No.7

Inside this Issue

Faith & Film	2
August Birthdays	2
Coffee Cart	2
Earth Stewards	3
Posoltega 2020	3
Bicentennial Task Force	3
Summer Gatherings at Larry Crowe	4
Report of Accounts	4
God in the Midst of the Storm	5
Get Out & Get Involved	6
August Calendar	7



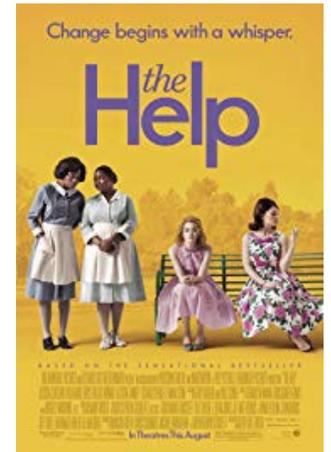
Faith & Film

August 4th at 6:00 p.m. - Room 7

The August selection for Faith and Film is “The Help,” (2011), starring Emma Stone, Viola Davis, and Octavia Spencer.

During the civil rights movement of the 1960s, an aspiring author decides to write a book detailing the African American maids’ point of view of the white families for which they work, and the hardships they go through on a daily basis.

Along the way, unlikely friendships are forged and a new sisterhood emerges, but not before everyone in town has a thing or two to say, themselves, when they become unwittingly -- and unwillingly -- caught up in the changing times.



- 8/1 - Lucas Canizares Santos
- 8/3 - Rebecca Johnson
- 8/4 - Michael Rauh
- 8/7 - Carol Darling
- 8/9 - Sue Talbot
- 8/12 - Bill Wiatt
- 8/13 - Randall Burcham
- 8/15 - Derek Voskuil
- 8/16 - Laura Gardner



- 8/19 - Jim Ackerman
Sydne Goodlett
- 8/21 - Andy Ruff
- 8/27 - Janet Black
Joyce Krothe
- 8/28 - Joe Lessard
Anna Hanson
- 8/31 - Evan Main
Jack Deinlein
Muff Johnson



The Coffee Cart will be in the narthex on Sunday, August 11.

Please check out our delicious, fair trade products from Equal Exchange – coffee, tea, and chocolate.

All profits go toward First Presbyterian Church’s mission work in Posoltega, Nicaragua.

One of our ongoing mission projects is support of the music program, La Escuela de Musica, through our sister church in Posoltega. Recently received photos from the music program can be seen on the bulletin board in Lyman Hall. Feel free to find out more – stop by the coffee cart or email Dan or Debbi Conkle at conkle@indiana.edu or debbiconkle@gmail.com.

Earth Stewards by Norm Holy and Allan Edmonds

How Many Species Must Die?

Environmental news often gets drowned out.

World-wide about 1.7 million species of plants and animals actually have scientific names, and the number has been growing at around 10,000 a year. Researchers have estimated the total number of such species, named and unnamed, to be about 8 million, and probably more.

Scientists at the United Nations' Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) sounded an alarm with its report on the looming potential extinction of as many as one million species. The report came out in May, but few heard their calls.

As the German newspaper Deutsche Welle noted, IPBES released its report on ***nature's unprecedented decline*** on the very same day that the Duke and Duchess of Sussex had their first child. As a result, news reports on the study's grave implications were few and far between, while newspapers focused on the royal birth.

Species of all sorts are crucial to the web of life.

When will we ever learn? (Pete Seeger, Where Have All the Flowers Gone)

Posoltega 2020 – Save the Date!



Miles Main, Calvin Prenkert, Hank Ruff, Hallie Schmucker, and Mary Beth Novy

Our next trip to Posoltega, Nicaragua, is tentatively scheduled for June 2020. To express possible interest or for additional information, please contact Dan or Debbi Conkle: conkle@indiana.edu; debbiconkle@gmail.com; (812) 333-1712.

FPC Bicentennial Tee Shirts will again be on sale Sunday, August 4, in the narthex before/after and between services. Cost is \$10, cash or check. If you don't have yours yet, do plan to get one, since there won't be many more opportunities in this our Bicentennial Year!



Summer Gatherings at Larry Crowe

Did you know that FPC owns a beautiful property off of State Road 46 E, on the way to Nashville, IN? This summer, we are planning several informal gatherings on various Saturday evenings at the Larry Crowe property, to enjoy fellowship with each other and a little piece of God’s creation. There is a shelter with picnic tables, a fire circle, a pump with potable water, an outhouse and a large grassy area for playing. It’s a perfect set-up to get out in nature for the evening. And on a clear night, the star gazing is amazing.

The dates are: August 24 & September 28

The plan is to arrive around 5:30 p.m., but come whenever you are available, and stay as long as you would like. It is even an option to camp on the property overnight, so if you would like to do that, just bring your gear! You can also bring balls, Frisbees, corn hole, etc. These gatherings are intended to be very informal, so if you would like to eat dinner, please plan to bring something to cook over the fire for yourself, and perhaps a side dish to share. You may also bring the beverage of your choice. S’more fixings will always be available!



Directions to the property can be found on Google Maps by searching for ‘Larry Crowe Retreat Center’. The approximate address is 3701 Hickory Hill Dr., Nashville, IN. If you have any questions about these gatherings, or ideas for other events at the property, please contact Mary Beth Novy, mbnovy@icloud.com, (812) 219-9309. Come join us!



Report of Accounts June 2019

General Fund	\$32,609.23
Special Funds	\$ 53,149.23
Reserve Fund	\$11,273.06
Endowment (New Covenant Funds)	\$80,503.84
Capital Campaign Fund	\$44,469.34
Capital Campaign Mortgage	\$(295,780.10)
Parking Lot Fund	\$44,238.46
Parking Lot Mortgage	\$(245,374.34)
CDs	
93222825 (exp. 2/7/2020) @ .25%	\$50,659.52
IUCD (13 month APY: 2.5%)	\$10,089.72
IUCD (13 month APY: 2.5%)	\$30,269.17

Notes:

First Presbyterian Church owes \$15,560 for per capita in 2019. To date we have received \$5,554 from members of the congregation. Please consider joining them. By doing so you can help reduce the the burden on our operating fund in a significant way. If you have questions, please contact Mary McClellan at (812) 332-1514 or mary@fpcbloomington.org.

What we are able to accomplish in 2019 will depend on how close we are able to get to our pledge goal of \$561,817. If you have not made a pledge or are not sure if you submitted a pledge card, please contact Mary McClellan. Cards are available in the pews and the narthexes.

God in the Midst of the Storm by Pat Stackhouse

Storms have moved locally and have crossed the United States, leaving behind a string of devastation. As a result, children as well as adults are often afraid of storms. This story tells how Christ enters the life of others at a special time. This incidentally is a true story.

The sky was of a strange yellowish cast. High winds caused the trees to be abnormally bent. I didn't like the looks of what I saw at all. I turned on the television to the weather channel. Sure, enough tornado warnings were out all over including our vicinity.

I gathered up my six grandchildren of whom I was in charge and herded them into the basement just as I heard the tornado warning siren go off.

The children ranged in ages from eight to 15. They took with them their cell phones. We had a television downstairs operating on auxiliary power. It was apparent, looking at the children's faces that some were fearful while others seemed to see it as an adventure.

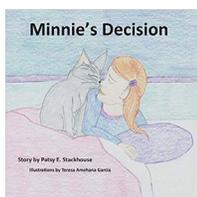
A couple of the children kept running up and down the stairs to see what was going on. I ran up to sneak a peek myself every now and then. The thirteen-year-old boy kept in touch with his stepfather and his mother. The reports said the tornado was a deadly one, knocking down trees and pushing up roofs of houses.

Eight-year-old Hailey kept saying, "I want my daddy." Her ten-year-old sister said very little. Their brothers didn't seem afraid. I tried to keep my composure and remain cool.

Then we heard a loud crash, and something had fallen, most likely a tree. We didn't want to frighten the eight-year-old who was already afraid. Then for the next 20 minutes or so all grew quiet while we listened to the weather reports. Although no deaths were reported much damage was done to homes in the immediate area.

By this time, both the eight and ten-year-old girls were shaking. Then a surprise remark came from the 13-year-old boy who calmed us all. "Look," he said, "We have nothing to fear. Of the worst thing happens is that we die, we go to the best possible place."

Is it possible that perhaps God used him as one of His messengers to calm us all?



Patsy recently published a children's book, "Minnie's Decision," about a little girl and a cat. It can be purchased at:

<https://www.amazon.com/Minnies-Decision-Patsy-Stackhouse/dp/1950454290>



Get Out & Get Involved

8/3: Presbyterians Outdoors: Trail fellowship for young and old on Saturday August 3. Meet at FPC parking lot at 9:00 a.m. and car pool to Leonard Springs park. RSVP: Paul Rothrock at prothro73@gmail.com.

8/10: Kids' Night In. From 5:00-8:00 p.m. This is a ministry for children birth-2nd grade. Come hang out with our nursery staff for a fun night of games and creating! Please RSVP with nursery coordinator Crystal Ritter at crystal@fpcbloomington.org, so that she can plan for your child's participation.

8/12: The Fiber Arts Group (knitters, crocheters, weavers, spinners, quilters, cross-stitchers, sew-ers, et al.) meets the second Monday of each month from 1:30-4:30 p.m., and on the fourth Wednesday of each month from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the parlor. New members are welcome. Contact Sue Connell, (812) 339-8768, or suerconnell@gmail.com for information.

8/16: Our monthly **Men's Breakfast** will meet at Village Deli at 7:30 a.m. on Friday, August 16th. This will be our usual time for a Dutch-treat breakfast and conversation. We have no formal program and no advance sign-up. We hope you will join us on the 16th and all third Fridays for this time of fellowship.

8/19: Theology on Tap: Meets the 3rd Monday of each month at Chili's, 2811 E. 3rd St., at 6:00 p.m. The focus this month is the religious "nones." For more info contact Paul Rothrock at prothro73@gmail.com.

8/25: FPC Book Group meets at 7:00 p.m. in the downstairs activity room in the main building at the Bell Trace Retirement Community off of East 10th Street. This month's book by Edward Watts, *Mortal Republic: How Rome Fell into Tyranny*. Leader: Karen Bush Watts. Historian Edward Watts' new book *Mortal Republic* begins in the third century BC, when Rome developed democratic institutions that allowed it to expand its territory, grow economically, and remain politically stable. But by the late second century economic inequality coupled with politicians' "constitutional trickery" led to violence and ultimately, to civil war. The book addresses the collapse of Roman democracy and what it illuminates about today's political realities. Note that the author is willing to do a Skype interview with the Book Group next year. A link to a podcast from NPR follows:

<https://www.wbur.org/onpoint/2019/01/11/rome-america-edward-watts-mortal-republic>.

8/28: The Fiber Arts Group (knitters, crocheters, weavers, spinners, quilters, cross-stitchers, sew-ers, et al.) meets the second Monday of each month from 1:30-4:30 p.m., and on the fourth Wednesday of each month from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the parlor. New members are welcome. Contact Sue Connell, (812) 339-8768, or suerconnell@gmail.com for information.



AUGUST 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6:30p Emmaus Group 2	2	3 9a Presbyterians Outdoors
10a Worship & Communion 11a Fellowship Time 6p Faith & Film 4	11:30a Emmaus Small Group 5	6:30p Deacons Meeting 6	5:45p Outreach Mtg 6:30p Committee Night 7	8	9	10a Sue Shelden Memorial Service 5p Kids' Night In 10
10a Worship 11a Fellowship Time 11	1:30p Fiber Arts Group 12	13	14	6:30p Emmaus Group 2 15	7:30a Men's Breakfast 16	17
Coffee Cart						
10a Worship 11a Fellowship Time 11a Pancake Breakfast 6p Session Meeting 18	11:30a Emmaus Small Group 6p Theology on Tap 19	4p Membership Mtg 20	6:30p Missing Peace 21	5:30p Bell Cleaning 22	23	5:30p Saturday Evening at Larry Crowe 24
10a Worship 11a Fellowship Time 7p FPC Book Group 25	12p Luncheon Fellowship Circle 26	27	6:30p Fiber Arts Group 28	29	30	31
			Area 10 Grocery Bagging & Delivery			