

# First Reports

First Presbyterian Church  
Evansville, Indiana



MAY  
2018  
[www.firstpresevansville.com](http://www.firstpresevansville.com)



If you have driven through northern Indiana, or Illinois, you've seen a scene like this. The towering wind turbines catch the wind blowing across the flatland and create electricity in a clean and environmentally friendly way. These enormous "pinwheels" harness the power of the wind and turn it into an energy that makes a difference in the world.

That's a good metaphor for the Day of Pentecost and the season that follows it. The Wind of God, which is the Holy Spirit, blows into believers and empowers them to make a difference in the world. We each receive gift to be used for the common good, the Apostle Paul tells us, and when we use our gifts in concert with other believers, we harness the power of the Spirit and release a divine energy into the world that brings renewal and blessing.

Whenever I look across the face of this congregation, I see gifts and blessings that are astounding. Service, faithfulness, generosity, compassion, mercy, teaching - these and so many more - are in evidence at First Pres. It is one of the reasons I am completely convinced that some of our best days are before us. God is still using this congregation and changing the world for God's glory.

Who wouldn't want to be a part of that?

See you in church!

Kevin Scott Fleming, Pastor

## May Worship



We move from season to season in worship during the month of May. We finish Eastertide, celebrate the Day of Pentecost, and finish the month with Trinity Sunday.

On Sunday, May 6, we complete the sermon series, "The Easter People," with a sermon based on 1 John 5:1-6, entitled, "Haven't We Heard This Before?" We will gather at the Table to celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

On Sunday, May 13, we celebrate the Ascension of the Lord and we welcome the Communicants'/Confirmation Class into the membership of the church. The sermon for the day is based on 2 Timothy 1:3-7 and is entitled, "Faith of Our Mothers."

On Sunday, May 20, we welcome the Reverend Ms. Susan McGhee, the Executive Presbyter of the Presbytery of Ohio Valley to lead us in celebrating the Day of Pentecost. (Kevin and family will be attending Abigail's graduation from Beloit College that day.) Susan is excited to spend Pentecost with the congregation of First Presbyterian Church and will preach and lead the celebration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

Kevin returns for Sunday, May 27, and leads the celebration of Trinity Sunday - the only day in our liturgical calendar given to celebrate a doctrine of our faith. The sermon for the day is entitled, "Explaining the Unexplainable."

Join us in worship throughout the month of May as we celebrate the goodness of our God!

"I think that no matter how old or infirm I may become, I will always plant a large garden in the spring. Who can resist the feelings of hope and joy that one gets from participating in nature's rebirth?"

- Edward Giobbi



**The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper  
will be celebrated as part of  
worship on May 6 and 20  
at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.**

## A Grand Finalé

Throughout the fall and winter, the Choir of First Presbyterian Church has offered selections from George Frederick Handel's masterpiece, *Messiah*, as part of Sunday morning worship. The Service of Advent Lessons and Carols featured many selections of the Christmas portion. Lent and Easter have offered us more of this incredible music.

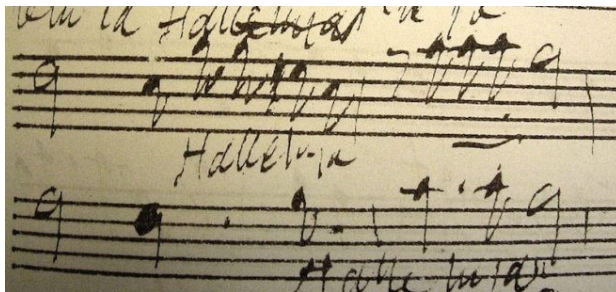
Now it's time to put it all together!

On Sunday afternoon, May 6, at 4:00 p.m., the Choir of First Presbyterian Church will present *Messiah* with a small chamber orchestra, organ, and harpsichord. This is some of the most sublime music ever written and translates our faith into musical settings that none of us can forget.

Following the concert, you are invited to join us for a catered dinner in Fellowship Hall. Delicious food, prepared by *Manna*, will be served. Amjad Manna is a dear friend of our congregation and is a superb chef. Proceeds from the dinner will benefit the Summer Choir Camp Scholarship Fund.

Meals include salad, hummus, pita bread, and your choice of chicken shawarma (grilled, seasoned chicken pieces) or falafel (vegetarian fried chick pea patties). And if you can't stay to eat, you can either buy a meal for someone else or make a donation in your chosen amount. Reservations must be turned in to the church office (812-423-6297 or [firstpres@firstpresevansville.com](mailto:firstpres@firstpresevansville.com)) by Sunday, April 29. Please mention how many plates of chicken or falafel you need when making your reservation.

This will be a glorious afternoon of music and fellowship, Join us in celebrating the work of our Choir and thank them for the faithful service to God and our congregation.



# Graduate Recognition Sunday

On Sunday, May 27, during the 10:30 a.m. worship service, we will recognize and congratulate our 2018 graduates.

Graduating from high school:

Bosse High School

Memorial High School

Signature School

Lydia Fleming

Landon Whittler

Max Haynie

Marjorie Hubbard



Graduating from colleges and universities:

Beloit College

University of Denver

University of Southern Indiana

Vanderbilt University

Abigail Fleming

Joanna Fleming

Travis Dickison

Long Adams

We will celebrate with our graduates at a special fellowship hour following worship.

Join us in marking these important achievements!

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"The young May moon is beaming, love.  
The glow-worm's lamp is gleaming, love.  
How sweet to rove,  
Through Morna's grove,  
When the drowsy world is dreaming, love!  
Then awake! - the heavens look bright, my dear,  
'Tis never too late for delight, my dear,  
And the best of all ways  
To lengthen our days  
Is to steal a few hours from the night, my dear!"

- Thomas Moore, *The Young May Moon*



"Summer makes me drowsy,  
Autumn makes me sing,  
Winter's pretty lousy,  
but I hate Spring."

- Dorothy Parker



## Coming Soon...First Web

There was a time in the church when printed church directories were norm, member information was typed on 3x5 cards, and reams of paper were used to keep track of church records and other pertinent information.

Those days are gone.

Over the summer, we will be introducing “First Web.” First Web is our new congregational management software that will enable us to keep up-to-date information on our members and friends, help identify gifts for ministry, offer opportunities to serve, and send automated emails to remind the congregation (and groups within the congregation) of upcoming events. We are trying to move away from paper and postage costs where we can. It is our hope that everyone will check their email regularly and allow us to keep in touch in that way.

One of the exciting features of First Web is that each of our members and friends can go into the program, add their contact information and keep it up-to-date. You'll be able to identify where you might like to serve within our congregation and beyond it. You can sign up for online giving and see the church calendar.



The whole purpose of First Web is to strengthen the connections between the church and our members and friends. The entire system is “in house” and of the highest security. You can't be hacked on First Web!

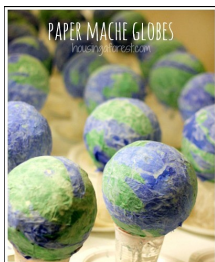
We're doing our part to get everything ready to be up and running by the fall season. Throughout the summer, we'll have some introductory sessions, gift identification seminars, and we'll be posting opportunities to serve the church, neighborhood, and world. We'll even have some computers set up to help you get your information into the system on a Sunday morning!

First Web will be an incredible tool for us to use in our ministry and mission. We realize that it can be rather intimidating for some, but we promise to do our best to take away the anxiety and apprehension.

We'll be sharing more information and schedule regarding First Web. Stay tuned! We promise to make it as easy (and painless) as possible!

## Children and Youth Ministries

**Summer Youth Explosion** is open for registration! This year's theme is *Bayblon: Daniel's Courage in Captivity*. Held from June 18-21, we will step back in time at Babylon, exploring Daniel's adventures as a captive in a foreign land. Kids and adults participate in a memorable Bible-times Marketplace, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, dig into Bible-time snacks and visit Daniel. Each day concludes at Celebration - a time of upbeat music that gets everyone involved. Dinner is served at 5:00 p.m.; the fun begins at 5:30 p.m. and ends at 7:30 p.m. Register online at <http://firstpresevansville.com/event/1131000-2018-06-18-sye-presents-babylon-courage-in-captivity/> or call the church office at 812-423-6297.



**Potluck & Paper Mache Day:** Join us on Sunday, May 20 at noon to help prepare crafts for SYE and share in a time of fellowship! Bring a dish to share. Drinks and craft materials will be provided. Contact Jerusha to RSVP.

We've had a great year at **PYE**! We will conclude our 2017-2018 programming on Thursday, May 3! Our fall programming will return on Thursday, September 6! I hope all of our PYE kids and families will join us for Summer Youth Explosion in June!

**First Light** will conclude its 2017-2018 evening programming with a Pentecost Celebration on Sunday, May 20 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Teens are invited to join Jerusha for **Discussion and Donuts** on Sundays in July, 9:30-10:15 a.m. Evening programming will resume in September with a kick off celebration on Sunday, August 26. Stay tuned for details!



# The Caring Connection

## Happy May Birthday!

Tamara Labhart	May 1
Becky Sparks-Thissen	May 2
Mae Mosley	May 2
Dan Wagemann	May 3
Robert Nicholls	May 5
Scott Wylie	May 5
Travis Dickison	May 6
Alice McKinney	May 7
Helen Sponseller	May 9
Cameron Cross	May 11
Long Adams	May 12
Debbie Meyer	May 12
Erin Carver	May 15
Landon Whitler	May 16
Rachel Ku	May 18
Clara Kim	May 18
Kate McKinney	May 19
Ashley McReynolds	May 21
Dorothy Becker	May 22
Melissa Whitler	May 22
Eli Underwood	May 22
Will Hardin	May 23
Ryan Bassemier	May 24
Avery McDaniel	May 24
Wally Paynter	May 26
Eleanor Hight	May 26
Don Korb	May 26
Cindy Shelton	May 26
Sarah Groves	May 27
Matt Qualls	May 28
Steve Ketcham	May 28
Julie Langerak	May 30
Carolyn Jones	May 31
Karla Uhde	May 31

## In the Life of Our Congregation . . .

### We support:

Jack Schriber, during a hospital stay;

### We remember in prayer:

Bill Asbury, Dorothy Becker, Sara "Penny" Coleman;

***Don't forget*** to keep the office updated with all your current contact information, including college addresses!





“Winds of May, that dance on the sea,  
Dancing a ring-around in glee  
From furrow to furrow, while overhead  
The foam flies up to be garlanded,  
In silvery arches spanning the air,  
Saw you my true love anywhere?  
Welladay! Welladay!  
For the winds of May!  
Love is unhappy when love is away!”

- James Joyce, *Winds of May*

## Check out our website

There's lots of information about First Presbyterian Church on our website. You can download print copies of sermons, watch sermons on-line, catch up on the latest news, and make contributions.

Visit us at: **[www. firstpresevansville.com](http://www.firstpresevansville.com)**

### First Presbyterian Church

609 South East Second Street  
Evansville, IN 47713-1107



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- 1 TUESDAY  
12:00 p.m. *Lunch Power Yoga*  
4:00 p.m. *Choir School*
- 2 WEDNESDAY  
9:00 a.m. *PW Coordinating Team at Solarbron*  
12:30 p.m. *PW Bible Study*  
2:00 p.m. *Little Lambs Store Open*
- 3 THURSDAY  
12:00 p.m. *Lunch Power Yoga*  
3:30 p.m. *PYE*  
6:30 p.m. *Choir Rehearsal*
- 4 FRIDAY  
7:00 p.m. *First Friday Recital: Collin Miller*
- 5 SATURDAY  
9:00 a.m. *Choir Rehearsal*  
10:00 a.m. *Little Lambs Store Open*
- 6 SUNDAY  
8:30 a.m. *Wide Awake Worship*  
9:30 a.m. *Adult Sunday School*  
9:30 a.m. *Choir Rehearsal*  
10:30 a.m. *Sanctuary Worship*  
11:30 a.m. *Fellowship Hour*  
2:30 p.m. *Choir Rehearsal*  
4:00 p.m. *Messiah Concert*  
6:00 p.m. *Dinner*

- 7 MONDAY  
10:30 a.m. *Staff Meeting*  
12:00 p.m. *Lunch Power Yoga*  
6:00 p.m. *NA Group*
- 8 TUESDAY  
12:00 p.m. *Lunch Power Yoga*
- 9 WEDNESDAY  
2:00 p.m. *Little Lambs Store Open*
- 10 THURSDAY  
12:00 p.m. *Lunch Power Yoga*  
6:30 p.m. *Choir Rehearsal*
- 11 FRIDAY
- 12 SATURDAY  
10:00 a.m. *Little Lambs Store Open*
- 13 SUNDAY  
8:30 a.m. *Wide Awake Worship*  
9:30 a.m. *Adult Sunday School*  
9:30 a.m. *Choir Rehearsal*  
10:30 a.m. *Sanctuary Worship*  
11:30 a.m. *Fellowship Hour*
- 14 MONDAY  
10:30 a.m. *Staff Meeting*  
12:00 p.m. *Lunch Power Yoga*  
6:00 p.m. *NA Group*  
6:30 p.m. *Book Group: American Nations*
- 15 TUESDAY  
12:00 p.m. *Lunch Power Yoga*
- 16 WEDNESDAY  
2:00 p.m. *Little Lambs Store Open*  
6:00 p.m. *Justice/Peacemaking Team*
- 17 THURSDAY  
12:00 p.m. *Lunch Power Yoga*  
6:30 p.m. *Choir Rehearsal*
- 18 FRIDAY
- 19 SATURDAY  
10:00 a.m. *Little Lambs Store Open*

*The Book Group* meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in Kerr Chapel. Copies of the book to be discussed, discussion questions, and a complete schedule are available in the church office. For more information on the Book Group, contact Helen Templeton (476-5851; [h.templeton@twc.com](mailto:h.templeton@twc.com)).

On Monday, May 14, the group will discuss *American Nations: A History of the Eleven Rival Regional Cultures of North America* by Colin Woodard.



# May



## 20 SUNDAY

8:30 a.m. Wide Awake Worship  
9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School  
9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal  
10:30 a.m. Sanctuary Worship  
11:30 a.m. Fellowship Hour

## 21 MONDAY

10:00 a.m. Mission Committee  
10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting  
12:00 p.m. Lunch Power Yoga  
6:00 p.m. NA Group

## 22 TUESDAY

12:00 p.m. Lunch Power Yoga

## 23 WEDNESDAY

2:00 p.m. Little Lambs Store Open

## 24 THURSDAY

12:00 p.m. Lunch Power Yoga  
4:45 p.m. Little Lambs' Board Meeting  
6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

## 25 FRIDAY

## 26 SATURDAY

10:00 a.m. Little Lambs Store Open

## 27 SUNDAY

8:30 a.m. Wide Awake Worship  
9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Sanctuary Worship  
11:30 a.m. Fellowship Hour  
6:30 p.m. First Light

## 28 MONDAY

MEMORIAL DAY  
Church Office Closed  
12:00 p.m. Lunch Power Yoga  
6:00 p.m. NA Group

## 29 TUESDAY

12:00 p.m. Lunch Power Yoga

## 30 WEDNESDAY

10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting  
2:00 p.m. Little Lambs Store Open

## 31 THURSDAY

12:00 p.m. Lunch Power Yoga